

BATTER CHATTER

Newsletter Date
2010

LAKE PARK LITTLE LEAGUE

WWW.LAKEPARKLITTLELEAGUE.ORG



THANK YOU !!!

2009 Board Members

Stacey Seering President
Pete Olson V.P.
Steve Ruce Secretary
Shellie Seering Treasurer
H. Chruscielski D. Admin
Bill Benson
Brian Brashaw
Tom Brekke
Dena Cyr
Brian Homstad
Cathy Nelson
Bob Nygaard
Mike Pilon

2010 Board Members

Stacey Seering President
Pete Olson V.P.
Steve Ruce Secretary
Mike Wapola Treasurer
H. Chruscielski D. Admin
Bill Benson
Brian Brashaw
Tom Brekke
Brian Homstad
Cathy Nelson
Heather Johnson
Bob Nygaard
Mike Pilon

Please contact any board member if you are interested in joining.

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Our website is where you want to go to get the latest information on teams, practice schedules, game times, field assignments, volunteer opportunities, game cancellations, and a while lot more.

Pete Olson is heading up the website and is looking for someone

to help with its updates and maintenance. This is a great opportunity to help the league with a very important communication tool.

We are also able to include photos on the website, so if you consider photography a

hobby and want to contribute I'm sure the kids would love to see themselves on the website.

If you are interested in finding out more about helping with the website of taking pictures, please contact Pete at 218-348-3129

Important Dates- Mark your Calendar !

Registration

EARLY MAIL IN BY FEBRUARY 21st

LPLL PO Box 3201
Duluth, MN 55803

Saturday March 6

Portman Rec Center
10am to 2pm

Tues March 9

Lakewood School
6pm to 7:30pm

Wed March 10

Homecroft School
6pm to 7:30pm

Majors Try-out

Saturday March 13
Saturday March 20

St. Scholastica

BURNS WELLNESS COMMONS

ages 9-10 @ 9-10:30am
ages 11-12 @ 10:30-12

Practices Begin

Monday April 12

Field Clean Up

Saturday April 24
Saturday May 8

starts at 9am

Umpire Clinic

Sunday May 2
4pm to 6pm
Yankees vs Red Sox

Season Opener

Monday May 10

All Star Try-outs

Sunday June 6
Sunday June 13

Rookies Begin

Monday June 7

Art Von Tourney

July 30 to Aug 1



“A good coach will make his players see what they can be rather than what they are.”

Coaches and Volunteers Needed

As always, Lake Park Little League cannot run without the help of many, many people.

We are in need of coaches for all age levels and we are always looking for people to help with concessions, field maintenance, and a

variety of other duties.

At each of the registrations there will be a sign up sheet for coaching along with dates and a wide range of volunteer activities. **If you know you would like to coach and at what level please email Stacey at**

skseering@fedex.com

If you have any special skill (i.e. construction) or some equipment (i.e. skid steer) that may help, please let us know and we will definitely make use of it to help improve our complex.

What's in Your Registration Fee?

Your registration fee covers many expenses at Lake Park Little League. The first and probably most important is outfitting your child with a jersey and team hat. It is very important to get your registration and payment in promptly in order to

get these items in time for the start of the season.

The fee also covers maintenance on the fields through purchases of groomers, rakes, chalk, mowers, and many other items.

Umpires are needed

for almost all levels and are the largest annual expense other than uniforms.

Baseball and softball equipment are also purchased to replace worn gear and you wouldn't believe how many balls we go through in a year!

Special Thanks Deserved

We have several people that deserve a special thank you from all involved with Lake Park Little League.

Bill Wilson has been very generous with his

time and equipment, helping with the batting cages, rookie field, and fences.

Mark Hakala did a great job on coordinating and building the new

garage at Lake Park.

And, **Gary Juten** who put in the drain tile between the fields and helped prepare the site for the new garage.

Projects for Lake Park Complex

Several projects were accomplished in the 2009 season.

Drain tile was added to several areas of the complex to help reduce standing water in the spring and after a rain storm. Tile was placed between the four fields where people walk, left field of Field A, and by the Rookie field.

Rasmussen Well completed a **well system** at Lake Park this fall. The well is located by the old garage and has four water access points. One by the batting cages, one by the senior field, one by the concession stand, and one by Field D's backstop.

