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### **CNLL Year in Review/Annual Report 2020**

Note: Board Calendar Year 2019 (10/1/2019 - 9/30/2020)

#### 2020 CNLL Board of Directors:

President Vice President Secretary **Player Agent** Treasurer **Sponsorship Coordinator Umpire in Chief Rookie Division Director** A Division – Co-Director A Division – Co-Director **AA Division Director AAA Division Director Majors Division Director Juniors/Seniors Div. Director Challenger Div. Director Equipment Manager Safety Officer Information Officer** 

**Doug Brewster Aaron Bennett** Joe Strazz **Dianna Thompson Elias Kousoulas** Elska Watts **Bill Siebler Kathy Burlend Mike Kelley Corey Fisk Jason Howe** Clint Bragg **Chuck Connolly Field Denny** Joe Pisano **Kevin Palevsky Jocelyn Crowell** Joe Strazz / Elias Kousoulas

Note: Jeff Householder stepped down from the board during the 2020 season, and responsibilities transferred to Corey Fisk.

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#### Year in review:





### **League Administration items in 2020:**

1) Continued efforts to transition our Board Member documentation shortage repository within Microsoft Office 365 – SharePoint – which was started in the Fall of 2019.

2) Both the Spring and Fall Seasons were cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns. The Spring season was a week away from opening day, and Fall season was cancelled before registration took place.

#### **League Overview**

Chandler National Little League is a charter member of Little League International, the largest volunteer organization in the world. There are no paid positions in the league. Everyone from the board, managers, and coaches volunteer countless hours to give our players and families the best youth baseball experience possible.

Chandler National Little League aspires to be an outstanding educational-athletic organization that provides a high-quality experience, in which every athlete:

- Has fun playing the game while learning the game
- Feels like an important part of the team regardless of performance
- Learns "life lessons" that have value beyond the playing field
- Learns the skills, tactics and strategies of the game and improves as a player.

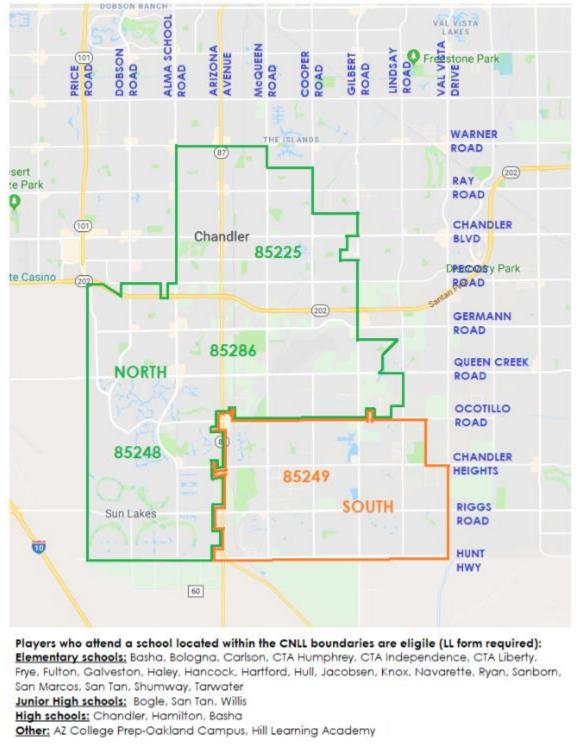
We recognize coaches most directly make this possible, so we provide coaches with the tools to succeed as Little League Coaches. We are committed to creating a culture in which coaches, parents, fans, umpires and athletes work together to achieve our mission.

