

2008 REGISTRATION

January 2008
Page 1

Baseball season is just around the corner. With receipt of this newsletter, registrations are being accepted for all returning players. In-person registration will be conducted on the first two Saturdays in February at Main Beach.

How to register for CLALL Baseball 2008

Our walk in registration will take place at **Main Beach** on **February 2nd & 9th between 9:00am—Noon.**

- Walk in registration is available for anyone wanting to register in person.
- **All new players must register in person.**

- **All new players** to the league will be required to produce an **original birth certificate** for proof of age (photocopies will not be accepted). Also bring completed registration and medical waiver forms.

- **Returning players** that do not wish to register in person can mail the enclosed registration form, medical waiver and payment in full to the address listed to the right.

- **There will be no online registration this year.**

ALL FORMS CAN BE PRINTED FROM OUR WEB SITE www.CLAmerican.org

CLALL's five different levels of play:

- **Rookies**-an instructional coach pitch program for 5 & 6 year olds.
- **Junior Sluggers**-a semi-instructional machine pitch division for 7 & 8 year olds.
- **Minors**-a semi-instructional division for 9 & 10 year olds. At this level players pitch from a mound for the first time.
- **Major East (formally Major B)**-a competitive play division for 11 & 12 year olds. See our try-out schedule below.
- **Major West (formally Major A)**-a more competitive division for 11 & 12 year olds. See our try-out schedule below.

CONTACT INFO

For returning players mailing payment, registration and medical waiver:

Crystal Lake American Little League (CLALL)
P.O. Box 1002
Crystal Lake, IL
60039-1002

Questions regarding registration please call Steve Carlson at (815) 861-2543 or e-mail him at stevecarlson@clamerican.org

TRYOUT INFORMATION

Who must try out?

- All new 12 year olds who did not play in our League last year.
- All 11 year olds.
- All 12 year olds who played in the Major B Division last year and want to try out for the Major West (formally Major A) Division

When does my child try out?

- All players with the last name starting with A-E, **Saturday, February 16th, 10:45am-1:00pm.**
- All players with the last name starting with F-L, **Saturday, February 16th, 12:45pm-3:00pm.**
- All players with the last name starting with M-R, **Saturday, February 23rd, 10:45am-1:00pm.**
- All players with the last name starting with S-Z, **Saturday, February 23rd, 12:45pm-3:00pm.**

Where are the tryout?

Crystal Lake Central High School in the field house. Enter the building at the Walkup Street entrance.

What do players wear and what equipment are they to bring?

Dress comfortably in play clothes or sweats. Rubber-soled gym shoes are required. **No Cleats.** Boys should wear an athletic supporter with at least a soft protective cup. Bring a baseball glove. Although players may bring their favorite bat, it is unnecessary to do so.

What if the player can't make the tryout?

They will be drafted into the Major East (formally Major B) division. All players who hope to make Major West (formally Major A) Division must attend one of the tryout dates to be evaluated.

What will players do at the tryout?

Run, throw, field grounders, field soft fly balls, hit pitches thrown by a pitching machine. Players will try out in small groups, and each group will rotate through a series of drill stations. The tryout will be run like an indoor practice. At the close of each session, an optional tryout station will be conducted for catcher skills. Catchers who have their own equipment may use it. To try out as a catcher, a child **must** wear a protective cup.

Are parents permitted to watch the tryout?

No. To maximize a safe, orderly and effective tryout, only managers and coaches are allowed to be in the field house and gymnasium during tryouts.

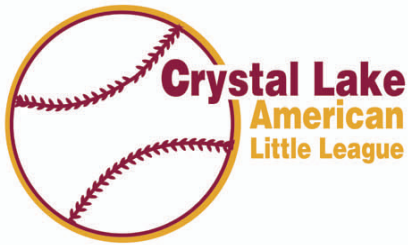
When will players be notified regarding team assignments?

