

Binghamton Rumble Ponies  
NYSEG Stadium  
211 Henry Street  
Binghamton, NY 13901

Joseph McEacharn  
President, Eastern League  
30 Danforth Street, Suite 208  
Portland, ME 04101

Dear President Joseph McEacharn,

With immense pride in the Rumble Ponies organization, the City of Binghamton, and the people of the Southern Tier, we request Binghamton to be considered as the site of the Eastern League All-Star Game in 2019 or 2020. The excited fanbase, renovated ballpark and fresh identity are just a few of the reasons why Binghamton deserves to host the League's premier showcase event.

Binghamton is rich in baseball history. The Eastern League, one of the most highly-respected professional baseball leagues in the country, can look to Binghamton as the site of its birth in 1923. Cooperstown, NY, home to the Baseball Hall of Fame and the unofficial Mecca of the baseball world, sits just an hour away from Broome County.

Binghamton is close. The Southern Tier is home to the most centrally-located team in the Eastern League. Binghamton is the only city in the league that is within 405 miles of every other city in the Eastern League. No All-Stars would be traveling more than 6.5 hours for the All-Star Game in Binghamton.

Binghamton is eager. In 1994, Binghamton became the first Eastern League city to host the Double-A All-Star Game. An over-capacity crowd of 6,524 packed the home of the then-named Binghamton Mets to see the future stars of the game. A generation-long wait between All-Star Games has only further fed the community's insatiable desire to host the event of the season.

Binghamton is supported. The Rumble Ponies enjoy long and deep connections with public officials locally and state-wide. The team's relationship with the City of Binghamton and Mayor Richard C. David is second-to-none. Senator Fred Akshar and New York Senate Majority Leader John J. Flanagan were integral in securing funding for NYSEG Stadium's recent upgrades. The additional enclosed letters of recommendations from Jeff Wilpon of the New York Mets, Senator Chuck Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Representative Claudia Tenney, and State Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo detail the team's healthy bond with local dignitaries.

Binghamton is rejuvenated. A new chapter of baseball history is unfolding in Binghamton. The Rumble Ponies new identity has sparked a fresh bond between the team and the community. The strength of this new relationship was made clear on Opening Day this season when nearly 5,000 fans packed NYSEG Stadium to witness the team's first ever game in the Southern Tier.

Binghamton is fan-friendly. NYSEG Stadium now boasts \$3.2-million worth of upgrades that have improved the fan experience. The fanbase is abuzz over the new features available to experience. The party deck on the first-base line allows fans to congregate together while taking in the action from a new view. The third-base terrace seating gives families the chance to enjoy a comfortable and conversational setting at the ballpark. The renovated luxury suites have a modern touch that creates the perfect setting for corporate groups. These changes are just the start of new experiences fans can expect over the coming years.

Binghamton is player-friendly. The improvements to NYSEG Stadium are not limited to the fans. The player experience in the Southern Tier is in the midst of a renaissance. Players now hone their craft on a top-of-the-line field maintained to perfection to rival any other surface in the league. The newly-constructed 3,600 square-foot dual-lane batting cage offers an unbeatable facility where hitters can sharpen their swings, pitchers can throw from artificial mounds and the entire team can work on their conditioning. The installation of a brand-new LED lighting system has given players one of the best night-time views in all of Minor League Baseball.

Binghamton is re-energized. The improvements at NYSEG Stadium are a microcosm for the growth of the City of Binghamton and the Southern Tier in the last half-decade. Binghamton has flourished and its community members are taking notice. Dozens of new stores and restaurants have prompted the community to flock downtown to explore what the city has to offer. The streets of Binghamton buzz with an energy that has not been seen in decades. NYSEG Stadium's location in the center of this downtown revival would put the Eastern League front-and-center in the community's eyes.

Hosting an All-Star Game is the most prestigious reward the Eastern League can bestow upon one of its members and the community. The Rumble Ponies, the City of Binghamton and the residents of the Southern Tier deserve the Eastern League spotlight.

Binghamton is ready.

Binghamton is the one.