

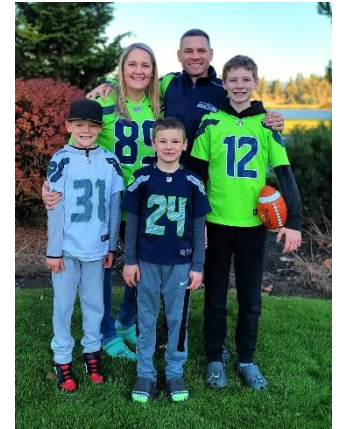


Welcome Letter from the President

Parents & Guardians,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you and your family to another season of spectacular softball and baseball with Mill Creek Little League. Whether you are a returning participant or new to the league, I am certain the 2024 season will be a memorable one.

Just as we ask our players to give their best at each practice and game, we ask our parents and families to lean in and engage with the league as volunteer opportunities arise. This is the cherry on top for your player(s)!



We have enclosed a checklist and information regarding certain season-opener tasks that will help you prepare for the season ahead. All of the information we have included in this packet is available on our website at www.millcreeklittleleague.com.

All our best,

Preston Kallshian

MCLL President



Prepare to Volunteer

Why Volunteer

Volunteers are the heart of Mill Creek Little League (MCLL)! The league is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, operated entirely by volunteers, and is funded through registration fees, Snack Shack proceeds and donations.



Who Can Volunteer

All parents of children involved are encouraged to get involved. Anyone can volunteer - community members, grandparents, siblings, students, friends, neighbors.

Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities span a wide range of duties and vary in duration of commitment. Board members, coaches, score keepers, scoreboard operators, announcers, umpires, safety parents, team parents, concessions workers, special events, fundraising, community outreach, field preparation and takedown, coach support at practices. Learn more about these roles on our [Volunteer Webpage](http://www.millcreeklittleleague.com) on www.millcreeklittleleague.com.

Volunteer Application, Background Check & Training

For the safety of our kids and to maintain compliance with Little League International policy, all volunteers who will have regular/recurring interactions with players must complete two tasks prior to assuming his/her duties. This means, if you will volunteer 3 or more times, please complete these two steps. Learn more about these requirements on our Volunteer Safety Training Webpage on www.millcreeklittleleague.com.

1. Volunteer Application w/ Background Check: If when you registered your player, you selected a volunteer role (coach, umpire, safety or team parent, or general volunteer box), this completes the application. If not, log in to your [MCLL Sports Connect account](#), scroll down to the “My Roles & Certificates” section and click “Register as a Volunteer”. The application initiates the background check, and you will receive an email to complete the background questionnaire.
2. Abuse Awareness for Adults Training: This 20-minute training is to prevent abuse of minors.
 - a. Sign-in/register at www.usabdevelops.com.
 - b. Select “Education”, “Courses” and then select the “Abuse Awareness for Adults” course.
 - c. Send the completion certificate to our MCLL Safety Officer at safety@millcreeklittleleague.com.



Note: Managers and coaches have additional training requirements listed on the [Volunteer Training Webpage](#).

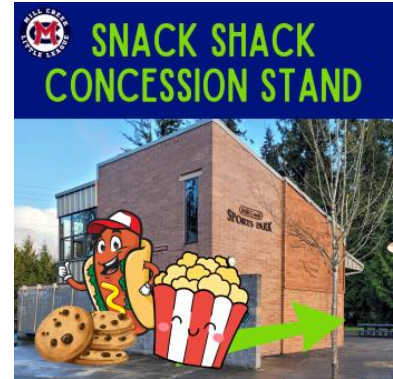
Once the Volunteer Application and Background Check are complete, and the MCLL Safety Officer has received a copy of the Abuse Awareness Training Certificate, an identification badge will be generated for you. Divisional directors will distribute badges to coaches, then coaches to team volunteers.

Snack Shack Concession Volunteers

The Snack Shack at Mill Creek Sports Park (aka Freedom Field) provides a convenient and enjoyable way for families to purchase refreshments during Spring Season games. What makes our Snack Shack truly special is that it's entirely run by MCLL volunteers, just like every other aspect of our organization. The proceeds from the Snack Shack help fund the league, in lieu of doing a large fundraiser.

