

Palm Harbor Little League  
P.O. Box 640  
Palm Harbor, FL 34682  
Letter from the President

November 3, 2008

Can you believe it is time to sign up for the spring season already? I thought we were still playing fall ball.

I know it has been a while since I wrote a presidents letter and I know you can understand why. With all that happened with my family this year I am really looking forward to a new year to start with a fresh outlook for all. As I am writing this I can't help but think of all the good we as a league accomplished last year; from all the clinics to the new emphasis on safety and all the improvements to the fields. Speaking of which have you seen what the county did for the parking area at Sunderman? I guess we won't need to worry about anybody, even the President of the league, tripping and messing up their leg in the parking lot again.

With the new season fast approaching there is always something that needs to happen and your board of directors really need some help this year. First off we are down some none coaching board members. We are mandated by Little League International that our board must have a majority of non coaching members. With that being said we need at least 2 new non coaching members voted in at the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting or 2 of our members who are coaches will need to stop coaching or will need to leave the board all together. It is unfortunate that this may happen but we must abide by the rules or we will lose our charter. If you are even remotely interested in joining the board and have any questions about it please contact me. By a non coaching position what we mean is somebody who is not interested in coaching or managing a team in the spring. If you are a regular coach or plan on coaching we cannot take you as a board member at this time, but we can use you in other capacities and committees.

Another area we will need help with in the spring is the concession stand. The board voted to end our arrangement with the Gyro King. With that being said we will either take this back over with volunteers, as we have in the past, or find another vendor to run it. What we would like is if anybody knows somebody that would like to spear head this, as Carol Crapple did in 2007, and really help the league with an issue that is always difficult to handle or if somebody knows of a vendor that we can talk to about an arraignment that is profitable for both the league and the company. As you know when you sign up your children to play you volunteer 2 hours of you time for the concession stand. This has been a big money maker in the past and we would hate to see it go away. Please contact me if you have any ideas or questions or would like to volunteer in any way with this matter.

Now let me give you all the good news from the league. As I said at the beginning of the letter our spring sign up is underway. The board approved a new budget last night that included a 15% discount for early registration (November). This is a 5% increase over previous years and we are still giving the siblings discount of \$25.00 on top of that. We also held our pricing from last year. We didn't increase it one dime across all the divisions. Please check the web site for all the dates and times for walk ins and for the discount cutoffs.

We are repeating the clinics this spring that we held last spring but we are adding a pitching clinic for the AAA to Senior divisions. This is new this year and should really help our boys become just that much better.

We are also having mandatory parents meetings this year for each division. When you sign up your child please look for which date your division meeting is. These meeting are mandatory for at least one parent from each house hold to attend. You will receive you team rosters that night and the Managers will be able to have a team meeting with the team parents after the league meeting. We are really hoping that these meeting help in the communication of the rules and regulations of the league and help answer any questions that you may have about your division. We will also have volunteers there to help sign up parents for the different

positions needed for each team; such as the team moms, safety reps, etc.. We will also have our new Spirit wear available for you to purchase. It should be a great night for all the divisions.

Our opening ceremonies and second annual safety day is on February 14<sup>th</sup> this year. I know, I know, it's Valentines Day. I am just giving each of the Dads 3 months heads up so you can get the shopping done early instead of that afternoon after the ceremonies are over. And guys, buying your wife a hotdog at the concession doesn't count for taking her out to dinner that day. Trust me I tried that on my anniversary last year.

I hope to see you all this next year and look forward to another great year as your President.

Sincerely,  
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