



# MEDIA LITTLE LEAGUE



P.O. Box 1752, Media, PA 19063

[www.medialittleleague.org](http://www.medialittleleague.org)

Telephone Messages (610) 566-0702

United Way Donor Choice Code No. 04445

Volume 14, Issue 1

## NEWSLETTER

Winter 2014

### Key Dates in 2014

#### MLL Registration

Jan. 18th (Saturday)	Media CC	Noon – 3:00PM
Jan. 24th (Friday)	Parlor Room	6:00 – 9:00PM
Jan. 25th (Saturday)	Parlor Room	Noon – 3:00PM
Jan. 29th (Wednesday)	Parlor Room	6:00 – 9:00PM

#### Player Evaluations – Springton Lake Middle School

<b>February 1st</b> (Saturday)	11:00am – 12:30pm	8 year olds
	12:45pm – 2:00pm	11 year olds
	2:15pm – 3:30pm	12 year olds

Late Registration accepted

<b>February 8th</b> (Saturday)	11:00am – 12:30pm	9 year olds
	12:45pm – 2:00pm	10 year olds
	2:15pm – 3:30pm	10-12 year olds

**February 10th** 6:00pm – 7:30pm 8-12 year olds  
(Monday)

Make-up evaluations for all players

**March 2nd, 4th and 6th** - Players Selected to Teams for Each League

**March 22nd** 8:30am Field Day @ MLL Complex –  
No Practices

All Managers, Coaches and Parents expected to help clean up and prepare fields/complex

**March 31st** Season Begins – All Leagues

**April 12th** Opening Day Ceremonies /MLL Complex  
Parade starts at 9:00AM  
4th Annual Beef-n-Ber @ SMM Gym

**May 17th** Slugfest (MLL major fundraiser for the year)

**May 30th** Regular Season Ends – ML, AL, NL and CL

**June 2nd** Playoffs Start – ML, AL, NL and CL

**June 14th** Championship Day / Closing Ceremonies

### President's Message

Welcome to another season of Media Little League baseball. It's an honor to be part of a great community organization celebrating its 63rd year and to be working with such a dedicated and passionate Board of Directors who strive to improve the Little League experience for all of our families and players. We hope you share this enthusiasm and become involved as a volunteer, at whatever level, to help sustain our mission.

This past year, with the fundraising efforts of all of our parents, players and sponsors, we were able to make some significant improvements to our Complex - specifically the new batting cages and our new utility shed between the NL and AL fields. We've also invested in maintaining the quality of our fields through re-leveling some areas and re-sodding parts of the Major League and National League fields which will improve their ability to drain after a rainstorm. There were also improvements made in our Snack Bar with the replacement of our fryer. Each year we try to address two or three areas in our Complex in order to upgrade the safety and the quality of experience for our membership. I encourage all of you to share any thoughts with either me or a board member that you feel could further improve our baseball community.

I would like to congratulate all of our post-season teams, especially the 9/10 year old District team that won the District 19 and Section 8 championships and then went to the State LL Championship in Erie, PA. It was a terrific accomplishment by the players, coaches and parents.

Building on the work of those who have served before us, our Board is committed to working hard to ensure that we continue to focus on developing our players fundamental baseball skills, establishing balanced and evenly competitive teams throughout all of the Leagues and creating an overall positive experience that is safe and helps build character in our children. The wonderful aspect of a community organization like Little League baseball is that everyone contributes to the success of each season. From parents volunteering to coach teams and work the snack bar to players raising pledges for our annual fundraiser to grandparents who show up to watch the games and support our teams – all of this contributes to our ability to maintain a strong and vibrant organization, and thereby, a stronger community.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a safe and healthy new year and encourage all of you to take time to enjoy the wonderful moments that Little League baseball affords us. Many people often comment that their Little League days were among their best and that many lifelong friendships and memories were established during their child's introduction to America's pastime. At the end of the day it's about sharing time and experiences with our family and friends. Have fun, get involved and we'll see you down at the baseball diamonds.

