

# West Plains Little League

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*“Volunteers Mean the World to Us”*

Dear West Plains Little League Family and Supporters,

Welcome to the 15<sup>th</sup> year of West Plains Little League. I am humbled and honored to be your League President this year. We have many great opportunities planned this season. WPLL board members and committed volunteers are working diligently to make this year great! We strive to positively model and promote the values of sportsmanship, teamwork and respect for others. It is our desire to help players learn fundamental baseball skills, develop meaningful relationships and a sense of community pride.

The support we receive from volunteer coaches, umpires, board members, parents and local businesses all play a vital role in the success of our league. I would like to express my gratitude to all who have given of their time, talents and financial resources. This generosity enables us to provide a meaningful Little League experience for the young people in our communities.

The support we receive allows WPLL to keep our player registration costs very low in comparison to other leagues in the area. One of the challenges our league encounters is replacing our well-worn player equipment. This year, the National LL rules have changed, requiring our league to replace the bats for majors and AAA baseball. Because of these additional costs, we have decided to modestly raise the registration rates by \$5 across all divisions. Our hope is this slight increase will help to cover the extra costs we will face this year, while minimizing the monetary impact to our families. As always, if you are in a situation where finances are an issue, please contact me directly. We have Little League scholarship money available. Please know it is a priority to our league that all children are provided the opportunity to play ball.

Recognizing the success of our baseball program in 2017, two of our All-Star teams were district champs. They represented District 13 in the Washington State Little League tournaments. The 9/10 WPLL All-Star team (coached by Randy Weatherbee) competed in Aberdeen, WA. The WPLL 11/12 All-Star team (coached by Josh Ashcroft), competed in Federal Way, WA. State tournament play is very competitive, requiring a big commitment by coaches, players, and their families. We congratulate these teams on their success and thank all who supported them.

WPLL is very aware of the challenges related to our softball program in the 2017 season. For those who were negatively impacted, I sincerely apologize. We are committed to identifying areas that need improvement and have an excellent group of people working diligently to strengthen our softball program. I am very confident this season will be a big leap in the right direction. My hope is that we can partner together to create an environment where girls learn to love the game, while developing fundamental softball skills.

I am so thankful for the wonderful memories this league has provided me and my family over the years, and I am looking forward to seeing WPLL grow and flourish in the coming years. We are always looking for volunteers who want to be a part of creating something special and we welcome any and all contributions. Many hands make light work and an amazing Little League experience for our youth.

Let's PLAY BALL!

Stacy Ashcroft  
WPLL League President