



## Welcome to Grafton Little League - 2020

Thank you for registering for the 2020 Grafton Little League season; please read through the following important information to get you started.

### **FUNDRAISING:**

During registration, T-Ball players were required to purchase one BaseballMania Sweepstakes card; Baseball and Softball players were required to purchase three BaseballMania Sweepstakes cards, or one box of candy bars. Reselling these fundraising items provides an opportunity to significantly reduce your GLL participation cost.

#### **BaseballMania Sweepstakes Cards:**

BaseballMania Sweepstakes cards will be distributed at the Family Meetings (*see "Important Dates" below*). You can resell these cards or keep them and play them for yourself. **Important Note:** You must complete the bottom tear off section of these cards and turn them in so they can be activated. If you can't make the Family Night meeting, contact your child's team Manager to get your cards. Additional information about how this fundraising program works can be found [HERE](#).

#### **Candy Bars:**

Players that choose the Candy Bar fundraiser can pick them up at the *In-Person Registration* or at Ty Olson's Edward Jones office: 1505 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 180, Grafton, 8a-12p & 1p-5p.

### **VOLUNTEERING:**

Grafton Little League functions almost exclusively through volunteer efforts; it takes a dedicated group of passionate volunteers to deliver a successful Little League program for players and parents. Each year our need for volunteers is great, please see our [Volunteers](#) webpage for additional details.

### **VOLUNTEER FEE & VOLUNTEER GIFT CARD:**

During registration, Baseball & Softball players paid a Volunteer Fee; this Volunteer Fee is refundable via gift card after completing a volunteer requirement. Please read [Volunteer Fee & Gift Card Program](#) and [Volunteer Fee & Gift Card FAQs](#) for details.

### **PLAY UP\SKILLS EVALUATION:**

Players that requested to play up a division must attend a skills evaluation (*see "Important Dates" below*); this skills evaluation session is necessary to assure your child can safely participate at the next level. Baseball Major and Junior players new to GLL in 2020 also are required to attend the same skills evaluation session; this is necessary to assure that new players are slotted into the correct draft groups. Players that tried out for [Grafton Baseball](#) for the 2020 season are waived from having to attend this skills evaluation.



## **SPONSORS:**

We are very fortunate to have a core group of loyal sponsors that have been with us for several years; we also have new sponsors join us each year. It is through the generosity of these sponsors that we are able to continue to offer our Little League programs. A list of our current sponsors can be found [HERE](#); please consider using them for your needs and services. If you are interested in sponsoring a team, you can find details [HERE](#) or by contacting [Linda Plier](#).

## **IMPORTANT DATES:**

- **In-Person Registration** - Sat, Jan 25 from 10a-2p at the Grafton Senior Center. Candy bars will be available for pickup for those that chose that fundraising option.
- **Play Up\Skills Evaluation** - Sun, Feb 9 from 6p-8p in the John Long Middle School big gym.
- **Baseball Pitching Clinics** - Fridays, Feb 21, 28, Mar 6, 13 (*Group1 - 6:00p-6:50p, Group2 - 7:00p-7:50p*) in the John Long Middle School big gym. Cost is \$25/pitcher. Signups are done online and are limited to 20 pitchers per session; an adult catcher is required.
- **Softball Pitching Clinic** - Fridays, Feb 21, 28, Mar 6, 13 (*6:00p-6:50p*) in the John Long Middle School small gym. Cost is \$25/pitcher. Signups are done online and are limited to 20 pitchers; an adult catcher is required.
- **Dick's Discount Day** - Sat, Mar 14, 11a-4p. 20% discounts will be available on most store items for all GLL family members. GLL staff will also be on hand to answer questions and to certify and sticker baseball bats for the 2020 season.
- **Baseball Catcher's Clinic** - Fridays, Mar 20 & Apr 3 (*Group1 - 6:00p-6:50p, Group2 - 7:00p-7:50p*) in the John Long Middle School big gym. Cost is \$15/catcher. Signups are done online and are limited to 20 catchers per session. An adult pitcher is required, GLL will provide catcher's gear for those that need it.
- **Family Meetings** - Tues, Apr 14 in the John Long Middle School big gym (*T-Ball 6p, Baseball & Softball 7p*). After a short presentation, players will meet their Team Manager and receive their team hat and BaseballMania Sweepstakes game cards.
- **Field Clean-Up Day** - Date\Time\Location TBD. We will need 30-40 volunteers at the new GLL fields and the St. Joseph field. Volunteering for this event will fulfill your volunteer requirement for one player; an online sign up will be available as the date gets closer.
- **Umpire Clinic** - Date\Time\Location TBD. Umps from prior years will be contacted by Tom Bichanich; children who haven't umped before but who would like to start should contact [Tom Bichanich](#). Children may start umping at 11 years of age.
- **Coach's Clinic** - Date\Time\Location TBD. One coach from each team must attend.
- **Opening Day** - Sat, Apr 25 games.
- **Mid-Season Celebration, Malkowski Field Dedication & Ball Throw Contest** - Sat, Jun 13 at the GLL Complex followed by games. Save the date, more details to come.
- **Milwaukee Brewer Little League Night** - Tues, Jun 23, 7:10p. Save the date, more details to come.



## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:

- Baseball & Softball teams will be drafted in late February; T-Ball teams will be drafted in late March. After the drafts are complete, Team Managers will contact parents to introduce themselves and to let them know what team their child is on.
- The email address used during registration will be added to our league wide email list. Team specific emails will be sent to you by your Team Manager.
- Sign up information for team specific text messaging will be sent to you by your Team Manager after teams are drafted. Additional information is available [HERE](#).
- Little League International adopted the **USABaseball Bat Standard (USABat)** for most Baseball divisions effective Jan 1, 2018. Non-wood bats used prior to 2018 in the Baseball Rookie, Minor, Major and Junior divisions are no longer legal for use in Little League Baseball divisions. Additional info can be found [HERE](#).
- All baseball bats used in the 2020 season need to be certified by GLL prior to use; GLL staff will be on hand at the Dick's Discount Day event to certify and sticker bats. Umpires and Managers will be checking for these stickers prior to games. If your bat was previously certified and stickered by GLL for use in 2018 or 2019, they do need to be rechecked and certified again for the 2020 season.

## NEXT STEPS:

- Review the **Important Dates** (*page 2*) and mark your schedule as needed.
- Wait for your Team Manager to contact you after the drafts.
- Prior to the first practice, please download, print, and complete the following three documents. These completed documents must be given to the Team Manager before players will be allowed to practice:
  - [Code of Conduct](#)
  - [Concussion Agreement](#) (*Concussion fact sheets available on GLL website*)
  - [Medical Release Form](#)

If you have any questions, please see our website or feel free to contact any of our Board of Director members. We look forward to having you and your child participate in our Little League programs this season.

Sincerely,

Grafton Little League Board  
[info@graftonlittleleague.com](mailto:info@graftonlittleleague.com)  
[www.graftonlittleleague.com](http://www.graftonlittleleague.com)  
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