



The Challenger

A Challenger Newsletter of the Omaha, Nebraska Division
of the National Little League; Williamsport, PA

Volume 10 Issue 1

What is Challenger Little League?

Challenger is a non-profit organization providing opportunities in Little League baseball to youth ages 6-21 with cognitive and physical disabilities.

What is the Alumni League?

The Alumni League is a separate league that provides young adults with cognitive and physical disabilities over 21 years old the opportunity to continue to play baseball beyond Little League.

Challenger Information

Information Number:

(402)558-0031

Email:

admin@challengerlittleleague.org

Website:

www.challengerlittleleague.org

Website will be updated to reflect rainouts, schedules and other information.

It's Baseball Time!

By Jeff Leonard, Board President

Welcome to the 2011 season of Challenger Little League Baseball! We have another year of organized baseball for youth with disabilities ahead of us and we can't wait to get started.

In my first year as President of the Board for Challenger Little League, I wish to personally thank each and every volunteer. Without our many volunteers, we would not be able to make this a safe and enjoyable experience for the youth. For more information regarding volunteer opportunities, please visit our "newly designed" website at www.challengerlittleleague.org. On our website you will find all the needed forms, contact information, as well as any rainout or game cancellation postings.

We are continually looking for new and updated photos of our teams. Feel free to share your photos from this upcoming season so that we may post them on our website for all families to enjoy. You may send your photos via email to admin@challengerlittleleague.org.

I would like to thank the corporate sponsors that have continued to be more than generous with their continued support again this year. Without these corporate donations, Challenger would not be the success it is today. Also, through the continued support from our families, community and volunteers, Challenger is able to provide local youth with disabilities the opportunity to play fun, organized baseball. Please take a little time to thank the many sponsors and volunteers who have helped make Challenger Little League a huge success. Feel free to contact us with any questions or comments at any time.

Let's Play Ball!

Jeff Leonard

Coaches Corner

Equipment will be handed out and a short meeting will take place for coaches on **Sunday, April 10th at 4:00pm** in front of the concession stand at Keystone Little League field. It should only take about an hour - pizza and soda will be provided. If you are unable to attend or are in need of additional equipment, please contact Chris Otto at: cotto15390@aol.com, or by cell phone at: (402) 880-1429. Assistant coaches do not need to attend at this time.

Uniforms

Proper attire for every game is important. Players should wear tennis shoes (**no cleats allowed!**) and long white pants. Why are long pants important? For protection when sliding, uniformity, and a team approach. After all, we are baseball teams! Many of us probably have an outgrown pair of white pants in the closet. If you're wondering what to do with them you can bring them to the Opening Ceremonies and give them to a Board Member. We'll share with someone in need who might not be able to buy a pair.



Sponsorship for 2011

- Bellevue University
- CBS/Home Land Development
- Children's Physicians
- Cornhusker Cosmopolitan Club
- Hancock and Dana, PC
- Hanger Prosthetics & Orthotics
- Hilltop Industrial Park
- Kucirek Engineering
- Sempeck's Bowling & Entertainment
- St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church



The Challenger Baseball season would not be possible without the support of our sponsors!

Picture Day

Mark your calendars!

May 15th at Field 6!

Check with your coach to find out what time your team's pictures will be taken.



It's Not Too Late!

Haven't registered to play ball yet? It's not too late. We still have some openings available. Please call or email Chris Otto for a registration. He can be reached at cotto15390@aol.com or by cell at (402)880-1429.



Minor, Major and Senior Teams
start May 1st
Alumni Teams **start April 17th**

Players - Haven't heard from your coach?



If you haven't received a phone call from your coach by April 22nd, please contact us at: (402)558-0031 or admin@challengerlittleleague.org



Opening Day Ceremonies

Sunday, May 1st @ 6:00pm

on Field 5

Join us for the festivities!

Boy Scout Troop #395 will be there serving hot dogs, chips and pop for all the players and their families - compliments of your Challenger Board.

Everyone, including families, should plan to stop by for a hotdog, chips and a soda prior the start of Opening Ceremonies. We will serve from 5:00-5:45 and then again **AFTER** the completion of Opening Ceremonies.



Everyone is welcome!



Reminder: We are extremely grateful to Keystone Little League for the use of their fields. Please remember to pick up any trash after your games.

We also remind you that dogs are not allowed at the ball park.

~Thank You.~



Challenger Board Members

- Jeff Leonard - President
- Kelly Randels - Vice President
- Mark Hirschfeld - Secretary
- Chris Otto - Treasurer
- Bruce Fields
- Ed Kucirek
- John MacLean
- Bill Morrison
- Genisa Neal
- Kelly Potter
- Rhonda Puseman
- Jeff Stumpf
- Jim Varner

Rain Out Information

Rain out decisions will be made an hour and a half before a game, thus by 5:00pm on weekday games and 2:00pm on Sundays. Keystone's fields dry out very quickly and we can often play even if there is rain during the day. The weather is unpredictable, sometimes games cannot be called until game time due to fast moving weather. We do not make up rain outs except under exceptional circumstances. If there is not a message at that time, it means that all games will be played as scheduled. We will try our very best to stay on top of the weather. However, please keep in mind that weather does not always affect the entire Metro area.

Rain Out Info
(402)558-0031

www.challengerlittleleague.org



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