



The Lincolnwood Way

Lincolnwood School Facilities Meeting

March 22, 2022



Agenda

- Thank You
- League Philosophy
- Request
- Options
- Recommendation
- Next Steps



Thank You

- Thank you for working with Lincolnwood Baseball & Softball Association
- The school and the LBA have partnered in the throw and catch program in the gym classes where LBA provides baseball and softball equipment to the teachers
- The league presented field drainage issues back in June of 2019 which led to improvements and the resurfacing of the fields and better drainage
- During the winter, LBA runs free gym nights to introduce baseball and softball to players that might not have played before
 - With support of the school, these nights are promoted during parent/teacher conferences and the electronic newsletter



League Philosophy

Have **FUN**

LEARN

to play the game,

Teamwork

Sportsmanship

do both and you **WIN**



Request for Adding Hitting Cages to Rutledge Hall

- The league is looking to expand the use of the gym in Rutledge Hall by adding 2-3 hitting cages that can be used for the free gym nights and league practices. Additionally, these could be incorporated into the physical education usage as needed
- The league understands that any addition to the Rutledge Hall gym cannot impair the gym classes, or basketball and volleyball practices
- The league currently uses whiffle balls during hitting drills and the hitting nets would allow for better practices and overall improvement in player's skills
- The league has gathered feedback from the gym teacher at Rutledge Hall and the facilities director about the idea of adding hitting cages to the gym

Rutledge Hall Gym

- Gym is 70'x50'
- Ceiling height is 24' (22' to the bottom of the lights)
- 2 cages can run the long way of the gym or
- 3 cages can run the short way of the gym



Option One – Phantom Tension Batting Cage

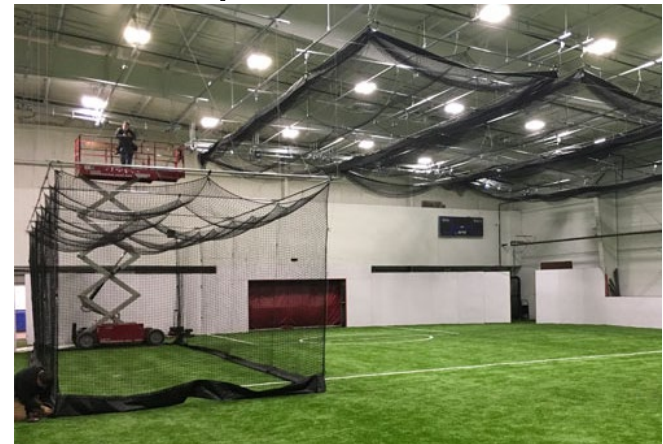
- Cage is stored out of sight and manually put up and taken down
- Minimal impact to gym when down, only requires O-rings on one side and O-rings & pull system on the other
- Nothing hangs from the ceiling or across the gym when down
- Setup and tear down is about 3-5 minutes each time
- O-rings and pulls would be installed by facility's team
- Stores in a closet when not in use
- Estimated Cost of \$3-4k per cage
- Funded by LBA
- YouTube video on installing the cage:
<https://youtu.be/ChIMrpk4eNs>





Option Two – Motorize Retractable Batting Cage

- Retractable ceiling cages are attached to your ceiling and raised and lowered by a power winch
- Full cage use and easy back to regular gym use with minimal effort
- Would be easiest to setup and take down for use in gym classes
- Would require an electrical connection to raise and lower the net
- Would be installed by external crew
- Would need to design to allow access to ceiling light fixtures
- Estimated cost with installation is \$30-35k per cage
- Exceeds LBA's available finances and would require financial assistance from the school





Option Three – Walk-Draw Batting Cages

- Netting runs on cables and can be pulled out for easy use and returned to the wall
- Quickest transition from hitting cage to open space
- O-rings and cables across the gym would stay up while net is retracted
- Cost not gathered at this point
- **Not Recommended** as it would require wires installed across the gym floor that would stay up while the net is retracted. This would impact any basketball or volleyball games and practices





Recommendation

- Option 1, the Phantom Tension Batting Cage
- Minimal impact to gym when not installed
- Could be used for gym classes and/or camps based on physical education curriculum and activities
- Would improve the abilities of students in hand eye coordination for hitting baseballs/softballs
- Lower cost option compared to motorized retractable batting cage and funded by LBA



Next Steps

- Receive approval from facilities committee on which option is best
- Finalize number of cages and layout within the Rutledge Hall gym
 - 2 cages the long way verse 3 cages the short way
- Review layout with facilities director and Rutledge Hall gym teacher
- Finalize quote and shipping costs
- Place order and set installation date, ideally prior to the start of the 2022-2023 school year

