



Diamond Doings

2009 Opening Day/Night Issue



“Under the Lights” Friday April 17, 2009

**Our play opens on Friday night with a game under the lights at 6:45 PM

Saturday April 18, 2009

58th Annual Libertyville Little League 2009 Opening Day Ceremony Ceremonies begin at 10:00 am

Featuring:

- Welcome from League President Bill Bennett
- Invocation (Pastor Sue Beadle)
- Color Guard (VFW Post 8741) and National Anthem performed by Licocci Horns
- Introduction of Libertyville Little League Board
- Presentation of the Joe Flood Memorial Award to John Bird by Jay Flood and Thomas Pence
- Recital of the Little League Pledge
- “Take Me Out to the Ballgame” performed by Licocci Horns
- Ceremonial First Pitch by Gary Bennett
- “Play Ball!”

***All Players and their families are invited to participate in the Opening Day Festivities. Players should wear their team uniforms and meet with their teams on the field.**



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As Opening Day approaches, I can feel the excitement for another fantastic season of Little League Baseball at the fabulous Butler Lake Park Complex. The fields out there are loaded with the history of our wonderful community both past and present. As a young boy growing up here in Libertyville, I can remember looking forward to the time when my friends and I would be playing baseball all summer long. There was no better place to be on Saturday than at Butler Lake Park. Each season has contributed in its own way to making me a better citizen of my community and my country. There were only four fields then, including Odom field, so named because Mr. and Mrs. Odom ran the concession stand behind home plate. Mrs. Odom warned me not to buy the Charleston Chew, but I did anyhow and paid a visit to the orthodontist the next day... We now have three more fields and have over a thousand kids from ages 5 to 18. I am honored to have been chosen as the President of this fine organization, and my pride for it makes me work hard to help provide the best experience possible for this generation of youth, as it did for me.

In the days of my youth I knew Gene Erickson, his name now proudly displayed at the park announcing that you are in the Gene Erickson Complex. He was a Majors Manager for what seemed like my entire career in LLL. I had the privilege of umpiring weekly games on the bases with Joe Flood behind the plate, and to see that the Majors league now plays on Flood Field gives me goose bumps. I can still hear his East Coast accent calling out "on the cohner..... TWO!" It is only proper to give out an award for the Volunteer of the Year and call it the Joe Flood Award. Playing in the program I had no idea what it takes to run a program like this, and while I appreciated Mr. Flood and Mr. Erickson then, I most certainly do now. There are hundreds of volunteers putting in countless hours to get the season ready, and my deepest gratitude goes out to them.

Opening Day is always a special time when we can officially say that the season has started. The fantastic Licocci Horns will be back again to start our season off with the sounds of baseball and the National anthem as the VFW Post 8741 presents the Flag. Come on out, smell the fresh cut grass, grab a hot dog, and help us kick off another fun season. I look forward to seeing everyone out there for the ceremony and to hear those inviting words:

PLAY BALL!

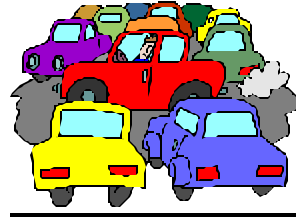
Bill Bennett, President
Libertyville Little League

Libertyville Little League Baseball Inc.
P.O. Box 546
Libertyville, IL 60048
(847) 367-1448
Website: www.libertyvillebaseball.org
Email: comments@libertyvillebaseball.org





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ATTENTION PARKING ALERT!

Due to Opening Day including many activities such as Opening Day Ceremonies, and Ballgames there will be a tremendous shortage of parking. Please be advised that you must park only in designated areas at the Butler Lake Complex or you will run the risk of being ticketed by the police department. Please try to carpool if at all possible. Additional parking is available at the Crawford Warming House, (on Lake St.) at the Bolander Property (on Winchester Rd.) and at the Libertyville Train Station. We look forward to seeing you at the Opening Day Ceremonies.

