



MEDIA LITTLE LEAGUE



P.O. Box 1752, Media, PA 19063

www.medialittleleague.org

Telephone Messages (610) 566-0702

United Way Donor Choice Code No. 04445

Volume 5, Issue 1

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2005

Upcoming 2005 Events

Registration – Rose Tree Firehouse

January 29 (Saturday)	Noon – 3:00pm
January 31 (Monday)	6:00 – 9:00pm
February 5 (Saturday)	9:00am – Noon
February 7 (Monday)	6:00 – 9:00pm

Player Evaluations – Springton Lake MS

February 12 (Saturday)	Noon – 2:00pm	8 year olds
	2:00 – 4:00pm	9 year olds
	Late Registration accepted	
February 26 (Saturday)	Noon – 1:30pm	10 year olds
	1:30 – 3:00pm	11 year olds
	3:00 – 4:00pm	12 year olds
	Make-ups	

March 4 (Friday) 7:00 – 9:00pm Make-ups

Board Mtg. w/ Coaches – Rose Tree Firehouse

March 2 (Wednesday) 8:00pm

Field Day – Media Little League Complex

April 2 (Saturday)	9:00am
April 3 (Sunday – if needed)	10:00am

Picture Day – Media Little League Complex

April 9 (Saturday) Times to be announced

Season Begins –

Major, American & National Leagues

April 11 (Monday)

Opening Day Ceremonies / New Field Dedication Media Little League Complex

April 16 (Saturday) Times to be announced

Volunteers Needed!

Media Little League is a 100% volunteer organization, and we are firmly committed to creating the safest and best environment possible for your child. In order to provide the best possible environment, we need your help. Please get involved by signing-up as a volunteer. We need:

Team Parents	Snack bar openers and closers
Bat-A-Thon Volunteers	Fence and Ad Book ads
Umpires	Team sponsors

President's Message

As Media Little League begins its 54th year of baseball for the youth of our community, we once again look forward to the excitement that brings our families together. This year, the landscape of our complex will take on a new and exciting look as we begin play on a new field inside our complex.

The construction of the new field would not have been possible without the efforts of every member of our league including many of the members of our community. As league President, I thank you for your hard work.

A major source of funding for the new field came by way of various fundraisers that have taken place over the past several years, most notably the Bat-A-Thon. After reviewing many fundraisers, our Board of Directors decided to select the Bat-A-Thon as a way to generate revenue for capital expenditures, but more importantly we wanted to find a way to have fun for the kids. As many of you have witnessed and others will experience in the upcoming years, the kids love the challenge and competition the Bat-A-Thon offers.

As in the past, the Board of Directors has been dedicated to providing a quality experience for the families and friends that participate in our league. We are focused on always making sure that Media Little League provides a family friendly yet competitive style of baseball for our children.

Many new directions have been taken in the recent past by our league and we look forward to perpetuating and expanding these programs in the future. Last year we introduced a batting machine in our National League. The response to this change was overwhelmingly positive, the children played more innings, had more at bats and as a result, experienced a better brand of baseball.

Let's get ready for another fun and exciting year! I would like to wish everyone a successful, happy and productive season. If you would like to share a thought, or perhaps have an idea that will make our league better, seek me out at the complex this spring, I'd love to hear your thoughts and ideas and don't forget, come out and volunteer your time.

Respectfully,

Scott Kotcamp

President, Media Little League

AED Life Saver Device Donated to MLL

Through the generosity of the Luffey Family, an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) was donated to the Media Little League this past year. During April 2004, about a dozen coaches and volunteers were trained in CPR and the use of the AED by Mike Lynch, a Media LL father. The AED device will again be located in the main building near the coaches' equipment room. We hope to have an additional training class in the spring. If interested, see or email Bob Tull at coach50bt@aol.com.

