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You just can't beat the person who never gives up.

-Babe Ruth

Raffle update

We are entering our final week for selling tickets for our second annual Hall of Fame Raffle. Please sell those last tickets this week and get them turned in!



One comment I would like to make to everyone is that this truck is NOT donated to us and it is not free. MPLL is going to purchase this truck. That is why it is pertinent for everyone to please continue to work hard at selling your allotment of tickets. All I ask is for every player to sell their allotment of 10 tickets. So please SELL SELL SELL. Ask family members, co-workers, and friends, everyone is always willing to take a chance or two at winning a truck!

Schedule of Events

We are planning on hosting a couple of fun events in conjunction with the drawing next Friday night. We will start the night off with a round of little league games at 5:30pm. Our majors division will host the first round of their playoffs as the two featured games on field 1 and 2. There will also be machine pitch, minors, tball and softball games all at 5:30pm. Once the games end at 7:15pm, we will have the truck setup on field 2 for the raffle drawing which should occur about 7:45pm.

Starting at 7:15pm, we will host two homerun derbys for kids and "kids at heart" on fields 1 and 3. Boys 12 and under will be on field 3 and the older "kids" 13 and up will be on field 1. Cost will be \$1 per swing with unlimited buys up to the time cutoff. Sonny Garcia from Phoenix bats will be sponsoring the event and providing the winners' trophies. If you have any questions, contact the coordinator CJ Drago at charlesdrago21@gmail.com.

One additional event will be a coaches/managers softball game. Any manager or coach of a team interested in participating can contact Mike Moneer at mpllmike@gmail.com for the details. Cost is \$20 to play in the event. The softball game(or games) will be played immediately following the drawing.

Concessions will be open and we ask everyone to come out and support this great event.

This month's featured sponsor



Umpire going to the LLWS

Every year, 16 umpires from around the world are selected by Little League to serve as an umpire at the Little League World Series in Williamsport, PA. It is the highest honor that Little League can bestow on a Little League umpire.

The selection process to become a World Series umpire is lengthy and rigorous. The process begins with a recommendation from the District Administrator, within their district, to umpire in a Regional Tournament. Little League's nine regional offices then consider all nominated umpires before selecting those who most closely meet the selection criteria. The umpires can only be selected only once to serve as an umpire at the Little League World Series so it is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity. Pictured above, McAllister Park LL's own Gary Panozzo has been selected to be one of umpires at the LLWS this year.



Gary was a board member at McAllister Park LL for 6 years while his two son's played at MPLL. As a board member, Gary was very instrumental in helping get our current main complex built and completed. We moved from the lower complex to our main complex in the fall of 2010. You may recognize Gary at the fields as an umpire, but he is also the grandfather of Ryan and Derek Maples and he does spend some time in the stands as a spectator as well. Congratulations Gary!

Heres the list of the 16 umpires for this year (name, place of residence and region from)

Colin Campbell – Albuquerque, N.M. – Southwest
Michael Debelak – Torrance, Calif. – West
Jorge DeJesus Martinez-Quintero – Barranquilla, Atlantico, Colombia – Latin America
Ryan Gibson – Brownstown, Mich. – Central
Danny Gill – Lake Wales, Fla. – Southeast
Tim Hughes – Wurtsboro, N.Y. – East
Wayne Kurtz – Coaldale, Alberta– Canada
Troy Lare – Hermon, Maine – East
Edward Moran, Jr. – Camden, Del. – East
Gary Panozzo – San Antonio, Texas – Southwest
Jeff Pruitt – East Bethel, Minn. – Central
Shawn Simpson – Simi Valley, Calif. – West
John Sivley – Bowling Green, Ky. – Central
Mark Smith – Springfield, Va. – Southeast
Tomoyuki Tada – Saitama, Japan – Asia-Pacific
Kyle Wier – Beaumont, Texas – Southwest



MVP Raffle

For our players who sell at least 20 raffle tickets, their name will go in for the players' MVP raffle. There are some great prizes which we are giving away to our players. Players can have multiple entries, the only rule is they get a chance for every 20 raffle tickets sold.

The prizes include:

- 1) Playstation 4
- 2) iPad Mini
- 3) \$200 Visa gift card
- 4) \$125 iTunes gift card
- 5) \$50 iTunes gift card

So players get out there and SELL! SELL! SELL! The more you sell, the more chances you get at the above listed prizes!

General Membership meeting

Our general membership meeting was held last night at the fields. Our treasurer Rebecca Beck presented our current financial status to the league. For those of you unaware, our current operating budget is \$528,580. The majority of that budget goes to field maintenance and equipment, concessions, umpires, uniforms and utilities. Maintaining 36 acres encompassing 16 fields is no easy task. One comment was made that we get ZERO money from the city of San Antonio. Unlike other little leagues across the country, we are required to stand on our own from that perspective. We are funded by only our player fees, sponsorships, parking spots and fundraising. With 758 registrants in spring and 350 or so in the fall, and given the budget costs, that equates out to almost \$477 a player cost-wise. My point is, our registration fees do not cover our leagues expenses. I hope everyone understands that as a league we cannot function without the additional fundraising efforts. As a league, we are in a healthy cash status and are in compliance with all criteria as required by our lease with the city of San Antonio.

I provided an update on our league from a numbers perspective. Last spring we had 800 players registered. This past spring we had 758 players. That reflects roughly a 5% drop in registration. Our league continues to battle the loss of players to other sports and/or other organizations. We will be hosting both city and district allstar tourneys in June. The city tourney will run from May 31st to Jun 4th. We will host the little league city tourney for the majors division at our complex. After 5 years of hosting the machine pitch division, District 19 made the decision to discontinue the city tourney at the machine pitch level. I personally felt that was unfair to a lot of kids who enjoy the opportunity to compete against other teams in the district outside of our little league. As a result, we were granted permission to host the city tourney for machine pitch from the district. We have confirmed at least 8 teams so far for this tourney which will run at the same time the little league majors tourney is being held.



