

Union Little League Serving the community since 1960!

February 2022 Newsletter

Key Dates

- Mar 5 Opening day ceremony @ 9 AM at ULL fields
- Mar 5 First games at 10:30 AM
- Mar 5 Equipment swap near the snack shack
- Mar 27 Family Fun Day / Pictures / Hit-a-thon

League Message

It has been exciting to see so many kids at the fields over the last couple of weeks. Hopefully all the players are enjoying their new teams and getting into the swing of a new season. **Opening Day is on March 5** with a ceremony that morning at the Majors field at 9 AM with first games following at 10:30 AM. The ceremony is fun for all families. We will have all teams present from all divisions dressed and ready to play. They have the opportunity to be announced onto the majors field and line up with their teammates in the outfield. We will recognize the awesome achievement of the 10's All Star team from last year who advanced as far as their age group allows to the State Championship and the 9's who advanced as far as they could in their age group in the District 12 Championship. We will also recite the parent's pledge and open the season with the national anthem. If you know of a talented young singer who would want to sing, please reach out so we can talk. The hot dog, ketchup, and mustard will also race around the field because who doesn't like to watch fast food.

Registrations

We had a successful registration this year with enough players to field 6 Majors, 6 Minors, 6 Farm, and 5 T Ball teams with 254 players.

Snack Shack

We are proud to announce Sagit Kirson has volunteered to manage the snack shack this spring. If you would like to help her with this task or would like to volunteer to run shifts or have a teenager interested in filling volunteer hours or paid hours, please contact <u>concessions@unionlittleleaguebaseball.com</u> or <u>volunteers@unionlittleleaguebaseball.com</u>.

Umpire in Chief

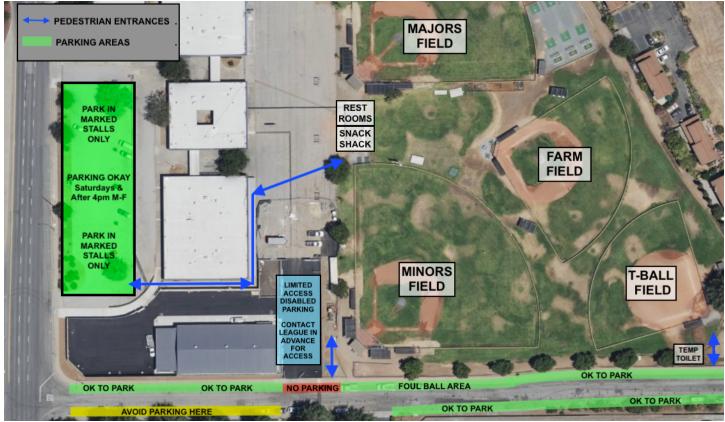
ULL needs to fill one final position on our Board of Directors - Umpire in Chief. This is a vital leadership role for ULL and it is a voting board position. The new Umpire in Chief will have lots of help from volunteers and existing Board members while he / she transitions into the role. With the season drawing near, we have already assembled a crew of umpires, we are currently preparing them for the new season, and we're getting ready to assign umpires to games, starting on March 5. The Umpire in Chief will help serve as our primary liaison with the district for Umpire related activities and will work closely with existing board members to help ensure that we have trained volunteers available to umpire our games.

This is a great opportunity to join our league's leadership team and lend a hand in a most meaningful way!

If you are interested in volunteering for this Board position, please contact Adam Fogle at <u>president@unionlittleleaguebaseball.com</u>.

Parking

Parking has become more challenging with the construction of the O&M building where our lot used to be. Please review the map below which shows preferred parking options including the lot in front of Beacon School. Access to that lot is shown in blue through a breezeway to the south of the school building. As always, be courteous, respectful, and cautious when driving and parking on the Singletree Way.



Fundraising

We rely on hard-working volunteers and generous donations from people such as you to create a great experience for the players! We have several ways you can support ULL.

Outside of general field maintenance, we have several key **2022 season projects** that need to be funded any any amount helps us get these needs met:

- □ Repair and Improvements to Minors and Major Bullpens
- □ Security Camera System for Snack Shack Area
- □ Purchase of New Field Mower (Yes! We do our own mowing!)

Your generous, tax-deductible **donations** help us fund these projects and offset the costs associated with general field maintenance, equipment supplied for every team, and renting and maintaining all of our fields. At any time, the League appreciates any donations - whether large or small - to support

these efforts and donations can be accepted via PayPal through our website <u>here</u>. Don't forget any company matches!