TEAM PICTURES



ATTENTION ALL PLAYERS AND PARENTS:

Team Pictures will be taken on Saturday April 18th at Butterfield School. Check with your Team Parent Coordinator for your specific time.

See the entire LLL calendar @ <http://www.libertyvillebaseball.org/calendar>



Diamond Doings

Libertyville Little League thanks all of the businesses who supported our 2008 baseball program. Please take every opportunity to support these fine sponsors.

A. W. Zengeler Cleaners	Geary Electric	Packaging Corporation of America
AAA Insurance	Goldberg Downey Architects	Pauly Honda
Abel Electrical Contractors, Inc.	Greenleaf Orthopedics	Porsche Exchange
Ace Hardware of Libertyville	Herky's Trucking, Inc.	Reliable Distributors, Inc.
AMCOR Flexibles	IBEW Local 150	Richard S. Mittelman, P.C.
American Legion Post No. 329	Interlacken Construction	Rouse Auto Repair
Arpino Orthodontics	Ireland Heating	Rust-Oleum
Awards & Engraving	Joel Kennedy Constructing Corp.	Sam's Club Optometry (Dr. Peter Epstein)
Ben & Jerry's	Kids Therapy, Ltd.	Sunset Foods
Bishop Heating	Lake County Press, Inc.	T&T Reproductions
Burnett-Dane Funeral Home	Lake Forest Pediatric Associates	Terry Wepler
C & M Auto Service	Liberty Auto City	The Branch Office Tree Service
Culvers of Libertyville	Libertyville Bank & Trust	The Libertyville Club
Dr. John C. Welu, DDS	Libertyville Cyclery	The Porsche Exchange
Dr. Peter Allegretti	Libertyville Dental Assoc.	TREW Benefits
Education Holdings, Inc.	Libertyville Insurance Agency	Unique Indoor Comfort
El Famous Burrito	Libertyville Lincoln Mercury	Wa Pa Ghetti's Pizza
Famous Dave's of America	Libertyville Rotary	Z and L Machining, Inc.
Fodrak's (J&N Restaurants, Inc)	Libertyville VFW Post 8741	Packaging Corporation of America
Fraternal Order of Police	Libertyville Vision Center	Pauly Honda
A. W. Zengeler Cleaners	McMurrough Chapel, Ltd.	Porsche Exchange
AAA Insurance	MGN Lock	Reliable Distributors, Inc.
A. W. Zengeler Cleaners	Geary Electric	Packaging Corporation of America
AAA Insurance	Goldberg Downey Architects	Pauly Honda



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Libertyville Little League Summer League 2009

Summer league is an extension of the Libertyville Little League season. This year the summer league will begin on Friday, July 10th and go through Saturday, August 1st. Registration begins on May 11th and ends on June 26th. Register at www.libertyvillebaseball.org. Registration is open to age group 5 – 12 years old.

Libertyville summer league is a casual league with practices that are optional. We do not play on Sundays to free up family time. We play a 6 game schedule and have a summer league tournament with trophies for the winning team.

Why should you play summer league baseball?

- 1. To improve your skills and be ready for the next level of play next year. 5 – 6 year olds will play coach pitch on the A field with A rules. 7 – 8 will play kid pitch on the AA field with AA rules. 9 – 10 will play on the AAA field with AAA rules, with at least one game under the lights on the Majors field. 11-12 year olds will play on the Majors field weekdays under the lights and on Saturday.*
- 2. Cool official minor league uniforms that are yours to keep as part of the \$60.00 registration fee.*
- 3. Learn new skills and play positions, such as pitcher and shortstop, that you may not have played in the regular season.*
- 4. Reduce the number of times you tell mom "I'm bored" this summer.*

So register now and join in on the fun. Last year we had over 200 kids participate.

Hope to see you this summer!

