

# WESTERN BRANCH LL

PO BOX 9784, CHESAPEAKE, VA 23321

[www.wbll.org](http://www.wbll.org) March 2009

## **Welcome to another season of softball at WBLL!**

We will play this year with 3 teams in our tee ball division, 4 coach pitch teams, 6 major teams and 3 senior teams. The Tee Ball and Coach Pitch teams will inter-league with Churchland LL; the majors will each make one trip to Bennetts Creek and also travel to Churchland. The Seniors will play every other league in the district.

This marks the first year that our major teams have inter-leagued with other leagues. Parents, coaches and players in that division expressed a desire to see other teams and not play only teams from WBLL. In prior years it was required that if you inter-league at the major level you had to inter-league with the entire district. This year we were given permission to do it on a limited basis, so we are giving it a try. Parents, players and coaches will be surveyed at the end of the season to get their reactions.

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### **DID YOU KNOW??**

**WBLL spends more than \$2000 a year on electricity for the lights and concession stand. That's almost  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the registration money collected from the Senior Division.**

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### **OPENING DAY**

Will be held on April 4 starting at 10am on A field. This year every player will be introduced by their manager or coach and given a Western Branch Little League pin.

## **Pictures**

Team pictures will be taken on opening day, April 4<sup>th</sup>, and look for schedules arriving soon thru your team parent. There will be a team parent meeting at which uniforms, picture information and schedules will be passed out on March 14 at 10am in the field house

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## **Fund Raiser**

This year's fund raiser is due back to the league no later than 10 am on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Beginning on April 6<sup>th</sup> every night from 5:30- 6:30 someone will be in the field house to accept your sales. Remember for every 10 tickets you sell, you get to keep \$10. Proceeds are going to help pay off the loan for the bathroom addition which has cost us approximately \$16,000 to date. The league used the funds from its capital reserve account and borrowed \$10,000 to see the addition through to completion.

We receive NO money from the City or School system to support the league. It is entirely funded by Western Branch LL, its sponsors and the parents who work the concession stand and fund raise. Your daughters thank you. Maybe not now, but when they get older they will know the effort you went through for them.

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### **DID YOU KNOW??**

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**The fields we play on were built by the parents of WBLL? As was the field house and now the bathrooms. Volunteers made it happen. Volunteer make it happen. Be one**

## **Sponsors**

We are in need of someone, or a number of people, to volunteer to help recruit league sponsors. If you think you can recruit one or more than one please contact Chuck Anderson, [wbemail@cox.net](mailto:wbemail@cox.net) or 676-9581 (cell).

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## **Text Message Experiment**

We are looking into using a text messaging system to advise parents when games are canceled. Under the system even if you are not playing that day you would still be notified of game cancellations. If you would like to be included please email us your cell phone number through the link on the league's web page, [Wbll.org](http://Wbll.org). We are not sure we can make it work but we are committed to trying to make communication with the parents as effective as possible.

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## **Public Relations Chair**

Do you like to communicate? The league's PR person recently resigned and we need a replacement. Duties include: preparing 4 newsletters a year. two of which are mailed home; preparing flyers for distribution to the schools; and making sure the league bulletin board is kept up with current information that you determine. Contact any board member. Or email [wbemail@cox.net](mailto:wbemail@cox.net).

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## **Board Members**

Board members can be identified either

by the shirt they are wearing or by the badge they are wearing. Board members are giving their time to help. If you would like to join the board and get a spiffy name badge for free contact any board member.

Board members set the league's budget, approve managers and coaches and oversee various aspects of the league operations. A member of the board is present at the field at all league games held at our fields.

You and any parent of WBLL are welcome to attend any board meeting. You cannot vote, but your opinions and ideas will be heard. A league calendar is on our web site.

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## **PIERCED EARS and SAFETY**

Parents should NOT get their daughters ears pierced during the season.

Insurance rules prohibit girls from taping over freshly pierced ears. Earring will need to be removed. Holes will not close up in two hours. But please help us avoid causing the girls stress and avoid getting ears pierced during the season.

## **Background Checks**

Each and every person who comes into regular contact with the players must undergo a background check. If your manager asks you to leave the field because you don't have one he/she is just following the rules to make sure all our children are safe. Complete the volunteer form, turn it into the concession stand and you will be notified if there are any areas of concern. Only the league President has access to

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your record. The information is kept confidential

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## Did you know???

WBLL spends more than \$1200 a year on softballs for games? That's more than twice what all the tee ball players paid to register.

