

# PARRISH PRESS

PARRISH LITTLE LEAGUE APRIL 2015

## WELCOME TO HOLLAND YOUTH PARK

### WELCOME TO THE 2015 SEASON!



Hello Parrish Little League families,

We are about to start another fun season of Little League Baseball. We are sure everyone is looking forward to watching the kids have a good time, play some baseball and hopefully learn some life skills on the way. We should get a lot of sun this season, and we hope to see a lot of friends and family out to Holland Youth Park to watch the games.

We know that as parents you all know what is expected from the fans at a Little League baseball game, but we have plenty of other friends and family out at the fields. So please share these expectations with everyone that you will be inviting to watch your kids play. We believe if we all know the expectations and help to hold each other accountable, then all of the players and volunteers that make Little League happen will have a great season.

There are two things to remember about Little League that can keep things in perspective. The first is that Little League is a participation League, that means everyone plays. There are leagues out there where the kids have to make a team and only the best will see a field very often. Little League is not one of those Leagues. We want to see every kid have fun, every kid learn attributes like a strong character, loyalty and courage, and along the way we would like to see them learn some baseball and develop a lifelong love of the game.

The second key point is that EVERYONE making Parrish Little League happen is a volunteer. Your team managers, coaches and team parents are all volunteering their time and in many cases money so your kids can play baseball. The umpires and board members are also all donating their time. The fields are maintained by people volunteering their time. Everyone who is volunteering has varying reasons for doing it, but we guarantee that they all revolve around the love of kids, community and baseball.

So, with those two things being said, come out enjoy the Oregon spring, some baseball, and cheering on the kids playing. And while you're doing that remember not to take it too seriously, the kids should take the game seriously, you should keep in mind the kids are playing a game. Keep your language clean, this is a family friendly environment. Kids are going to drop balls, overthrow balls, not swing at strikes and make a myriad of other mistakes. Many of them will be devastated at the time of the error and they don't need to hear more about it from the stands. If you are in the stands then you are not a coach, let the coaches coach and after the game let your child know what a great game they played. Celebrate with them when they've won, and give them all of your support after a tough loss.

Did the umpire just blow a call? Maybe, but he or she is the one out there making those decisions so the kids can play the game. They are in the process of volunteering a couple of hours of their time and all they get out of it is personal satisfaction, a hot dog and a soda. So give them a break. Was that strike called a ball, was that out called a safe? Don't worry about it, the umpire made a decision and that is the only decision that matters. If you think you can do better, we wish you had said so sooner. Grab a mask and chest protector from the umpire room upstairs, we always need more volunteer umpires.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Holland Youth Park this season. Cheer for the kids and support all the volunteers that make it happen.

The Board of Parrish Little League

## PARRISH LITTLE LEAGUE

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## Concession Stand helps keep registration costs down along with player fund raiser

Purchasing food and snacks at the concession stand helps support Parrish Little League; player registration fees would be substantially higher without patronage use of the concession stand along with the player fundraising. We ask that patrons do not bring outside food (food not purchased at the concession stand) into the lower park. By bringing in outside food, not only does it reduce concession stand proceeds, but creates additional garbage costs along with park (volunteer) clean up. If you are finishing up outside food, please consume

it in the upper parking lot and be sure and take the garbage home with you.

Once a season, Little League allows players to participate in a fundraiser. Parrish has asked players to sell Tillamook meat sticks the last few years. The proceeds from this sale not only helps make playing Little League affordable by keeping down registration costs, but it also helps defray the cost of what isn't always seen: the upkeep and the costs associated with the park (electricity, garbage, sanitation, fields and grounds).

## Umpires needed to assist with game officiating

Want a terrific view of the game? Umpires are volunteer positions and we need you! Our volunteer pool is very small and we need your help. We can even offer small group training of the rules to help give you confidence when your officiate. Please consider stepping on the field in official capacity. Contact Doug Perret or Tyson Crumley for more information.

## Game Rainouts and Field Assignment

As we know, weather is always unpredictable. When it's raining in Keizer, it might be sunny at the park. We do our best to inform concerning rainouts. Please check the website and social media for field conditions. Often, our volunteers can't get to the field until 4:45 PM or later to walk the fields to see if they are playable. We try very hard to have that information posted as soon as possible. The other reminder is that with soggy fields, sometimes the field assignments are switched—meaning the game scheduled for field 2 is now going to be on 1 because it can handle that level of team better. Know your team number as it is posted according to that number on the board. The message might say, we need help to sponge water up which would allow the game to be played; be ready to answer the need for volunteers!



## Gentle Reminder of Holland Park Rules

Holland Youth Park is a private park overseen by Holland Youth Park Foundation and governed by Parrish Little League. While at the park, please respect the following (more information can be found in the Parent Handbook). 1. There is **no smoking** of any type allowed in the lower park (including e-cigarettes or similar devices). 2. **Alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs including the use of marijuana are prohibited** at Holland Youth Park. 3. Driving in the lower park is a 5 mph limit. 4. Bikes, scooters, skateboards are not allowed in the lower park area. Please walk them. 5. **Seeds are not** allowed on the field or in the park. 6. **Pets are not allowed**, please leave that at home, they are much happier there. There are additional rules in the Handbook—please be informed by reading them. Thank you!

