

Chantilly Little League



Spring 2015 Season
Tee Ball, Coach Pitch, A, AA, AAA &
Majors Managers Meeting
March 23, 2014



Welcome

- Thank you for volunteering your time to the boys and girls of our community.
- Hope the season is as rewarding for you as you will make it for your players.



2015 Chantilly Little League

- Chantilly Little League has chartered all divisions – Tee Ball, Coach Pitch, Single A, Double A, Triple A and Majors – with Little League International.
- All players must reside within our chartered boundaries (Chantilly American and Chantilly National), or attend a school located within our boundaries.



Board Members

- President/Scheduler – Rob Fitzhugh
- AL Vice President – Frank Nava
- NL Vice President/Dir. of Sponsorship – Tom DeFranco
- Player Agent – Mike Edwards
- Safety Officer – David Velis
- Coaching Coordinator – Rick Anderson
- Dir. of Field Maintenance – Carmen Giannini



Board Members (cont.)

- Dir. of Concessions – Jane Houston
- Equipment Manager – Bill Campbell
- Treasurer – Matt Dwyer
- Secretary – John Lesch
- Tee Ball/Coach Pitch Coordinator – Tom Keith
- Single A Coordinator/Info Officer – Jeff Poplin
- Umpire in Chief – Bill McKinney
- At Large Member – Andy Souders



Managing and Coaching Little League

- Thank you for volunteering to manage a Chantilly Little League team.
- You are the face of and represent this League.
- The League is player focused, not coach or parent.
- Humility, fair treatment of players, parents, umpires, and opponents, honoring the game and providing opportunities for every player defines a coach – a win / loss record or the number of championships does not indicate the value of a coach.
- The needs of the team are greater than the needs of your own.
- Managing and coaching is a privilege.
- No manager, coach (or umpire) has tenure, regardless of their years of service.
 - Throughout the season feedback will be given on coaching conduct and performance.
- Do not misplace your focus on winning games.



Mission Statement

Chantilly Little League is a community-based athletic organization dedicated to developing superior citizens. Chantilly Little League provides a safe, inclusive, and positive environment that focuses on developing the core values of teamwork, discipline, respect, and citizenship in all our youth athletes through the game of baseball. We strive to instill these values and engender a life-long love of the game by encouraging our players to:

- Develop and continually improve upon positive character traits, including courage, loyalty, and selflessness, which will serve them throughout their lives, not just on the field of play;
- Participate as an integral member of his or her team, believing that love of the game will be more greatly enhanced through their active involvement;
- Have fun playing and practicing, while improving their physical well-being; and
- Continue to refine and develop baseball skills and knowledge through their active participation in our baseball program.

We are committed to maintaining a positive culture in which coaches, parents, fans, umpires, and players work together to achieve our mission.



Role of Parents and Coaches in Youth Baseball

High School to MLB managers and coaches provide insight into our role in youth baseball.

- It's not all about winning or the game itself.
- Allow kids to learn how to handle challenges, respond with determination and perseverance.
- Challenge yourself, your coaches, and your players' parents to cheer effort, and bite their tongues on everything else.
- Baseball allows kids to develop life-forming values.
- Read the Matheny Manifesto and/or buy they book (mikematheny.com).
- Anther great read is The Parent Connection, Little Leagues Newsletter. An article specific to this topic can be found at, <http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/newsletters/parents/february14/shapiro.pdf>.



Volunteer Requirements

All CYA volunteers are required to complete and submit a CYA Background Check and Little League Volunteer Application

- Background check is online and available on the Chantilly Baseball Website under “Volunteer” tab.
- Little League Volunteer application is under the Documents tab titled, “2015 LL Volunteer Application.”
- Both must be completed and submitted, along with a copy of valid government issued photo i.d., before first full practice.
- Only approved coaches are allowed in the dugout and on the field during a game.
- All managers and coaches must sign the Coaches Code of Conduct.



Code of Conduct

- **Coach Code of Conduct**
 - All Managers and Coaches required to sign;
 - Lays out how we expect our coaches to conduct themselves; and
 - Serves as a formal process for adhering to the code of conduct.
- **Parent Code of Conduct**
- **Player Code of Conduct**
- These forms are on under the Documents tab on the Chantilly Little League web site.



Policies, Procedures, Guidelines and Rules

- Available on Chantilly Little League website, under Documents.
- Defines the way we conduct our league, including use of cages on game days (as applicable), procedures for player injuries, complaints, etc...
- Includes code of conduct for coaches, players, and parents.
- Read and understand the rules.



