

CCLL NEWSLETTER



Central Chesterfield Little League
<http://www.ccllbaseball.com>

2012 President's Message

By Nikki Garrison

It's hard to believe, but it's time to start thinking about baseball again. Hope everyone has enjoyed their time off, but if you are like me, you can't wait to get back to the ball fields. We enjoyed a very successful 2011 season and are looking forward to another great year this season. There are a few changes that we are excited to announce in hopes of making the season even more enjoyable.

Little League has extended the eligible playing age for T-ball to include 4 year olds. We are very excited to include 4 year olds into our CCLL family. T-ball will now include all 4 & 5 year olds. The Rookie Division will include all 6 & 7 year olds. Seven year olds are still eligible to try out for the Single A Division. All other age groups remain the same. A Playing Division schedule has been included so you can determine the correct division for your child.

The biggest and most exciting change we have to announce is FALL BALL IS BACK! Although we have enjoyed the clinics with the Virginia State University players and coaches, we have decided to bring back Fall Ball. There have been numerous requests for Fall Ball at CCLL. We are happy to be able to bring this back for parents and players.

Last year we held our first Championship Day. It was a huge success. Parents, players, and fans all enjoyed the excitement of having Championship Games on one day. We will be hosting Championship Day again this year, and hope to continue with this new CCLL tradition.

CCLL prides itself on offering all children a chance to play baseball in a fun atmosphere. We value a positive experience for the children, the opportunity to learn and develop baseball skills, the ability to have fun, and the chance to make new friends. We hold assessments in order to have more balanced teams. We have a "must play" rule to ensure that every player gets the opportunity to participate. And of course, trophies are awarded at the end of the season.

Fees to play are included on our Playing Division Chart and remain competitive with other leagues. We will continue to partner with Iron Bridge Sports Park for fundraiser cards. Each

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player will receive two cards to Iron Bridge Sports Park that offer a great deal of savings and the opportunity for lots of family fun.

We also have a few changes to our board this year. First, I would like to thank Corey Simonpietri for doing a great job these past two years as President. He has stepped down this year, but remains active on the Board as Fall Ball Coordinator. New additions to the board include: Tony Blackburn, Trisha Hurlock, Bob Zane, and Craig Willingham. Please see our updated Board Member table for a complete list of all Board Members and their positions. We had some members that departed and would like to thank Curtis Hise, Chuck Hoever, BJ McGee, and Jon West for their service. A lot of work goes in to making the season successful, and I would like to thank ALL of the volunteers past and present who make it possible.

- *Nikki Garrison*



2012 Playing Divisions and Fees

We offer nine different division levels to meet all players' needs. Our goal is to offer programs that allow each player to participate in a game that fits his or her abilities, that challenge the player, and that allow him or her to be successful.

T-ball is for 4 & 5 year olds. The kids hit off a tee, and fielders are encouraged to make baseball plays to get outs. We use a standard infield, but have unlimited outfielders so no one sits the bench. Coaches assist in the outfield to help instruct players. We use a softer baseball and focus on fundamentals and rules of the game. This is an introductory level and no score is kept.

Rookie Division is for 6 & 7 year olds. The kids hit live pitching from their coach. After 3 pitches, if the player has not hit successfully, he or she will get a chance to hit off a tee. Players begin to learn base running skills as well as continue to work on fundamentals and rules. We use standard infield positions and one extra outfielder. Coaches assist in the outfield to help instruct players. We continue to use a softer baseball, and no score is kept. More experienced 7 year olds are encouraged to try out for the Single A Division.

Single A is for 8 year olds and experienced 7 year olds that wish to try out. Kid pitch is introduced at this level, with games being a combination of kid pitch and coach pitch. Score is kept at this level, and umpires are utilized. At the end of the season there will be a Double Elimination Tournament.

The levels for 9 year olds and up remain unchanged. If you have any questions about any of the divisions, please contact the League Coordinator for that division. All contact information is listed below and in the Board Member Table at the end of the newsletter.