Stump The Ump – by Mark “Big Blue” Holland

Situation 1 - Little League Baseball

A 12 year old, who recently saw a highlight film of Pete Rose, on the call of “Ball Four” sprints down to 1st Base. In his zeal he touches, but overruns the bag by 10 feet. The Defensive Manager yells for the Pitcher to throw the ball, and for the 1st Baseman to “Tag Him Out,” which they do before the Batter/Runner can get back to the Base.

Is the Batter/Runner Out?

Situation 2 - Baseball, All Levels

There is a Baseball Field on the grounds of the Pennsylvania State Fair and the Fair is hosting an American Legion Tournament. The Left Field fence is directly in front of the pen where the Hogs are being kept in between judging.

A muscular 19 year old comes to bat and hits the Ball some 380' over the Left Field fence. Before the ball can be retrieved, a huge Hog from Lancaster County eats it.

What is your Ruling?

BASEBALL TRIVIA

Question: Has a modern-day pitcher ever thrown with both arms during a major league game?

Answer: Yes. In 1995, Greg Harris, a right-handed Montreal Expo was facing the Cincinnati Reds. He threw a scoreless 9th inning while pitching with both arms, throwing left-handed to lefty batters and right-handed to righties. Prior to Harris, one player named Ed Head also used both arms in an inning. He did so because he had injured the arm he normally used.

Situation 2 - The Answer
That's an "Inside the Park" Homerun

Walk all the way to the fence and turn, left or right, as long as no attempt is made toward 2nd Base.)

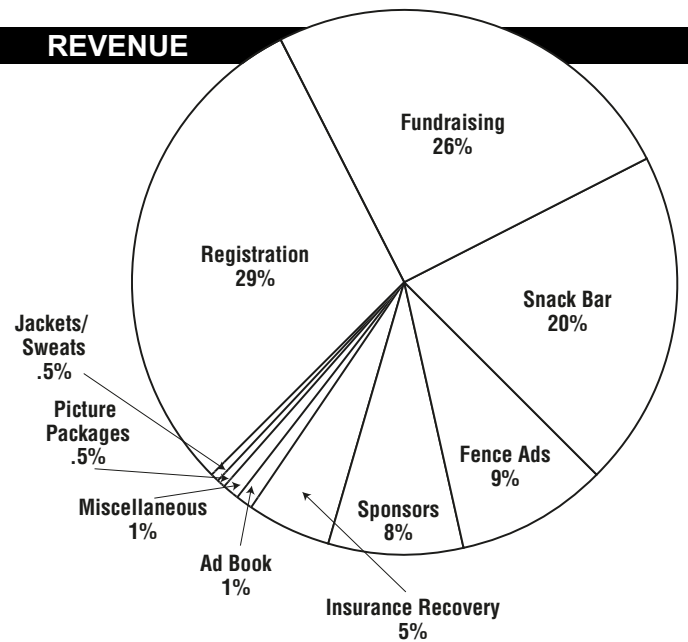
Situation 1 - The Answer
No. Rule 7.08 (c) EXCEPTION A Batter/Runner receiving a

