

# North Boise Little League



2012 Season

## Information Guide

Baseball and Softball

### *Little League Pledge*

*I trust in God*

*I love my country and will respect its laws.*

*I will play fair and strive to win.*

*But win or lose, I will always do my best.*

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[www.eteamz.com/northboise](http://www.eteamz.com/northboise)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction _____	3
Welcome from the President _____	4
Boundaries _____	6
Dates at a Glance _____	7
2011-2012 Board of Directors _____	8
Who is Involved?	
Board of Directors _____	9
Team Managers and Coaches _____	9
Parent Volunteers _____	9
Scorekeepers _____	9
Umpires _____	10
Preseason – Getting Started	
Assessments _____	11
Player Drafts _____	12
How are teams assigned for players not required to try out? _____	12
Field Day _____	13
Opening Day _____	13
The League Season	
How to Enjoy a Little League Game _____	14
Prohibited Items at Fields _____	14
Schedule _____	14
Equipment _____	14
Uniforms _____	15
Team Sponsors and Fundraising _____	15
Concessions _____	15
Insurance _____	16
Safety _____	16
Feedback _____	16
When the Regular Season Ends	
All-Star Teams _____	17
Summer Baseball _____	18
Fall Baseball _____	18
Sport Parent Code of Conduct _____	19

# **Welcome to the 2012 Little League Baseball and Softball Season**

Welcome to a new season. We are all looking forward to and excited for great baseball and softball in 2012!

As our season gets underway, I would like to thank those who have already stepped up to volunteer in key positions for North Boise Little League. However, there are still many positions throughout the league where you can help out this year. The league is only as strong as its volunteer base. To get involved, please see any of our league board members or talk to your team manager.

2012 marks the third year that the League has been a member of the Positive Coaching Alliance or PCA, a national organization looking to transform youth sports so that sports can transform youth.” As a member organization, the League is committed to implementing the PCA principles and stands against a “win-at-all cost” mentality. PCA calls a positive coach, a “Double-Goal Coach.” The “win-at-all cost” coach has only one goal – to win. The Double-Goal Coach shares the goal of wanting to win, but has a second more important goal – to use the experience of sports like baseball and softball to help young people learn “life lessons” and positive character traits that will help them be successful throughout their lives. I encourage each family to review the enclosed parent letter that describes what you can do to also help in this movement and promote the PCA principles during the season.

All kids are unique and bring different strengths to the table. Each child grows and develops at a different pace. In baseball or softball, we want to encourage the mastering of skills that make our kids better players, such as hitting, fielding, and pitching. But more importantly, as these skills are learned they also learn to master anything else they want to be good at throughout life. Key are learning and improving! Mistakes are part of the process and mistakes are part of how we learn. Softball and baseball are built on the premise of success born from failure so you can't learn and improve if you're afraid of making mistakes.

The objective of our league shall be to firmly impart upon the children of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, character, loyalty, courage and respect. Our hope is that this leads to well-adjusted, stronger and happier children who will grow up to be good, decent, healthy and trustworthy citizens. By learning the skills of baseball and softball, our youth gain valuable lessons to help carry them through life.

The information guide has been written to help familiarize parents and fans with the rules and regulations, policies of our league, and answer the most commonly asked questions. If additional questions or concerns arise, please call our message center at 327-8409, or check our website at [www.eteamz.active.com/northboise](http://www.eteamz.active.com/northboise). Messages are checked regularly, and someone will return your call as soon as possible.

Dear NBLL Parents,

As League President, I would like to fully endorse the three PCA principles. Help us promote and reinforce these principles throughout the upcoming spring, summer, and fall seasons. Together, we have the power to “transform youth sports so that sports can transform youth.” The three principles explained in the remainder of this letter, are:

1. Redefining “Winner,”
2. Filling the Emotional Tank, and
3. Honoring the Game

### **REDEFINING “WINNER”**

In professional a sport, which is more entertainment than anything else today, there is only one goal – to have the most points at the end of the game. However, in youth sports which is education or instructional oriented, there is a second goal: to produce young people who will help be winners in life.

To help our children get the most out of competitive sports, we need to redefine what it means to be a “winner.” Winners are people who:

- Make maximum effort.
- Continue to learn and improve.
- Refuse to let mistakes (or the fear of making mistakes) stop them.

This is called a Mastery Orientation. PCA says that the Tree of Mastery is an ELM Tree where **ELM** stands for **E**ffort, **L**earning, and rebounding from **M**istakes.