Division	Birthday Range	League Age	Fee*	Contact
Tee Ball	5/1/06 thru 4/30/08	4 & 5	\$110	John Stolarik 681-0495
Rookie	5/1/04 thru 4/30/06	5 & 6	\$120	John Stolarik 681-0495
A	5/1/03 thru 4/30/05	7 & 8	\$135	Kelly Custis 536-1890
AA	5/1/01 thru 4/30/03	9 & 10	\$135	Kelly Custis 536-1890
AAA	5/1/00 thru 4/30/02	10 & 11	\$135	Tom Jenkins 389-7578
Major	5/1/99 thru 4/30/01	11 & 12	\$135	Craig Willingham 919-3522
Junior	5/1/97 thru 4/30/99	13 & 14	\$135	Troy Perry 513-6499
Senior	5/1/95 thru 4/30/98	14, 15 & 16	\$135	Troy Perry 513-6499
Big League	5/1/93 thru 4/30/96	16, 17 & 18	\$135	Craig Willingham 919-3522
Challenger	5/1/93 thru 4/30/07	5-18	See note**	Nikki Garrison 920-4742

- There is a family maximum of **\$315** including the fundraiser fee.
- Registration fees include shirts (to include name & number on back), pants, hat, & socks.
- Fees INCLUDE a \$25 Fundraiser Fee.
- Carpool/Ride shares will only be considered at T-ball and Rookie levels. Requests are not guaranteed.
- Siblings playing at the same level can be placed on the same team with advanced notification.

****IMPORTANT NOTE** - CCLL does not run its own Challenger Program. The Challenger PROGRAM is intended ONLY for those players who require special attention due to disabilities. Our league maintains an agreement with Chesterfield Little League. PLEASE contact Nikki Garrison at the number listed above for further information regarding the challenger division.

Player Registration

There are THREE ways to register for the 2012 Spring Season:

1. **YOUR COMPUTER** - Register at your convenience using the on-line registration form at <http://www.ccllbaseball.com>
2. **LIBRARY** - Chesterfield County Libraries provide internet access through their computers, which can be used to register on-line at www.ccllbaseball.com
3. **In Person** - Come to Ironbridge Sports Park where we will provide computer access for the on-line registration. Dates for In-Person Registration are as follows:

Date	Time
Saturday, January 28th	10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Saturday, February 11th	10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Saturday, February 18th	10:00 am to 2:00 pm

*Mail-in registrations **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED** as there are no hard-copy forms available.*

Any printed or handwritten applications will be returned.

New Players - Before you register, you'll need to have a few things handy:

- Your child's physician contact information (name, address, phone number)
- Date of last tetanus shot
- Birth Certificate and Proof-of-Residence (You will need to mail COPIES of these in if you register on-line.) If you register in person, it is important to have this information with you at the time of registration
 - All proofs-of-residence and birth certificate copies will be immediately cross-shredded upon verification against your child's player registration in order to prevent the potential for identity theft. For that reason, **please send COPIES only.**

Payment Options

All players, returning or new, have three payment options:

1. Pay **online** with a credit/debit card. Pay by January 29th and **SAVE \$5!**
2. Pay **by check** during one of the in-person registration dates
3. **Mail your payment** to arrive prior to the [late payment dates](#) indicated below.

If you wish to mail the payment or pay during one of the in-person registrations, print your certificate upon completion of your registration and include it with your payment so that we may credit the payment to the proper player.

Please note that CCLL has implemented a Returned Check Fee of \$35, 100% of which goes to our bank to handle processing of the bounced check.



There are now 3 payment options available to you when registering.

If mailing, send all required items (payment, copy of birth certificate & proof-of-residence, if required) to arrive by February 18th to:

CCLL
PO Box 2382
Chesterfield, VA 23832

Fundraiser Fee

Again this season, **ALL participants will be required to pay a Fundraiser Fee during the registration process.** This fee (\$25 per player, subject to family maximums as described in the [player fee chart on page 2](#)), will eliminate the need for coaches, team-moms, or other league officials to issue, track, monitor, coordinate and hassle parents to participate in a fundraiser.

We've again partnered with Iron Bridge Sports Park, and every player will be provided with two punch-cards for free play and buy-one-get-one specials. These cards offer families tremendous entertainment value, but can also be sold to recoup the \$25 fundraiser fee. This process will ensure equal participation by all who benefit from the fundraiser proceeds.

