

Central Vermont Little League Annual Report 2017 - 10/16/17

In December 2015, a group of volunteers got together with the idea of keeping Little League a high quality and positive experience for youth in the Central Valley and Montpelier communities. The product of that effort was the Central Vermont Little League, a merger of two leagues from nine towns: Berlin, Cabot, Calais, East Montpelier, Marshfield, Middlesex, Montpelier, Plainfield, and Worcester. The merger had several goals:

- A larger pool of players, ages 5-12, to balance year-to-year variations in traditionally town-based baseball and softball rosters. 2016: 378 players | 2017: 373 players
- A larger pool of teams to make scheduling regular-season games easier. 2016: 34 teams | 2017: 34 teams
- More fields available, and improved field utilization. 2016: 9 fields | 2017: 9 fields
- A deeper pool of volunteers. 2016: 75+ volunteers | 2017: 85+ volunteers
- Support for the post-season ("All-Star") Little League tournament. 2016: two teams, 9/10 and 11/12 | 2017: two teams, 8/9/10 and 10/11/12

2017 goals | progress:

- Clarify post-season Player selection process | done ([link](#))
- Clarify Central Vermont Little League relationship with the Montpelier Recreation Department - financially and administratively | Memorandum of understanding signed on 3/20/17
- Umpire identification and training | ten (10) umpires identified on volunteer list
- Schedule regular season league tournaments for Minors and Majors | Minors (8 teams) and Majors (5 teams) tournament completed on 6/24/17 ([link](#))

Other 2017 accomplishments:

- Central Vermont Little League website registered: www.CVTLL.org
- "Fall Ball" player registration and payments processed through the League website
- Sufficient fundraising so that there are funds on hand at the end of the season to pay 2018 Charter and insurance fees.
- Other?

2018 goals:

- Improve coordination between town representatives, uniform, and sponsorship committees.
- Continue to leverage capabilities of League website for communication and coordination, including player and volunteer registration, and social media.
- Create league logo.
- Continue to identify, train, and retain umpire volunteers.
- Help older players transition to 90' diamond through coordination with Babe Ruth Summer and Fall Ball programs.
- Strengthen communication with other area baseball and softball programs.
- Other?

Committee Reports

Executive / Bylaws (Campbell)

In my opinion, we have made great strides towards providing each Town Rep with much help with other Board members stepping up and filling other positions, positions that did not exist in our old "legacy" league. A bylaw was approved that encourage players to be part of their town team, whenever possible. An additional bylaw was approved that defined the Tournament Manager selection process.

Fields and Facilities / Safety (Curtin)

Safety Plan was updated for 2017 and distributed to every team. Concussion awareness training was held in the Spring. Steve Twombly, Montpelier City Assessor, is getting bids to repair the current foundation for the press box at the Montpelier little league field. Facility improvements for 2018 are being planned.

Team Sponsorships / Fundraising (LaRosa)

CVTLL had a successful fundraising effort in 2017, not only in the amount of money raised but also in the organization and formalization of the process. Funding efforts included: team sponsorships, field banner sponsorships, league donations, Lake Monster ticket sales, a tournament cookout and a bottle drive. In the 2018 season we look forward to continued support from our long-time sponsors as well as reaching out to new sponsors. One of the main goals of the upcoming season is to streamline the solicitation process as well as to continue to improve internal organization and communications.

Manager / Coach Selection; Development (Duggan)

For the second year, Dan Trottier, U-32 Head Baseball Coach, conducted two training sessions for League coaches in the Spring. A League coaches meeting was also held. The Tournament Manager selection process was defined and conducted, and the Tournament Player selection process was defined and conducted.

Equipment (LaRosa)

The highest priority CVTLL has is to keep our players safe. One of the keys to this is to be sure they have the proper equipment. To this end, each year we inventory each team's equipment bag and replace old and worn out items. We have established an inventory checklist which ensures that at the beginning of the year each coach is supplied with all the equipment that is needed for a successful season. We also, when financial need requires, can provide players with cleats and gloves. One of the items we are quite proud of this year is that we purchased all our equipment from a local merchant. In 2018, CVTLL will be challenged with dealing with revisions to the Little League equipment rules, specifically new bat requirements.

Uniforms (Duggan)

Division-appropriate uniforms were provided for every team that made a request, and matched with a local sponsor whenever possible. Uniforms for each Division were as follows: Tee-ball: shirts; Coach-pitch: hats and shirts; Player-pitch; hats and dry-fit shirts. Beavins and Sons was a great local partner for hats and shirts. Two All-Star teams were provided with hats and jerseys. More coordination with Sponsors will be a priority for next year.

Schedule (Tatro)

CVTLL had a successful schedule in 2017 with Majors and Minors teams getting in at least 13 games before ending with a league tournament. CVTLL played games with area teams from Barre, Mad River, Waterbury, and Hardwick.

The first annual CVTLL Championship concluded the season with a fun day of games at the Montpelier Rec. Field, crowning our first Champions for both divisions.

Our younger teams had a busy schedule as well playing Saturday mornings for six weeks. A large number of teams in both Farm (coach pitch) and Tee Ball.

Communication / Information (Tringe)

CVTLL.org was registered as a domain name for five (5) years, at a cost of \$89. The back-end of the website is provided by Dick's Sports Team HQ / Blue Sombrero at no cost, through an arrangement with Little League. Player and volunteer registration forms were available to download through the League website, and processed in conjunction with the Montpelier Recreation Dept. Other information available through the website includes Key Dates and Field Locations. Player registration, payment, schedule, and communication for "Fall Ball" was administered using website capabilities, proving that this could be a time-saving resource for volunteers in the 2018 Spring season.

Finance / Budget (Adams)

Central Vermont Little League began the 2017 season with an opening balance of \$671.01. From January through October of this year the league had a Total Revenue of \$24,882.00 and incurred a total of \$21,399.35 in expenses. The Net Profit for the 2017 season was \$3,482.65. The Net Profit combined with our opening season balance gives us our end of season balance of \$4,153.66.

Softball (McElwain)

In 2018 there was one "Majors" team (ages 11-12) and two "Minors" teams (ages 9-10), which is an addition of two Minors teams compared to 2016. There was no tournament team for either age group. There seems to be good player interest for softball.