If our athletes keep these things in mind, they will develop habits that will serve them well throughout their lives.

There is an added benefit. Athletes who are coached with a Mastery Orientation tend to have reduced anxiety and increased self-confidence. And when athletes feel less anxiety, they are more likely to have fun playing baseball and to do better.

Parents, here is how you can help:

1. Tell your child that it is OK to make a mistake.
2. Let your child know you appreciate it when he tries hard even if unsuccessful.
3. Ask rather than tell. Try to get your child to talk about their play rather than telling you what you think about it. Ask open-ended questions to get your ballplayer to talk (e.g., “What was the best part of the game for you?”).
4. Recognize that Mastery is hard work. Let the coaches criticize your child’s play. Tell your child you are proud of him regardless of the outcome of the game.

### **FILLING THE EMOTIONAL TANK**

Research and experience shows that the home team wins about 60% of the time because of the emotional support a team receives when it plays in front of its own fans. Like gas tanks in cars, athletes have “Emotional Tanks” that need to be filled to do their best.

There will be times when you need to correct and criticize. Research has shown that a “Magic Ratio” of 5:1 (praise to criticism) is ideal. Help the coaches achieve this Magic Ratio with your ballplayer.

Parents, here is how you can help:

1. Your #1 job is to fill your child's Emotional Tank. Encourage him regardless of what happens in the game.
2. Try not to give your child a lot of advice, which after a tough game can seem like criticism, which drains a person's tank. Remember, it's difficult to do well with a low tank. When your ballplayer makes a mistake, you might say, "Don't worry. Let's get the next one. You can do it." After tough losses, it's often helpful to acknowledge feelings of disappointment. For example, you might say, "I can imagine you must be disappointed to have lost."
3. Use the "3-Pluses-and-a-Wish" technique. Before you give advice, find three good things about your child's performance. Phrase the advice as a wish:
  - a. You really tried hard in the game today (Plus #1).
  - b. I also saw you filling your teammate's Emotional Tank after he made a mistake (Plus #2).
  - c. And that play you made toward the end of the game shows how much you are improving (Plus #3).
  - d. I wish you wouldn't get down on yourself when you make a mistake.

If you can't come up with three pluses, don't say the wish because then it may drain his emotional tank rather than fill it.

Remember the Magic Ratio. Praise your child about 5 times for every time you criticize. If you do, they will be better able to hear your criticism without becoming defensive.

## **HONORING THE GAME**

Honoring the Game gets to the **ROOTS** of positive play, where **ROOTS** stands for respect for

- **R**ules: We don't bend the rules to win.
- **O**pponents: A worthy opponent is a gift that forces us to play to our highest potential.
- **O**fficials: We treat officials with respect even when we disagree.
- **T**eammates: We never do anything that would embarrass our team on or off the field.
- **S**elf: We live up to our own standards regardless of what others do.

Parents, here is how you can help:

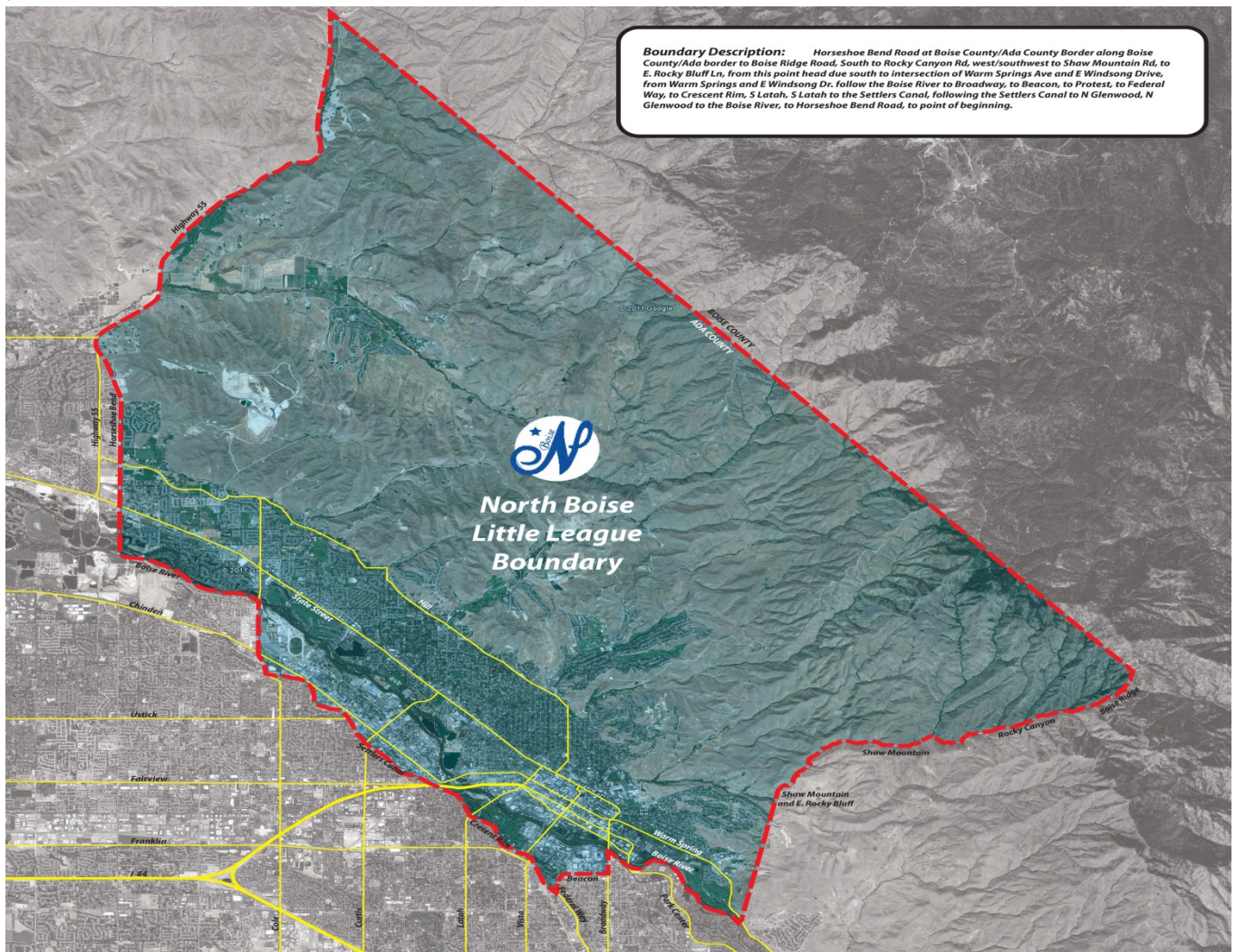
1. Let your child know that you want him to Honor the Game of baseball. Discuss the meaning of each element of ROOTS with your athlete.
2. Be a good role model. Honor the Game when you attend games. Cheer both teams when good plays are made. If, in your opinion, an officiating mistake is made, be silent! Use this as an opportunity to think about how difficult it is to officiate a game perfectly.
3. Encourage other parents to Honor the Game.

Sincerely,  
Todd Maguire,  
NBL President

# North Boise Little League Boundaries

The boundaries for North Boise Little League (“NBL”) have been set by the Idaho District 2 administration and approved by Little League Baseball, Inc., our national organization.

Horseshoe Bend Road at Boise County/Ada County Border along Boise County/Ada County border to Boise Ridge Road, south to Rocky Canyon Rd., west/southwest to Shaw Mtn. Rd., to East Rocky Bluff Ln., from this point head due south to intersection of Warm Springs Ave. and Windsong, from Warm Springs and Windsong follow the Boise River northwest to Broadway, to Beacon St., to Protest, to Federal Way, to Crescent Rim and S. Latah, S. Latah to Settlers Canal, following Settlers Canal to N. Glenwood, N. Glenwood to the Boise River, to Horseshoe Bend Road, to point of beginning. PLEASE NOTE: Great Sky Subdivision is West Valley Little League.



## Dates at a Glance

<b>Registration:</b>	Saturday, January 21 Tuesday, January 24 Wednesday, January 25	9 – 12 noon 6 – 8 pm 6 – 8 pm
<b>Late Registration:</b>	Saturday, January 28	9 – 12 noon
<b>Manager Selection:</b>	January 29 - February 12	
<b>Assessments:</b>	Saturday, Feb. 18 & 25	13-14 Junior Baseball 9-12 Minor/Major Softball 13-16 Junior/Senior Softball
	Saturday, Feb. 25 & March 3	9-12 Major/Minor Baseball
	<i>Note: Senior Baseball Registration, Assessment and Draft will be after Boise &amp; Capital High Varsity and Junior Varsity Draft.</i>	
<b>Team Drafts:</b>	Sunday, February 26	13-14 Junior Baseball 9-16 Softball
	Sunday, March 4	10-12 Major Baseball
	Monday, March 5	9-11AAA Minor Baseball
<b>Field Day:</b>	Saturday, March 31	
<b>Opening Day:</b>	Saturday, April 7	
<b>Season Opener:</b>	Monday, April 9	
<b>Regular Season Ends:</b>	Saturday, May 18	
<b>Tournaments:</b>	May 21 – 24 (no games May 25 – 28) May 29 – June 1	
<b>All-Star Tournament:</b>	June 15 - July 31(approx)	9/10 All Stars 10/11 All Stars
	June 15- August 27 (approx)	11/12 Major All Stars JR/SR All-Stars
<b>Summer Ball:</b>	Mid-June through Mid-August (approximately)	
<b>Fall Ball:</b>	End of August through end of October (approximately)	