ANSWERS TO STUMP THE UMP

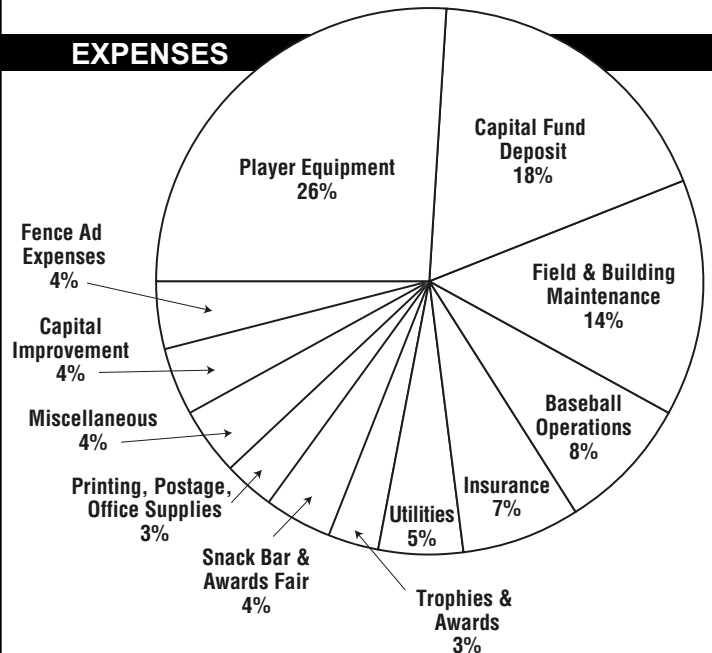
2004 Fundraising Campaign Hits Homerun

The 2004 season witnessed a very successful year as we pushed hard to fund construction of the new field and other capital needs. Thanks to all our families for their contributions and efforts. For 2005 we are streamlining the process by focusing on just 2 events. First and foremost is our Bat-A-Thon which is our most important and most fun event. This year it will include all leagues except for Tee Ball. Our other fundraiser will be a Weekly Raffle. Drawings will take place on a weekly basis and each ticket will be good for the entire season. Prizes will range from Phillies tickets to gift certificates and other sports related items. Registration fees fund less than 30% of the leagues annual budget so please continue to support us.

REVENUE



EXPENSES



“Coach Smith”

ART SMITH

Coach – Campbell’s Boathouse (Majors) 2002- 2004
Media Little League



During the 2004 Season, the Media Little League lost a dear friend and coach. Art Smith helped coach Campbell’s Boathouse team of the Major League. In addition, Art helped as a pitching advisor for a number of tournament teams fielded by Media Little League during the post-season.

Coach Smith’s work as a teacher at Elwyn Institute carried over to the baseball diamond where he spent numerous hours teaching young players about the fundamentals of the game he loved so much. He was a former member of Media Borough Council and Democratic Committee activist. While Art loved history – it could not subplant the place in his heart that he had for baseball. Art could be seen nearly every day up at the complex working with his son and other young aspiring players, always in his shorts even on the coldest of days. Coach Smith was never shy when it came to offering his coaching advice. While Art had a forceful tone, he only wanted each boy to give his very best and he was successful many times in getting the players to understand this. The Campbell’s Boathouse Team dedicated last season to Coach Smith and each boy will take a remembrance of Coach Smith with him as he furthers his baseball career.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Tina and son Patrick. Please stop and say hello to them, as we are certain they will visit Media LL often. Good Luck to Patrick in his baseball career and the upcoming years with Media Babe Ruth Baseball.

Coach Art – You will always be remembered and greatly missed.

- Bob Tull

New Diamond Rises from the Rough

Shortly after the end of the 2004 season, the ground was finally broken to begin building the latest addition to the Media Little League Complex. Scheduled for completion in time for the 2005 season, the new baseball field will be officially dedicated on April 16th during the Opening Day Ceremonies. This new field, which will help ease the burden on the existing fields and increase the number of practice and game days for our players, would not have been possible without the strong support and generosity of our Media Little League families and the community at large. We hope everyone comes out on Opening Day and shares in the special moment when our new field receives its’ name and becomes the new stage for all of the future memories it will certainly generate. As any adult who has returned to the place where they first learned the game understands, there’s an indescribable feeling of standing on home plate and traveling back in your mind to a simpler time when you played Little League baseball. And so now new stories will be written to be told by future parents to their children and our collective Field of Dreams will live on.



Future Bambino dreams of long ball



The new field takes its shape

photo: Anthony Ferruzzi

11 Year Old Tournament Team Finishes Strong

After a quick exit from the Aston-Middletown tournament, Media's 11 year old tournament team rebounded with strong showings at both the Drexel Hill (3rd place) and Newtown Edgemont (2nd place) tournaments. Contributions came from every member of this year's team. It was a fun team to watch as they pulled together, continually improved and never gave up. The team's fortunes seemed to turn when Kyle Wenner hit a late inning grand slam home run to forge an 8-8 tie in a scrimmage game against a good Lanarch Hills team.

