



Santa Monica **LITTLE LEAGUE**



Board of Directors Candidates

June 5, 2018 Election

1. **Tamara Anderson**

[Bio Pending]

2. **Amanda Arreola**

I have been involved in SMLL on and off for 20 years as the mother of 3 boys ages 27,18 &12. All of who have played baseball here over the years. I have coached, umpired, spent countless hours in the snack shack and I am now looking to further my involvement in the league. As a child playing little league my parents were both very involved in our league as board members. I have always been interested in helping find ways to make little league the best experience. It is my hope to give my children, and all children involved, some of the amazing childhood memories I have.

Being part of Little League is more than teaching kids how to play baseball. It's about creating relationships and skills that will help see all these kids through life situations. I watch now as my oldest son, at almost 30 years old, is playing softball at Memorial Park with kids he grew up playing Little League with. Additionally, he is coaching baseball at SAMO High where he played high school ball. I have been fortunate enough to instill in my children the same love for baseball that I had instilled in me. I hope to help every child involved in SMLL feed their love for baseball as well.

Now that my youngest son has pretty much wrapped up his little league days, I feel my involvement in the board can come from a completely pure and unbiased point. I hope to bring some new and exciting ideas and opinions to the board and to the league.

3. **Tom Bevan**

I have been involved with SMLL for 6 years along with my son who is currently finishing up his first year at the Juniors level. For the first two years, I was merely an enthusiastic supporter in the stands; but for the past four I have been actively involved as an assistant coach. The experience of being active has been far superior – for me and for my son. I would like to give more to the League through serving on the Board for a third year.

I have had the pleasure of working with multiple warm, thoughtful, and balanced coaches who also succeeded in taking their teams to the Championship game. I see the baseball field at the Little League level as an extension of the classroom, and I know firsthand that playing competitively doesn't have to come at the expense of helping our children develop character. Through continued service on the Board I hope to promote this same positive experience for others.

From the time I was in High School 30+ years ago, I have enjoyed the rewards of volunteer work. I have been the Safety Officer for SMLL, and assistant coach for 4 years, a Fall Ball coach for Juniors, and the Commissioner this year for 5 Pitch and T Ball. I welcome the opportunity to serve SMLL on the Board for another year.

4. **Beth Clark**

We are entering our fifth year with Santa Monica Little League. I have volunteered as a Manager or an Assistant Coach for all of my son's teams and now I am completing my first year on the SMLL board as the Events Coordinator. This has been a rewarding and growing experience for me. I

appreciate the welcoming and the support of the board members into this new endeavor for me. I have gained many contacts and resources for our events. I will utilize these resources to support the success of championship weekend and opening day (when it does not get rained out :). I will also capitalize on the growth of our spring clinics to make it more streamlined for next year. If given the opportunity I will take the successes and lessons learned from this year to make my second year even more successful.

In addition to my work with SMLL, I have worked as a Teacher for over 13 years. I have taught grades TK through 8th grade. I have an M.Ed. in with a specialization in Educational Technology.

I understand the importance of supporting our youth as well as the inclusion of families. This league is run on a strong volunteer network.

With a position on the board, I would use the skills I have acquired, through these experiences, to help support and further develop Santa Monica Little League. I look forward to working with the board and community to help Santa Monica Little League continue to grow.

5. Grant Devaul

I have been a volunteer for Santa Monica Little League for the past 7 years. I have been the assistant coach for 9 teams over the last 6 years and served on the Board for the past 2 years. I believe that youth sport is an imperative in the healthy development of a child's body and mind. I am dedicated to helping create an environment for children to develop a passion for baseball through the safe and fun competition. Baseball offers a child the opportunity to develop listening skills, focus, and functioning as a member of a team. Witnessing the satisfaction that development in one or all of these areas gives young people has motivated me to continually improve my leadership skills. I believe that we must combine fundamental instruction with positive role modeling in order to provide a good example for playing baseball and fully integrating into our community. SMLL has long been an outstanding asset to the city, offering fellowship, instruction, and the love of one of the world's most wonderful games. I would like to contribute to the continuation of this tradition.