# 2011-2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Executive Board

President	Todd Maguire
Vice President	Rich Rene'
Treasurer	Laura McDonagh
Secretary	Vicky Mickelson
Information Officer	Gwynne Lethcoe
Coaching Coordinator	Chris Mickelson
Player Agent – Baseball	Paula King
Player Agent – Softball	Brenda Siegrist
Safety Officer	Brad Bjerke
Umpire in Chief	Al Marino

## Directors

T-Ball	Steve Imbriani
Rookie (Pitching Machine)	Wendy Spiers
AA Minor Baseball	Jason Butler
AAA Minor Baseball	Brett Plummer
Major Baseball	Bryan Ruhl
Junior/Senior Baseball	Ron Baker
Softball	Tom Ferguson
All-Star Coordinator	Cindy Peterson

## Committees

Fall/Summer Baseball	Todd Maguire
Pictures/Opening Day	Jennifer Jones/Lisa Baker
Concessions	Bryan Siegrist
Fundraiser	Rich Rene'
Sponsors	Anne Wallace Allen
Registration	Tia Newell
Equipment Manager	Roland Heubach
Uniforms	Sandy Bjerke
Field Maintenance	Josh Butler
Mailings	Gwynne Lethcoe

Email contact for board & committee members can be found on our website at [www.northboiselittleleague.org](http://www.northboiselittleleague.org)

*The dates and locations for Board Meetings are posted on our website.*

*Minutes from Board Meetings will also be posted.*

*Please note that these will be posted after the board approves them so, for example, February's minutes will be posted after the March meeting.*

# Who is Involved?

## Board of Directors

Little League Baseball, Inc. is located in Williamsport, Pennsylvania and sets policy, procedures, and rules that guide NBL. NBL's Board of Directors is responsible for making decisions regarding our local league. The Board meets monthly on the third Thursday at 7:00 pm. These meetings are open to the membership of the league, and you are always welcome to attend and share ideas. **This is your child's league.** If you are requesting to be on the agenda, please call the message center and leave a message for the President or Secretary so appropriate time will be allotted. Nominations for NBL's Board will take place from May through August. The annual meeting of the league shall be held each year on the second Monday in September at 7:00 pm for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors. We welcome any and all volunteers to serve on the Board. There are both voting positions, which require meeting attendance, as well as committee positions. You may contact the Board by leaving a voice message at our message center (327-8409). A Board member will contact you at our earliest convenience. Most Board members may also be contacted by email, which are on our website.

## Team Managers and Coaches

Little League seeks to appoint managers and volunteers who are a positive influence on the players at all levels of league play. Managerial selections are based on guidelines established by Little League Baseball, Inc. Parents or adult community members who wish to apply for a position as a manager or coach should make a notation on the registration form, or call NBL's message center. All those applying must fill out an application and will be subject to a complete background check. Applicants may be required to be interviewed by representatives of NBL's Board. Managers run the practices, establish team batting order and player positions, and facilitate a positive atmosphere for teaching baseball or softball. They are also responsible for communications with parents and players and working with the various parent volunteers during the season. Coaches assist the Manager in the capacity mutually agreed upon.

*The only managers appointed prior to assessments are those for the following divisions: 9-11 Minor Baseball, 10-12 Major Baseball, Junior/Senior Baseball, Major Softball and Junior/Senior Softball.*

## Parent Volunteers

Our Little League is strictly a **VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**. There is not one paid person involved, from the President to the Umpires. Activities provided would not be available without the help of volunteers. We trust that each and every participating family will contribute two to four hours to team or league activities. **Please indicate on your registration form the area in which you will volunteer, or let the coach know your willingness to help your team.**

Not every person has the time to be a manager, coach, board member or team parent. However, there are plenty of areas where everyone can contribute in some small way. **JUST ASK!!!** Before you say, "Why don't they..." and follow it with a complaint, remember the "they" is really "YOU!" Ask yourself, "What have I done to make it better?" **IF EVERYONE DOES A LITTLE, NO ONE HAS TO DO A LOT.** Remember, our league is for YOUR child.

