

AVOID LATE FEES! Register to play by March 2 at www.melottlittleleague.org



Baseball • Softball • Tee Ball • Since 1958 • Volume 20, Issue 1

Welcome to the 2010 season!

The Mel Ott Little League 2010 season will bring with it no new increase of registration fees. We can do this as long as all families continue to volunteer. The Mel Ott Board of Directors is an enthusiastic group who I look forward to working with.

Because of the dedication from our Board Members and volunteers, many improvements for our

facility will be completed this year. The diamonds have already been re-sodded and groomed at the end of last season in order to be ready for the spring. We also plan to cover all of the dugouts.

We are hoping to utilize volunteers as always, but want to remind all parents that our success is contingent on parental help to accomplish our goals. I have been

associated with this league for about twenty years and this Mel Ott Board has to be one of the best I have been associated with. This will bring with it fresh ideas that all families will benefit from.

Do not hesitate to contact any of us with your ideas for improving our league for the children.

By: Alan Rozansky, League President

MEET OUR 2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS...

OFFICERS

President
VP, Operations
VP, Senior Baseball
VP, Little League
VP, Softball
VP, Tee Ball
Player Agent
Secretary
Treasurer

Al Rozansky
Mike Torrillo
Greg Scott
Warren Bouchane
Jim Merrifield
Dave Ohman
Mike Chatelle
Jim Prentice
Joyce Wiktorowski

arozansky@verizon.net
torrillomike@roadrunner.com
park69cam@aol.com
bouchane@roadrunner.com
jim.merrifield@kraft.com
ohms67@aol.com
chatelle5@adelphia.net
jprentice574@yahoo.com
joycewik@gmail.com

COORDINATORS

Big League Senior Baseball

Junior Baseball
Major Baseball
AAA Baseball
AA Baseball
A Baseball
Metro Softball
Senior Softball
Major Softball

Minor Softball

Machine Pitch
Tee Ball

OPEN

Jeff Brummer
Dennis Liska
Dave Hector
Tim Gardner
Gary Janish
Pat Land
Colleen Grunzweig
Mike Spence

OPEN

Charlie Ventura
Paul Urbaniak

birdiemanager38162000@yahoo.com
dliska1@verizon.net
davidhector@hotmail.com
tmgardner@roadrunner.com
gjan@novonordisk.com
pwlant123@roadrunner.com
tigger51664@msn.com
mikejanspence204@gmail.com

cpventura@msn.com
my76monza@yahoo.com

DIRECTORS

Special Events
Building & Grounds
Concessions
Equipment
Fundraising
Publicity
Safety
Sponsorship
Extravaganza Tourney
Tournament
Registrar
Umpire in Chief
Coach/Player Development

Danielle Vaillancort
Jason Lock
Susan Carpenter
Jason Majewski
Matt Gourlay
David Seyse
David Stewart
Katie Signore
Pat Land
Don Matre
Michele Torrillo
Joe Abbarno
Mike Torrillo

dmv101808@yahoo.com
lock5546@aol.com
scarp23@verizon.net
jason_majewski@msn.com
mgourlay@mac.com
thetvcrew@mac.com
dstewartster@gmail.com
kesignore@verizon.net
pwlant123@roadrunner.com
kingpallet@aol.com
melottlittleleague@verizon.net
jabbarno@verizon.net
torrillomike@roadrunner.com

Don't miss our raffle!

**\$2,500 cash
First Prize**

2nd prize: Large Screen TV

3rd prize: \$100 Dick's Card

Tickets \$5 each - Drawing on June 13th

**Email Matt Gourlay (mgourlay@mac.com)
for tickets or more information**

A publication of:

Mel Ott Little League, Inc.
377 Meyer Rd. • P.O. Box 642
Amherst, NY 14226
836-6451

**An official affiliate of
Little League International!**



AVOID LATE FEES! Register to play by March 2 at www.melottlittleleague.org

Dugout Diner News

Welcome back to another exciting season at Mel Ott. We are excited about bringing back our **TEAM SNACK OPTION** and our **MEL OTT CASH CARD**.

Team snack option was a hit last year, and we are bringing it back again. You can order your team snack before your game and we will prepare and deliver it to you right at the diamond at the end of your game. You can contact your team representative or go online to access the team snack option order form or just stop over to the Dugout Diner and place your order before the game.

Cash cards will again be available throughout the season... no more worries with giving the kids money, just load up a Mel Ott Cash Card and you are all set. The cards can be picked up and loaded at the Dugout Diner. Keep in mind that we also accept all major credit cards.