2015 Rule Highlights

- Batter must keep one foot in batter's box when up to bat (unless play is being made at plate, ducking away from pitch...) – if not, the umpire will call a strike.
- AA
 - Runners may only attempt to advance no a steal to 2nd or 3rd base.
 - Only one base per runner may be advanced, regardless of overthrow.
 - Runners may only advance to home plate if the batter puts the ball in play, or if the batter is hit by a player-pitch with the bases loaded.
 - Stealing is not allowed on catcher's return throw overthrow back to the pitcher.
 - All player pitch games.
 - No Walks.
 - Coach comes in to pitch after 4 balls, continues to pitch until batter strikes out, reaches base, or is put out.



Practices

- Keep the players busy by establishing stations.
- Dedicate time to develop catchers.
- Spend time teaching base running, not playing cat and mouse games.
- Allow the players to practice sliding.
- Throwing and catching, is something every player at a every level needs to work on.
- Create fun games and competition.
- Pitch batting practice from a knee (or bucket) and on a line.



Game Conduct

- During games, pitchers should be warmed up in the bullpen
 - Requires a player with a catcher's mask and glove (not a coach or parent)
- All players need to remain in the dugout or in the field of play
 - Restroom breaks require a player or parent escort
 - No food in dugouts
 - No Snack Shack visits
- Include the umpires in your games
 - Learn their names
 - Introduce umpires to spectators in stands before games
 - Have players thank & shake hands with the umpires after each game



Game Participation

Chantilly Little League is a development-based program.

- Encourage all players to pitch and catch. No one player should only be playing 2 or 3 positions.
- Spread out infield playing time for all players.
 - Try to have everyone play at least 2 infield innings by the 5th inning.
- Spread out equal playing time for all players over the course of the season.
 - If a player does not get his minimum playing time in a game (due to time limits or lack of bottom of 6th inning), that player should start the next game.
- A, AA, and AAA – no player sits twice before all players have sat once, and so on.
- MAJs – players must play 9 defensive outs (6 consecutive).



Pitch Count Limits and Reporting

Specified in our Policy document, in accordance with Little League rules

- Combined House and Travel pitch counts
- Maximum pitches limited by age
 - League age 7-8: 50 pitch limit
 - League age 9-10: 75 pitch limit
 - League age 11-12: 85 pitch limit
- Days of rest must be followed
 - 1-20 pitches = 0 calendar days rest
 - 21-35 pitches = 1 calendar day rest
 - 36-50 pitches = 2 calendar days rest
 - 51-65 pitches = 3 calendar days rest
 - 66+ pitches = 4 calendar days rest
- AA 2 inning limit, AAA 3 inning limit, Majors no inning limit
- AA, AAA, and Majors – Managers must report pitch counts after each game, no later than evening of game
- Pitcher may finish a batter if a threshold is reached, days of rest are based on that threshold, not actual pitch count



Tee Ball/Coach Pitch & Single A

- Keep the kids moving – use as many parents as possible to help with practices.
- Have a plan for your practices. Utilize the available resources.
- Exhibit a lot of enthusiasm. Kids will feed off your energy.
- Demonstrate the basics rather than telling kids how to throw, field, hit, and run bases.
- Keep talks to a minimum – the players will lose focus.
- During games, please do not build a player wall around the infield.
- Do not leave a player alone after practices or games.
- Keep kids off fences and storage boxes.
- A coach should roam the field during play.



Other Items

- Game Time Limits
 - Majors – No time limits
 - AAA/AA – No new inning can begin two hours after the scheduled game start time; hard stop at 2 hours 20 minutes after scheduled game start time
- Run Limits/Inning
 - Majors – none
 - AAA – 5 runs per inning, except for 6th inning, which is unlimited
 - AA – 4 runs per inning, except for 6th inning, which is unlimited
- A player who pitches 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play catcher for the remainder of the day
- A player who catches 4 or more innings in a game cannot pitch for the rest of that day
- Majors – dropped 3rd strike rule in effect
- Minimum Play Requirements
 - All bat line up
 - All players sit once before any one player sits twice



Other Items (cont.)

- No more than 3 coaches in the dugout, and no less than 1.
- Kids (with helmet on) can occupy first base and third base coaches boxes.
- Practice highlighting effort, not just results.
- Help players deal with mistakes.
- Be aware that others pay attention to how you treat your child compared to other players on your team.
- Parents will be asked a couple of times during the course of the season to provide feedback on the team, i.e. the team's manager and coaches. The purpose is to identify those who are doing things that could be applied League wide, and provide assistance and/or resources to those who need it.
- You will be asked to provide general evaluations to parents on their player's skill set. A standard form will be created and emailed to the managers.



More Other Items

- Do not hesitate to ask for help.
- Only managers and team captains at plate conference.
- One coach for each team needs to take ownership of managing the dugout – remaindering players of the who's on deck, warming up pitcher either on the field or in the bullpen, etc.
- Remind parents to cheer the effort. If a kid drops a fly ball, a scream of “catch the ball” should not be heard from parents or coaches.
- If parents want to coach from the stands, let them know that if it occurs, their player will be sitting next to them in the stands.
- During games, no hitting sticks, bat donuts, soft toss, and on deck batter.
- Keep bats in the hands of players only when hitting or when lined up at the cage (bat barrel always pointed down to the ground).