## Scorekeepers

Those parents or siblings of players who decide to be a scorekeeper for the team are also a very valuable part of Little League. To help prepare you for your job, there are clinics offered through the district. The scorekeeping clinic is a one-night only class.

## **Umpires**

Parent volunteers are trained to be umpires by District Little League personnel. They give their time to ensure games are administered safely and fairly to the best of their abilities. Parents and spectators need to bear in mind that these umpires do their best to be fair and impartial while umpiring Little League games. Remember, without them there is no game! If you are willing to umpire, let your coach know.

Our Little League District will have two types of MANDATORY classes for Umpires - an Advance Class and a Beginners Class.

The beginners' class is for umpires in their first two years of umpiring. This level will have a three hour rules class and a three hour field class, for a total of six hours. You must attend the 6 hours of classes for two straight years before you can go to the advance level.

The Advance class is for umpires who have umpired a minimum of two years in Little League and have successfully attended two years of beginners classes. This level has a mandatory three hour class that will focus more on the field mechanics than the classroom.

You must attend the classes to be certified. If an umpire attends an approved umpire regional clinic, they will be given a one year exception, before they need to attend another certification class.

### ***Why YOU Should Become a Little League Umpire***

- **Be involved with your child's activity, it's important to your kid! (and maybe your spouse too)**
- **Without an umpire, there can be no game**
- **Minimal Time Obligation: (great for interested parties with minimal time to commit)**  
**Show up before game time                      Run the game                      Go Home**
- **No time invested in team parent & player communication & co-ordination**
- **The Coaches do not run the game, the Umpire does**
- **If you know the game of baseball, and like the game, you'll learn the game better and enjoy it more**
- **If you don't know the game of baseball, you'll learn it well (most relevant if your child is in Rookies)**
- **Fun and interesting to get to know a lot of the kids as they step to the plate and get into the batter's box**
- **It's the best seat in the house to watch a baseball game**
- **Pair up with parents/friends on the same team, to share the job: 3 people, translates into each only having to handle 4-5 games TOTAL**
- **There's no gender requirement, it's an equal opportunity position**
- **Umpires are a protected species by the organizers of Little League**
- **You will learn a million enjoyable ways to deal with the very rare loud, ignorant and obnoxious spectator**

# Assessments

**T-Ball and Pitching Machine (Rookie) players are not required to be assessed.**

## **Mandatory for all baseball and softball players age 9-16 years**

- Softball players who will be 9 to 16 years of age as of December 31, 2011
- Baseball players who will be 9 to 16 years of age as of April 30, 2012

## **KEY POINTS:**

- The purpose of assessments is to form balanced teams within each division, resulting in a safe, positive, learning environment for all levels of players.
- Little league participation is based on timely registration, not player skill. If you register your child on time he or she will play on a team.
- Players should be at the designated field 15 minutes prior to the scheduled time.
- Please have the players dress warmly and in layers. Wearing a heavy jacket is not advised, as it is difficult for the player to move freely.
- Players will be assessed on basic fielding, batting and running skills. Practicing prior to the assessment will greatly enhance their performance.
- If, on the day of assessments, the weather is determined to be too bad to conduct the assessment, a sign will be posted at the fields. Please understand that this is the only form of notice we can give, due to the number of players who will be assessed.

## **SOFTBALL ASSESSMENT DATES: FEB. 18 & 25**

All Softball Assessments will take place on the Majors Softball Field, Hillside Complex on 36th  
**MINOR/MAJOR SOFTBALL (9-12 yrs) 10:00 am**  
**JUNIOR/SENIOR SOFTBALL (13-16 yrs) 11:00 am**

## **JUNIOR BASEBALL ASSESSMENT DATES: FEB. 18 & 25**

All Junior Baseball Assessments will take place on the Juniors Field, Hillside Complex on 36th  
**JUNIOR BASEBALL (13-14 yrs) 10:00 am**

## **9-12 BASEBALL ASSESSMENT DATES: FEB. 25 & MARCH 3**

All 9-12 Baseball Assessments will take place on the Majors Field, Hillside Complex on 36th  
**12 YR OLDS and ALL RETURNING MAJORS 9:00 am**  
**10 AND 11 YR OLDS (Not returning majors) 11:00 am**  
**9 YR OLD MINORS 2:00 pm**

*All requests for league-age 9 year-olds to be assessed for Majors must be submitted in writing to baseball player agent no later than February 6.*

# Player Drafts

During the end of February and early March the player drafts are held under the supervision of the President, Vice President and Player Agents. Drafts are held in strict adherence to the rules outlined in the Little League Operations Manual. Every effort is made to form balanced teams, and provide competition, safety and an enjoyable learning experience for the players. After the draft, the managers will call their players to introduce him or her and provide information regarding the team meeting.