Chandler National has the following divisions for boys and girls to participate in:

- Rookie ball Includes T-Ball for league ages of 4-6; teams are randomly assigned with coach input
- A Division Includes coach pitch for league ages of 7 8; teams are randomly assigned with coach input
- $\circ$  AA Division Includes kid pitching for league ages of 9 10 (and 8 year olds by try out only); teams are drafted by managers
- AAA Division –For league ages 9-11; teams are drafted by managers
- Majors Division For league ages 11-12; teams are drafted by managers; most competitive division of our Little League divisions
- Juniors Division For league ages 13 14; teams are drafted by managers. Teams compete against Juniors teams from all Districts in the State of Arizona.
- Seniors Division For league ages 13 16, and teams are drafted by managers. Teams compete against Seniors teams from other District 13 leagues.
- Challenger Division For boys and girls with physical and mental challenges that allows them to participate in the game of baseball. This Challenger division was started by Little League in 1989, and started at Chandler National in 2016.

During our Spring season and based on Little League rules, to participate in Chandler National, athletes must either live in certain zip codes (85225, 85286, 85248, 85249), or go to a school within one of these zip codes. Even though Chandler National is one Little League, we have two

organizations within the league (Chandler National North and Chandler National South) as stipulated by our Little League boundary definition because of the size of our league. The North/South is transparent to the execution of our league except for Little League All Stars (Spring season boundary/participation defines which All Star division you are eligible for). Spring teams will be drafted with either all North or all South players, but compete against all teams during the Spring Season. A map of the CNLL boundaries, North vs. South Boundaries, and a reference to the CNLL schools in our boundaries is listed below. Note: our Fall Season does not require CNLL to comply with those same geographic/school boundaries.



There were a combined 1,457 Chandler National participants in the Spring and Fall 2019 seasons, but with the 2020 season cancelled, no participants this Spring and Fall. The Spring season started for Divisions of AA, AAA, Majors following February 2020 tryouts, and teams

were drafted and assigned by the end of February 2020. Games were scheduled to start March 21, 2020, but those games and the subsequent Spring tournaments scheduled for May 2020, were cancelled. A – Division teams were assigned in early March, and also did not complete their Spring season and tournament in May 2020. Rookie teams were assigned in March 2020, and were not able to complete their games which would have ended in May 2020.

No Fall Season was held this year.

The previous year's registration and quantity of teams was as follows:

	2019	2019	2018	2018
CNLL Registration	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall
Rookie	143	78	175	68
A Ball	230	140	243	157
AA Ball	157	96	205	114
AAA Ball	133	72	179	84
Majors	168	85	158	94
Juniors/Seniors CNLL (excludes other Districts)	55	52	48	42
Challenger	29	19	31	31
Total	915	542	1,039	590

There were a combined 120 Chandler National teams participating over the Spring and Fall of 2019 seasons.

	2019	2019	2018	2018
Number Teams	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall
Rookie	11	6	14	6
A Ball	19	11	20	13
AA Ball	13	8	17	11
AAA Ball	11	6	15	7
Majors	14	7	13	8
Juniors/Seniors CNLL (excludes other Districts)	4	4	4	3
Challenger	3	3	3	3
Total	75	45	86	51

#### **Financial Status - Overview**

Chandler National financials for the current report are managed based on a fiscal tax year of October 1, 2019, through September 30, 2020.

During this period, total income was approximately \$114,595. The main sources of income for the league were:

- 83% Registration fees
- o 14% through sponsorship fees
- 3% through fund raising projects and other

During this period (October 2019 through September 2020), total league expenses were approximately \$87,000. The main expenses for the league were incurred prior to the start of the Spring season, with the season stopping in Mid-March 2020:

- o 54% Baseball equipment, uniforms, and supplies
- o 17% Utilities, Field and light, professional fees, rent
- 29% Other Including, but not limited to Charter, Insurance, Field Equipment, Facility rental, Maintenance, Office Expense, Tournament fees, etc.