Menu

We offer hot dogs, corn dogs, fresh popcorn, soft pretzels w/ cheese sauce, nachos, fresh baked cookies, ice cream, coffee, hot cocoa, candy and more. Cash (small bills preferred) or credit cards are accepted.



Volunteer Sign-Up

Anyone can volunteer (community members, high school students, siblings, parents, etc.). The only requirements are that volunteers must be at least 12 years of age and that at least one staff member per shift has a current WA Food Workers Card. Volunteers between the ages of 12 and 16 must be paired with another volunteer who is at least 18.



Scheduling Volunteers

The operation of the Snack Shack Concession Stand at Freedom Field is a labor of love shared among our community and divisions. This season, to allow divisions more self-management and flexibility, the league has assigned concessions operations, by week, to the various divisions. The number of weeks assigned to a division considers the extent to which the division has access to Freedom Field. Staffing requirements during a given week may vary, but in general, will consist of two games (beginning at 5:00pm and 7:00pm) Monday through Friday and a few games on Saturday. Each shift is the duration of one game (roughly two hours), and we ask that there are two volunteers for each shift.

Division Assignments

The weekly assignments are below. Each team of their respective division should be timely and proactive to secure staffing for their assigned week(s).

- 4/7 - 4/13: Baseball Majors
- 4/14 - 4/20: Baseball Minors
- 4/21 - 4/27: Softball Minors
- 4/28 - 5/4: Baseball Majors
- 5/5 - 5/11: Softball Majors
- 5/12 - 5/18: Baseball Majors
- 5/19 - 5/25: Baseball Farm
- 5/26 - 6/1: BB Rookies, Intermediate & Seniors
- 6/2 - 6/8: Baseball Minors
- 6/9 - 6/15: Softball Rookies & 89ers
- 6/16 - 6/22: Baseball Majors & Tee ball

Obtain WA Food Workers Card

Volunteers are asked to have a current WA Food Handler Card. The card is obtained by completing a brief [WA Food Handler Card course](#). Training is offered free-of-charge (using MCLL class code "7C87"). Initial cards are valid for 2 years, and renewals are valid for 3-5 years. (Check to see if your card is valid before re-taking training.)

Snack Shack FAQ

Q1. Will I be assigned shifts, or can I pick what works best for my own schedule?

- Our goal is to use an equitable and flexible scheduling method. Individual shifts will not be assigned.
- All our divisions will be assigned a week. Families within that division can choose which shift works best for their schedule within that week. Of course, you can always volunteer during other times as well.
- With more than 550 players participating, if every family worked one shift, this would mean that it's a one-time commitment for most. Although, it is not uncommon for families to volunteer multiple times.
- Our board members and other community volunteers (i.e., high school students) will also be helping.

Q2. What are the age requirements to work in the Snack Shack?

- There should be two volunteers working each shift.
- Volunteers must be at least 12 years old (per City of Mill Creek policy). Volunteers between the ages of 12 and 16 must be paired with another volunteer who is at least 18.
- There is a second floor in the Snack Shack building (announcer's booth). Anyone that goes upstairs must be at least 16 years old (per City of Mill Creek policy).

Q3. My kids don't play at Freedom Field, so why should I have to volunteer?

- We rely on volunteers to operate every aspect of our league. Without them, we wouldn't exist. Board members and coaches put in countless volunteer hours year-round, to ensure the league is successful and that players and parents have the best little league experience possible.
- The league does not do any large fundraising activity. Instead, we depend on the proceeds from the Snack Shack to help pay for operating expenses for the entire league (special events including Tee Ball Day, Farm Jamboree and Little League Day; field rentals, utilities, equipment, training, fees, insurance, etc.). Registration fees only cover a portion of operating costs.

Q4. I heard that the league used to pay volunteers to work in the Snack Shack. Is this true?

- No, this is not true. In the past, shifts used to be assigned to certain people. If the person that was assigned a shift didn't want to work, they could refer to a list of students that were willing to take that shift, and the assignee would compensate them with their own money to work their shift.
- MCLL is operated entirely by volunteers (coaches, board members, etc.) who are un-paid.

Q5. Do I need a WA Food Handlers Card?