## **How are teams assigned for those players not required to try out?**

The directors for T-Ball, Rookie, and AA divisions sort the registration forms, dividing them into teams, using the following criteria:

- Parents wishing to coach or manage
- Parents wishing to umpire
- By school
- Parents volunteering to help the
- Player count
- Player or coach requests

If the player count in one school exceeds the team limit, some players from that school will be combined with players from another school. After the teams are formed, managers are given their rosters. Coaches and managers are encouraged to attend training prior to having practice. They are then on their own in deciding when and where practices will be held. This entire process is usually not complete until late March.

If a team does not have a volunteer(s) willing to manage, the team will be dissolved and registration fees will be refunded.

# Field Day

NBLL Field Day will be Saturday, March 31st beginning at 10:00 a.m. All work on our fields is done by volunteers. Your help is greatly needed. Although field maintenance is required throughout the year, a lot of volunteer effort is needed to get our fields in shape prior to the start of the season. The league will provide materials and tractors. Please bring your own shovel, rake, and gloves. Remember, if enough people turn out to help with Field Day, it will be a short day for many rather than a long day for a few. Fields are located by divisions as follows:

## LOCATIONS:

- **T-Ball:** Volunteers are not required for our T-Ball fields; however, your help would be appreciated at any other field.
- **Pitching Machine:** Two fields at Cynthia Mann Elementary School
- **Baseball:** New Creation Fellowship, Church of the Nazarene.
- **Minor Baseball:** Hidden Springs Charter School.
- **Major Baseball:** Two fields – one field at the Hillside Complex; and one field at Riverglen JHS.
- **Junior/Senior Baseball:** Two fields – one field at the Hillside Complex; and one field at Riverglen JHS.
- **Rookie Softball:** Taft (tentative)
- **Minor Softball:** Taft (tentative)
- **Major Softball:** Middle field at the Hillside Complex.
- **13-16 JR/SR Softball:** Middle field at the Hillside Complex.

# Opening Day Saturday, April 7

Opening Day takes place on the first official day of the season (although some divisions may start league play prior to Opening Day). It is our jamboree. Team and individual photos are taken and a competition is held for the teams. The competition, which all teams are encouraged to attend, will consist of running, throwing and hitting. Opening Day is an event enjoyed by all who participate.

# The League Season

## How to enjoy a Little League Game

To enjoy a Little League game at its best, bring a comfortable chair, cushion, or blanket to make the stands more comfortable, your wallet to support the concession stand, team spirit, enthusiasm, comfortable clothes, and the soft voice of encouragement for youngsters who are trying their best. Managers and coaches give hours and hours of time and also do their best – not only for the individual player but for the team as well. Umpires, too, are human. They will make mistakes on occasion, but remember they are doing their best. Don't be quick to find fault in the work of others unless or until you have walked in their shoes. It is easy to be on the outside looking in, you really don't know how much an unkind word or action can hurt a player, an adult volunteer, or the team.

Remembering at all times that these players are children and are trying to do their best, please leave any trace of obnoxious behavior or personality at home. Youth sports have been criticized for years and many of the reasons have centered on "overzealous" parents. Don't have anyone label YOU as one. If a problem arises on the field, let your manager handle it. If you find it necessary to discuss a problem with the coach, do so in private or over the phone.

## The following are prohibited at NBLL fields:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Any item that might pose a danger to fans or players
- Tobacco products of any kind

## Play Time

There is NOT equality of play time. Minimum play time is governed by the *Official Regulations and Playing Rules* published by Little League. Managers for AAA/ Majors/ Junior Baseball and Minor/Major Softball are required to play children at a minimum of six (6) defensive outs and one (1) at bat.

## Schedules

The season is roughly seven weeks in duration – from April 9 through the first week of June. Some divisions participate in tournament play, which is held the week after the end of the regular season.