The player drafts will occur February 29th and March 1st. Managers will notify the players the week of March 3rd. Please wait for your child's team manager to call you after the draft is completed.

If a player was on a Major A Team last year, can they re-tryout or switch teams?

To be re-assigned to a different team, parents or guardians must write a letter to the CLALL Board clearly outlining reasons for this request prior to February 10th. The Board takes into account all factors for this proposed switch and decides the best course of action for the player, the team and the league.

VISIT THE CLALL WEB SITE AT CLAMERICAN.ORG



2008 REGISTRATION

January 2008
Page 2

CLALL NEEDS VOLUNTEERS OF ALL KINDS

Our youth baseball program is operated entirely by volunteers. Through registration, every parent automatically becomes a volunteer member of the league. Volunteer opportunities are listed on the second page of your registration form. Please choose to volunteer for one or more of these positions to insure a fun and successful baseball season for your child(ren). Below is a short list of the possibilities for you:

Buildings & Grounds—The quality of our fields depend on the number of people we have to clean & maintain them. We need Field Coordinators, people to show up on Field Clean up Days in the Spring and in the Fall. We are **always looking for people with specific skills or trades** such as Electricians, plumbers, carpenters, painters and landscapers. In addition, we are looking for people who have access to particular **equipment** (*bobcats, roto-tillers, etc.*) or **resources** (*business contacts or access to discounts*). Please e-mail Mike Gleason at mikegleason@clamerican.org or call him at (847) 308-7207.

Boosters—help run the league day-to-day and week-to-week during the season. Provide service to the players and fans of our league such as, team parents, concession stand inventory, concession stand coordinator, Food service Manger, the Annual Golf Outing, Picture Night, Spirit Wear, and Team Parent Liaison. Questions? Call Patty Ferris at (815) 861-2512 or e-mail her at pattyferris@clamerican.org.

Managers and Coaches—Work directly with the kids on your team. Teach, encourage, and organize all aspects of the team. Schedule practices, teach fundamentals, follow official rules and regulations, work with and com-

municate with the VP of your division. Questions? Call Doug Knoepfel at (815) 861-2544 or e-mail him at dougknoepfel@clamerican.org

Team Parents—Work directly with the team and the coaches to organize schedules for announcing and scoreboards, keep parents informed of all upcoming events throughout the season, hand out picture order forms and pictures when they come in, put together an auction basket for our annual golf outing and silent auction, plan end-of-the-year get together and purchase coaches gifts. Questions? Call Patty Ferris at (815) 861-2512 or e-mail her at pattyferris@clamerican.org

Be a voice—All are welcome to attend our monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month at 7:30pm at Home State Bank on Main St in Crystal Lake. Meetings in May, June and July start at 8:30pm due to game schedules.

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 2nd & 9th: Walk-in **Registration** (9:00am-Noon) for new and returning players at **Main Beach**.

February 16th: **Tryouts** for players with last names starting with **A-E** from **10:45am-1:00pm** at Central High School.

February 16th: **Tryouts** for players with last names starting with **F-L** from **12:45pm-3:00pm** at Central High School.

February 23rd: **Tryouts** for players with last names starting with **M-R** from **10:45am-1:00pm** at Central High School.

February 23rd: **Tryouts** for players with last names starting with **S-Z** from **12:45pm-3:00pm** at Central High School.

February 29th & March 1: **Player drafts.** Notification for all divisions will follow.

March 17th: **Parent Night** at Crystal Lake South High School at 7:00pm. **Parents Only.** All parents of all divisions must attend.

April 5th & April 12th: **Field Clean-up days** 8:00am-Noon at all fields.

April 19th: **Opening Day Ceremonies** at Lippold Park at 8:00am, followed by a full day of games.