Sincerely,  
Tom Scanlon  
President, Media Little League

## Stump The Ump



### Question 1

The batting order is as follows: Able, Baker, Charles, Daniels, Edwards, Frank, George, Henry, Irwin. With two out in the top of the 1st inning, Daniels bats in Charles turn and singles to left. Before the first pitch to the next batter, the Manager of the team on defense asks for "time", walks out to the Plate Umpire

and appeals that his opponent has batted out of order.

- Is this a proper appeal ?
- As the Plate Umpire, how do you rule?
- Who is the proper batter to lead-off the next inning?

### Question 2

A runner on 1st base attempts to steal 2nd, the catcher throws the ball to the 2nd baseman who catches the ball about five feet in front of the base. As the runner gets close to the 2nd baseman who is about to tag him, he jumps around the baseman brushing his glove and knocking the ball out of his glove without going outside of the imaginary three foot lane. How do you rule ?

### Question 3

Runner on 3rd base. The pitcher throws a wild pitch, the catcher runs after the ball and recovers it. The runner advances to home plate and the catcher runs back to tag the runner out but, the catcher and the runner get to home plate at the same time. The runner runs into the catcher and the catcher drops the ball while the runner touches home plate. How do you rule ?

### The Little League Pledge:

I trust in God  
I love my country  
And will respect it's laws  
I will play fair  
And strive to win  
But win or lose  
I will always  
Do my best



### The Little League Parent / Volunteer Pledge:

I will teach all children  
to play fair and do their best  
I will positively support  
all managers, coaches  
and players  
I will respect the  
decisions of the umpires  
I will praise a good effort  
despite the outcome of the game

## Commissioner's Corner

Media Little League is in need of quality people to help with our mission to provide community youth with a superior baseball experience. Please consider helping out by assuming a volunteer role within our organization. Every year we are in search of good candidates to nominate for manager, coach, team parent & fundraising coordinator to help fulfill our mission. If you are a candidate, or are aware of possible prospects, please contact Joe Cavalcante American League Commissioner.



Do you recognize a current Media Little League coach, who in 1985 was a player for Media?

**Hint:** His son currently plays for Media and is a 10yr old

**Answer to 1985 MLL player:** Derrick Ryder

The runner is Safe and the run scores. (Reference: Rule 7.08(a)(3) does not apply because the catcher was not waiting with the Ball ready to make the tag)

**Answer to Questions #3:**

The runner is Safe at 2nd. (Reference: Rule 7.08(a)(3) does not apply because the runner made an attempt to get around the fielder without leaving the three-foot line)

**Answers to Question #2:**

Rule Reference: Bating Out of Turn 6.07(a)(b) and (d)  
c. Daniels

proper turn at bat  
b. You declare Charles out for falling to appear for his manager may make this appeal)  
a. Yes (The Defensive Manager and only the defensive

**Answers to Questions #1:**

**Answers To Stump The Ump**

## A Look Back at Ten Years of Media Little League

By: Tim Broadhurst

In the spring of 2004 my wife, Katie, and I took our wide eyed 6 year old up to Media Little League (MLL) for our first day of T-ball. Little did we know that it would be the beginning of a 10 year journey that would build lasting friendships and memories. We would soon have all three of our sons playing baseball at the same time, shoot sometimes on the same night with three different teams.

Very early on in this endeavor, I was asked to become a board member as the new T-ball commissioner. So began the learning of the huge machine that is Little League baseball. I had no idea how big MLL was or any of the inner workings that make an organization - with over 500 kids - run. The way that LL is designed, to me, is to build a better community. Think about it, you start out playing with your friends. As you move up, you switch teams and coaches every year. All along your meeting new kids, and making new friends. Coaches meet new parents and sometimes coach with new people who end up becoming good friends. The concept of "team" runs through out. The board of directors is a group of all different types of people, talents and careers. All of us work very hard for one common goal, to provide a great family experience for the kids to enjoy.

