



Hillsborough Little League 2014 Season

“What to Expect” Night
January 23, 2014



Agenda

- Introductions
- History
- HLL Board
- FY13 and FY14 Operations
- League Structure
- Boundaries
- Little League Rules
- HLL Objectives
- Divisions
- Important Dates
- Training



Introductions

Rob Fore, President

Steve Vernon, Communications



History

- HLL started in 1993 – this will be our 21th season!
- Previously was Burlingame-Hillsborough Little League
- League has grown to 9 Divisions
- Boys and girls ages 5-12 years old
- 714 children participated in 2013
- All volunteer organization
- 20 members of the Board of Directors



League Structure

- HLL is a nonprofit 501(c)3 corporation
- HLL is chartered annually by Little League
- We are not related to the Town of Hillsborough, Hillsborough Recreation, Hillsborough School District, or AYSO
- HLL operates within District 52, which oversees 16 leagues from Pacifica to Palo Alto. Doug Rebert, former HLL President, is District Administrator for District 52
- Age eligibility based on April 30 date for Little League Baseball and December 31 date for Softball
- Fields rented annually from February through July from Hillsborough Recreation
 - Like AYSO, we have an arms-length arrangement with HRC for access to the Fields; updated 10-year arrangement signed in 2012



Little League Rules

- HLL operates under Little League rules as required by our Charter
- Little League is very prescriptive about operating rules, everything from boundaries to draft process
- Goal is to have an objective and consistent approach
 - Does not always lead to parity
- HLL adopts limited and permitted local rules approved by the Board and if required, by District 52 or Regional (waivers)
 - Minimum playing time in Majors and Minors is 3 innings, not 2



HLL Board

- Elected annually by the Members
- 20 Members, 10 Officers (Little League required):
 - President, Vice President (2), Secretary, Treasurer
 - Player Agent, Coaching Coordinator (2), Safety Officer, Communications Officer
- 10 Standing members:
 - Equipment, Fields (2), Registrar, Scheduling, Softball, Sponsorships, Training, Umpires, Tryouts
- Nominating Committee and Competition Committees



League Boundaries

- Little League reviews and approves our boundaries
- Last update to the boundaries occurred in 2008 when Millbrae was added
- Little Leagues boundaries are geographically based.
 - HLL Territory includes all of Hillsborough to the South
 - All of Millbrae to the North
 - Burlingame and San Mateo Park (between Crystal Springs Road and Trousdale) West of El Camino Real. East of El Camino is the territory of San Mateo American
 - Players must reside or attend school (new rule) within these boundaries



HILLSBOROUGH LITTLE LEAGUE

ESTABLISHED 1993

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS!





FY13 Operations

- September 30 fiscal year
- Budget approved annually by the Board
- Budget to break even each year
- \$75K in reserves,
- All positions volunteer
- Cash held at Wells Fargo Bank in Burlingame

Revenue:

- Registration, net of fees-\$152K
- Sponsorships-\$34K

Expenses:

- Equipment, storage, and uniforms-\$46K
- Fields, rental and improvement-\$60K
- Umpires: \$18K
- Yearbook: \$11K



FY14 Operations

Large bubble of 10-12s cycling through the league

Revenue:

- Registration: \$25 fee increase in 2012 for Upper Divisions to cover Field rent increase
- Sponsorships - Looking for Anchor Sponsor

Expenses:

- Fields: Rent with HRC is \$40K; new 10-year agreement
- Training: We have planned to have normal expenditure of \$12K
- New Majors Scoreboard (donor funded), new Majors storage boxes



HLL Objectives

- The first objective of the HLL shall be to implant firmly in the children of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority, so that they may be well adjusted, stronger and happier children and will grow to be good, decent, healthy and trustworthy citizens.
- The second objective shall be for children of the community to both learn and respect the game of baseball.
- The third objective is to execute the above within the framework, governance, and rules of Little League international



Divisions

- Baseball
 - T-Ball
 - Minors (per Little League)
 - » A
 - » AA
 - » AAA
 - » Minors
 - Majors
- Softball
 - Minors
 - Majors
- Challenger



Division: T-Ball

- Division Director: Doug Robbins
- Typically 5 and 6 year olds
- 10 teams of 10-11 players each
- Developmental division: Players bat off a Tee
- Teams are generally assigned based on school, but also prioritized depending on managers and coaches
- One practice and one game per week (games are on Saturday mornings)
- Practices and games are held at North Elementary School
- **Each player must play T-Ball before moving to the next Division**



Division: A

- Division Director: Jeremy Veit
- Typically 6 and 7 year olds
- 10 teams of 10-11 players each
- Developmental division: Coach pitch
- Teams are generally assigned based on school, but also prioritized depending on managers and coaches
- One practice and one game per week (games are on Saturday mornings)
- Games and practices are played at North Elementary School
- **Each player must play A before moving to the next Division**



Division: AA

- Division Director: John Sheputis
- Typically 7 and 8 year olds
- 8 teams of 11 players each
- Developmental division: machine pitch
- Teams are generally assigned based on school, but also prioritized depending on managers and coaches
- Two practices and one game each week at beginning of season. Two games and one practice per week for the final part of the season (one weekday and one Saturday)
- Post- regular season tournament under consideration
- Practices and games are held at West Elementary School



