

BATTER CHATTER

Newsletter Date
February 2013

LAKE PARK LITTLE LEAGUE

WWW.LAKEPARKLITTLELEAGUE.ORG

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Please contact any of the Board members if you are interested in joining Lake Parks Board of Directors.



WWW.LAKEPARKLITTLELEAGUE.ORG

A new website was developed and implemented for the 2012 season. LPLL gives a special thanks to Scott Allen for his time and dedication to creating and updating the site regularly.

Our web site contains

league news, team rosters, umpire schedules, volunteer opportunities, all-star teams and a lot more. There is information on weather and news feeds for Major League Baseball, the Minnesota Twins and Little League.

We are looking for a volunteer to create a new Lake Park Facebook page, Twitter feed, and to take photos during the season.

Please contact Nick Luoma if you are interested in helping out with these or other volunteer opportunities!

2012 Lake Park Champions! Congratulations!

Majors –Yankees, Minors – Marlins
 Lake Park 11s, District Champions, 4th at State, Art Von "B" Champs
 Lake Park 9/10s, District Champions, 3rd at State
 Juniors - District Champions, State Champions, 3rd at Regionals



Important Dates- Mark your Calendar!

Registration

**EARLY MAIL-IN BY
FEBRUARY 25th**

Save \$20

LPLL

PO Box 3201

Duluth, MN 55803

Saturday March 2

Portman Rec Center

10am to 2pm

Majors Try-outs

Saturday March 16

Saturday March 23

St. Scholastica

Burns Wellness/ Fieldhouse

ages 9-10 @ 12:30-2 pm

ages 11-12 @ 2-3:30 pm

Practices Begin

Monday April 8

Field Clean Up

Saturday April 20

Saturday May 4

9am - noon

Umpire Clinic

Sunday May 5

4 - 6 pm

Season Opener

Monday May 6

All Star Try-outs

Sunday June 2

Sunday June 9

Rookies Begin

Monday June 10

Art Von Tourney

Aug 2 – Aug 4

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Little League Parent/Volunteer Pledge

- I will teach all children to play fair and do their best.
- I will positively support all managers, coaches and players.
- I will respect the decisions of the umpires.
- I will praise a good effort despite the outcome of the game.

Ability is what you're capable of doing.

Motivation determines what you do. **Attitude** determines how well you do it.

~Lou Holtz

Coaches and Volunteers Needed

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.

On your registration form, there is a spot to sign-up for coaching along with dates and a wide range of volunteer activities.

If you have any special skills (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.

If you would like to serve as a Lake Park coach, please email League President, Nick Luoma at nluoma024@gmail.com

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 equipment is also purchased to replace worn gear and you wouldn't believe how many balls (\$3000 worth) we go through in a year!

Little League International

The Little League International web site, www.littleleague.org, has a lot of important information for Lake Park parents, coaches and volunteers. Click on the following links to

access up-to-date information on [new bat rules](#), background on a [new 50:70 League, coaching resources](#), and more.

There is also information on

training and pitching recommendations for youth baseball players.

Projects at Lake Park and Purchases

Several projects were accomplished during the 2012 season.

A major investment was made to install new fencing, backstop and dugouts on Field E. This field was also upgraded to increase the infield depth to allow for instructional minors, minors, and for rookie games. A breakaway fence was installed in the outfield.

The old storage shed was placed behind field D and converted for use as an announcer booth. An AV system was installed. This a great opportunity for volunteers.

A new shed was purchased for the Art Von Field used by the Junior and Senior League teams. It allows for improved storage of field supplies and equipment.

New netting was placed over the bleachers between Fields A and D and Fields B and C.

A new refrigerator and stand-alone freezer were purchased for the concession stand.



Comments and Thanks:

Thank you to the LPLL sponsors of 2012:

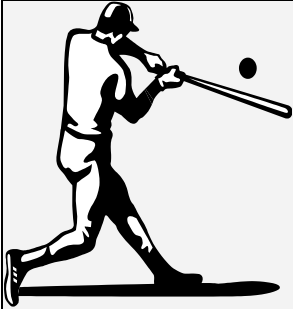
Corporate sponsors play an important role at Lake Park Little League. Please help support these companies by using them for your needs throughout the year.

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Please contact LPLL to sponsor in 2013!



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

Lake Park Little League again is offering a reduced registration fee if you sign up before February 25th.

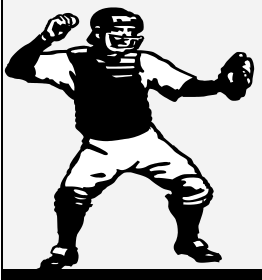
If you have a son or daughter playing at the Major level the cost will be \$85 versus the \$105 if you were to register in person.

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

If you have your forms completed and mailed in before February 25th you can deduct \$20 off each child's registration fee (excludes Rookie).

Registration forms will be emailed out to last year's players and will be left at the schools in late January.

JR/SR registration will be conducted in early March this year. Juniors are 13-14 years old and Seniors 14-16 years old.



Girls Softball

Eastern Little League will coordinate the girls fast pitch softball program.

www.dultheasternlittlleague.com.

Lake Park girls whenever possible. Older girls should consider the Lake Superior Fastpitch League. (www.lakesuperiorfastpitch.org)

They have a 100% online registration process. For more information see

A minors program (ages 7-9) and majors program are available (ages 9-12). Individual teams will still be comprised of

Lake Park Player Distribution

Minor league teams will be selected based on playing ability versus playing with friends. This will be done to provide teams with equal talent level and provide more competitive games. Coaches evaluate each child at the end of the season and these evaluations will be used to form teams the following year. An emphasis will be placed on keeping kids on the same team as 2012, unless they are moving leagues. Friend requests will still be honored when

forming the Rookie and Instructional league teams, and as appropriate for Minors. Kids moving from Instructional Minors into Minors will receive an ability evaluation from their coach at the end of the season. This continues to be an adjustment year and therefore those kids who played in the wrong leagues last year will be grandfathered in for 2013, they are allowed to play in the same league as last year if desired.

Eagle Service Project / Thank you Sam!

Sam Johnson, Lake Park Senior player in 2012, coordinated the construction of a new bridge from the parking lot to the Art Von field as part of his Eagle Service Project. Sam is a member of Scout Troup 162 and will earn his Eagle Badge in 2013.

