

President's Message

From Steve Hawes – Hello, Northwest Seattle Little League (NWSLL) families. Even though it is still cold and rainy outside, baseball and softball are right around the corner, and we're all looking forward to another fun spring and summer of ball. Your NW Seattle Little League Board has been busy in the offseason. Check out our newly redesigned website (www.nwlittleleague.org), and this season we will begin using online registration. Individual player registration fees will remain the same this coming year. However, in response to your comments, we are reducing the Spaghetti Feed fundraising requirements for families with multiple kids in our league. Speaking of the Spaghetti Feed, last year's event was a huge success, and we raised over \$14,000 in funds for our baseball and softball programs. Special thanks go out to Toni Frost, who coordinated last year's event, sponsorship Coordinator Mark Cutshall, and our great NWLL sponsors who provided all of those great raffle items! We are extremely grateful for your support. In other news, this will be our last season on the current Crown Hill field where our 6-8 year old Rookies play, as that field will be renovated with Seattle Parks Department funds this coming year.

Online Registration is now open!

Registration is now open for the 2010 season. Just go to our website: www.nwlittleleague.org and click on the Registration link. You will need to create an account this first year, but after that, online registration will make your future LL registrations a breeze!

Congratulations to our 2009 Northwest LL Tournament Champions



Majors Champs – Seattle Ski and Board



Minors Champions - Broderick Architects

New Statewide Concussion Policy

If your child has been playing other sports, you will probably have seen new policies related to the Zachery Lystedt Law (House Bill 1824). Please familiarize yourself with the concussion information provided by the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA), and follow the link to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website if you wish to get more details about national efforts to reduce concussions in youth sports: <http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/youth.html>.



In order to register your player(s) you will be required to electronically acknowledge receiving this information. You will NOT need to sign or provide the league with a hard copy of this document. If you are interested in learning more about the new law in Washington, follow the link to the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) Concussion Management Guidelines website: <http://wiaa.com/subcontent.aspx?SeclD=623>.

General Membership

This year we are beginning our new general membership drive. During registration you will be asked if you would like to become a member of Northwest Seattle Little League. All board members, managers, coaches, and umpires will be required to become members. Membership is only \$5 and allows you to attend the general membership meeting in September where officers of the board for the coming season will be elected. If you are interested in having your voice heard, please join our membership!

Sponsorship

We would like to thank the many 2009 sponsors of Northwest Seattle Little League. Without greatly value and benefit from your support of our league and encourage NW LL families to support you in return! 2009 Team and Spaghetti Feed sponsors included North Seattle Minuteman Press, Portfolio Communications, Ballard Kiwanis, Kommers Services, Dr. Fogerty, Nelson Orthodontics, Fischer Plumbing, Roth's Legal Eagles, Masons St. Johns Lodge #9, Phil's Auto Body Shop, Broderick Architects, National Dry Cleaners, Swansons Nursery, Lane Hardwood Floors, Seattle Ski and Snowboard, Top Banana Produce, Seattle Police Guild, Luisa's Mexican Grill, Tyee Baskets, Patty's Egg Nest, and Starbucks. If your company is interested in supporting NW Seattle LL in some way, please contact sponsorship coordinator Mark Cutshall at (206) 356-2191

Funding for Continued Field Renovations and Equipment

We are still in need of funds to finish the Soundview 3 & 4 dugout roofs, which we hope to finish before the season begins, as well as to purchase new equipment, such as pitching machines, for our teams. **Contributions to Northwest Little League are tax deductible!** IRS Tax ID: 91-1188131. If you can help out, please make a donation when you register your children this year. Thanks!

NW/NE All-Star Softball Team wins District 8 Championship!



A huge Northwest Little League highlight of 2009 was our combined Northwest and Northeast Majors Softball All-Star Team that won the District 8 Championship, earning them a spot in the State Tournament in Vancouver, WA where they took 2nd place. NW/NE swept through the tournament, going undefeated and outscoring their opponents 40-4. In the State Tournament, the NW/NE team won 4 straight games before losing 14-3 in the championship game to District 9 (Bellevue). Congratulations to all of the players and to Northwest LL Coach Dave Sampson for helping lead the team.