After ten years of three boys playing baseball and being

involved with the mechanics of MLL, and most recently as an umpire in Delaware County, I've learned a few things. District baseball has consumed parents and players to the point where we fail to see it for what it really is, kids playing baseball. That's it, nothing more and nothing less. Parents spend small fortunes on pitching lessons, hitting lessons, speed training, and what happens when their son doesn't make the team? The kids are crushed and the parents poisoned. I've seen it time and time again, parents and coaches get so worked up about making it, that anything less is total failure. Really? Don't get me wrong, I'm the first one loading my kids in the car to go watch. When our district teams do well, that's a great reflection on our league. Going to watch district or tournament games is tremendous. Seeing a kid you coached in T-ball hit a home run in a district 19 game is AWESOME and I love that the kids get to experience the best of the best. But, it's still just a baseball game.

If you're just in the beginning stages of your child's LL experience, let me offer some simple, sound advice. Just let your kids play. If they're on a bad team, encourage them and the coaches. If the team is really good, teach them humility in winning. Take some time to just watch. Watch and enjoy all that is Little League. Baseball is all about life lessons and if you let your children experience the good and the bad, they'll look back and realize some of the best moments in their lives where playing baseball at MLL.

## Media Little League's 4th Annual

# Beef-n-Beer

April 12, 2014 7:00 to 11:00PM  
at St. Mary Magdalen's Gym  
**\$30 per ticket**

**DJ • Dancing • Silent Auction • Raffles • Food**



### New Boundaries and Residency Rules

In 2014 Little League International has made some major changes to the make-up of our league. The first was the addition of some territory that is connected to our borders. Beatty Rd, up toward 320 in Springfield is now officially part of Media Little League.

Another major change is all throughout LLI. In an effort to help kids play with their classmates, LLI has decided to let kids play in a league that they don't reside in if they attend a school that is in that league's boundaries. What

does that mean for us? It means that kids who we've had to turn away that simply wanted to play with their classmates can now do so. For instance, if you reside in Newtown Square but go to a school in the Media area, your child can now play for us. This unique situation presents itself to kids who attend St. Mary Magdalen, Rose Tree Elementary, Walden, Springton Lake, Strath Haven, Mother of Providence, The School in Rose Valley, etc. If you know someone in this situation refer them to Media LL's website or the MLL Facebook page for more details.



## 2013 Media District 9/10 Keeping the Tradition Alive & Strong



As the Delco Times printed, "Ho hum, Media wins another District 19 title." 5 out of the last 6 yrs Media has won the District 19 title as 9/10 yr olds. 4 out of the last 6 yrs the MLL 9/10 yr old boys have advanced to the State Finals. This is a tribute to everyone who is or who was a part of Media Little League, the endless hours the coaches & the volunteer's give, the dedication of the parents, the gurus of MLL that continue to come back year after year to teach the fundamentals of baseball to kids as young as 5 years old.

MLL is a very proud organization, with a rich legacy... How is this for history! Fred Ryder, the grandfather of Jack Ryder, a 2013 District 9/10 team member, won States in 1957 for MLL. The banner still hangs along the Major League field. That became our rally cry for the boys, the history, the pride, the dedication, the tradition of Media Little League... Our goal was to secure additional banners for the Media Little League fence, and that was accomplished.

The 2013 9/10 District team completed a 9-4 record, secured 2 banners, and advanced to the State Championship near Erie. As with any advancing team, whether pro, college, high school, or Little League, there is always a mixture of skill, luck, and excitement which unravels the path to a great run.

The path began on June 20th with a 12-2 win over Aston Middletown in their first District 19 game. The foundation was laid through an aggressive running team with strong pitching. Media had a total of 4 hits and scored 12 runs, making AMLL throw 116 pitches vs Kevin Smith's 68 pitches.

We were a complete team, one bonded by team unity and accomplishment, the excitement of watching our speedsters: Kevin Smith, Johnny Francis, Matt Pennoni, and Sean Bettenhausen round the bases and score 55% of our 110 total runs created a frenzy with the team. Then march out our flame throwers, Smith, Pennoni, Christian Thack, Liam McDevitt, Bettenhausen, Francis, and Brian MacCurtin up

against the best pitching in District 19 and off to Sectionals we went. Media played a total of five games in District's, outscoring opponents 48 to 30 and out pitching them by 169 fewer pitches in those five games.

The highlight of the District 19 finals was a game saving, over-the-head, full sprint catch by Corey Anderson to end a huge rally by Marple in the 4th inning, to lead us to a 13-6 win and a trip to the Sections is Pottstown, Pa.