The annual road to Williamsport and the Little League World Series will begin with the district tourney being held at MPLL from June 22nd to July 2nd. We will host the 12 yr old division as well as the 10 yr old division.

I am asking everyone to consider coming out to support the league during both of these tourneys. We always need volunteers to help in setting up the fields and maintaining them in-between games.

Last of all, the board of directors election occurred during this meeting. Our by-laws state "At the Annual Meeting, the Members shall determine the number of Directors to be elected for the ensuing year and shall elect such number of Directors. The number of Directors elected shall be those thirty (30) receiving the most votes."

This year, only 25 people requested to be placed on the ballot. As a result, all 25 members were elected to the board. The term for the new board begins on Aug 1st, 2018 and runs thru July 31st, 2019. The 2018-2019 board is as follows:

Becky Beck	Chris Clinkscales	Michelle D'Uva	Charles Drago	Shane Edwards
Justin Fikes	Pat Ginnelly	Drew Herron	Baker King	Nikolas Libson
Joey de Luna	Josh McCooley	Tommy Moeller	Mike Moneer	John Mozingo
Daniel Neutzling	Marc Pictrowski	Jason Quintero	Josh Reneau	Robert Renner
Stephen Sipe	Wayne Starnes	Chris Szymczak	Ross Van Klaveren	Jeff Whitaker

I thank all of you for stepping up and committing your time and talents to the good of this league. I look forward to meeting many of you and working with you.

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!





From USA Baseball Amateur Resource Center website:

<https://www.usabaseball.com/arc/players-parents/maximizing-youth-experience/multiple-sports-benefits/>

BENEFITS OF PLAYING MULTIPLE SPORTS



The end of baseball season can be a gloomy time for everyone. The transition into cooler weather and the changing of the seasons into fall can be tough for anyone who enjoys spending their spring and summer days on the baseball field. While these changes signify the end of the baseball season, they don't have to signify the end of sports participation for the year!

There are many benefits to playing multiple sports throughout the year.

AVOID BURNOUT

Playing the same sport every day for extended periods of time, like over the course of a year, can quickly lead to burnout. Burnout in a sport is when the athlete is mentally fatigued from playing one sport too often. When athletes play one sport too often and too early on in their lives, it can result in the athlete losing the fun aspect of the sport. The athlete will then want to stop playing because they are tired of it, and it's just not fun anymore. The sport turns into work, and they begin to resent going to practice or games. Playing in year-round ultra-competitive leagues can put a great deal of pressure on young athletes, causing them to become resentful.

It is important to remember that kids play sports because they are able to have fun with their friends, they enjoy playing, and they like to compete. These three things are the drivers of youth participation in sport. Too many young athletes get burned out because the focus on these simple drivers are lost when the athlete plays one sport for an extended period of time. By taking a break from one sport to play another, athletes are given more of a variety, as well as different situations and they are able to continue playing sports because they are more likely to enjoy them.



REDUCE THE RISK OF OVERUSE RELATED INJURIES

Overuse injuries go hand-in-hand with burnouts. If athletes play one sport year-round, they are constantly using their growing bones and muscles in the same way. With there being no variety in movement and muscle development, the muscles and bones that are being frequently used can begin to wear out from overuse. The repetitive motion of the same game year-round, doing the same skills and drills, often leads to overuse injuries such as stress fractures, strains and sprains, and even tears in muscles, tendons, and ligaments.

By playing a variety of sports, especially during the critical development years, athletes are better able to develop all of their muscle groups instead of just specific muscles for one sport. This lessens the risk of overuse related injuries because athletes have the chance to let some muscle groups relax and do different movements.

DEVELOP BETTER SKILLS AS AN ALL-AROUND ATHLETE

The more sports and activities that kids are involved in early on in their lives, the more opportunity they have to develop themselves as an athlete, not just as a baseball, soccer, basketball, or football player. Many skills and techniques transfer from one sport to another and complement each other while continuing to further develop and build upon preexisting skill sets. When athletes develop their skills across different sports and activities, they are likely to find that their performance in other sports will increase.

For example, both baseball and soccer involve running. In baseball, you run around the bases and after balls that have been hit when you're on defense. In soccer, you run up and down the field passing the soccer ball back and forth trying to score. Running in baseball is usually more explosive over short distances for short periods of time, while running in soccer is more endurance over longer distances for longer periods of time. If an athlete plays both baseball and soccer, they will develop both explosive and endurance running skills. The endurance running skills can help in baseball if they hit a triple, and the explosive running skills can help in soccer if they are trying to steal a ball back from an opponent. The combination of the two skill sets make for a better all-around athlete.

OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP MORE MENTAL AND LIFE SKILLS

Playing multiple sports can help kids build important life skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, communication, and responsibility. While playing one sport also teaches valuable life lessons, playing a variety of sports allows for lessons to be taught and learned in different environments, which helps teach adaptability and openness to change. Playing different sports provides a great opportunity to be exposed to new team roles and become a well-rounded player. For example, a player who is a star on the baseball field might find it beneficial to play in a different role in basketball.

ABILITY TO FURTHER BUILD CONFIDENCE

Sport is a great vehicle for building self-confidence in youth. With each different sport, there are different levels of success that athletes can achieve, both big and small. Whether it is making a free-throw or hitting a single, each step of the way in sports holds a new chance for success. As athletes succeed in sports, their self-confidence increases because they start to understand they can overcome any obstacles that may stand in their way, both in sport and in life.