Tournament highlights:

Drexel Hill – After a 7-1 first round victory over Delaware Valley, Media pulled out an exciting 6-5 win over Aston-Middletown with three runs in the bottom of the sixth inning. Kevin Melone set stage early with a solo home run. Key sixth inning hits came from Ronnie Tassoni and Ben Davis.

Newtown Edgemont – Media picked up a big first round victory over a tough BYC team. Media tied the game 3-3 in the 5th inning on a double by Joey McLaughlin and then pulled ahead in the sixth inning when Brian Bosco hit a lead off home run. Other key hits in this game came from Johnny Allen, Ben Davis and Connor McCarren. In the semi-finals of the Winners bracket Media beat Aston Valley 7-3 in a game that featured rock solid defense, good pitching and key hits from Conner Gallen, Julian Heller and Chris Maharaj. After losing to Kennett in the Finals of the "winners bracket" Media dropped into the



Finals of the "losers bracket" and beat Drexel Hill by a score of 7-3. The difference in this game came in the 3rd inning when Media exploded for 4 runs highlighted by a Kevin Melone bases clearing double. With their pitching depleted Media put up a good fight against Kennett Square in the championship game but came up a little short losing 8-5.

Brian Bosco, Ben Davis, Conner Gallen and Chris Maharaj handled most of the pitching duties for the team. This marks the third straight year that this team has won or been the 'runner-up' in a post season tournament.

Caramanico & Sons 2004 National League Champs

On June 19, 2004 the championship for the National League division of Media Little League was won by the Twins in a well played 7-2 game. The Twins, who are sponsored by Caramanico & Sons Landscaping defeated the Hillyard, DMD Marlins.



The championship game victory for the Twins capped an impressive 4-0 playoff run sweep. The Twins produced a timely combination of hitting, defense and pitching. Nick Boleto and John Owens proved to be stellar pitchers throughout the playoffs. In the championship game, Nick and John combined to hold the scrappy Marlins to only 2 runs through six full innings.

During the game two key defensive plays were executed by Andrew Trolio and Brian Koskinen, who each completed unassisted double plays. Peter O'Donnell and Bobby Majewski also made strong contributions when they each produced RBI base hits during crucial situations in the championship game.

No victory would have occurred without the team efforts and contributions of Frank Gentile, Kevin Mohollen, Elijah Karim Deegan (the kid), Alec Scully, Alex Mulhearn and Zach "Zach-Attack" Kayal. The Twins players and their coaching staff of Manager Dan O'Donnell, Coach Jim Scully and Coach Nick Boleto want to congratulate the rest of the National League teams for a great competitive season.

Peterson and Peterson 2004 Major League Champions



Things looked pretty bleak going into the top of the sixth inning in the semi-final game of the playoffs. We were losing to Carman Insurance, co-champion of the regular season, 9-3, having given up several unearned runs in the fifth inning. Although it's double elimination, falling into the losers bracket would really make it difficult to win the championship.

It was a disappointing regular season for our team. Starting the season, we figured to have one of the better teams in the league but we didn't play sound baseball most of the season, climbing above the .500 mark late in the season, only to lose the last four regular season games. We certainly weren't entering the playoffs on a high note.

As I watch the sixth inning progress, I keep thinking if only we wouldn't have given up those extra runs in the fifth, we would have had a chance. I had almost given up. But the runs keep scoring and when the last out was made, we had scored nine runs in the inning and were now ahead 12-9. We didn't allow any runs in the bottom of the sixth and we were now in the championship game without any losses in the playoffs. As the saying goes, "it's not over until it's over".