## Equipment

North Boise Little League provides the following equipment for players in all divisions:

- Bats (that meet current LL requirements)
- Balls
- Batting Helmets (with required NOCSAE stamp)
- Catcher's Protective Gear and Catcher's Mitt (excluding T-Ball)
- Pitching Machines
- Tees and Bases

The cost of providing this equipment is tremendous. Roughly half of our annual budget is spent purchasing equipment. All players are required to use the equipment properly and care for it as though it was their own.

*Please note: players may use their own equipment, however, all bats must meet current Little League requirements and all helmets must have the required NOCSAE stamp. In addition, NBLL is not responsible for the loss of or any damage to players personal equipment.*

## **Uniforms**

Uniforms are distributed before Opening Day. Each team's Team Parent is responsible for distributing a uniform to each team member. Players in all divisions provide their own pants, socks, and cleats. Players will receive from NBLL a hat and uniform shirt, which they may keep at the conclusion of the season. Baseball-style pants should be white (for baseball) or black (for softball). *Grey is an acceptable alternative for either Softball or Baseball.* Socks may be a solid color or striped.

## **Teams Sponsors and Fundraising**

League fees paid at the time of registration only partially cover the cost incurred by the league. To ensure that our league continues to maintain and improve a quality program, additional funding is necessary. We do this through fundraising and sponsor activities.

Financial donations and much-needed gifts are always welcome. Each team needs a sponsor. Individual families, patrons, or business owners wishing to sponsor a Little League team should call our message center (327-8409) or email our Sponsorship Coordinator - Anne Wallace Allen at [anewallaceallen@yahoo.com](mailto:anewallaceallen@yahoo.com). Teams without a sponsor are invited to sponsor themselves. Additionally, we are continually putting funds aside for the development and improvement of our playing fields. Any individual or business wishing to give financial assistance toward any of our capital projects should contact the Sponsorship Coordinator, the President or Vice President, or the message center. We also encourage players to put forth their best effort in our annual fund raising campaign.

Team Sponsorship - \$350

Name on Back of Jersey

Plaque

Logo on NBLL website with hyperlink to your site

(you may request division / team - - teams are sponsored on a first come first serve basis)

Deadline - March 15th

Banners - \$200

Banner hung on baseball/softball field throughout the entire season

Logo on NBLL website with hyperlink to your site

## **Fundraisers**

In addition to registration fees and sponsorships, NBLL also holds fundraisers in order to keep your fees as low as possible. If you have an idea for a fundraiser, would like to volunteer to coordinate a fundraiser or have items that you could donate, please contact us at 327-8409.

## **Concessions**

The North Boise Little League concession stand is instrumental in providing funds for fielding our baseball and softball teams. It is located at the Hillside Field Complex at 36<sup>th</sup> Street, above Hill Rd. Throughout the season, every effort is made to keep our stand appealing. A variety of items are offered for sale at very affordable prices during the games.

**PLEASE support your league's concession stand!**

## **Insurance**

The Little League accident insurance program provides insurance benefits to eligible participants while traveling directly, without delay, to and from the field as well as during practice sessions and games. The benefits include provisions for accident, death or dismemberment and also for medical expenses. Coverage also extends to volunteers involved in authorized activities. If an eligible participant sustains injury during an authorized Little League activity, please immediately advise your team Manager and, if at a game, the Umpire. Please also contact NBLL's board, either by leaving a message (327-8409), email, or letter. It is important to promptly report any accidents to the league if you plan to seek insurance benefits, as our insurance policy has a deadline for the reporting of claims. Additional information available at the little League Website:

[http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms\\_pubs/asap/WhatParentsShouldKnow.pdf](http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms_pubs/asap/WhatParentsShouldKnow.pdf)

**IMPORTANT** -- The information provided in this section is only intended to generally inform league participants of the possible availability of insurance benefits under certain circumstances; it is not a guaranty of insurance benefits. The availability of insurance benefits is governed exclusively by the terms and conditions set forth in our insurance policy documents. If you have further questions about Little League insurance, please contact a NBLL board member.

## **Safety**

The batting cages at various fields are for the use of Little League. Players ***must*** wear a batting helmet and use the "L" screen when using the cage. If there has been vandalism to the cage, please contact a board member and refrain from using the cage. If your child is abusing the cage, i.e. climbing on it or using it in an improper manner, we will not be responsible for injury. If you see an unsafe condition, or witness an unsafe act, please notify the board IMMEDIATELY. Help us take care of our facilities and equipment. This helps keep your child safe.

