# LITTLE LEAGUE MAGAZINE

Through a partnership with Major League Baseball, *Little League Magazine* is provided to players in June or July. To ensure that players at each league receive the magazine, the league president is asked to submit team rosters online through the Little League Network (www. littleleague.org). Parents with computer skills may be able to assist the local league with this task.

## **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

Some parents find it easy to excuse nonparticipation. It is an erroneous notion that unless a parent has qualifications as a coach, manager, umpire or some kind of administrative capacity, they cannot be accommodated as a member of the league.

There are a wide variety of services required for the overall operation of Little League in a community. There are fields to be built and maintained, fences to be painted and equipment to be cared for. There are fund-raising activities and special projects. There are responsibilities that range into the particular talents and inclinations of people found in every community.

## **REPLACEMENT NEEDS**

Each year, as youths graduate from the program, their parents "graduate" with them, creating a continual need for new adult leadership and service. Each league shares this experience in varying degrees. Parents of new youngsters coming into the program must take up where others leave off. This is where the enrichment of thousands of adults, each helping, each lending experience, brings out a faith and confidence in the child that will be retained for many years.

For every new Little Leaguer, there must be additional resources and help. Little League offers a beneficial climate that extends not only to the children, but also to the parents, families and communities as well.

Unfortunately, it is the unwelcome behavior of parents at Little League games where the program draws its greatest criticism. Indifference on the part of a parent is almost certain to be reflected in a child's attitude towards the game. Presence of parents in the stands during a game should be a source of encouragement and stimulation for the Little Leaguer. While it is the prerogative of baseball fans at professional games to voice loud, uncomplimentary opinions of umpires, managers and players, this practice is not condoned at Little League games. It is always in order to applaud a good player or an outstanding feat of baseball skills. However, parents must accept the fact that umpires, coaches and others identified with the program are volunteers and should not be subjected to criticism during ball games, especially by those unwilling to lend a hand.

# HOW TO CONTACT LITTLE LEAGUE

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#### Access Little League on the Internet at: www.LittleLeague.org

Little League Baseball does not limit participation in its activities on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual preference or religious preference. Little League<sub>®</sub> Baseball and Softball

# PARENT NEWS What Little League<sub>®</sub> Parents Should Know

The Little League movement, formed in 1939 in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, has grown to become the world's largest youth sports program granted Federal Incorporation by the Congress of the United States. Yet it retains its independent identity through the sponsorship of the Little League Foundation.

The values of Little League are many, with the balanced development of the child as the ultimate goal. Through Little League Baseball and Softball, youngsters develop and appreciate the need for teamwork, sportsmanship and unselfish cooperation - disciplines to be treasured for a lifetime. Physical development of the child through Little League is a prime concern, under the safest and most time-tested rules ever adopted by a youth sports program.

From beginning to end, the local Little League is strictly a volunteer effort. Concerned adults dedicate their time, service and often their personal funds, to maintain an exemplary program wherein children may develop into young adults.

#### **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

As a parent of a child in the Little League program, you are a most valuable asset. By understanding how the Little League program operates, you may better understand how to become involved in the league. Be counted as a parent who wants to take an active part in the enrichment of their child's life. As a volunteer program, Little League cannot survive without your help. This overview of the program is designed to give you a brief look at many aspects of the Little League program.