

2019 LITHYAA PARENT NIGHT MEETING

Meet the Board

Our Board of Directors has some new faces, as well as some older (but not old) faces you may be familiar with. Visit our [Officers](#) page to see what's new, as well as numerous opportunities for you to get involved.

Speaking of Getting Involved

It wouldn't be a Parent Meeting if we didn't talk a bit about the many jobs and hands that are needed to run our league and bring baseball to our families every season. Even if you don't have a lot of time or if you don't feel you know much about the game, there is something for everyone. We'll be creating a Help Wanted section on the website (and sending out alerts via email); please consider lending a hand in whatever capacity you feel is a good fit.

Even if you can't find an opportunity on the website, coaches are always really happy to have extra sets of hands to do warm-ups, practice drills, field prep and breakdown, and sometimes just 'wrangling the troops'.

Important Dates and Upcoming Events

We will continue to communicate important dates through multiple channels including email, website home page, website calendar, and the LITHYAA Facebook page. Below are the highlights:

Evaluations (Minor, Major, & Pony Baseball Divisions), Monday, 4/1 and Tuesday, 4/2: Visit our home page for details about your player's age division.

Picture Day, Sunday, 4/14 at Sunset Park. If weather doesn't cooperate, we'll look to the 1st weekend in May (TBD). Specific team schedules will be sent out once completed.

Field Day, Saturday, 4/20 at Sunset Park: We're always looking for volunteers to bring a rake or just their hands to help us get the fields ready for play. Come on out between 8am and 11am; players welcome.

Opening Date, Saturday, 4/27: Time is TBD, but this is our big kick-off. Bring your player to march in the Parade of Teams, honor the US Flag, and just maybe a Coach Aaron Ratner Dance Party!

Game Schedules and Practices

Still TBD. Once teams are formed, schedules will be built and communicated.

Why the Change to the Fundraiser?

In years gone by, the LITHYAA has done a lottery fundraiser based on the IL Lottery. Coaches spent time chasing fundraiser money from families and faced the threat that teams would not be eligible to being play until all families returned their packets/money. In order to avoid this, we changed our process.

Each family was responsible for paying the \$100 up front at time of registration. Each family will receive a packet of 10 LITHYAA raffle tickets that can either be sold for \$10/ea (to recoup part of all of the \$100) or kept and turned in for increased chances to win. Just like a standard raffle, each ticket will have two parts - one to be filled out and one to be kept for tracking purposes. Families can then bring the completed tickets to the Concession stand by June 1st and drop them into our locked bucket. We will have 3 drawings every Saturday (June 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd) - one each for \$250, \$500 and \$1000. An added benefit is the reduced time it will take to contact winners since their contact info will be right on the ticket - winner winner, chicken dinner!

Field and Game Conduct

Thorguard is our lightning detection system, and while it is one of the most hated sounds when enjoying a day at the park, it is critical for the safety of our players, coaches, umps and fans that we all follow the rules for vacating the fields immediately and moving to the parking lot. Once we get the 'all clear' (3 short blasts), it will be time hustle back and resume play.

Baseball is fun, and is should be enjoyed by all. It is important to keep this in mind and to keep emotions in check. No game is won or lost by a single 'bad' call, and nothing changes 'tomorrow' by the outcome of a game 'today'. In the wise words of our leader, Jeff Kolozsy, we each have a job:

- Players Play
- Coaches Coach
- Umps Ump
- ...and Parents Cheer