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## Press Release

Jacksonville IL, November 1, 2012 - Lenz Field & Sports Complex to Host CABA 15u World Series

Many of the nation's top fifteen-year-old (15u) baseball teams will be heading to Jacksonville & Springfield, Illinois in July 2013 for the Continental Amateur Baseball Association 15u World Series (CABA).

Lenz Field & Sports Complex ([www.lenzfield.com](http://www.lenzfield.com)) is a synthetic turf baseball complex located 90 miles north of St. Louis, MO and 250 miles south of Chicago, IL. The complex hosts over 650 teams a year for baseball and softball tournaments. The complex has six total turf fields, all which have lights. Fields 1,2,5 & 6 are full sized fields, and will be used for the 15u World Series. "Not many facilities have four large fields all in one location, not to mention four turf fields. This will create a very exciting World Series type atmosphere for the teams and spectators attending this tournament. College recruiters love when they can view multiple games and players, all from one location," stated Lenz Field owner and president Tom Lenz. One other point to make about these turf fields is the elimination of rainouts. "The fields are amazing when it comes to rain. The minute it stops raining our fields are ready for play!", stated Lenz. The tournament will also utilize some of the top fields in the Springfield area, as well as another 100% all synthetic turf field at Sacred Heart Griffin High School.

The tradition of CABA World Series events run deep and are filled with tradition and great competition. CABA holds World Series events annually throughout the nation for elite travel baseball teams ages 8 to 18. The history of CABA World Series events all started back in 1984. The Continental Amateur Baseball Association launched the initial season in 1984. Ron Golden and Roger Tremaine had the vision of starting a new more user-friendly youth baseball organization that would provide more teams the opportunity to participate at the national level. As the new kid on the block at that time, it was incumbent upon them to develop a program that would offer real alternatives, so the CABA was the innovator in providing national level events for single age levels 9-18. In addition, the CABA initiated round robin play leading to a double elimination championship bracket. These seem almost standard procedure in today's youth baseball world, but in 1984, it was a revolution! Since that time, many thousands of teams from virtually every state, along with Puerto Rico, Panama, Guam, Japan, Canada, Mexico, Brazil and the Dominican Republic have participated in CABA World Series events. In addition, hundreds of players that have since gone on to play at the professional level have played in CABA World Series events, including CABA Graduates of the Year such as Alex Rodriguez and Todd Helton.

As a result of this great CABA history, some of the nation's top 15 and under baseball teams will travel to Jacksonville & Springfield, Illinois to compete in another great CABA World Series from July 17<sup>th</sup> to July 27<sup>th</sup>. "When it comes to the older age groups, CABA really has the top events in the country. Our complex is very excited and honored to host this event in 2013. Our goal is to put on a great event, and others like it for many years to come" stated Lenz.

Not only will there be some great baseball coming to Jacksonville and Springfield next July, but the economic impact from this event is quite significant to central Illinois. With approximately 50 teams and over 700 players the impact on hotels, restaurants, gas stations, movie theaters, malls, etc. will be a benefit to many local businesses. Lenz Field estimates that this one event alone will bring approximately 3000 visitors to central Illinois. This calculates into an economic impact of around \$1 million dollars for one week of baseball. With the addition of the new sixth field, The Lenz Complex as a whole has an estimated economic impact of over \$3.5 million dollars annually.