After that come from behind semi final game victory, the kids were confident they could beat anyone. It's always nice to get to the championship game without any defeats. One of our goals we discussed as a team as we started the playoffs was to win the championship trophy for our sponsor, Peterson and Peterson, and also have all of our names engraved on the championship plaque that is hung in the clubhouse. Only one more victory remained to accomplish the goals that we set forth.

The championship game against Hagan's Funeral Home was a struggle. We were ahead 8-7 through four innings. One could sense that the kids felt as if they weren't going to lose and they played with a great sense of confidence. Scoring two insurance runs in the fifth inning helped our confidence. We held Hagan's scoreless in the fifth and sixth innings, even though Hagan's made it interesting by putting

two men on base in the fifth and the leadoff batter on base in the sixth. Holding true to our goals and playing smart baseball, the 2004 Media Little League Major League Championship was ours!

Congratulations to our team, John Allen, Ryan Altus, Jackson Buttery, Neil Campbell, Ben Davis, CJ Gamber, Ben Hartzell, Ryan Luffy, Brian Mehalick, Nick Quintans, Ronnie Tassoni, Thomas Weathers, Manager Craig Gamber, Assistants Chris Davis and Lee Tassoni and Team Mom Heather Gamber. Everyone contributed to our success. Congratulations also to our sponsors Peterson and Peterson, changing from red to black uniforms three years ago resulted in championships in two out of the three years for Peterson and Peterson, proving that red is not a good color for accountants.

Good luck in the 2005 season, I'm moving on, but our team and it's accomplishments will always be remembered.

Coach Tom Mehalick

Media 7 Year Old All-Star Team Shines

This past summer the Media Little League 7 year old all-star team participated in two double elimination tournaments at Drexel Hill and Hilltop. Media's combined record throughout tournament play was 9-2, with two first place finishes. These youngsters pictured with their trophies have a lot to be proud of because they beat the undefeated team twice to win the championship in both tournaments. It was a great pleasure watching them get better with each game as we competed throughout the tournaments.

I would also like to thank all of the coaches that helped out during the practice and the tournament play (Coach -John Mohollen, Coach-John Daly, Coach-Shane Raines, Coach-Paul Riccardi, and our good luck charm, scorekeeper Joe Kantner). I also want to give a shout out to the players Parents for their great support during the hectic practice and game schedule.

Thanks again,
Coach Luffey



Robbie Brown, Thomas Baachia, Jack Daly, Ben Burman, Calvin Samson, Tyler Lashley, Chase Luffey, Kevin Mohollen, Timothy Quinn, James Kantner, Ashton Raines, and Cameron Ricciardi

2004 - Media Little League Champions

MAJOR LEAGUE	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE	CONTINENTAL LEAGUE
Peterson & Peterson Manager - Craig Gamber Coach - Tom Mehalick Coach - Chris Davis John Allen Ryan Altus Jackson Buttery Neil Campbell Ben Davis Craig Gamber Ben Hartzell Ryan Luffey Brian Mehalick Nicholas Quintans Ronnie Tassoni Thomas Weathers	Gardner/Fox Associates Manager - Scott Kotcamp Coach - Pete McGough Colin Barker Jai Bhagat Jeremy Davis Kevin Dlugos Andrew Karkenny Philip Kotcamp Robert Liu Eric McGough Blake Michener Anup Singh Sanjit Singh Joseph Zack	Caramanico & Sons, Inc. Manager - Dan O'Donnell Coach - Jim Scully Coach - Rick Boleto Nicholas Boleto Elijah Karim Deegan Max Dubyk Frank Gentile Zachary Kayal Brian Koskinen Bobby Majewski Kevin Mohollen Alex Mulhearn Peter O'Donnell John Owens Alec Scully Andrew Trolio	Norcross Construction Manager - Shane Raines Coach - Bill Samson Daniel Crawford Neal Geosits Nicholas Ladd Ian McKernan Travis Meyers Sam Naismith Greyson Nelson Courtney Newsome Ashton Raines Abigail Rementer Alex Roberts Calvin Samson Camden Wagner



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