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## Rowayton Little League President's Newsletter - January 2009

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Welcome to the first of our Rowayton Little League (RLL) monthly newsletters. Over the coming months, we will use this newsletter for many purposes, some to inform, some to entertain, some to assist in your child's development as a player and a teammate, and some just for the fun of it. Please let us know what you like, what you don't like, and what you would like to see in a future edition.

This month's edition brings you:

- **Announcement of 2009 registration dates**
- **Names and contact information for RLL's 2009 Board of Directors**
- **RLL chosen as local site for Major League Baseball's Pitch, Hit and Run Competition**
- **Announcement of League restructuring to provide new opportunities for Volunteers**
- **Majors Division Championship named after former President, John Massey**
- **Little League International Rule Changes for 2009**
- **What is a Little League District?**
- **Important volunteer position open: Treasurer**

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### **2009 REGISTRATION DATES SET FOR NEXT MONTH**

The season is fast approaching and this year's registrations will be held at the Rowayton Community Center over two days: Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> from 10am-3pm and Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-9pm. All players who participated in 2008 will have received via email the THREE forms that are required to be completed and brought to one of the meetings. It is important that you bring all three forms to one of the registrations dates, a check for the appropriate amount based on the league in which your child will participate, and proof of residency and birth certificate for any player who is registering for the first time with the RLL. **Any registration that is received after February 15<sup>th</sup> will require a \$25 late fee.**

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## 2009 ROWAYTON LITTLE LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 2009 Rowayton Little League Board of Directors has been meeting throughout the winter to ensure another great season of baseball. We are pleased to announce that Jim Hogan has agreed to join the Board and will lead our Community League activities. Jim joins the following members to round out the Board. Please feel free to contact any one of them with comments/questions/ideas or just to say hello!

### Board Members:

Brian Arsenault	-	Player Development	-	<a href="mailto:barsenault@optonline.net">barsenault@optonline.net</a>
Tim Coupe	-	Fields/Facilities	-	<a href="mailto:tim@coupeware.com">tim@coupeware.com</a>
Jeff Walsh	-	Softball	-	<a href="mailto:jmewalsh@optonline.net">jmewalsh@optonline.net</a>
John Maloney	-	T-Ball	-	<a href="mailto:johnm@redcar.com">johnm@redcar.com</a>
Scott Feinstein	-	Minor	-	<a href="mailto:scott.feinstein@us.pwc.com">scott.feinstein@us.pwc.com</a>
Jason Root	-	Majors	-	<a href="mailto:jroot@aol.com">jroot@aol.com</a>
Roger Knight	-	President	-	<a href="mailto:rknight@lakewoodcap.com">rknight@lakewoodcap.com</a>
Gay Whitney	-	Events/Promotion	-	<a href="mailto:gwhitney@epcglobalinc.com">gwhitney@epcglobalinc.com</a>
Paul Curtin	-	Equipment/Safety	-	<a href="mailto:pkcurtin@optonline.net">pkcurtin@optonline.net</a>
Gareth Fancher	-	Emeritus	-	<a href="mailto:fancherg@stlukesct.org">fancherg@stlukesct.org</a>
Frank Schlater	-	Emeritus	-	<a href="mailto:ctschlaters@hotmail.com">ctschlaters@hotmail.com</a>
Jim Hogan	-	Community League	-	<a href="mailto:james.hogan@ge.com">james.hogan@ge.com</a>

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## Rowayton chosen to host a local qualifying tournament of MLB's Pitch, Hit and Run Competition

**Mark down the date – April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009.** On April 25<sup>th</sup>, we will be hosting a Pitch, Hit and Run Competition for children aged 7-14. The event, sponsored by Major League Baseball and Aquafina, will include contests in which individual players can score points for skill in pitching, hitting and baserunning. The highest scorers in three age categories will move onto the Sectional Tournament in May. Winners at sectional tournaments around the country will continue to move forward, with winners ultimately heading to the finals at this year's MLB All Star Game in St. Louis on July 14, 2009. We are very excited to host this competition this year and ask everyone to get the word out to everyone they know. The competition is free, there is no limit on numbers of competitors and any age eligible child can compete regardless of town residency. Tell all your friends! More details will follow, and can be found on our website as they become available. General information on the competition can be found at [www.mlb/phr](http://www.mlb/phr).