At Section's, Media 's District 9/10 team was ready to roar. The excitement was present- the team had energy, the parents were finding private practice field's and showing up 3 hrs early to car pool the players, and the weather was hot, 102 degrees to be precise. Media Little League arrived at Pottstown with an 11-7 win over Middletown, a team that had won the Sections and States in 2011. By the time Media advanced, with a 8-6 win over Upper Providence, Media had a 4-1 record and its 2nd straight Section 8 Championship. It was a fighter's fight in Pottstown, the championship game, or should we say games, went 3 days. Media had their backs to the wall, needing to sweep 2 games. The first championship game was a nail bitter, a 5-3 Media win with the comeback, helped by Brian MacCurtin getting Media's first hit of the night in the 5th inning. This opened the flood gates for MacCurtin, Eli McEntire, Smith, Luke Cavanagh, and Kevin Wang to all score, taking us to a winner-take-all final game.

The final game was played out over 2 days due to a nasty storm that rolled in over Pottstown, with Media up 3-1 in top of the 3rd on strong pitching from Bettenhausen. The clouds rolled in, and the game was called until the next day. Media arrived the next day, threw up 5 quick runs and held on tightly for a 8-6 win with great pitching by McDevitt. A trip to States for the second year in a row for the Media 9/10 District Team was secured.

After a six hour drive Media Little League arrived in West Middlesex, PA, 35 miles south of Erie, for the 2013 State Little league Championship. Eight teams showed up all fighting to be named champions of the State and the Media boys were ready. Media drew Red Land (outside Harrisburg) in the first game. A pitcher's duel was on deck, with Smith taking the mound for Media, lasting till the 4th inning, Red Land had a 4-1 lead, but Media was not finished yet. A rally started in the 6th. Media placed 5 base runners on, but were only able to get one more run to cross home plate, leading to a 5-2 loss.

The second game of the States saw Media face a powerhouse of a team from Warwick Little League (Bucks County). Thack started the game on the mound for Media and secured a 6-1 lead before leaving. Then Warwick's bats took over, clubbing two, 2 run homeruns and holding Media batters to only one hit from Kevin Wang the rest of the way. This led to a 11-6 Warwick win and started Media off with an 0-2 record at States.

*continued on page 7*

## MLL 2013 Major League Season

The 2013 Major League season was a memorable one. As returning players assembled early in the Spring, and the draft added a new crop of Major Leaguers, teams had the dubious task of trying to figure out a way to stop the powerful Baker Printing squad from claiming their 4th straight MLL championship. The task would not be easy, but the challenge was accepted by all.

Early in the season though, another prohibitive favorite was established. An unlikely Major League franchise who, in their long history, had never claimed the ultimate ML prize. That team, was Campbell's Boathouse. Campbell's ran out to regular season dominance, winning 13 of their first 14 games, including sweeping the defending champs four games to none. Their only loss in the 1st half of the season came from their season long nemesis, Carman Insurance.

As the 2013 playoff's approached, the Boathouse boys knew a tough win over Carman would eventually be a necessity to claim a Championship, as Carman's dominating pitching staff was peaking as they reached the playoff tournament. Campbell's however, seemed to be poised themselves. Their regular season 14-2 record would be forgotten and wiped clean, as the new playoff target would be placed on them. The entire Major League strived for the opportunity to knock Campbell's off their top seed in the play-offs.

First up for the Boathouse boys would be Patriot Construction, who gave Campbell's trouble all season. The Boathouse stayed focused however, and quickly dispatched Patriot to the loser's bracket. Next up, their season long rival, and toughest match-up: Carman Insurance in the Semi-finals.

In the most exciting game of the entire season, Campbell's would need to come from behind twice to reach the Championship. Including, being down 2 runs in the bottom of the last inning and getting a clutch 3 run walk-off homerun to send the Campbell's squad to the Championship game.

Carman would regroup in the loser's bracket, eliminating Baker Printing, and would advance to the Championship in a rematch vs. the rested Campbell's Boathouse.

