

# South Oldham Little League Newsletter

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## Information about **YOUR** League!

By now most of you know me or at least have heard my voice billowing through Peggy Baker Park at some point over the last three years. For those I haven't had the privilege of meeting, my name is Kevin Barnes and I am the acting Secretary for the League. When I took over this position back in October I set two goals for the coming year for myself. My first goal was to

ensure our league members were being communicated with and kept abreast of what was going on in and around YOUR league. This is truly your league and I encourage everyone to become active members with-in it. Which brings me to my second goal, increase our volunteer numbers. I want to strongly encourage everyone to be an active member of the league and come to one of our board meetings at some point this summer and hear what is discussed, learn what makes this league tick and/or voice your thoughts and opinions on what you love about the league or would like to see improved. We have many openings that require little commitment time and with the majority of our current executive board preparing to step down, there is no better time than now to learn where you can be a fit.

I will try and send out at least one of these letters once a quarter and wanted to start with this one as it has some great information about what we have going on leading up and through opening day. I hope you find this beneficial and please don't hesitate to reach out to myself or any other Executive Board Member with questions.



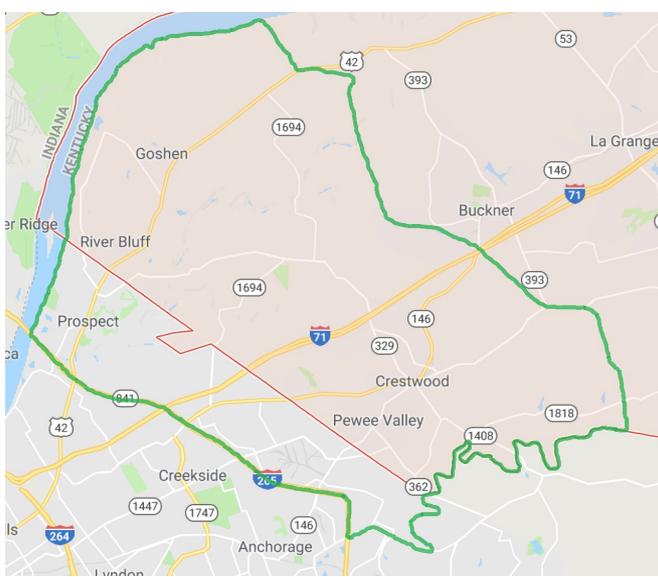
## State of the League:

As of the time of this news letter, our registration numbers for the Spring 2018 Season are looking very promising and we still have the month of February to go. According to Vice President of the League Jim McCubbin our largest registration day historically are January 31st (the day before registration fees double) and February 27th & 28th (the final two days to register). This means our current spike in registrations should continue on that upward climb.

Our leagues boundary lines expended this year which is fantastic but we believe it will take a year or so before we even see the full effects of that boundary area increase. Below are the current registration numbers for each baseball division and our 8-10U softball division along with the new boundary lines.

## Divisions

Name	Number Of Teams	Players	Volunteers
T-Ball	0	83+	11+
Rookie Baseball	0	58+	8+
Machine Pitch Baseball	0	89+	16+
Minor Baseball	0	54+	8+
Intermediate Baseball	0	60+	8+
Softball All Ages	0	20+	5+



Our current financial status is positive with the income from our Winter Camp and Spring Registrations; however, with the upcoming season our expenditures will be on the rise as we order uniforms, provision the concessions and get the fields ready for game play.

## Evaluations:

Evaluations for the Spring Season will be held on February 23rd at Lou Ott Baseball in Middletown. Evaluations are mandatory for all players in the **Machine Pitch, Minor and Intermediate divisions (Rookie is not included in evaluations)**. The only exceptions will be for players that were on an All-Star team during the 2018 Spring Season and are NOT changing to a new division. An email will go out NLT Saturday February 16th notifying you as of the time for your player to be at evaluations. These leagues are run via a draft to keep the competitive balance of the league equal so it is mandatory that if you your player is listed in the email that you show up during your scheduled time. We will have a lot of players to get through so

## Opening Day

Opening day for the 2019 Spring Season will be April 13th...yes that is Thunder Day. Unfortunately with how Spring Break and Easter align this year this was our only option. We are currently discussing a soft open where a few team will play the during the week leading up to opening day to allow families to be able to still get downtown before the fireworks. With that said I am VERY excited for opening day this year and have some fun activities for the kids that should get them even more excited for the day.

This year we will be kicking off the day with a Parade. Each team will meet in a staging area near the restrooms at the park entrance and will make their way around the parking lot, up past the Lions Den, Concessions and onto Field 6 via the large gate adjacent Field 4. As the teams enter the field they will be carrying a banner that each team will create (instructions will be handed out to the coaches at their coaches meetings) and the teams will be announced.

Once all team have assembled back into a line in the outfield we will have welcoming remarks by the Executive Board, Color Guard will present the colors and the National Anthem will be sung. Once the Anthem is completed a few more remarks will be made, first pitches thrown and then teams will be dismissed for games and team photos. Everyone will be welcomed to join in on a special memorial presentation by the flag pole. Further details will be communicated to the league prior to opening day but plan to be at the field between 7:15 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. to assemble as the parade will start at 7:50 a.m.