6. Matt Edelman

I have been involved in SMLL for the past 9 years. I am in my 3rd year as SMLL Board Secretary and have been the Manager of 15 teams, one of which has been a Division Champion and two of which have qualified for the District 25 Tournament of Champions. I am passionate about our league and committed to doing whatever I can to ensure that any child in our community who is interested in baseball can have a positive experience playing a wonderful game while developing important life skills and creating new relationships they will never forget. I have one son in the league who has just finished his second year in Majors. I have seen SMLL help him grow, expand his horizons, become a better person and improve as a player in ways I never could have predicted. My goal in remaining on the Board is to build upon our strong foundation so that hundreds of families can say the same thing about their own children year after year, well into the future.

7. Jeff Finkelstein

Father of two boys (Michael and Bradley), youngest is graduating high school this year 2018. Spent 10 years on the SMLL Board, volunteered at SMMUSD from Grant Elementary school to running the Viking Fund Athletic Booster Club at Samohi for three years. I have much LL experience as I was commissioner of each level, equipment manager for 5 years and was Player Agent for minors and majors as well. I coached teams from T-ball through Seniors and believe it is very important to establish a positive attitude for the kids. Regarding the SMLL Board, I am happy to help and

volunteer as player agent. I have no agenda but to help the parents help their kids hopefully fall in love with the game of baseball.

8. Sean Heirigs

Hi my name is Sean Heirigs. I am the proud father of a 10u Santa Monica little leaguer, Aaron Heirigs. We have been involved with SMLL since Aaron was 8. I have “assisted” with most of the teams he has been on up to today and love every aspect of the game, the kids, the families, the coaches and the spirit of the community.

I was a manager for my oldest daughter’s T ball team at a different league and assisted her teams all the way up to high school. Last year we went to Nationals with that team. I also assisted with my 11-year-old daughter’s team in Santa Monica Girls Fast Pitch and had success in getting girls that have never played before to achieve to their potential ability in hitting, catching, throwing and even making plays, and lots of laughs.

I value the time I spend with my children and hold that as a top priority in my life. My goal with every kid that I have coached (boy or girl) is to have fun, learn the game, be a better athlete than you were yesterday, work hard, make friends, good sportsmanship and not to forget to along the way to HAVE FUN.

Fundamentals, structure, integrity and building friendships is very important to me. Santa Monica baseball has given us so much happiness and memories to last a lifetime, and I would strive for everyone to have the same opportunities that it has given us. I feel like I can contribute to Santa Monica little league if given the opportunity to join the Board of Directors in some capacity.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

9. Rich Hill

[Bio Pending]

10. Michael Kadish

I have been involved in youth baseball for more than 10 years. Prior to joining SMLL, I coached 10-12 year olds in the Maccabee Baseball League of Greater Los Angeles. For the last five years, I have managed SMLL teams in the 5-Pitch, Machine Pitch, AA and AAA divisions.

I am passionate about the game and dedicated to ensuring all children, of all skill levels, have a positive baseball experience. I am especially proud that our league provides the financial resources to families in need whose children might not be otherwise be able to play but for the league’s assistance. If elected as member of SMLL’s board of directors, it is my intent to grow our community outreach ensuring no child is denied the opportunity to play the game I so love.

11. John Matise

I have been active with SMLL for the past ten years as a manager, volunteer, assistant coach and for the past three years on the SMLL Board as Treasurer. I am proud of what I have accomplished as SMLL Treasurer by continuing to professionalize the budgeting and financial management of the league while we make investments in the future like the new batting cage and improvements to the Snack Shack. I have one boy in SMLL that played AAA this year and want to help the organization continue to thrive in the years to come, including providing scholarships to ensure that all who want to play little league baseball can play baseball.