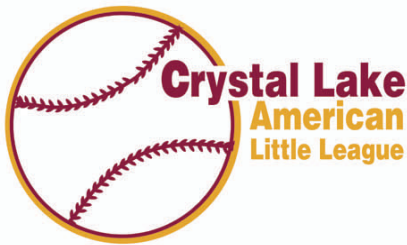
April 29th: **Team Picture Night** at Indian Prairie Elementary School. Teams will be notified of their scheduled photo time by their team parent or team manager.

May 16th: **CLALL Annual Golf Outing and Silent Auction** at Red Tail Golf Course. Lunch will be served to the golfers at Noon with a shot gun start at 1:00pm. Dining hall opens at 5:00pm to view the baskets and place bids for golfers and dinner guests. Dinner will be served around 6:00.

June: All-star nominations, tryouts and roster selection for travel teams.

June: Preliminary registration for Fall Baseball Program

VISIT THE CLALL WEB SITE AT CLAMERICAN.ORG



2008 REGISTRATION

January 2008

Page 3

WHO'S WHO

WE HAVE A NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Doug Knoeppel—President
Steve Carlson— Players Agent
Eric Ernd—Secretary
Bob Ferris—Treasurer

AND WE HAVE NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

Mike Gleason—Buildings & Grounds
Mike Urbanski—VP of Team Sponsorship
Sam Natrop—VP of Equipment
Rob Keene—VP of Umpires
Jeff Olson—Web Site Administrator
Patty Ferris—VP of Boosters

We are still looking for a VP of Safety. If you're interested in this position call Doug Knoeppel @ (815) 861-2544

CLALL IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR TEAM SPONSORS

If your company would be willing to sponsor a team for the 2008 season please contact Mike Urbanski, VP of Team Sponsorship, @ (815) 347-2811 or email him at mikeurbanski@clamerican.org or contact Doug Knoeppel @ (815) 861-2544 his email is dougknoeppel@clamerican.org.

WHAT'S NEW

New this year is a name change for our Major Divisions. Our previous Major A Division will now be called the Major West Division and our previous Major B Division will be called the Major East Division. This is a name change only and its primary purpose is to remain consistent with what the other (2) leagues in town are calling their Major Divisions.

"FUN" DRAISING

The CLALL is a not-for-profit organization with the goal to provide the best experience for all of the youth in our community while keeping the cost of playing ball to a minimum. In order to do this we have created two easy and fun ways for you to help earn money for your league.

- **Our major fundraiser is a raffle.** Every player in our league will be responsible for selling a minimum of \$50 worth of raffle tickets (\$100 maximum per family). This fee will be due at the time of registration. The decision to actually sell, or not to sell, the tickets will be up to the individual family. The drawing will be held at the Opening Ceremonies on April 19th.
- **Our Third Annual Golf Outing & Silent Auction—**All Adults can sign-up and attend this fundraiser. It will take place on Friday, May 16th at the Red Tail Golf Course. The format is a Best Ball Tournament which means you do not have to be experienced to play. Lunch will be served to the golfers at Noon with a shotgun start at 1:00. The dining hall opens at 5:00 for the golfers and dinner guests to view the team baskets and start placing your bids. Unfortunately, due to the space available, only golfers and dinner guest can participate in the Silent Auction. The dinner is provided by Coleman's Catering and will be served around 6:00.

TEENS WANTED

If you have a teen 13 years old or older and they would like to earn some extra cash for the summer here's their opportunity.

Umpires—The League is always looking for former baseball players, ages 13 & up, to participate in an umpire training class and umpire the Junior Slugger and Minor Division's games. If you are interested call Rob Keene @ (815) 477-9125 or e-mail him @ robkeene@clamerican.org.

Snack Stand Employees—The League now employs a staff at all of our concession stands. Teens 14 years old & up can go thru the interviewing process in February and March. Teen 14 & 15 years old must get a Workers Permit from their school. If you would like to schedule an interview please call Patty Ferris @ (815) 861-2512.

VISIT THE CLALL WEB SITE AT CLAMERICAN.ORG