At the end of reporting period, the following current asset balances were as follow:

- Wells Fargo Checking \$108,275.76
  - Uncleared Checks \$700
- Wells Fargo Savings \$10,331.50

Of note: the following known expenses are still planned for calendar year 2020, prior to the start of the Spring 2021 season planning, thus requiring liquidity in our checking account:

- 2021 Charter Fees \$ 7,000
- Deposit for 2021 Spring Uniforms \$15,000
- 2021 Spring Practice Jerseys \$6,000
- Deposit 2021 Equipment \$9,000
- Potential Field/ Equipment repairs on field 7, 8, 9, 10 \$7,000
- Misc. (printing / administration for Spring season) \$2,000
- Raffle Payout for Spring 2020 Raffle Ticket prizes \$2,500
- Total = \$48,500

#### Additional 2020 financial notes:

- Approximately \$ 6,500 in registration vouchers/credits were issued and are expected to be applied to the 2021 Spring season, which will reduce registration income.
- An estimated \$3,000 of Spring 2020 sponsorships are expected to roll over to Spring 2021 sponsorships, which will reduce Spring 2021 sponsorship income.
- Based on the calculations for voucher / paybacks to families for Spring 2020 registrations, 1) more families elected to allow the league keep their vouchers than planned and 2) more companies elected to allow the league to keep their sponsorship monies.
- While the COVID-19 pandemic remains, there will be some uncertainty as to how this impacts little league baseball in our community. It is unclear what CNLL 2021 registration numbers will look like, and what 2021 league and team sponsorships will look like. League fundraising opportunities (such as Jamboree, DBacks/ASU Baseball days) may also be cancelled. Therefore, our current checking account liquidity will help us manage our expenses and cash flow.

#### Activities:

#### Spring Season Opening Day 3/21/2020:

Not held this season

#### **Spring Additional Activities:**

#### 1) Spring Season Jamboree

Not held this season

#### 2) 2020 Home Run Derby Champions:

Not held this season

#### 3) Community Service:

On March 15, 2020, CNLL coordinated a league-wide equipment drive for South Mountain Little League (SMLL), who weeks before their season started, had league equipment stolen from their equipment shed. Our great CNLL community helped us collect the following for SMLL: 20 manager equipment bags (helmets, gear and bats), 5 moving boxes (baseballs, gloves and helmets), 4 buckets of baseballs and 4 player equipment bags. The following pictures capture some of this great league spirit:



### Fall Ball 2019 Champions (November 2019):

Major Division: Mets



AAA Division: Diamondbacks



### AA Division: Pirates



A Division: Yankees



### 2020 Spring Season Champions

Tourney not held due to season being cancelled.

#### **CNLL All Stars:**

District 13, in conjunction with Little League International, did not hold any all-star tournaments this summer.

Normally, seven teams would represent CNLL in the All Star season in the District 13 tournament this summer: 10U North, 10U South, 11U North, 11U South, 12U North, 12U South, and Juniors. These teams would have competed against the top baseball players from the Little Leagues in District 13, which consists of Chandler National (2 team representatives in Little League divisions of North and South), Chandler American, Tempe South, Tempe-Rio Salado, Tempe-Guadalupe, and Ahwatukee.

Recently, CNLL has won the District 13 12U tournament 6 consecutive seasons (2013 – 2018), with the CNLL North winning in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and the South winning in 2013 and 2018. Within those 6 seasons, CNLL was the Arizona State Champion 4 times earning a birth to the Western Regional Tournament in San Bernardino, CA. (North in 2014, 2015, 2017; South in 2013). CNLL also sent two teams to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, PA, in 2003 and 2007.

#### **Umpires:**

The umpiring system at CNLL revolves around a group of individuals who are both highly experienced and very new. CNLL staffs umpires for the Divisions of AA, AAA, Majors and Juniors/Seniors. In addition, many CNLL umpires work for other organizations and have experience officiating baseball up to the college level. Newer umpires will typically be assigned to lower divisions, with the more seasoned umpires umpiring the Majors and Juniors Division, where more Little League rules come into play and more competitive baseball is involved. CNLL uses a software program for scheduling umpires to their games during the season.