As we look forward to another wonderful baseball and softball season at Mel Ott Little League, please remember that money earned in the concession stand helps make it possible for your children to play on some of the best diamonds in Western New York. We work at our best with a full staff in our stand. PLEASE, sign up online through your parent page to volunteer your time.

Positions include:

- working the grill
- fulfilling orders at the pick-up window
- running the golf cart

Please contact Susan Carpenter at scarp23@verizon.net or 716-870-4108 if you have any questions or are interested in volunteering or working in our Dugout Diner.

Thanks for supporting Mel Ott Little League!

2010 Volunteer Policy

For the 2010 season the Refundable Volunteer Deposit structure is as follows:

\$40.00 1st child
\$40.00 2nd child
\$20.00 3rd child
(\$100.00 maximum per family)

In order to sign up for your 4 hour volunteer shift, and receive a refund of your volunteer deposit, please visit the Mel Ott website at www.melottlittleleague.org and check the schedules listed on the home page for either Concessions or Buildings/Grounds. Once you have selected a day and shift, log on to your parent page and register. You will receive a confirmation of your shift selection.

If you would like to register for buildings/grounds or a specific duty in the concession stand (window, golf cart, grill), please also email your preference to molltasks@gmail.com along with your contact information. If you have any questions regarding volunteering, please email molltasks@gmail.com. Thank you for volunteering your time to the League!

Little League Needs Big Helpers!

Hello, my name is Danielle Vaillancort. Welcome to Mel Ott Little League! I am the Special Events Director and **I need your help to make this the best season ever for our children.**

I am looking for parents who are interested in taking on the role of Team Representative for your daughter or son's team. This is a very important position which exists to ensure that our coaches can focus more on running the team and teaching the kids.

You can also participate in the league by helping to plan our many events throughout the year. Our Special Events include Opening Day, Sunday Funday, Picture Day and our end of the year banquet. **Your talents are needed and your time is greatly appreciated!** I look forward to seeing everyone out at the diamonds.

Please feel free to contact me via email: dmv101808@yahoo.com. Thank you!

AVOID LATE FEES! Register to play by March 2 at www.melottlittleleague.org

Calendar of Events



Congratulations to the 2009 9U Tournament Team for finishing 25-0 in tournament play. Along the way the team added 5 first place trophies for the League by winning the following tournaments: Clarence, Lou Gehrig, Lancaster, North Tonawanda and Mel Ott. The boys defeated 17 different teams, outscored their opponents by more than 100 runs and only trailed for 6 innings the whole tournament season.

A highlight of the season was beating their nemesis (the Tonawanda Stars) twice in the tournament season after losing to them 3 times during the regular season. Another highlight was during the Lancaster tournament, rain had threatened to cancel the tournament completely but Mel Ott's fields were still playable and the remaining games were moved to our fields where the Mel Ott boys played 3 consecutive games starting at 1pm and finishing at 8:30pm to claim their 3rd straight first place finish.

Winning 25 games in a row against some of the best competition in Western New York was an accomplishment that may never be repeated.

Congratulations again to the 2009 9U Mel Ott Tournament Team of Michael Wells, Michael Flemming, Jacob Reger, Ben Zenosky, Andre' Torrico, Joseph Torrillo, Michael Mazzara, Jacob Ohman, Sean Whitehead, Cooper Heck, Owen Green and Vinny Ventura. The Team was coached by Dave Ohman, Mike Mazzara and Fred Torrico.

-Dave Ohman, Manager

Date	Event
Tue., March 2	\$25 fee begins for late registration
Sun., March 14	New Player Tryouts (only for baseball players age 8-16) Sweet Home High School 12 to 3
Mon., March 15	New Manager Interview Night
Sat., March 20	Mandatory Manager/Coach Meeting Banchetti's 8:30am-Noon
Mon., March 22	1A & 2A Draft 6:00pm 3A Draft 7:30pm
Tue., March 23	Majors Draft 6:00pm
Wed., March 31	T-Ball/Machine Pitch Slotting 6:00pm
Sat., April 3	Field Clean Up Day 8:00am
Sat., April 10	Field Clean Up Day 8:00am
Sat., April 17	Field Clean Up Day 8:00am
Mon., April 19	Jr./Sr. Boys Draft 6:00pm
Mon., April 26	Start of season for baseball 6:00pm
Sat., May 1	Start of season for softball 9:00am
Sat., May 8	Opening Day Celebration 8:30am
Sat., May 8	Start of season for Tee Ball and Machine Pitch 9:30am
Sun., May 16	Start of season for Junior & Senior baseball Noon
Mon., May 24	Start of season for Junior & Senior softball 6:00pm
Sun., June 13	Sunday Funday! 9:00am

Umpires Needed!