- Generally, yes. However, since we like to have two volunteers working each shift - one person is to cashier, and to prepare food, only one of the volunteers needs to have a WA Food Handler Card.
- The card is obtained by completing a brief WA Food Handler Card course.
- Training is offered free-of-charge (using the MCLL class code "7C87"). Initial cards are valid for 2 years, and renewals are valid for 3-5 years. (Check to see if your card is valid before taking the training again.)
- Go to www.foodworkercard.wa.gov to get started.

Q6. Do I need to complete a background check to work 1-2 times in the concession stand?

- No. You only need to do the background check if you will volunteer 3 or more times.
- See page 2 for instructions on how to complete the Volunteer Application/Background Check.

Q7. Does the league own the Snack Shack facility?

- No, the league leases the facility from the City of Mill Creek. All of the equipment is owned by the league. The league also pays for utilities, point of service software, internet service and supplies.
- MCLL is contractually obligated to pay a percentage of proceeds to the City, and the league is obligated to adhere to regulations set forth by the City and the WA Department of Health.

2024 Calendar

The following schedule is offered as a preview of events to come this season. It is continually evolving. constantly evolving. Please be sure to check the current version of this [calendar on our website](#).

February

- MOD Pizza Mill Creek Fundraiser (2/8)
- Registration closes - Farm and higher divisions (2/10)
- MCLL Baseball Skills & Drills (2/11)
- MCLL Softball Pitching Clinic (2/25)
- Fan Gear Store Opens
- Gear Exchange (2/11, 2/17 & 2/23)
- Player evaluations - Minors/Majors (2/17 & 2/23)
- Upper Division teams formed (EOM)



March

- WA District 1 Umpire Clinic (3/1 - 3/3)
- Upper Divisions begin practices (week 1-2)
- Registration closes for Rookies and Farm Divisions (3/8)
- Red Robin Bothell Fundraiser (3/8)
- Farm Division practices begin (3/18)
- Tee Ball Day (3/24)
- Registration for Tee-Ball closes (3/30)

April

- Rookies and Tee-Ball practices begin (week 1-2)
- Jackson High School Baseball Little League Skills Camp (4/1)
- Qdoba Mill Creek Fundraiser (4/5)
- Farm Jamboree (4/7)
- Little League Day parade banners - orders due (4/10)
- Little League Day and team pictures (4/20)
- MCLL at Jackson High School Softball at 5pm (4/24)
- Mariners Game (4/28)

May

- Tapped Mill Creek Fundraiser from 4pm - 8pm (5/9)
- Skinny D's Yogurt Fundraiser
- AquaSox Game (5/18)
- Friday Night Lights at Freedom Field
- T-Mobile Home Run Derby (5/18 or 5/19 - TBD)

June

- Rookies Pitching & Catching Clinic
- Regular Season Ends (mid-June)
- All Stars Begin
- City of Mill Creek's Party in the Parks at Freedom Field
- Friday Night Lights at Freedom Field
- Invitational Tournaments (Minors/Majors)

July / August

- All Stars continue

2024 Special Events

Please visit the [Events Description Webpage](#) on www.millcreeklittleleague.com for more details on the events below. All dates and events are subject to change, so please check our website for current information.

Gear Exchange

We host various gear exchange events throughout the season, where families and drop off gently used baseball/softball equipment and clothing items and shop (for FREE). Send inquires to the [MCLL VP](#).

Tee Ball Day - March 24

Tee Ball families are invited to our MCLL Tee Ball Day at Mill Creek Sports Park - Freedom Field between 3:00 pm and 4:00 pm. Check out Freedom Field, grab a snack at the concession stand, meet your coaches and play a few team building games.

Jackson High School Baseball Little League Skills Camp - April 1

Local Little Leagues are invited to the Jackson High School Little Baseball League Skills Camp on April 1st. The session for 6-9-year-olds is from 11:30am to 1:00pm, and the session for 10-13 year-olds is from 1:00pm to 2:30pm. [Register here](#) by March 15th to make sure you get a tee-shirt. The cost is \$30, and payments are [accepted here](#). Proceeds support the Jackson High School Baseball Booster Club.

Farm Jamboree - April 7

Farm division players and families are invited to our MCLL Farm Jamboree at Mill Creek Sports Park - Freedom Field on April 7. The event runs from 11:00am to 5:00pm, however, each team will be scheduled for a certain time block to play their game. There will be ballgames, activities, prizes, concessions and more. An event you don't want to miss!