Facts about our 2019 umpires (no games were held in 2020):

- There are over 60 umpires in our league
- The ages of our umpires range from 13 to 66
- The experience level of our umpires ranges from 0 to 50 years
- Umpires work an average of two games per week
- Each umpire has completed a Little League-sponsored Mechanics clinic
- Each umpire must pass an annual comprehensive rules test
- New umpires are required to work pre-season games under the supervision of our Umpire-in-Chief for additional training and experience
- o Umpires can progress from AA to Majors/Juniors as they gain experience

If you would like more information about our umpires or how to become an umpire, please contact us by email at UmpireInChief@chandlernational.com or cnlluic@cox.net.

#### **Challenger Division:**

In 2020, we entered our fifth season of offering the Challenger Division to our surrounding community. The Challenger Division was established by Little League in 1989, and offers the opportunity for boys and girls with physical and mental challenges to participate in the game of baseball. Teams in CNLL are formed according to player abilities, rather than age. It is CNLL's goal to provide more than the skills of baseball learned through the experience, but benefits through socialization in participating in sports, the strengthening of a player's self-esteem, the disciplines of teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play. Challenger Division games have been played over the last several years against other CNLL teams, or against other Challenger division teams. The CNLL BOD couldn't be prouder of the growth and look to continue to grow this program in the future.

Season highlights:

• No Challenger Games were held in 2020 due to COVID -19.

If you would like more information about this exciting program or how you can get involved for the upcoming season, please contact us by email at challengerdivision@chandlernational.com.

Photographs from the 2019 Challenger Season:















### **<u>CNLL Participants Drafted by MLB :</u>**

Athlete	Last Year in CNLL	Year Drafted	Drafted By
Cody Bellinger	2007	2013	LA Dodgers
Patrick Murphy	2007	2013	Toronto Blue Jays
Matt Haggerty	2007	2013	LA Dodgers
Tyler Watson	2008	2013	Washington Nationals
Casey Legumina	2008	2016	Toronto Blue Jays
Austin Filiere	2008	2017	Chicago Cubs
Cole Bellinger	2009	2017	San Diego Padres
Trevor Hauver	2009	2017 2020	KC Royals New York Yankees
Sean Rackoski	2008	2018	Toronto Blue Jays
Jake Wong	2009	2018	SF Giants

The following are some recent CNLL participants who have been drafted by MLB.

#### A Special Thank you to our 2020 CNLL Spring Season Sponsors:

Thank you to the families who donated their registration in part, or in full, to the league this season. There were significant expenses by the league before the season started, so those helped our not for profit league maintain its financial health for future seasons.

In addition, the following companies also sponsored the league financially this season:

- Mike Wood Performance and Horses
- o Floridino's
- Crest Insurance Group
- Opt Spot
- o Empire Cat
- The Guerrero Group
- Edelman Financial Jason
- o Relevate
- Red Mountain Building
- o Draft Sports Grill
- Cachet Homes
- Collabra Tech Solutions
- Big D Tools Snap On
- o Cantor Forensic
- Cox and Sandoval
- o Barros Pizza
- Colley Construction
- Hom Inc.
- Sonoran Pavers
- Desert Wind Therapy
- Pinnacle Consulting Inc.
- o Zzesty Zzeeks
- State Farm Rick West
- Absolute Pain Relief

#### Year-end Summary/Conclusion

This was a difficult year for families beyond baseball in 2020. Little League was an activity that was impacted by the larger concerns from the global pandemic. Thank you for your patience as we all tried to manage the safety of our families and our local community.

The CNLL Board of Directors is 100% volunteer based. Our league is a non for profit and there were many decisions made after the season was cancelled, trying to keep the financial health of this organization for the future of Little League baseball in Chandler, Arizona.

Our plans are to return to baseball in the spring of 2021. We will make a successful return with the support of our CNLL families and the local community. We will continue to count on the great families, community sponsors, and almost 1,000 League-wide volunteers that make this league run. Despite the challenges we saw in 2020, we believe the league is well positioned for baseball in the 2021 season and beyond.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Strazz, Secretary

Approved by,

Your 2020 CNLL Board of Directors

10/28/2020