Help is needed to plan **Family Fun Day** on March 27th. This is our largest fundraiser of the year and if you can help - you can volunteer to help out at ULL Family Fun Day by signing up <u>here</u>.

A great way to market your company and support ULL is a **banner on our fields**! Our fields have a lot of visitors during the year. We offer tiered sponsorship levels to suit a range of budgets. All levels provide advertising opportunities for businesses and are a great way to demonstrate your community involvement. At the MVP level and higher you can even get credit for volunteer hours for one player! You can find out more info on sponsorships and submit to become a league sponsor <u>here</u>.

Description	HOMERUN \$100	MVP \$500	GRANDSLAM \$750	ALL-STAR \$1000+
Business card on the Snack Shack bulletin board	۷			
Name and link on the ULL website			Ø	
Name and/or business card in the official Opening Day Program			0	Ø
If child in league, credit for volunteer hours for one child.			Ø	Ø
3' X 5' Vinyl Banner on <u>one</u> ULL field fence for entire calendar year*			Ø	Ø
Onsite display at Family Fun Day (sponsor provides their own table)			(Ø
3' X 5' Vinyl Banner on two ULL field fence for entire calendar year*				Ø

*<u>Note:</u> Union Little League will purchase new banners for all new sponsors. ULL may elect to reuse previous sponsor's banners if they are deemed to be in acceptable condition by ULL. In addition, banners requiring logo file creation will require an extra \$45 charge.

Facilities and Improvements

We hosted several field work days leading up to first practices and have tackled many projects from sun shades, to mounds, bullpens, batting cages, hitting and pitching area, etc. There are always more tasks on the list. Please review the sign up link to see if there are tasks or times you would like to help with. Since this is a community field, don't be shy about pulling some weeds or bringing over some garden tools to clean things up and make them look better and safer for the kids. Please sign up to help at the fields at this <u>LINK</u>



Mound Repairs



Turf Supplies



Bullpen Work



Major Shed Door Repairs

Volunteering:

Sign up to work a shift at the Snack Shack! Link to sign up online: https://signup.com/go/wruGiiQ

We need volunteers to help with field/ facilities maintenance & improvements! Please contact Tony P. (<u>facilities@Unionlittleleaguebaseball.com</u>) or Rob B. (<u>volunteers@unionlittleleaguebaseball.com</u>) to find out how you can get involved!

Finally, do you have an idea about how we can improve the Union Little League experience? Are you inclined to contribute your own special skills and concepts to help build the league? Contact Rob Bernard, Volunteer Coordinator at <u>volunteers@unionlittleleaguebaseball.com</u>, and let's talk about it!

Thank you for your participation, and for making an important contribution to our community!!

Equipment Swap

We have hosted two Saturdays for equipment swap and will again have the opportunity to bring out outgrown equipment and also pick up some "new to you" equipment for your player. This has been very successful so far and there have been really great items for families to hand down to younger players. Keep an eye out for the next opportunity on March 5, opening day to trade in or pick up new gear.

Coaches Corner

Thank you, again, to all of the volunteer Managers, Coaches, Team Parents, and Scorekeepers. Union Little League would not thrive without your efforts.

Most of our Managers and Coaches became 'Positive Coaching Alliance Certified' after participating in the PCA Workshop this past week. The workshop focuses on strategies for building a positive, winning culture and communicating with youth athletes and parents. We hope all of our managers and coaches will strive to be 'Double Goal Coaches'--that aim to compete, and teach life lessons. For more information on the Positive Coaching Alliance, go here: Positive Coaching Alliance – PCA – Youth Sports Training - PCA

Scheduling

The ULL calendar has been updated on the <u>website</u> for all games for all divisions. In addition, the <u>game and practice schedule</u> is posted on the website. This is the official league schedule, but as always check with your team manager if you have any questions.

League Communication

Subscribe to the league calendar on the ULL website to have automatic reminders for key events. You can also subscribe to text alerts from the league by Texting ULLBASEBALL to 84483 to receive alerts from Union Little League. Follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, and <u>Twitter</u> to stay informed of happenings in the league and to help share and support our league. The <u>ULL Calendar</u> is updated regularly with important events. Please subscribe to always have the latest information. The <u>ULL</u> <u>website</u> news section also has important notices.

Thank you!

- Union Little League