Currently I am serving as the Interim CEO of a local company. In the past I have served as the CEO of various companies including natural products, satellite communications equipment, children's products, and color cosmetics companies where I have been responsible for the strategic direction and financial management of these companies.

In my free time I am active in the community and am currently the Cub Master for the Santa Monica Pack 12 Cub Scouts.

12. Peter McCormick

My name is Peter McCormick. I have been involved with SMLL for 11 years. My oldest son (James McCormick) played SMLL through Seniors, and his younger brother (Brendan) recently finished his second season in Majors. I have really enjoyed working with the kids and the families throughout my years with the league. My first experience was with my oldest son in T-ball where I served as an assistant. Throughout his time in SMLL, I assisted former Board members Des Bunting and Jay Smith when they were managers. With my youngest son Brendan, I was asked to be a manager when he was in the Rookies league. Initially I was apprehensive being as I never played baseball in my youth, although I figured this would be a good (and possibly the last) opportunity to give managing a try. In managing I have come to appreciate baseball more than ever. Baseball is a true team sport. This applies not only to the players, but also the coaches/volunteers and the parents of the players. For whatever role I play in SMLL, my objective is to foster the 'team' environment. Within the constraints of my work, home life and family commitments, I willingly will do whatever is asked of me to benefit the league. Thanks for your consideration.

13. Eric Mirich

A father of three boys (Mathew: 10, Nicholas: 7 and Ryan: 2), I've been a volunteer in the SMLL for the past 6 seasons. I've managed both coach pitch and machine pitch and assisted in all divisions up to and including AAA. I was an assistant coach for the U10 West All-Star Team and I'm currently the manager of the AAA Cubs.

My love for the game stems back to my youth growing up in Northwest Indiana. I have many fond memories of spending entire summers at the ball field watching game after game while gorging on pizza and candy from the concession stand. My career took me from Little League, to Babe Ruth, to Legion and High School Baseball and, along the way, I encountered numerous coaches and players that taught me so many valuable lessons. I learned to appreciate the game of baseball, to respect my teammates and opponents alike and to play the game with humility and pride. Baseball, without a doubt, is the one sport that has had the greatest impact on my adult life.

With the opportunity to join the SMLL Board, I want to share my knowledge and passion for the game with the current generation of baseball players. I want to be part of a community that teaches good sportsmanship and rewards fair play. I want Memorial Park to be a home away from home. And I want my boys to share the same fond memories that I cherish so much from my youth.

14. Ric Munoz

Thank you for considering me for the board position with SMLL. I hope to continue to be part of a collaborative team of board members that can continue the vision of *creating a welcoming and inclusive experience for all players, parents, and league volunteers.*

My son Bobby recently completed the 6th-grade as a student at John Adams Middle School and recently completed his 14th season in SMLL this past Spring in the Majors division.

8 years of League experiences as a Manager from Machine Pitch to Majors division, as well as Machine Pitch Commissioner and Majors Commissioner, have provided the knowledge to promote and execute the league's ongoing vision for on and off field organization and communication.

My Board experience as Vice President of League Operations and League Registrar has provided the opportunity to personally contact most of the 500+ players and their families. Through this, I have been made well aware of the challenges the league has, as well as the success stories we can build upon including being part of a team that was able to reduce our league to a single charter with Little League International.

I am also active in the community serving as a Manager and Coach in Santa Monica Girls Fastpitch with my 11-year-old daughter Daniela, an 8th grader at JAMS; receiving an Honorary Service Award from the Grant PTA for my 7 years of dedicated commitment to supporting our amazing school, one of many in SMMUSD; and dedicating countless hours to the Hirshberg Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research fighting to find a cure for this deadly disease.

With our increased enrollment tis past Spring, I am excited and energized to continue and be part of the ongoing success our league has experienced the past several years.