## Board Members:

President-	Chuck Anderson
Vice President-	Woody McLeod
Vice President-	Denise Conter
Secretary-	Tess Sweet
Treasurer-	Tom Conter
Field Manger-	Greg Robinson
Field Manger-	Bert Bullock
Concessions-	Sharon Kitchen
Pictures-	Maria Wiatt
Uniforms	Tess Sweet
Registration	Beau Beauregard
Majors	Bill Perkinson
Tee Ball	Rick Cerza
Coach Pitch	Wayne Sheeley
Seniors	Woody McLeod
Training	Preston Dezern
Training	Rick Cerza
Public Relations	Vacant
Sponsors	Vacant
Board Member	Lynn Bullock
Board Member	Andrea Martin
Board Member	Dennis Riddick
Board Member	Kevin Whitley
Inter-League	Chuck Anderson
Equipment	Greg Robinson

We are located in District 6. The District 6 Administrator is Jean Albertson .

Other leagues our district that play softball:

Bennetts Creek	Craddock
Churchland	Wilson
Olive Branch	Cavalier Manor

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## Did you Know??

Jessica Moore who played with the Eagles here at WBLL now plays with the Washington Glory of the Women's Professional Fast- Pitch League.

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## Did you Know??

Last year we spent more than the entire registration fees in the coach pitch division on our league charter and insurance?

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## ADD a BRICK to the BUILDING

I'm sure you and your daughters have noticed the bricks on the field house. Some have been bought by the league to thank companies and individuals for their contributions to the league. However, most were purchased by individuals to celebrate participation, an event, to support the league or all three. Brick forms are available through the web site or by brick forms in the concession stand. Bricks are \$100.00 each and are tax deductible.

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## Upcoming Events Calendar:

### March 8 4pm at the field house

*Meeting for Major Managers to discuss Inter-league Rules*

### March 14 8am till 3 pm

*Field clean up day. Rake leaves, pick up trash, clean out equipment boxes and maybe a little painting.*

### March 14 10am at the field house

*Team Parents meeting*

### March 25 7pm at the field house

*Little League Board meeting*

### March 26 6pm at the field house

*Safety Meeting for all Managers and coaches. MANDATORY*

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**March 25 7pm at the field house**

*Little League Board meeting*

**March 29 4pm at the field house**

*Inter-league meeting for tee ball and  
coach pitch managers only*

**April 4 10 am Opening Day/ Pictures**

**April 10 to 17** *Spring break no games*

**April 18** *Games resume*

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## Volunteer Opportunities

Many jobs at WBLL are just common sense;

\*\*See some trash on the ground, pick it up and put it in a trash can. WBLL is responsible for keeping it clean and safe, not the schools and city.

\*\* See a hole that needs to be filled.

Grab a shovel and fill it from the pile of clay.

\*\* See your manager marking the fields, go out and help.

\*\* See a full trash can. Empty it in the dumpster.

\*\* See the grass is getting long. Ask your manager for the key to the tractor and cut it.

\*\* See something you think needs to be done. Mention it to your manager or a board member and then help to get it done.

\*\* See a fence that needs to be tightened. Buy the wire to fix it, do it with a friend. Just keep your receipt on any small job you complete and the league will reimburse you for the supply cost up to \$50 without prior approval.

We will provide training on dragging fields or any specialized tasks just watch the bulleting board or ask a board member how you can learn and help.

### **Committees needing help right now!!**

*Field committee* - They maintain the fields, make repairs and plan out future improvements. Contact them through your manager or the web site.

*Concessions day managers*- Be responsible for all or part of a day or night in the concession stand. Contact

Sharon Kitchen through the web site or ask a board member.

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### **Presidents Corner**

This marks my first Spring season as President of Western Branch Little League, but it is 51 years with Little League since I began playing as a 7 year old. The last 32 as a manager, coach, treasurer, public relations chair, field manager, trash guy, and for 10 of those as a parent of players. My last child stopped playing at WBLL five years ago and is now a Junior in college. But both her and my older daughter come back and help coach, score and repair things around the fields. Many of the friends they made on the softball fields are the ones that helped them through tough high school classes and the tough times that adolescents have.

All of us on the board started by just picking up some trash and then getting involved to make sure our daughters had a safe place to play where they could have fun and improve their skills. But those of us who stay with the league do so because we know how many girls benefit from it. That smile you see on a girl's face and the glow you will feel when one tells you thanks, or comes to you later and says you're the first person who told them they were important or would be successful. Make a difference in a children's lives become a WBLL volunteer.

Chuck Anderson, President