



## *Little League.....Big Fun!!*

Dear RPBL Families,

As the season of Thanksgiving quickly approaches, it is with tremendous gratitude and appreciation that I reach out to each one of you today. Thank you Board members, sponsors, coaches, volunteers, and partners for providing our children ages 5-15 with a meaningful recreational outlet as we emerge from a pandemic.

And, thank you to our hundreds of players and their families for continuing to choose Roland Park Baseball Leagues for our growing number of programs, ranging from spring rec and travel to our fall clinic and travel options.

As the result of each one of you standing by us through a challenging time, Roland Park Baseball Leagues was able to serve almost 900 Baltimore area children and teens from 33 zip codes during the past year.

At a time when many leagues are folding or experiencing a significant decline in participation, we are operating from a position of strength – like we have done for more than 70 years as one of the oldest Little League nonprofit organizations in the country. This would not have happened without each one of you.

Read on for fall highlights, an early registration special, and important upcoming spring dates.

We look forward to seeing everyone in the spring, *which for us means March*. In the meantime, kindly take note of our incredible sponsors. Please, please patronize them in thanks for all that they have done for RPBL and our children!

With immense gratitude,

Heather Harlan Warnack  
*Commissioner ,  
Roland Park Baseball Leagues*

**RPBL**

**GO YARD!**

**HOLIDAY SPECIAL  
LIMITED REGISTRATION  
SAVINGS**

*In recognition of the higher costs we are all facing, RPBL is offering a special discount registration period!*

***For two weeks only (Fri., Nov. 18 - Fri., Dec. 2, 2022), Spring 2023 registration fees will be discounted to the 2022 rates of \$125 for T-ball and \$150 for baseball (Int'l, Nat'l, American & Teen leagues). After Dec. 2, 2022, prices will revert to the regular 2023 rates of \$150 for T-ball and \$175 for baseball.***

***[Register here](#)***

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**Calling All Coaches:** RPBL runs on volunteers. Thank you to all RPBL coaches who have generously given their time. We'd love to have you. Please sign up as a volunteer, [click here](#).

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**Spectacular Sponsorships:** RPBL offers some of the most affordable and effective sponsorships in the Baltimore area. Team sponsorships start at \$600 a season. [CLICK HERE](#) to partner with us today!

## In This Newsletter...

- Looking Ahead: Spring Savings - [Register Today!](#)
- Mark Your Calendars
- Spectacular Sponsors
- Looking Back: Fall Ball and Charity Wiffle Ball Tournament
- Welcome New Board Members!
- And, more...

## Mark Your Calendars:

Spring Travel Tryouts: **Jan. 29, Feb. 4-5** from noon – 4 p.m. @ Gilman School  
Picture Day: **Saturday, March 4** from 9 a.m. – noon @ Gilman School  
Opening Day: **Saturday, April 1** from 9 a.m. @ Gilman School

## Fall Ball Update:

More than 100 players (T-ball to teen) participated in RPBL's successful **Fall Ball** program, which was held for eight weeks at Gilman School from September through November.



In its 16th season, the program focused on skill development in a fun, learning environment with an emphasis on fundamentals. Led by baseball experts Keith Kormanik and Mark Lemon, players were exposed to an impressive lineup of coaches and guest speakers who focused on motivation and positivity.

Surprising the group with visits were Peter Heubeck (below, left), a Gilman School graduate who was recruited out of high school to play for the Dodgers organization, and Darius Jennings (below, right), a former NFL player.

RPBL was thrilled to welcome back returning participants, as well as new players from the Baltimore area.



*Special thanks to our Fall Ball Clinic sponsor, Patient First.*



*Fall Classic Update: Mini Photo Gallery (Story Below)*





## Fall Classic Update: *Playing With A Purpose*

On a sunny afternoon in October, dozens of wiffle ball players of all ages came together for the 7th annual Fall Classic, held at Gilman School. An autumn tradition for the RPBL community, the Fall Classic supports underfunded high school sports programs in Baltimore, such as the Carver Vo-Tech and Patterson baseball and softball teams.

Under the leadership of RPBL players, Wyatt Winstead, Declan Lamont, and Henry Overton, the tournament raised \$12,500 for Carver and Patterson student-athletes. As in the past, players and coaches from Carver and Patterson helped to umpire. With 12 teams, the 2022 Fall Classic was the largest to date.

The tournament continues to expand and evolve. New prizes this year included Orioles home run derby chains and an MLB baseball signed by Adley Rutschman. "We are already looking forward to next year," said Wyatt Winstead, who took over the leadership of the tournament from its founder, Trevor Khouzami. Next year, Henry and Declan will continue the tradition.

Photos courtesy of Ted Winstead

## RPBL's "Old Farts" Put On a Game!!



*Seems like the most important aspect of the game was achieved:  
Not a question of who won, but more of nobody got hurt!!*

"Thank you to all those who made the 4th Old Farts Classic baseball game a hit. It was a beautiful afternoon and there were actually a few nifty looking baseball plays made by young and old. Thanks to Lucas and Coleman Bryant, Gavin George and James Herber for helping fill out the ranks. And a special shout out to Matt Steinmeier who caught all 5 innings for his team."

Interested players should reach out to Andrew Wolfe at his email:  
[wolfeama@gmail.com](mailto:wolfeama@gmail.com)

—Andrew Wolfe

## RPBL Welcomes New Board Members!!

RPBL's mission to make baseball available and accessible would not be possible without the people-power of board members. So, it's very important that we continually feed that engine, by cycling in new blood to help make that mission a reality.

Please join us in welcoming our three new board members:  
*Clare Bever, Neil O'Connor, and Matt Steinmeier.*

**Thanks to League Sponsor, Belvedere Square!!**



# Belvedere Square

Thank You To Our Home Run Sponsors!!



*Environmental Stewards Since 1957*



Interested in joining RPBL in becoming an  
advocate for Baseball for All?  
[Contact us here at sponsorship](#)

## Play by the Rules Quiz #12

*Yep! We're all used to it by now: the ump goes under the hood and calls New York to get a review of that play that has the potential to change the game. And it takes FOREVER ... Well, yeah, we get it. We tracked down the answers and got updates on other stuff! Sorry!! We'll be more timely on the quizzes! Anyway, "Play ball!!!"*

#1 – With a runner on second, the batter bunts back to the pitcher. The pitcher throws to third in time to get the runner, but the third baseman fails to apply the tag. Is this an error on the third baseman? If there had been a runner on first also, would be an error on the third baseman if he neither tagged the runner nor stepped on third?

#2 – Can you come up with a triple play in which no fielder touches the ball after it is pitched?

### *Answers to Issue #11 Play by the Rules Quiz*

*Answer #1 – With a runner on third and one out, a long fly ball is hit to left field where it is caught. The runner tags up and scores but leaves third before the fielder makes the catch. The fielding team appeals: The pitcher returns to pitchers mound then throws the ball to the third baseman, however the throw sails past her and out of play. The third baseman retrieves the ball, steps on third, and appeals to the umpire. What is the result?*

*The runner scores, no outs. Second or "successive" appeals on the same runner at the same base are not allowed. In erring on the first appeal the appeal is lost.*

*Answer #2 – With a runner on third and one out, a long fly ball is hit to left field where it is caught. Realizing the ball would be caught, the runner takes a few steps down the line toward the outfield, then runs toward third at full speed, stepping on third as the ball is caught. He then runs home safely. Does the run count?*

*No. "flying starts" are explicitly disallowed.*

*Answers in the next addition of the RPBL Newsletter. Past newsletters will soon be available at: [RPBL Newsletter Archive](#)*