## **Comments and Suggestions received at the season's conclusion**

A questionnaire may be sent to the registered player's households at the end of the season asking for ideas and comments. The responses received are discussed at the board meetings and action taken as determined by the board. Call the message center 327-8409 if you have additional input and thank you for your time in completing and returning the questionnaire. *We especially appreciate your positive comments. It makes the many, many volunteer hours put in by the Board of Directors more enjoyable!*

# Post Season All-Stars

## **All-Star Teams – An honor and a privilege!**

### **All-Star Teams are competitive.**

The goal of All Stars is to form competitive teams at each level. This is generally accomplished by selecting the best players who try-out for All Stars. Selected players are required to attend practices and games and to put forth their best effort during the entire All Star season. All Stars is a competitive program and there is no equality of playing time. Minimal play is governed according to Little Leagues rules.

All selected players must provide **a certified, original birth certificate or other LEGAL proof of age**, along with three separate proofs of residency, within one week after selection, or risk losing their spot on the team.

There will be additional expenses for players on the All-Star teams, in addition to the All Star fee. Additional information for All Stars will be distributed in early May. Commitment letters will be collected with the All Star fees the first week in May and voting will be held shortly thereafter.

### **All Star practice starts no earlier than June 15.**

The dates for the All-Star Tournaments and practices are roughly mid-June through the end of July (through the middle of August for teams advancing to the Regional Tournament and Little League World Series). If a team wins the District Tournament, it will participate in the State Tournament followed by the Regional Tournament. (9-10 year old and 10/11 year old All-Stars do not advance past the state level.) The winners of the Regional Tournaments go on to the Little League World Series. Travel may be required for the State Tournaments. Travel is required for the Regional Tournament and Little League World Series.

**Attendance at practices and games is required - please consider your summer vacation and family plans when deciding whether or not to try out for All Stars.**

Please contact the All Star Coordinator, Cindy Peterson at [cindypeterson17@gmail.com](mailto:cindypeterson17@gmail.com) should you have further questions concerning All Stars.

## **Summer Baseball**

Summer Baseball is for players who would like to continue playing baseball, but who either have not been selected to an All-Star team or who did not wish to make the commitment to an All-Star team. There will be fewer games and practices than regular season, so families can vacation. Summer baseball will begin in mid June and will run through the middle of August. Registration will be held beginning of June at Hillside's North Field. A notice will be distributed to all qualified players. Summer softball is not currently available, but we highly encourage softball players to play summer baseball.

## **Fall Baseball**

Fall Baseball is an instructional league that practices and plays in the fall, beginning around the first of September and continuing through the month of October. All 9-10, 11-12, Junior, and Senior baseball players are invited to play. There will be one practice per week and games are held on Saturdays. The Fall Ball season is especially advantageous to those players moving up to the larger Junior/Senior field (those players who will be 13 years old in the spring). These players will have the opportunity to practice and play on the larger field and we have found they have a head start and performed better in the following season. Registration will be held at the Hillside North Field sometime around the middle of August. A notice will be mailed to all qualified players. If you have further questions with summer or fall baseball, or wish to coach, please contact the Fall/Summer Baseball Coordinator.

## **Remember**

“If everyone does a little, no one has to do a lot.”

We hope this information is helpful to you in understanding the various aspects of the league operation. Please plan on attending our board meetings whenever possible. Again, they are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month, at 7:00 pm. We meet at Hillside Junior High School, usually in one of the science rooms. We hope to see you there!

Thank you for your part toward making the  
2012 season a great success!

# SPORT PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

We, the *North Boise Little League*, have implemented the following Sport Parent Code of Conduct for the important message it holds about the proper role of parents in supporting their child in sports. Parents should read, understand and sign this form prior to their children participating in our league.

Any parent guilty of improper conduct at any game or practice will be asked to leave the sports facility and be suspended from the following game. Repeat violations may cause a multiple game suspension, or the season forfeiture of the privilege of attending all games.

## ***Preamble***

The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles:

- Trustworthiness,
- Respect,
- Responsibility,
- Fairness,
- Caring, and
- Good Citizenship.

The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these “six pillars of character.”

## ***I therefore agree:***

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports.
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
3. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
4. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
5. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
6. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting;

refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.

7. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well being of the athletes.

8. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.

9. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.

10. I will teach my child that doing one’s best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.

11. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.

12. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.

13. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.

14. I will promote the emotional and physical wellbeing of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.

15. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.

16. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.

17. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.

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Players Name

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Parent/Guardian Signature & Date