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## Rowayton Little League establishes new structure to provide more Volunteer opportunities

It is with great excitement and anticipation that we announce a new structure for how the RLL will be managed. The key to any volunteer organization is not simply to have various tasks and functions covered, but to match those tasks and functions with the specific passions and skill sets of its volunteer base. In order to achieve this goal, the RLL has formed “teams” to manage its various operations. These teams will be led by a team leader and will provide a wide range of opportunities for team members (volunteers). By coordinating activities in teams, volunteers will be able to become involved in the area(s) that most interested them, and the team can utilize the skills of these volunteers in the most efficient way possible. This team structure also allows volunteers to become involved whether they have significant time to give, or if their time and resources are limited. The following teams have been established with each team being lead by a Team Leader/Board Member. If you think you might have any interest in participating on one of the teams, please contact that team’s leader or Roger Knight. Even if you are unsure of which team may best suit you, or how much time you might able to commit, or even exactly what you want/like to do, I encourage you to contact on the team leaders, Roger Knight, or any board member to discuss how we can help you find the best way to contribute. Concurrently, Team Leaders will be seeking out members for their teams through direct contact and by referral. The only way to know what might be the most rewarding for you is to jump in with both feet and let the process work. We look forward to having you on board!

<u>Team</u>	<u>Team Leader</u>	<u>Email</u>
Majors	Jason Root	<a href="mailto:jeroot@aol.com">jeroot@aol.com</a>
Minors	Scott Feinstein	<a href="mailto:scott.feinstein@us.pwc.com">scott.feinstein@us.pwc.com</a>
Community League	Jim Hogan	<a href="mailto:james.hogan@ge.com">james.hogan@ge.com</a>
T-Ball	John Maloney	<a href="mailto:johnm@redcar.com">johnm@redcar.com</a>
Softball	Jeff Walsh	<a href="mailto:jmewalsh@optonline.net">jmewalsh@optonline.net</a>
Fields and Facilities	Tim Coupe	<a href="mailto:tim@coupeware.com">tim@coupeware.com</a>
Equipment and Safety	Paul Curtin	<a href="mailto:pkcurtin@optonline.net">pkcurtin@optonline.net</a>
Events and Promotions	Gay Whitney	<a href="mailto:gwhitney@epcglobalinc.com">gwhitney@epcglobalinc.com</a>
Player Development	Brian Arsenault	<a href="mailto:barsenault@optonline.net">barsenault@optonline.net</a>

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## THE MASSEY CUP IS ESTABLISHED

Last year, our two Majors teams played in a memorable League Championship over three hard fought games. The event was such a success that it already feels like a tradition! In honor of John Massey, a long-time coach, board member and President of Rowayton Little League, the Board of Directors voted to name the Championship the **Massey Cup**. We plan to announce the Massey Cup formally at this year’s Opening Day Picnic

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## 2009 RULE CHANGES

Each year, Little League International reviews the rules for all divisions and often makes a few changes to enhance the little league experience. Full details on new rules for this year can be found at:

[http://www.littleleague.org/Learn\\_More/rules/2009\\_Rule\\_and\\_Regulation\\_Changes.htm](http://www.littleleague.org/Learn_More/rules/2009_Rule_and_Regulation_Changes.htm)

This year's changes were relatively minor, and include:

- Innings that end with the 5-run rule (Minors) are considered full 3-out innings for the purpose of recording the amount of playing time in the field for each teammate
- A pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher the remainder of that day
- A second option was given local Little Leagues on how to administer pitch count restrictions that increase the number of days of rest based on pitch count but eliminate the requirement of skipping a game regardless of period of time since the last game
- Coaches and managers as well as players may not be on the field **at anytime** if they are wearing a cast

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## LITTLE LEAGUE DISTRICT

Little League International structures itself with locally sanctioned leagues, such as the Rowayton Little League and the Norwalk Little League. Additionally, local league organizations are grouped together in Districts throughout the United States. League presidents in a particular district meet regularly to discuss rules, tournaments, best practices, joint development plans, cooperative buying, etc. Rowayton is a member of District #1 of the State of Connecticut.

CT District #1 is comprised of:

Rowayton Little League

Darien Little League

Weston Little League

Redding Little League

Springdale Little League (Stamford)

Stamford American Little League

Federal Little League (Stamford)

Norwalk Little League

Ridgefield Little League

Wilton Little League

North Stamford Little League

Northrop Little League (Stamford)

National Leone Little League (Stamford)

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## SEEKING A TREASURER

We are seeking an individual to take on the responsibilities of Treasurer of the Rowayton Little League this year. The functions of the job are well documented and do not require too much time. If you have any interest or know of anyone who might fit in well as Treasurer, please contact Roger Knight at [rknight@lakewoodcap.com](mailto:rknight@lakewoodcap.com)

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