Coaching Resources

A variety of web-based coaching resources are available FREE to Chantilly Little League Managers and Coaches

- Positive Coaching Alliance
- Little League Coaches Resource
- Virginia Baseball Club
- Links are on the Chantilly Little League web site.
- http://www.littleleague.org/managersandcoaches/Coach_Resource_Center.htm.
- <http://www.littleleague.org/managersandcoaches/coachrole.htm>.
- <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/littleleague/teeball2015/#/0>.



Manager Responsibilities

- AA-Majors Managers should have the following at each game and practices
 - 2015 Little League Official Rule Book (will be provided)
 - Chantilly Little League Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, and Local Rules
 - Coaches, Parents, and Players Codes of Conduct
 - Scorebook and new League provided baseballs if home team
- All Teams - First Team Meeting
 - Conduct a parents meeting – explain what is expected from them and their player during the season, as well as what they can expect from you
 - Review the Chantilly Little League Mission Statement
 - Review the Coaches, Parents, and Players Codes of Conduct
 - Have at least one parent trained as an umpire



2015 Uniforms and Equipment

- Players' names are not allowed on uniform jerseys or hats.
- Have players put their names inside their hat and on their baseball equipment.
- Most but not all teams will have a sponsor listed on the back of jerseys.
- 2-1/4" Little League approved bats only (no Big Barrel bats allowed).
- Encourage the boys to wear protective cups.
- No light color long sleeve undershirts.



Upcoming Events/Calendar

- A calendar of events is on the Chantilly Little League website, and is updated frequently. Our Facebook page is also updated frequently with upcoming events and activities, so encourage your players' parents to like and follow Chantilly Baseball. You should do the same.
- How was your first practice?
- Sign up for practice dates, times, and fields via the on-line Google Doc. Only one weekday.
- First games will be played week of April 6.
- Opening Day is Saturday, April 11. Teams will be asked to arrive by about 8am, with festivities to begin promptly at 9:00am. Games that day will start at Noon.



Safety Brief



- **What is ASAP and why is it important?**
 - “A Safety Awareness Program”
 - ASAP is a grass roots program based on communication of ideas. Leagues across the country contribute their safety ideas to ASAP News. Safety officers can then find out what their peers are doing to make things "safer for the kids.”
- **Where is it available?**
 - ASAP Safety Plan is required to be distributed to all Volunteers. A Hard Copy will be offered. If a soft copy is preferable, it can be downloaded from the Chantilly Baseball website.
 - Hard Copies will also be kept in Snack Shack.
- **All storage boxes should contain ice packs.**
- **Download the Little League WeatherBug app.**
- **If you see lighting or hear thunder, kids need to leave the field and go to a parent’s car.**
- **Game will resume 30 minutes after last lighting strike.**



CP Snack Shack

- All AA, AAA, and MAJs Managers will need to identify a Team Snack Shack Coordinator (this person is a key part of the team and can save you a tremendous amount of time)
- All AA, AAA, and MAJs teams are required to provide coverage when playing at CP
- County Food Safety Certification is not required
- Further information on Snack Shack volunteering will be forthcoming



AA, AAA & MAJs Fields

- Game Fields:

- Greenbriar 2
- Chantilly Park 1 (AA only)
- Chantilly Park 2
 - *(Preston Pierce Field)*
- Chantilly Park 3
- Sully Highlands
- St Veronica (if needed)

- Practice Fields:

- Franklin Middle School
(bring a rake or two)
- Rocky Run Middle School
- St Veronica
- Greenbriar 2

Practice field scheduling will be accomplished on-line via Google Docs (link will be provided) – one practice per week



TB/CP & Single A Fields

- **Game Fields:**
 - Poplar Tree Park (TB/CP)
 - Oak Hill Elementary School (Single A)
- **Practice Fields:**
 - Poplar Tree Park (TB/CP)
 - Oak Hill Elementary School (TB/CP and Single A)



Field Prep and Cleanup

- All Fields
 - Rake and drag fields properly
 - Rake bullpen
 - Leave field cleaner than when you arrived
 - Empty trash cans into dumpster (Chantilly Park)
- Lining Fields
 - Do it right or not at all (use string, outside of line even with outside edge of bag and plate)
 - Do not line fields mid-day, as it can interfere with field maintenance
- Please put all tools (rakes and drags) back where they are kept
- More on this will be discussed at Opening Day



Questions, Comments, or Concerns?

Never underestimate the affect you have on your players and the positive difference you can make in their lives.

Good luck this season, and thank you for all the time and energy you will be giving the kids of our league over the next 12 or so weeks.