15. Jose Nuno

I have been involved with Santa Monica Little League as a player since 2008, and as an umpire since the spring of 2012. I have also served SMLL as a coach for 2 seasons. I have also ran several pitching clinics throughout the years. Since becoming an umpire, it has evolved into not just a job, but a passion and new classroom of opportunity. In 2015 I joined the District 25 umpire staff and started working games in mutiple leagues. In 2016 I umpired all-star tournaments at the district, section, sub-division, and state level. Beginning in 2017 I also joined the National Federation of High School Umpires for the City Section of Los Angeles. I have spent years studying the rules, interpretations of rules, in game handling techniques, and propper officiating mechanics. A position on the board represents an opportunity for me to raise the level of officiating for all the participants in SMLL. Stronger levels of officiating would lead to smoother games as well as a better trust and communication between all parties on the field and off the field.

16. Elisabeth Perez

Hi, my name is Elisabeth Perez. I have been involved in SMLL for 11 years. I have 2 sons, one who is now playing for the Samohi Vikings as well as a 16u Seniors team and another in the Majors. Both my children have always played SMLL, but also on teams outside of the league, and so we have had many opportunities to get a glimpse of how things are done beyond our fences. Although I have never held a position on the board, I have been passionately involved and volunteered for the league in many ways including: attending open board meetings, working the snack bar, scorekeeping, and team parenting. We are a baseball family and have been through a lot of wins, a couple of championships and many losses through our years at Memorial and being here has taught us all so much. I look forward to the opportunity to continue to contribute and have an impact on a community that I love so much and has given so much to my family and me.

17. Eric Sackler

I have been coaching my son's baseball teams for the past 7 years. I was also on the board of WLALL for four years and commissioner of the T-ball division for three years. In addition to baseball, I coached football and basketball and played baseball throughout high school and my first

year of college. I love coaching and helping the kids improve, grow and have fun. I'm happy to be involved with the SMLL board if I can help.

18. David Schmillen

The Little League Pledge says, "I will play fair and strive to win but win or lose I will always do my best." Those simple words and the ideals they represent are what I remember most from my own Little League experience. In retrospect, this simple pledge and my overall LLeague experience instilled in me a positive foundation for my life, as well as provided for me a set of goals that I hope to help instill in each player – both as a coach and a SMLL Board Member.

I'm a self-employed architect and father of two boys, ages 9 and 11. Throughout my youth I played LL baseball at all levels. I continued to play baseball through college before a shoulder injury ended my potential pitching career.

I have coached my older son's SMLL team for three years and my youngest son's team the past two years. This is all in addition to serving as the Field's Coordinator on the SMLL Board the past three years. I have found the experience quite rewarding. I look forward to continuing to contribute to SMLL this coming year.

To me, Little League is a valuable asset to our community not only because it gives our children an enjoyable experience but it also provides them with an opportunity to learn how to cooperate with their teammates, coaches and their families. Little League, in essence, is its own community experience – all the more important for our children when living in big cities as we all do. As a SMLL board member I will continue to do my best to make sure that the League remains a valuable asset to our community and is continually striving to provide our players, their families, coaches and all the volunteers with a positive, enjoyable and memorable experience.

19. Jasan Sherman

I have been involved in SMLL for six seasons, since my son was in T-Ball. I have coached and managed several teams, including Spring, Fall Ball and Summer programs and was just elected to my third year coaching an All-Star team. My son is now 10 and just finished his first season in Majors. I am in my fifth year on the Board, currently serving as President. It has been a pleasure to be part of the SMLL community. I have a passion for teaching the kids to develop their skills as well as a true love for the game. I believe that Little League offers so many valuable life lessons beyond just the game. Little League is a great place for kids to learn how to have fun, work hard, be part of a team and develop confidence. It's an honor to work with the other parents on the Board. I look forward to continuing to serve and working together to build an even stronger community for everyone.