It's not too late to become an umpire for the upcoming season. Learn more by contacting Joe Abbarno at:

mollumpire@melottlittleleague.org

If you are 14 years of age or older and looking for late spring and summer employment become a Mel Ott Umpire. We provide the training, you supply the spirit and desire.

Check the website for more information.

Mel Ott Softball News

- Congratulations to last year's House champions Sunbirds in 12U. The Sunbirds capped off one of the most competitive 12U softball seasons ever at Mel Ott, by defeating a strong Bandits team in the final. The team was led all year by pitching ace Katie Fortman, and great all around play from Michelle Dachs, Emily Ackendorf, Kayla Hutchinson, Chelsea Masich, and Emily Sacco.
- Congratulations to the 10U champion Sunbirds. The Sunbirds and Heat had to go to extra innings in the championship game to finally determine a champion.
- The 12U Metro Travel Hurricanes capped off their first season in travel with an exciting upset of the Amherst Lightning in the first round of the Playoffs.
- The 12U Williamsport Blue Angels Team went 2-2 in the district playoffs.
- The Mel Ott Softball Extravaganza tournaments in July attracted over 40 teams from all over Western NY and Canada.

It's never been a better time to register for softball at Mel Ott...

- 3 straight years of increasing girl's registration. Other area leagues may offer only baseball programs. Mel Ott supports both boys and girls softball and baseball, all at one great facility.
- 5 travel teams in all age groups, in Metro softball league, and costs substantially less than most other local independent programs.
- Mel Ott hosts one of the most popular softball tournaments of the summer.
- Williamsport / post-season softball tourney opportunities.
- House leagues in 10U, 12U and 16U, and new this year 14U!
- Off-season Mel Ott sponsored training seasons with Sweet Home Community Education.
- Two softball batting cage bays at new Mel Ott batting cages.
- Great track record of players who have moved on to Modified, JV and Varsity programs at local High schools. Give your daughter the head start she needs to compete for spots on their school teams!
- Parents encouraged to help. Coaches needed at all levels. Great Moms and Dads make great coaches!
- 10U coordinator board position still open. Please consider supporting the administration of our league.

Questions? Contact Jim Merrifield, VP Softball at: Jim.Merrifield@Kraft.com.

Mel Ott Baseball Extravaganza Dates

2010 is upon us and baseball season is rapidly approaching. Mel Ott Little League will again be hosting Baseball Extravaganza 2010. The dates for the Extravaganza are as follows:

July 28 thru August 1: 8 & Under, 9 & Under, 11 & Under, 16 & Under
August 5 thru August 9: 10 & Under, 12 & Under, 14 & Under

AVOID LATE FEES! Register to play by March 2 at www.melottlittleleague.org

League Sponsorship Information

It's not too late to become a sponsor for Mel Ott Little League's 2010 season. The league has been serving Amherst/Tonawanda area youth for over 50 years. A BIG part of our success come from the generous support of our area businesses. There are numerous ways to show your support of the league while gaining marketing exposure to our community.

This year we are offering all of our families and friends 2 easy ways to advertise their business:

New for the 2010 season we are offering advertising through our awesome website. This is a **GREAT** advertising opportunity at a **GREAT** value. For just \$100, for the whole year, we will advertise your business on our website **PLUS** you will receive 1 **FREE** ticket to our end of the year banquet. What could be better? Great advertising for a great price and helping out your child's little league team at the same time. Please go to our website, www.melottlittleleague.org, to view a sample. It is on the left side under the date. After you view it please contact me to get your business on our site. Contact details are at the bottom.

Our other advertising opportunity is through Sponsorship. Sponsorship opportunities are, but not limited to the following, **Field Sponsor, Target Sponsor, Gold Level Sponsor, Silver Level Sponsor, or Billboard Sponsor.** Or if you have another way you would like to sponsor Mel Ott, please contact me soon. This is a great way to have your business seen by hundreds of people who attend our games every year.

We truly appreciate any sponsorship assistance you can offer. For more information or for additional sponsorship opportunities please contact:

Katie Signore - Director of Sponsorship

kesignore@verizon.net 716-835-4553 home 716-445-9889-cell

Dick's Sporting Goods Day for Mel Ott Families

On **Saturday, March 27th from 11:00am to 4:00pm at the Dick's Sporting Goods** Amherst location, families of Mel Ott are invited to come in and receive **15% off their TOTAL purchase.** In addition to the 15% discount, Baseball/Softball Team Packet coupons can be used on top of that for added savings! This is a great time to stock up on all the equipment, apparel and footwear your kids will need for this upcoming baseball & softball season, plus some extra discounts on items for you and the rest of your family! Visit our league website to download and print a Dick's coupon.

LET'S PLAY SOME BALL!