Mill Creek Little League at Jackson High School Softball - Apr. 24

Head on over to Jackson High School at 4pm on April 24th to cheer on the high school players. Then, immediately following the high school game, MCLL will play. *Let's pack the field!*

Friday Night Lights @ Freedom Field (May/June)

Join your MCLL community for an extra festive baseball game under the bright lights at Mill Creek Sports Park (Freedom Field), with giveaways, special activities, menu items, etc.

Little League Day - April 20

Little League Day is our annual "opening day celebration"! This is a free community event. All players, league officials and families (past and present) are invited to reminisce the past and celebrate the season to come! Refer to the following page for details.

Mariner's Game - April 28

Join us on Sunday, April 28, as we watch the Mariners take on the Arizona Diamondbacks! Tickets purchased through MCLL are only \$20 and are available on a first come, first serve basis. Seats are in section 149. The link to purchase tickets through MCLL will be emailed to registered players/volunteers in late March. There is a pre-game parade around the outfield that begins 90-120 minutes before the game (the Mariners will notify us 48 hours prior to the game). All players and their family members are encouraged to wear their MCLL gear and participate in the parade. Consider having one person on each team coordinate purchasing a block of tickets, so that the team can enjoy the ballgame and snacks together.

AquaSox Game - May 18

Come out and watch the AquaSox take on the Eugene at 7:05 pm. [Tickets through MCLL are available here](#).

2024 Little League Day



The following is an overview of events planned for this year’s Little League Day, our annual “opening day celebration.”

Activities

There is a parade of teams, ceremony, activities, games, and themed gift basket silent auction. We will be selling MCLL fan gear, and there will be special appearance by the AquaSox Mascot – Webbley and Snohomish County Fire Department. All of our official sponsors are encouraged to attend.

Parade of Teams

There will be a parade of teams, and it’s a tradition that each team carries a customized 5x3 vinyl banner in the parade, and then hang the banner on the backstop throughout the season. Team Parents will be provided instructions on how to order the banner, which we recommend be ordered no later than April 10th.

Team & Player Photos

There will be a league group photo, as well as team and player pictures. The schedule and link to order will be emailed beforehand to place an order, there are no paper order forms.

Food

The league will be selling concessions (small cash bills please) and have several food truck options.

Themed Gift Basket Silent Auction (**Donations Now Being Accepted**)

Be sure to stop by the MCLL tent to enter our Little League Day Silent Auction. The themes include “Spa Day”, “No Kids Allowed-Parent Survival Kit”, “Sports Lover”, “Family Fun Night” and “Grilling n’ Chilling - BBQ”. We are collecting donations from the community to fill the baskets. Learn more on our [Little League Day webpage](#).

Little League Day Volunteers

If you would like to help with the event, please [contact us today](#).

Uniforms & Equipment

Uniforms

All Players

- Parents are reminded to LABEL ALL GEAR.
- If player wears glasses, "Safety/Sports Glasses" are recommended.
- Sunglasses are permitted.
- Watches, rings, pins, jewelry, hard cosmetic decorative items are not to be worn.

Shoes

- Players (Tee-ball through Majors Divisions) wear regular athletic shoes or molded rubber cleats.
- Players in Intermediates, Juniors and Senior Divisions can wear metal spikes or cleats.

Athletic Supporter Cup

- It is recommended that boys wear an athletic supporter cup (as soon as appx. age of 7).
- It is mandatory that all boy catchers wear a cup.

Baseball (and Tee-ball)

- The league provides each player with a jersey and hat.
- Parents provide baseball pants, belt, and socks (coaches will tell team what color/style).
- Tee-ball and Rookies may not need a belt, depending on pant style (no loops).

Softball (Rookies)

- The league provides each player with a jersey and visor.
- Parents provide softball pants, belt and socks (coaches will tell team what color/style).

Softball (Minors/Majors)

- The league provides each player with a jersey and socks.
- Parents provide face mask, belt and softball pants (coaches will tell team what color/style).
- Parents can opt to purchase a MCLL visor or hat.

Equipment

Batter's Helmet

- Most players provide their own batter's helmet. Helmets must [fit properly](#) and bear the NOCSAE stamp.
- Learn more on our [Equipment Webpage](#) on www.millcreeklittleleague.com.

