

# WBLL NEWS

December 2009

www.wbll.org

## New Division Alignment coming this Spring

The board after receiving many comments from parents and players is making changes in the age alignments and playing rules at Western Branch LL. Beginning this spring:

League Age (Age as of Dec 31, 2009)	Primary Division	Alternate Division by tryout or experience
4	Wee Ball	Tee Ball
5	Tee Ball	
6	Tee Ball	
7	Tee Ball	Minors
8	Minors	
9	Minors	Majors
10	Minors	Majors
11	Majors	
12	Majors	Seniors
13	Seniors	
14	Seniors	
15	Seniors	
16	Seniors	Big League
17	Big League	
18	Big League	

### Differences between divisions:

**Wee Ball:** New to WBLL this year if we get enough players. If not, any girl who turns 5 prior to the start of the season April 10 may play tee ball.

**Tee Ball:** Intended for younger and new players. Teams bat the lineup. Specialized rules are in place to insure every girl gets a chance to enjoy the game. 4 innings and 1 and ½ hour time limit

**Minors:** Play all games according to Little League Rule book. 6 inning games. No inning may start after 1:45 minutes. Teams bat the lineup. This league will be a combination of player pitch and spring loaded pitching machine. Any 7 with two years of tee ball experience qualifies to play in this division if they wish.

**Majors:** Play all games according to Little League Rule book. 6 inning games. No inning may start after 1:45 minutes. Teams bat the lineup. All girls who played in the major division last year automatically qualify to play in the major division this year if they wish. Incoming 9's and new 10's are by tryout or experience. It is under consideration to adopt a dropped third strike and steal on release rule in this division. Players pitch the entire game.

**Seniors:** Play all games according to Little League Rule book. 7 inning games. Time limits are different because this league inter-leagues with the whole district. 12's who want to play in this division qualify by having played with their middle school team or by tryout. This division steals on release and advances on a dropped third strike.

**Big League:** Play all games according to Little League Rule book. Some time limits are different because this league inter-leagues with the whole district. This is a combined team with Churchland LL. All games are DH's and played on Sundays.

## Registration Dates and Times

Sat Jan 9 <sup>th</sup>	Wed Jan. 13th	Sat. Jan 16th	Tues Jan 19th	Tues Feb 2nd	Sat Feb 13
10 to 2 pm	6:30 to 8:30 pm	10 to 2 pm	6:30 to 8:30 pm	6:30 to 8:30 pm	10 to 2 pm

Fees based on left hand  
DIV. column  
Before 1/10    Before 2/13    after 2/13

Tee ball	30	40	40
Minors	55	65	75
Majors	65	75	85
SRS	65	75	85
Big League	90	100	100

# THANKS

To all the wonderful players and their families who helped out this year by volunteering at Western Branch Little League. Sometimes we forget to ask, and at other times we forget to say thanks, but volunteers are what makes this all volunteer organization work for the girls of Western Branch Little League. All the fields, equipment, etc. were all built or paid for by volunteers.

***Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.***

## Willing to lend a hand?

We are presently in need of persons willing to serve on or to help the field, concessions and sponsor committee.

If you are interested in helping with the field or any other way with WBLL please call Chuck Anderson, League President, at 483.0234.

Remember ***“There are only two creatures of value on the face of the earth: those with the commitment, and those who require the commitment of others.”*** John Adams

Please be one who wants to help others, make a commitment to volunteer with WBLL.

## PITCH, Hit and Run Competition

On Sunday, May 2, 2010 WBLL will be the site of the the Aquafina/MLB Pitch, Hit and Run Competition for the newly created softball division. We are also under consideration to hold a sectional championship. Ages are 7/8, 9/10, 11/12 and 13/14. (Age as of July 17 2010) winners will advance to a sectional contest then a MLB team level and may eventually advance to exhibit their skills at the All Star Fan Fest held in conjunction with the MLB All Star game.

Entrance is available to all girls, not just those who play with WBLL. Watch future

newsletters and the bulletin board for upcoming information.

[http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/kids/mlb\\_pitch\\_hit\\_r un.jsp](http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/kids/mlb_pitch_hit_r un.jsp)

**NEW this Year: ALL batting helmets in Minors, majors, Seniors and Big League must have face masks!!!** The league will provide them to teams, but if you purchase one for your daughter face masks are required. Retrofit masks are available

### **Looking for a late year Tax Deduction?**

Check out the Bricks at WBLL.org Also we could use the following new or used equipment:

Soil Tamper  
Shovels  
Metal Rakes  
Cheese dispenser  
Heat Lamp  
French Fryer

If you have this or any other equipment you think we be able to use please contact us through the web site. WBLL.org.

We receive **no** money from the city and are self supporting. We are required under our contract with the city to maintain the fields and dispose of the trash in a dumpster we provide. Please help us to recruit sponsors. Sponsorships start as low as \$250 for new sponsors. (150 to renew) \$1500 makes them a field sponsor.

We are in need of sand, clay and topsoil to fill holes, dress the fields and replenish the infields. If you know of anyone who can donate any of these materials please let us know.

### **Prospective Managers and Coaches**

Please Contact the following individuals through website if you are interested in coaching or managing at WBLL. Go to the contact page and email us.

We will provide training. Our just adopted budget plans on spending an increased amount on training this year. Also mark your calendar for March 20 for a mandatory District wide safety and training meeting.

## **Big League**

**There will be a meeting for all players interested in playing Big League at 1 pm January 24<sup>th</sup>. Please plan on attending so we can determine the interest levels for this years team.**

Play begins in Mid May. All games are Doubleheaders on Sunday.

## President's Notes

It began for me as a player in 1956, when as a Little leaguer I donned the uniform of the Yankees, sponsored by the USS Spiegel Grove, LSD 32. A ship that's long been decommissioned but whose commitment to a group of Little Leaguers I still remember.

This spring will mark the 34<sup>th</sup> Spring I have had the joy as manager of meeting parents and players at that first practice. (That's 54 years in LL for those of you who are counting). The smiling faces that are trying to hide the apprehension of those girls who are moving up a division. The eyes that light up as old teammates get together and the screams of joy as they realize that a friend is now on the same team.

Every year I get invigorated by their spirit as players and people. The sadness comes for me as a season ends and I know that it will be the last time I ever coach and get to watch that young lady again since she is now too old to continue in our program, or she is moving away or just moving on to different challenges.

Some of those who moved away still contact me through Christmas cards, email and now increasing Facebook. Some even still call me coach even

though they are now old enough and have children old enough to have entered and left the Little League program. Many of my best moments have come from old and current players away from the field.

Little League is not about winning, Although winning is fun, but learning to lose gracefully in life is also important. Little League is about learning skills, having fun, and becoming a better person. The Little League Pledge which we recite at the start of every season says a lot:

### **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

I think we can agree if all our daughters live up to that pledge we would be very happy. I will continue and the people of WBLL will always try to do our best for your daughters, Please join us in helping them do so.

### **Web Site**

Be sure to check out [WBLL.org](http://WBLL.org) for the latest information about Western Branch Little League, new or changed registration dates

**REGISTRATION  
INFORMATION  
INSIDE.**

*Save money*

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**Register January  
9,2010**

**Western Branch Little League  
PO Box 9784  
Chesapeake, VA 23321-9784**