**Note: Teams and game times TBD**



# Det. Deidre Mengedoht Memorial



As most of you are well aware Det. Deidre Mengedoht of the Louisville Metro Police Department was killed in the line of duty while she was conducting a routine traffic stop. While conducting the traffic stop, her cruiser was rammed by a semi-truck causing fatal injuries to the Detective.

Det. Mengedoht's son has been a part of our Little League programs, and South Oldham Little League will be honoring our fallen hero by naming one of our fields "Dee Dee Field". We are currently raising funds in order to place a memorial plaque at the flag pole in her honor. All additional money raised will be donated to the family via the LMPD Foundation Fund in Preston's name. We will be unveiling the memorial following our opening day festivities and welcome everyone to join us at the flag pole to show their respects and participate in the event. If you have not yet made a donation and wish to you can do so through the South Oldham Little League website under the "store" link or by clicking here. [Det. Mengedoht Memorial Fund](#)

## Uniforms:

South Oldham Little League is currently reviewing our options for uniforms for the upcoming season. In years past we have used Officially Licensed MLB Hats and Jersey's. With the declining availability of the uniforms as MLB has changed vendors it is becoming more difficult and more expensive to find these uniforms due to copyright laws. For this reason the board is looking into a few options.

1. Continue to work on procuring the past used uniform at competitive price.
2. Order the replica hats but design a new jersey with SOLL on it along with a MLB Franchise name in a different font to avoid copy right infringement
3. Developing custom team names, colors and logos for our uniforms.

One advantage of the 2nd and 3rd options is that it would allow us to produce these products in any variation of sizes, clothing, memorabilia and such for our Little League families and friends to obtain.

We plan to vote on our Uniforms during our March meeting, so please show up and be part of that discussion.

## Fundraising:

Our big fundraiser for this year will be Snap Raise. This program has the potential to raise a lot of funds for the league. For those that were around last time we used this program, we learned a lot about the do's and don'ts and are excited about the potential it can bring to the league. We have a new area rep to work with and I will help teams out that request assistance with any videos they would like to add to their sites.

If you were not around last time we used Snap Raise, the basic concept is simple. Each players family needs to provide 20 email addresses that we add into the Snap Raise program and the system sends them an email about our campaign and requests a donation. The email looks like it is coming from you and not a 3rd party. I understand people's first reaction will be that they don't want to provide email addresses to a company that is going to continue to spam family and friends. I can tell you that it won't happen. The campaign lasts 28 days and at the end of it they delete all email addresses from their data base and servers. I have not heard of one single person complaining about emails from Snap Raise and come to think of it I don't even remember anyone on my list that I provided even

making a comment about the initial email. We will provide each team with more information about this as we get closer to kicking off the fundraiser, but I can tell you it works. Last time we did the program 4 teams raised **\$12,000**. *Now just imagine what we could earn if we got the whole league to take the same initiative.* If we do this right we may should be able to do some of the major projects that the park badly needs.

**A second program** that the league is offering right now is through State Farm Insurance agent Bill Moriarty in LaGrange and Kentucky Farm Bureau agent Steve Jones. Both parties have offered to make a \$10 donation to SOLL for every person that calls in and receives quote and mentions our league. So call Bill or Steve mention our league get a quote and we get easy money.

You can reach Bill at (502)225-0032 and Steve at (502) 241-2833



**One last easy one**.... We are now enrolled into the Kroger Community Rewards Program.

To Use the Kroger Community Rewards Program:

Simply visit <http://www.kroger.com>. Once logged into your Kroger account you can search for South Oldham Little League either by name or LB783 and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a rewards card.

\*You must have a registered Kroger rewards card account to link to our organization.

\*If you do not yet have a Kroger rewards card, please know they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger

REMEMBER, purchases will not count for our organization until after you register your rewards card. Participants must swipe their registered Kroger rewards card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Kroger rewards card when shopping for each purchase to count.

## Concessions:

We are excited to say to announce that Amy Cannon (Concessions Director) and Summer Thompson (Concessions Manager), have been working hard to improve our concessions stand. They are close to an agreement with Trompeter Company, a food service provider who has an outstanding reputation in the area. Trompeter Company will deliver our food service order directly to the park. This will eliminate the need for our concessions staff to make weekly runs to Sam's Club...but yes we will still go to Sam's to purchase pretzels :)

They are also working on a project to reorganize the concessions stand. This will include building some new counters, shelves and relocating some of the existing appliances to better serve customers and utilize the space more efficiently.

This is only a small snap shot of what we have going on around the league right now, but I hope you find this information useful. But again I urge everyone to come join us at an upcoming board meeting and learn how you can get more involved in your child's Little League experience and continue to make our league strong!

Please check out our website for updates, past meeting minutes and much more. We plan to continue to update and add items to the site and hope to get a SOLL Store open soon.

Thanks,

Kevin Barnes

Secretary