



President's Newsletter



Feb 20, 2018

In This Issue

- Parking spots
- Keep it clean!
- 2018 Bat rules
- Tryouts schedule
- FUNDRAISER!
- MVP Raffle
- Volunteer Now!
- Concessions
- MP Apparel
- Don't let your athletes skip the struggle....

“It’s the fans that need spring training. You gotta get ‘em interested. Wake ‘em up and let ‘em know that their season is coming, the good times are gonna roll.”

-Harry Caray

Tis the season to be jolly!!!!

Its starting to warmup outside and tryouts are beginning for several divisions. Our majors division drafted their teams this past weekend and we are getting closer to opening day! We are looking forward to a great season.

Parking spots

Last call for parking spots before the season starts. They are on sale now for the Spring/Fall season for \$400. They can be purchased direct from our online store on mpll.org. If you have any questions, you can send an email mcallisterparklittleleague@gmail.com. Spaces are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.



Keep YOUR Park clean!

We are not Minute Maid Park nor Wolff stadium. We do not have fulltime janitors on staff. The cleanliness of each and every field **DEPENDS UPON YOU**. We ask that everyone please drop their trash in the trashcans at the conclusion of every game.

Contact info

<http://www.mpll.org>

mpllpres@gmail.com

**LONG AFTER
YOU'RE GONE,
YOUR TRASH
IS NOT.**



KEEP OUR PARK CLEAN BY PICKING UP AFTER YOURSELF
IN THE STANDS — THE DUGOUT — ON THE FIELD





New 2018 Spring bat rules

Just a reminder about the new bats that will be required this spring starting with tryouts this weekend. Be aware that this new bat standard effects Little League Baseball only. **There are no changes to the bat standard or regulations for Little League Softball®.**

Testing and evaluating of youth baseball bats has evolved into a science. So much so that the standard has also evolved to where USA Baseball, the national governing body for the sport of baseball in the United States, is adopting a new method for measuring bat performance in the testing of youth bats that will go into effect on January 1, 2018. The new USA Baseball bat standard (USABat), was developed by a USA Baseball committee of scientific experts.

Little League Baseball® will adhere to the new USABat standard. No bats previously approved for use in Little League Play (Junior League Baseball and below) will be permitted to be used in any Little League game or practice, or other Little League function, event, or activity. For more information on the USABat standard and a complete list of bats approved through the USABat Standard, visit usabat.com.

Please note that the logos below will be the **ONLY** acceptable bats in Little League starting Jan 2018. Bats with the USSSA logo and previous LL bat logos will not be acceptable. Acceptable bats will either be 2 ¼" dia or 2 5/8" dia barrel with the USA baseball logo as shown below.

YES ACCEPTABLE



Any USSSA bats that are 2 5/8" or 2 ¾" dia bats with the logo below **ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.**

NOT ACCEPTABLE



Here's a link to Little League's website for further information: [Little league link about bat info.](#)



Tryout schedule

We have tryouts for several divisions coming up this week. The following divisions will have 2 tryout sessions:

- Thurs Feb 22nd at 6pm
- Sat Feb 24th at 9am

Every player in the listed divisions will be required to attend one of the tryouts.

Minors Baseball will be on upper field 1

Machine pitch baseball will be on upper field 4

All softball divisions will be on field 6.

T-ball does not have tryouts.

Upon completion of tryouts, all players will be drafted to a team.

Win A 2018 TRUCK!

Our second annual Hall of Fame raffle is up and running. Tickets will be sold for \$10 a chance and we will have multiple prizes:

- 2-night stay at the JW Marriott including a golf and spa package
- Roundtrip travel voucher for 2 on Southwest Airlines
- \$1000 Visa gift card

- **GRAND PRIZE: A 2018 Chevy Texas Edition Silverado**



Buy 1 or buy 100.....there is no limit nor will you need to be present to win!

We will be encouraging every member of McAllister Park Little League to participate in the sale of the raffle tickets. A member of our raffle committee will be getting in touch with our team moms and team managers at the start of the season to discuss the details. Tickets will also be sold throughout the season at the concession stand.

The grand prize raffle drawing will be held on our 2018 MPLL Night at the Park on Friday night May 11th at 7:30pm. We will again host the popular HR derby from last year for both the kids and “kids at heart.” More to come on this event! Mark your calendars now and plan on supporting this great event!

MVP Raffle

To reward our players for selling tickets, we are going to have a player-prize drawing, “The MVP Raffle.” For every 20 tickets that a player sells, he/she will have their name entered into the MVP raffle for an Xbox One. This will be for just the players, sorry parents. There is no limit to the number of entries a player may have in the raffle. The



only rule is that a player will receive a chance into the MVP raffle for every 20 tickets sold.

Volunteer at YOUR Little League

I say this often, “this is YOUR Little League.” We are all a big family trying to build and maintain a great facility and community for our kids to grow up in. It takes a momentous amount of time and volunteers to successfully do this. I ask everyone to consider to get involved. We do need YOUR help. Everyone has time and talents that can be utilized.

Get involved today!

Concessions volunteers needed

While we are on the subject of volunteers...Our concession stand is our primary source of income throughout the season. One of our biggest needs in the concession stand is workers. If you know of any service organization who are looking for service hours, please contact Marissa Gilbert for further information. There are a lot of nights in a spring season, we need all the help we can get.

McAllister Park Little League Apparel

Get your own 2018 MP shirts!
We are now offering a couple of designs for everyone to purchase. You can pick from long sleeve or short sleeve as well as gray or navy. We also are offering a women’s “v-neck” style as well. A limited number will be in concession stand. We will sell them in our online store at MPLL.ORG where you can order. We will then have them printed and you can pick them up at the concession stand when they are ready.





Don't let your athlete skip the struggle



By Janis Meredith | Posted 2/23/2017

Are your kids in a struggle right now in sports?

When my kids were playing sports in high school, I remember sharing my frustration with a friend. It was hard watching them struggle through their challenges. My friend wisely commented, “The strongest kids I’ve seen are the ones who things don’t come to easily. The ones who have to fight for playing time, a spot on the team, or even just to improve, are the ones who in the end are the strongest people.”

I clung to those words a lot as my kids played sports. And now that they are young adults, I see the fruit of their struggle. If they’d skipped those struggles, they wouldn’t have developed into strong, determined adults. Your kids need to struggle in order to learn how to fly.

If you’re tempted to jump into your child’s struggle and try to fix it, let these things hold you back:

- Your child needs to learn how to problem-solve without your constant help. This is a skill he must develop because he will need it a lot as an adult.
- Your child needs to learn how to resolve conflict with others. If you keep fixing things for him, he won’t have a chance to learn this.
- Your child needs to learn persistence. He will need it as a spouse, parent, and employee/employer. You do not want to raise a kick who tucks his tail and runs at the first sign of a struggle.

Parents, stop smoothing the path in front of your child. I fear that if you do, you may not like the person your child grows up to be. Don’t let him skip the struggle!

*Janis B. Meredith, sports mom and coach’s wife, writes a sports parenting blog called jbmthinks.com. Her new book *11 Habits for Happy and Positive Sports Parents* is on Amazon.*