Bats

- Most players provide their own bat, which must comply with [Little League Official Bat Rules](#).

Face Masks (Softball - Minors/Majors)

- Most players provide and wear a face mask.

Glove

- Players provide their own properly sized glove. Guidance is on our [MCLL Equipment Webpage](#).

Catcher's Equipment

- The league provides each team with catcher's gear/equipment.
- Catchers must wear catcher's helmet (w/ face mask and throat guard), chest protector and shin guards.

Parent Checklist

Parents/guardians are encouraged to use this checklist to prepare for the season.



Get Involved

- Communicate Your Volunteer Interests to your Coach**
 - Let your coach (or Team Parent) know if/how you can help.
 - Contact volunteers@millcreeklittleleague.com if you have any questions.

- Volunteer Application w/ Background Check**
 - If you will be a regular volunteer (volunteer 3 or more times), please complete the [Volunteer Application/Background Check](#) process (see page 2).

- Abuse Awareness Training**
 - If you will volunteer, complete the [Abuse Awareness for Adults Training](#) (see page 2).
 - Send the certificate to safety@millcreeklittleleague.com.

- WA Food Handler Card**
 - If you will help with concessions, ensure you have a current [WA Food Handler Card](#) (see page 3).

- Volunteer in Snack Shack**
 - Sign-up to help with concessions at <http://tinyurl.com/2024Snacks> (see page 3).

- Consider donating to the Little League Day Gift Basket Silent Auction**
 - Donations are being accepted through April 10th. (See page 7.)

- Team Building**
 - Consider initiating a post-game trip to a burger or ice cream joint as a team. (DQ is an official sponsor of Little League International).
 - Consider attending special events (i.e., Mariner's game, etc.) as a team.

- Fan Gear & Ideas**
 - Friends and family are encouraged to show their support by purchasing and wearing fan gear.
 - Purchase your fan gear at <https://www.vindicodesign.com/mcll>.
 - Fans have also been known to write with chalk on their rear car windows.

Safety

- MCLL Safety Awareness Plan**
 - Review the [Safety Awareness Plan](#) to learn about emergency preparedness, what to do if your player is injured, inclement weather, pitch count rules, background check guidelines and more.
 - This guide can be located on our [Safety Webpage](#) at www.millcreeklittleleague.com.

- Equipment & Uniforms**
 - Prepare and/or gather equipment and uniform items (see page 8).

- ☐ **Sudden Cardiac Arrest Pamphlet**
 - Families should review the [Sudden Cardiac Arrest Pamphlet](#) (available on our [Safety Webpage](#)).
- ☐ **Medical Release Form**
 - Coaches are required to carry a signed [Medical Release Form](#) for each player (available on our [Safety webpage](#)). You may have already provided this form when you registered. If not, please complete the form and give it to coach during the first week of the season.
 - Let coach know if player has medical conditions or special needs.

Communication

- ☐ **Sportsmanship**
 - All participants are reminded to demonstrate sportsmanship on and off the field.
 - All players (and parents) must treat their teammates, opponents, umpires, coaches, and other parents with respect. Bullying, hazing, or harassment will not be tolerated.
 - Spectators are reminded to cheer positively and support all players, regardless of team affiliation.
 - Spectators must respect the calls of umpires and coaching decisions.
 - Please do not coach your player from the bleachers.
- ☐ **Game Changer**
 - The Game Changer App is used to manage player RSVPs, schedules, keep score, track stats, communicate as a team and stream game video online.
 - Parent/guardians must download the “Game Changer” App and check it regularly (<https://gc.com>).
 - Please RSVP for players for games, so that coach can develop game plans.
 - Learn more on our Communications Webpage at www.millcreeklittleleague.com.
- ☐ **Newsletter Distribution**
 - Ensure all parents/guardians are listed as accountholders within your [MCLL Sports Connect account](#).
 - This will ensure that all parents/guardians receive the league’s monthly newsletter.
 - To add another accountholder, log into your account at www.millcreeklittleleague.com. Once logged in, click on the cog icon in the upper right corner to “Edit Account Info”. On the “Account Holder Settings” page, go to the bottom and click (+) to “Add Additional Account Holder”.
- ☐ **Social Media**
 - Follow MCLL on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) to stay tuned into important dates and announcements.