Division: Softball Minors

- Division Director: Rob McHugh
- Typically 7-9 year olds
- 4 teams of 10-12 players each
- Developmental division
- Teams are assigned
- There is one practice per week on a weekday evening and one game per week on Sunday afternoon.
- One game and one practice per week with games on Sunday Morning.
- Games and practices are at North Elementary School



Upper Divisions: Tryouts

- Tryouts were held on January 11-12; Make-up January 25
 - Hitting, running, fielding, pitching
- All baseball age 9s are required to tryout
- HLL requires, with very few exceptions, for players to play all 3 Lower Divisions before moving to Upper Division
 - Policy regardless of size or skill
 - Any exceptions must be recommended by the Player Agent, then Board-approved



Upper Divisions: Drafts

- Re-draft (Plan B) each year in each Division
- All Upper Division teams are drafted
 - Manager only in Majors
 - Manager and Assigned Coach in Softball Majors, Minors, AAA
 - 9s are eligible for Majors ONLY upon request of Manager, recommendation by Player Agent, and approval by Board
 - If requested, league attempts to pair siblings on the same team
 - All rosters set upon completion of the draft-no trades after Draft night
 - Players notified the night of the draft



Upper Divisions: Draft dates

- February 3 - Majors
- February 4 - Minors
- February 5 - AAA
- February 6 - Softball Majors



Division: AAA

- Division Director: Katherine Egbert
- Generally 8 and 9 year olds
- 8 teams of 12 players each
- Competitive division: tryouts and draft
- All 10 year olds that are not drafted into Majors or Minors are drafted into AAA
- Player pitch, continuous batting order and 3 inning minimum defensive play per player
- 2 practices per week and 2 games per week (one weekday and one on Saturday)
- Post-season tournament
- Games and practices are held primarily on Crocker Field



Division: Minors

- Division Director: Hsiao Peng
- Generally 9 -11 year olds
- 8 teams of 12 players each
- Very Competitive division: tryouts and draft
- All 11 year olds who are not drafted into Majors are drafted into Minors
- 2 practices per week and 2 games per week (one weekday and one on Saturday)
- Post-season tournament
- Games and practices are held on District Minors field



Division: Majors

- Division Director: Brian Desler
- Generally 10-12 year olds, with all 12 year old players playing in Majors (LL rule) unless requested otherwise by player/parent
- 8 teams of 12 players each
- Most competitive division: tryouts and draft
- 9 year old players require parental approval and Player Agent approval to be drafted
- Two practices and two games per week
- Post-season tournament
- Games and practices are held on District Majors and Minors field



Division: Softball Majors

- Division Director: Rob McHugh
- Typically 9-12 year olds
- 4 teams of 10-12 players each
- Competitive division: Tryouts and draft
- Typical Ages 9-12 (as of December 31, 2014)
- One practice and two games per week. One game is on Saturday morning and the other is on a weekday evening.
- Post-season tournament
- Games and practices are held on Crocker field



Division: Challenger

- Division Director: Darrin Uecker
- Focused on players who have physical and emotional challenges that deter them from playing in the other Divisions
- Two teams for the league-approximately 20-25 players
- All ages
- Buddy system with Majors teams to help at practices and games
- Practices will be held at West School, and games are throughout District 52



Training

- HLL is firmly committed to training
 - Spend approximately \$12,000 per year
 - How to run a practice
 - Specific coaching for all levels
 - Clinics for Majors
 - Specialized training for Minors, AAA, and AA
 - Pitching, Catching, and Fielding Clinics
 - 2-3 Team sessions each (batting and fielding)
 - Specialized Softball Training



Baseball All-Star Teams

HLL will field four All-star teams. The teams are selected by the coaches and players following the season:

- 11-12 Year Old District All-star Team
 - Primarily 12s, all players from Majors
- 10-11 Year Old District All-star Team
 - Primarily 11s, all players from Majors
- 9-10 Year Old District All-star Team
 - Primarily 10s, generally from Majors
- Minors Superbowl – Single Elimination District 52 Tournament
 - Primarily 10 and 9s, all players from Minors



Important Dates

- Tryout Makeups, Majors, Minors, and Majors Softball: January 25
- Majors, Minors, AAA, and Softball Majors Draft: February 3-6
- All Manager and Coach Meeting: February 8
- Practices begin for Majors, Minors, AAA, and Softball Majors: February 8
- T-Ball, A, and AA player notification by third week in February
- Opening Day, Ceremony, First Games, Team Photos: March 1
- No Games or practices:
 - HSD Spring Break, March 29 – April 6
 - Easter weekend: April 19-20
 - Memorial Day Weekend: May 24-26
- Closing Weekend Games and Ceremony: June 7



Resources

- We communicate primarily through email and the website
- HLL website: www.hllbaseball.org
 - Key dates
 - Updated game schedules
 - Updated Majors, Softball Majors, and Minors scores, standings, and pitch counts
 - Field conditions (link to Hillsborough Recreation site)
 - Events and other news
 - Training and skills-building resources
- Communication
 - All-league and targeted email blasts
 - Yearbook
- Many teams use TeamSnap for their team communication



Questions?