Tom Reed
Summer League Director



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2009 JIM SCHURR BASEBALL CAMP

**Monday, June 8th – Friday, June 12th
at the Butler Lake Little League Complex**

Libertyville High School coach Jim Schurr, will host the camp with current College and LHS players, as well as several LHS baseball staff coaches. The camp will be broken down into four age groups. There will be three different sessions covering:

- 1) Overall Skills which will focus on hitting, throwing, infield and outfield skill for each position and base running.
- 2) Pitching which will focus on proper technique from, "the wind-up and stretch positions", fielding bunts and other mechanics from this position.
- 3) Catching which will focus on a proper stance, giving signals, blocking, throwing and "pop-ups".

Age 7

Skills only (9:00-11:00)

Age 8-9

Skills (M – F: 9:00-11:00)

Pitching (MWF: 11:15-12:30)

Catching (TTh: 11:15-12:30)

Age 10-12

Skills (M – F: 1:00-3:00)

Pitching (MWF: 11:15-12:30)

Catching (TTh: 11:15-12:30)

Age 13-14

Skills (M – F: 1:00-3:00)

Pitching (MWF: 11:15-12:30)

Catching (TTh: 11:15-12:30)

WHAT ABOUT CAMP IN 2009?

This year we are continuing a camp for 7 year olds which will focus on skills, throwing properly, swinging the bat correctly and fielding different positions. This group will be separated from the 8 and 9 year olds and will be divided equally for skill development and team play. It will focus less on competition than on skill development.

After much success, we continue to use a radar gun in the pitching camp. Each pitcher will be "gunned" and a mph rating recorded. This will take place Wednesday and / or Friday to ensure that each pitcher gets timed. This is done for instructional purposes and not grading players.

OUR APPROACH TO CAMP

First, we want the camp to *be fun and personally rewarding*.
(Baseball "trivia" questions, "one pitch" innings, etc.)

Second, we want each camper to receive an *abundance of positive reinforcement*.

Each year we give away approximately 10,000 baseball cards as a means of rewarding knowledge, good decisions, extra effort or proper execution of a skill. We never let campers pitch to campers; our coaches always pitch to ensure that strikes are thrown – this develops confidence on the part of the hitter.

Third, we want each camper to *learn* more about a skill and more about the game itself.

This camp emphasizes learning in the context of playing the game: skills lead to a "scrimmage" where those same skills are applied.



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2009 JIM SCHURR BASEBALL CAMP REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____ AGE: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 PHONE: _____ E-mail _____

SELECT ONE OR MORE:

- _____ Skills Camp- \$90
- _____ Pitching Camp- \$40
- _____ Catching Camp- \$30
- _____ Skills, Pitching and Catching - \$150

T-SHIRT SIZE:

- Youth: S M L XL
- Adult: S M L XL

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

*Please note that if a rain day occurs, every attempt will be made to make up time missed, however no refunds will be given should these times conflict with personal schedules.

For more information see: jimschurrbaseball.com.

or call: (847) 921-0770 or (847) 327-7188

MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT MY SON OR DAUGHTER _____ HAS HAD A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION BY AN LICENSED PHYSICIAN WITHIN THE LAST SIX (6) MONTHS AND IS FREE FROM ALL ILLNESS, INJURY OR DEFECTS WHICH WOULD INHIBIT ANY PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE JIM SCHURR BASEBALL CAMP LLC.

I HEREBY AUTHORIZE THE STAFF OF THE JIM SCHURR BASEBALL CAMP TO ACT ACCORDINGLY TOWARDS THEIR BEST JUDGEMENT IN SITUATIONS REQUIRING FIRST AID OR MEDICAL ATTENTION. I HEREBY WAIVE AND RELEASE THE JIM SCHURR BASEBALL CAMP LLC FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY FOR INJURY INCURRED BY MY SON/DAUGHTER AT CAMP.

PARENT OR GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____

IN AN EMERGENCY, PLEASE CALL: NAME: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

PLEASE LIST ANY MEDICAL CONCERNS: _____

To ensure sufficient staffing, please complete and mail this registration form prior to May 28th with check payable to:

“Jim Schurr Baseball Camp”
929 North Ave
Waukegan, IL 60085