The Rookie's field's **infield was expanded**. Grass was shaved off and aqlime added to make this a usable field for Majors, Minors, IMs, Rookies, and Girls Softball. We will again plan on erecting a removable fence in the outfield which served its purpose last year and is by far the most cost effective avenue.

A **new garage** was constructed between the existing garage and the batting cages. This will provide the much needed storage space as our league continues to grow.

And the batting cages got a makeover by having all the grass shaved off and replaced with an **aqlime floor**.



A Few Comments and Thanks:

Thank you to the corporate sponsors of 2009:

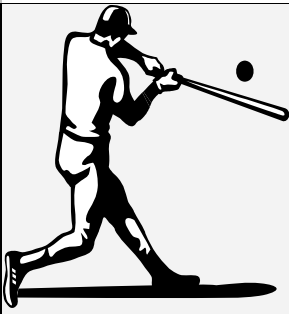
- North Shore Veterinary Hospital
- Headlines Barbers & Styling
- Sammy's Lakeside Pizza
- Play It Again Sports
- Help-U-Sell Realty
- Denny's Lawn & Garden
- Simple Gifts & Syrup
- Avenue 45 Hair Design
- Phil's Garage Door
- Screen Graphics

- Incline Station
- Stewart's
- Elias Masonry
- Subway
- Sam's Club
- Papa Murphy's
- Jersey City
- Marshall Hardware
- Athlete's Foot
- Stewart-Taylor Printing
- Master Lawn Care
- APS Security
- Coffee Cabin
- Lakewood One Stop
- PB Distributing
- Swenson Anderson Financial Group

Corporate sponsors play an important role at Lake Park Little League, please help support these companies by using them for your needs throughout the year.

There is nothing better than a fresh set of eyes to help make organizations thrive. New board members are always needed. If you are interested in joining or learning more, please contact one of the current members.

In 2009, Lake Park Little League had over 400 kids participate in baseball and softball, with the help of many volunteer coaches it again was a great season.



Early Registration... SAVE \$\$\$\$\$

Lake Park Little League is offering a reduced registration fee if you sign up before February 21st.

If you have your forms completed and mailed in before February 21st you can deduct \$20 off your total registration fee.

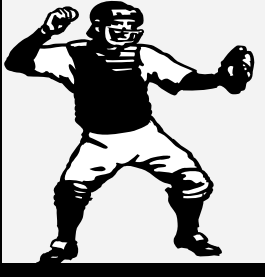
So, for example, if you have a son or daughter playing at the Major level the cost will be \$75 versus the \$95 if you were to register at one of the sites.

Early registration is offered to get teams and uniforms organized earlier to avoid the last minute rush before the

season starts.

Registration forms will be emailed out to last years players and will be left at the schools in January.

Please mail in completed forms with payment to: LPLL PO Box 3201, Duluth, MN 55803



Looking Forward at the Park

Lake Park has continued to grow for the past several years and with the city most likely dropping down to 2 high schools we feel there will be a need for added community provided

activities. We have undeveloped land on our complex and are looking into the creation of another field and finishing off the Rookie field to help meet these needs.

Baseball and softball play an important role in a child's life experiences and we look forward to keeping up the strong Lake Park traditions for years to come.

Girl's Softball at Lake Park in 2010



After a very successful first season of girl's softball, Lake Park is hoping to expand this new and exciting sport.

Lake Park and the other Little League Associations are looking to add both a minor league (7-9 years olds) and a junior league (12-14 years olds) and continue with the major league program (9-12 years olds).

It is our intention, if the numbers are there, to treat the minor league program as the baseball minor league program by using coach pitch to begin the season and progress to kids pitching as the season goes on.

Please spread the word about the softball program and if you are interested in helping contact a Lake Park board member.

Jeff Knutsen Memorial

Jeff Knutsen was honored with a memorial plaque placed on the concession stand this past year. Jeff

has been involved with Lake Park League since he was a boy. He grew up with Lake Park as a player, coach, board member, and president. Jeff has mentored many players throughout his time at Lake Park and provided them with lifelong memories and advice. Jeff was truly an outstanding man and will be sorely missed at Lake Park.