In the past, these proceeds have paid for dugout covers, new scorer stands, bullpens, concession stand improvements, field improvements, and more, while keeping our fees lower than our surrounding leagues. For those who wish to purchase more cards, they will be available once the season starts by contacting **Sharon Quigley at (804) 837-0547.**

LATE FEE CUTOFF DATES!!

- **Late Fee of \$25 for all Registrations after Saturday, FEBRUARY 18th.** In addition, any player who registers after February 18th **will not be guaranteed a roster spot!** This includes players who register during player assessments. **SIGN UP NOW!!!**
- **Late Payment Fee of \$10 for all payments mailed after the Player Assessments (February 26th).** Mailed fees will be credited based on the postmark date – please ensure you mail in time to receive a valid postmark. **ALL fees must be received in full before uniforms can be issued.**

Spring 2012 Player Assessments

Skill Assessments for players 8 – 16 years of age will be conducted on **Saturday February 25th and Sunday February 26th**. The assessments are not an effort to weed out the players with lesser skills, but to help produce balanced & competitive teams, as well as place players at the proper level for developmental & safety considerations. Everyone who participates in the skill assessment will be drafted & placed on a team. It is very important for **all draft eligible players** to participate in the assessments. Registered players not attending assessments will be placed on a team by random draw only.

There are no assessments for Tee Ball players (4 & 5), Rookie players (6 & 7) & Big League players (17 & 18).

Note: High school players are encouraged to participate in the skill assessments, but are not required to do so in order to be eligible for the draft. Contact the appropriate division representative, based on your child's playing age and division with questions.

****A separate e-mail with a link to the assessment letter will be provided mid- February notifying all registered players of their tryout times and requirements.*

Safety – Don't Wait til Someone Gets Hurt!

League Parents – Please be a part of our safety team by addressing and putting a stop to any unsafe activity you witness. It really makes the task of providing a safe environment easier to realize when we get help from everybody. If you witness any unsafe activity, whether in a practice or game, or just hanging around the fields, feel free to contact ANY board member to correct the situation. Also, feel free to contact our League Safety Officer, Trisha Hurlock, 833-2169 if you have any suggestions or comments on safety related issues.

As a reminder, the following items are prohibited by Chesterfield County Department of Parks and Rec. Please, for the safety of your children and others, do NOT allow your children to bring any of these items to the park:

ABSOLUTELY...

- * **NO SKATEBOARDS**
- * **NO ROLLER-BLADES**
- * **NO BICYCLES**
- * **NO SCOOTERS (OR MINI-BIKES)**

'COME ON, BLUE!!'

Think there's something missing from our umpiring? Maybe that something is YOU!

CCLL has ALWAYS been about developing our Youth. But that's not limited to just Baseball. Want your 12 year old (or older) player to develop a good work ethic and learn skills like leadership, arbitration, judgment, dedication, and professionalism? Umpiring will do that and can be an invaluable tool to help prepare kids for a successful future. If you have any interest in the game at all, I urge you to try your hand at umpiring!

It's the best seat in the house! **And by the way, we do offer limited pay.**

Umpires must be 13 years of age or older with 12 year olds being eligible to participate in our Junior Umpire Program.

CCLL offers **training, equipment, support** and **pay** for its umpire staff.

We also offer a comprehensive training program to get all of our Umpires familiar with General Baseball Rules as well as Little League Rules. These classes are terrific, and will prepare you for your role as Umpire.

Class dates are:

<u>Session Title:</u>	<u>Date</u>
Plate Umpire Basics	2/6/2012
Field Umpire Basics	2/13/2012
Mechanics/Situations	2/20/2012
Rules	2/27/2012
Big Field Basics	3/5/2012

For additional information, contact Bob Zane at 761-1765.

MANAGERS & COACHES NEEDED!!