Umpire Volunteers needed

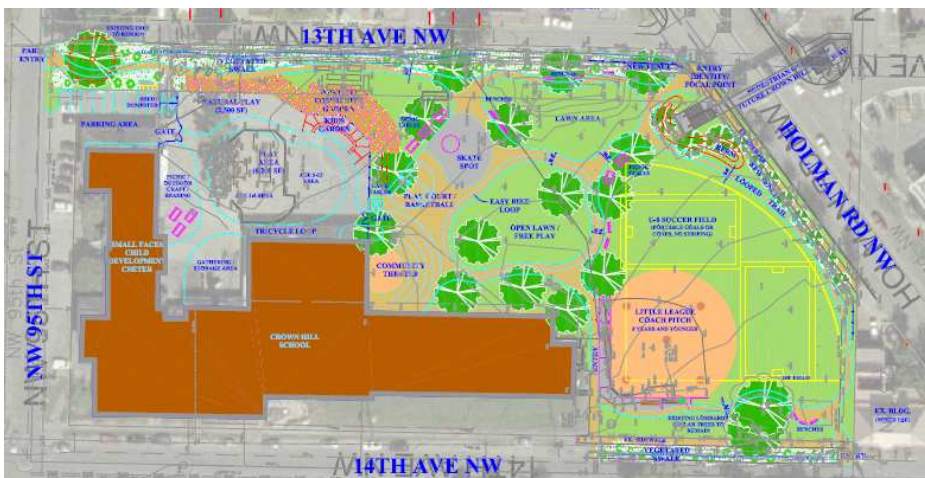
Little league is a volunteer activity and that philosophy applies to umpires. Paying umpires is expensive and many paid umps do not even know the specific Little League rules. However, every year we have to encourage parents to sign up for umpiring. Umpiring is a great way to enjoy the sport of baseball or softball. It is easier to get started especially if you don't have the time or skills for coaching. Training is offered at the district and league levels. We can even place an experienced umpire with you to get you started. Our website allows umpires to sign up for the games they want and our league furnishes each team with gear and umpires can get personal gear if they become a regular. Additionally, District 8 is providing evening classroom training sessions regarding Little League rules in early March at Shorewood cafeteria and will be setting up field clinics as well. See the District 8 umpires website for more information <http://www.d8umpires.org> or contact our new Umpire in Chief, Jeff Spaulding (206) 782-1202 for more information. Try it - you'll like it!

Volunteers and Board members needed

Our league is possible because of volunteers. Due to a transition of a number of key volunteers, we are in need of some new members, especially those with young players in our league. Besides coaching and umpiring, there are a number of Board positions open. Keep in mind there is a job for everyone no matter how much you know about baseball or softball. Our community needs you so that we can offer baseball and softball to 350 kids in our area. Please contact League President Steve Hawes at (206) 789-1411 if you are interested in coaching, being an umpire, helping out at the Spaghetti Feed or League Picnic, or joining the board.

Coordinator of Minors and Majors Divisions: Geoff Saunders and John Hostetler have been coordinators for our 9/10 and 11/12 baseball divisions for the last few years, and are looking to train new coordinators for this coming season. This job entails contacting and selecting coaches, running the player draft, updating the game scores on the District 8 website, managing any issues during the regular season, and leading the all-star selection process. The coordinator should not be a parent, coach, or manager at the level they are coordinating. If you are interested in becoming a Coordinator, please contact a board member.

Equipment Manager and Purchasing Agent Assistant: Ed Kommers has continued to help with purchasing of equipment and uniforms, and Dag Aakervik has taken over from Mike Foor as Equipment Manager, but they could use a couple of helpers. Dag and Ed have set up an organized storage system and Purchase Order process. If you enjoy baseball and softball equipment then sign up to be their apprentice. If you can contribute your electronic paperwork skills and prepare purchase orders and logs, then this is one way you can contribute to the league.



Crown Hill Park Development

We are happy to announce that the City of Seattle has recently purchased the open area portion of the property, there are \$1.2 million in funds earmarked to continue with development plans of the land as a park, including adding two youth soccer fields and improving the baseball field. At the Crown Hill Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting

Website: www.NWLittleLeague.org

Hotline Number: (206) 706-3310

on May 9, 2009 Parks Department representative Donald Harris told neighborhood residents that we can expect the planning and design process for the Crown Hill Park to recommence at the beginning of 2010. At this time Parks will meet with the community and revisit the plans that were put on hold over three years ago. Therefore, in the fall of 2010, at the same time the Fire Department vacates the property, the actual development of the park will begin. The NW Seattle LL Board would like to recognize Catherine Weatbrook and the rest of the Crown Hill Project working group, for their dedication to these continued efforts. Updates and additional information are available through www.CrownHillNeighbors.org

Temporary Fire Station at Crown Hill Park

Groundbreaking for the new Crown Hill Fire Station 35, located on 15th Ave NW, took place on August 21st. As a result, the firefighters/ rescue squad is operating out of a temporary facility on the Holman Road edge of the current Crown Hill baseball field. We have worked with the City of Seattle to ensure that the baseball field will continue to be available for use by our 6-8 year old Rookie Leaguers while they renovate the Fire House, which is scheduled to be completed in late 2010.

Current Northwest Seattle Little League Board Members

Please thank these board members when you get an opportunity. Their work allows 350 kids in our community to play baseball and softball.

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| Steve Hawes | President |
| Geoff Saunders | Vice President / Player Development |
| Jane Cramer | Secretary |
| Ed Kelly | Treasurer |
| Bob Ulrich | Webmaster |
| Jeff Spaulding | Umpire in Chief / Safety Officer |
| Mark Cutshall | Sponsorship/ Publicity |
| Dag Aakervik | Equipment Manager |
| Ken Lane | Juniors/Seniors Coordinator |
| Dave Sampson | Field Maintenance / Softball Coordinator |
| John Hostetler | Majors Coordinator |
| Rick Nimmer | Rookies Coordinator |
| Laurie McGibbon | Mariners Day Coordinator |
| Dean KiloDavis | Board Member at Large |