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### 2013 Media District 9/10 *continued from page 6*

The 3rd and final game in States proved to be a refreshing win for Media. Facing Moon Township (outskirts of Pittsburgh), Media rolled to a 10-0 win. Highlighted in this game was the pitching by Pennoni, McDevitt, and Corey Anderson to hold Moon Twsp to a total of 3 hits, while Media racked up 10 runs to end the game after 5 innings. Overall, Media went 1-2 at States and came up short of advancing to the State Final round.

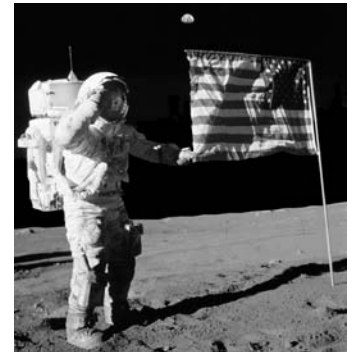
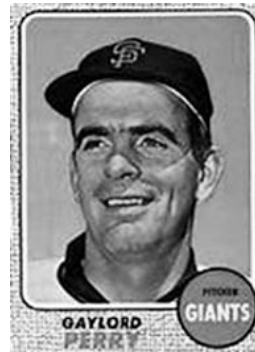
What a ride it was for the team. Congratulation to Manager Dave Smith, the coaching staff, the parents, and all the members of the 9/10 District Team for a wonderful run that will be part of Media's history forever. You sure left your legacy!



In the Championship game Campbell's attack and power proved to be too much for Carman to handle. Campbell's came out swinging early and eventually topped Carman with an impressive 16-6 victory, to claim their 1st ever Major League MLL Championship.

### Interesting Baseball anecdotes and facts

The 1960's was an era in baseball when pitchers weren't only expected to pitch, but to hit as well. Talking to reporters over one of his pitcher's inability to hit, San Francisco Giants manager Alvin Dark joked "*They'll put a man on the moon before Gaylord Perry hits a home run.*"



During a game on July 20, 1969; a mere 20 minutes after Neil Armstrong set foot on the moon, Gaylord Perry stepped up to bat and hit his first career home run!

Prior to 1930 in Major League Baseball, fly balls that bounced over or through the outfield fence were home runs! Babe Ruth reportedly had no "bounce" home runs. But if he had, his career home run total would have increased by 72.



## 2013 MEDIA LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

MAJOR LEAGUE	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE	CONTINENTAL LEAGUE
<b>CAMPBELL'S BOATHOUSE</b>  Joseph Adcock Aidan Carroll Vincent Caruso Nick Corrado Jake Fisher Evan Fooks Joshua Grady Jack Higgins Samuel Holefelder Tommy Logan Bryan Pazulski Andrew Sposato  Ed Laut - Mgr Bryan Carroll - Coach Tim Grady - Coach Vince Sposato - Coach Donna Fooks – TP Rachel Adcock - BC	<b>MOPPERT BROTHERS</b>  Benjamin Chang Robert Furlan Austin Hines Daniel Juliana Tyler Kane Jacob Kelk Adrian Kohler Zachary Munin Jack Ryder Eamon Scanlon Bobby Sundo Eddie Ware Andrew Wickman  Tom Scanlon – Mgr Derrick Ryder - Coach Bob Sundo – Coach Sue Scanlon – TP/BC	<b>COURT DINER</b>  Shawn Corrado Nicholas Filios Lizzy Gibian Andre Hunter Jarden Jauregui Jay Kostal Sean Maguire Seamus Rogers Carson Steinbach Isaiah Taylor Jared Venit Aidan Williams  Dan Maguire - Mgr Pete O’Kane - Coach Jim Rogers – Coach Terri Maguire – TP Emily Jauregui - BC	<b>SPOSATO HOMES</b>  Ryan Anderson Cooper Bittle Owen Brennan Benjamin Ettien Brady Hammond Brendan Hefferan Benjamin Holst-Rightley Tucker Kinne Jake Sherman Hayden Skowronek Aidan Sutherland Jackson Wickman  Mgr – Steve Hefferan Coach – Brad Ettien Coach – Jonathon Kinne Coach – Kevin Skowronek Maggie Hammond – TP Shannon Sutherland - BC

RAINDATE: March 23<sup>rd</sup>



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