The face of Little League is often associated with dedicated & enthusiastic managers & coaches for our teams. Each year our managers & coaches at the various levels experience turn-over as they & their children move from one division to another or move from the area. And we **ALWAYS** need more Managers in Tee Ball! The more managers & coaches, the easier it is to place 12 players per team. Without enough managers our teams grow in size and more players split the available playing time. Even if you've never coached baseball before, there are other volunteers willing to assist you & CCLL will provide coaching clinics & other tools to help make your experience successful.

If you are interested in managing or coaching, **PLEASE complete the on-line CCLL manager/coach application as soon as possible, or contact:**

T-Ball – *John Stolarik*

Rookie – *John Stolarik*

A – *Kelly Custis*

AA – *Kelly Custis*

AAA – *Tom Jenkins*

Majors – *Craig Willingham*

Junior – *Troy Perry*

Senior – *Troy Perry*

Big League – *Craig Willingham*

NOTE: See Board Member Table for contact info.

Background Check Procedures for Prospective Managers, Coaches, Volunteers

Chesterfield County requires every coach & manager to undergo a background check, to include mandatory fingerprinting. Forms for managers & coaches can be obtained at <http://www.chesterfield.gov/content2.aspx?id=2951&terms=background+checks> or during one of the dates listed at the registration site. If you desire to coach or manage, ***it is mandatory that you complete this process prior to player assessments and drafts.*** Go to the county website listed above for dates and locations. Arrive with the completed forms & a copy of your Driver's License. Fingerprinting takes 5 minutes but receipt of your county card can take up to 3 weeks.

If you have previously been approved and your card has not expired, there is no need to re-apply. A valid county card must be provided when applying for a position. In addition, you will need to complete the Volunteer Registration at our website (www.ccllbaseball.com). Upon completion of the on-line volunteer application and receipt of your county background check card, it is important that you provide the league with a **copy** of your driver's license and county card. You may either mail these items to CCLL, PO Box 2382, Chesterfield, VA 23832 or you may drop them off during any of the new player registration dates listed in the registration portion of this newsletter.

Coaching Clinics and Meetings

CCLL will conduct **MANDATORY** managers' meetings & clinics for all prospective managers (coaches are encouraged to attend, as well). See the 2012 Event calendar at the end of the newsletter for the dates, time, & location. The mandatory meetings will provide information on the upcoming season, disciplinary policies, all-star process, & other important league issues. The clinics will focus on player development & fundamentals – hitting, fielding, throwing, pitching, & catching, as well as team drills & practice organization.

Volunteers needed for SKILL ASSESSMENTS

Conducting player assessments for multiple age groups is a major undertaking. Adult volunteers are needed to work our registration tables, feed pitching machines, hit grounders, & announce player names & numbers. Kids can help as well by taking throws to bases, etc. **Prospective assistant coaches are strongly encouraged to assist with player assessments as an opportunity to observe prospective players & potential coaching techniques.**

To volunteer, please call: **Sharon Quigley 837-0547**

Concession Stand Workers Needed!!!!

Earn Extra Money! CCLL again will offer limited *paid* positions in the CCLL Concession Stand for 2012! We are looking for teenagers to work in the concession stand on weeknights & Saturdays. Candidates must be 15 years or older and preferably with a sibling playing in the league. Interested teens can sign-up and complete an application at sign-ups or by contacting Cindy Martin, 778-7707 for more information.

Work permit applications must be obtained from the school system for teenagers under 16 years old and turned in with the applications.



Auxiliary – A GREAT way to get INVOLVED!

We are very busy preparing for another great season. Thanks to all of you who helped make last season a terrific success! This year we need help organizing the following projects: **Sponsorships, Opening Day, Team Pictures, Team Coordinators**, as well as any other projects that may arise throughout the season.

Please consider volunteering for the league. Everyone can make a difference no matter how small the contribution. Our league depends totally on people volunteering their time & talents. If you are interested please contact **Sharon Quigley, 837-0547**.

☺ Parent / Board Member Committees

As a way to ensure that our parents and players have a voice, the board has established various committees that are comprised of both board members & parents. It is important that each of these committees have parent volunteers from all levels of play in order to consider all impacts at the various levels. The committees will be co-chaired by a board member & a parent from the pool of volunteers who will report back to & make recommendations to the CCLL board. If you are interested in participating in one of the committees, PLEASE:

- Notify any board member who will notify the committee co-chairs
- Indicate your desire on your player registration form.
- Notify the POC indicated next to each established committee below:
 - *Rules & Competition Committee* – Troy Perry, 748-9711
 - *Grounds & Maintenance Committee* – John Stolarik 681-0495
 - *All-star Selection Committee* – Troy Perry, 748-9711
 - *Auxiliary Committee* – Sharon Quigley, 837-0547
 - *Concession Committee* – Cindy Martin, 778-7707

Be a League Sponsor or Donor

Sponsors help keep player fees low and improve our facilities. If you own or manage a local business and would like information on advertising with CCLL or making Tax Deductible Donations, contact **Tony Blackburn at 240-0168**. Tax deductible contributions may also be made to CCLL through the United Way.

2012 CCLL Board Members

Name	Position	Contact #
Nikki Garrison	League President	920-4742
Tom Jenkins	VP Operations (League Coordinator AAA)	748-7047
Troy Perry	VP Player Relations (League Coordinator Juniors & Seniors)	748-9711
Jon Thornbrugh	VP Admin & Finance	717-2366
Trisha Hurlock	Recording Secretary & Safety Officer	768-1662
Jeff Geisz	Treasurer	778-4974
Bob Zane	Umpire in Chief	761-1765
Patrick Wheeler	Player Agent	796-3691
Sharon Quigley	Auxiliary (Fundraiser & Opening Day)	837-0547
Cindy Martin	Concession Manager	778-7707
John Stolarik	League Coordinator (T-ball & Rookie), Grounds & Maintenance, & Player Agent Majors	681-0495
Kelly Custis	League Coordinator (A & AA)	706-4363
Craig Willingham	League Coordinator (Major & Big League)	919-3522
Bill Lowery	Equipment Manager	717-8317
Tony Blackburn	Sponsorships	240-0168
Jason Moore	Uniforms	717-5148
Brian Reed	Information Officer (Website) & Assistant Scheduling	706-1838
Corey Simonpietri	Fall Ball Coordinator	400-9490

All Board Members may be e-mailed at firstname.lastinitial@ccllbaseball.com

2012 Calendar of Events

Date & Time	Activity	Location
Thursday, January 5 th	On-Line Registration Opens	Internet
Saturday, January 28 th 10 am to 2 pm	In-Person Registration	Ironbridge Sports Park
Saturday, February 11 th 10 am to 2 pm	In-Person Registration	Ironbridge Sports Park
Saturday, February 18 th 10 am to 2 pm	In-Person Registration (\$25 late fee AFTER this date)	Ironbridge Sports Park
Saturday, February 18 th Midnight	Registration Closes	
Sat/Sun February 25th and 26th	Player Assessments	Ironbridge Fields
Sunday, March 25th	Registration cutoff	Ironbridge Fields
Sat., 3/3 (A thru Major) & Sun., 3/4 (Jrs/Srs)	Drafts	Highlands Country Club
Saturday, Wednesday, March 10 th	Practices Begin	
Saturday, March 10 th 9 am to completion	Field Preparation	Ironbridge Fields
Saturday, March 10 th 9 am to 11 am	T-ball/Rookie/1st Time Coaches Clinic	Ironbridge Fields
Sunday, March 11 th	Pitcher/Catcher Clinic	Ironbridge Fields
Sunday, March 11 th , 6 pm	Managers Meeting	Highlands Country Club
Wednesday, March 14 th 7 pm to 9 pm	Team Mom Meeting	Highlands Country Club
Saturday, March 17 th 9 am to completion	Field Preparation	Ironbridge Fields
Saturday, March 24 th 9 am to completion	Field Preparation	Ironbridge Fields
Friday, March 30 th 6 pm to completion	MANDATORY MGR Mtg	Ironbridge Fields
March 31st	Opening Day	Ironbridge Fields
In case of inclement weather, Assessments will be held on Sat/Sun, March 3rd/4th and the Draft will be held Sun/Mon March 11th/12th. Call the CCLL hotline at 271-0160 to determine if assessments have been postponed.		