



Newsletter May 2021

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### DATES TO REMEMBER:

**May 5 & 6** - SPLL Team and Player Pictures

**June 13** - South Portage Little League Night at the Growlers!

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### SPLL VIRTUAL OPENING DAY CEREMONY

Did you miss our virtual Opening Day Ceremony? [Check out the replay on our Facebook page here.](#)

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### MISSING PAPERWORK

Is your player missing paperwork? Please submit all missing paperwork to our Registrar **ASAP!**

You can simply snap a pic and email it to: [registrar@southportagell.com](mailto:registrar@southportagell.com)

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### SPLL TEAM & PLAYER PICTURES

Main Street Photography will be coming out to SPLL on Wednesday, May 5th & Thursday, May 6th and will be taking pictures between fields 8 & 9 (softball side). In case of rain, they will be under the concession pavilion.

*The photographer will be taking a team picture, so please bring your player, even if you do not want to order individual photos. All team sponsors get a team photo/plaque and most enjoy hanging these in their businesses.*

Teams are scheduled two every 15 minutes. Please be prompt to keep the schedule on time. Please try to meet with coaches approximately 10 minutes prior to the appointment time and then walk over as a group. We are asking parents to stay behind, to help us keep the numbers gathered in that area down.

*\*\*\*The team will be situated together for the photo, the photographer will tell them when they can remove their mask, and will take the picture within 1 minute. If parents would prefer their child keep their mask on for the team picture, please let them know to communicate that with you. Individual pictures will be taken for those who wish to order prints.*

Click here to see your team: [TEAM PHOTO SCHEDULE](#)

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### FAN GEAR

Our Fan Gear site is NOW OPEN!!!! Click on the link below and ORDER YOUR FAN/SPIRIT GEAR today!

<https://spll.allegracmg.com/>

**Site ONLY open through Saturday May 8, 2021. You MUST ORDER by May 8 in order to get items.**

***Sorry, no late orders accepted. We will receive all items and will distribute them to you at the fields!***

## **THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR DeNooyer Ford!!!!**

We are proud to announce our new 2021 League Sponsor partnership with DeNooyer Ford! As part of a welcome gift from DeNooyer - all players and head coaches will receive a free SPLL neck gaiter to wear at the fields! Thank you DeNooyer Ford for supporting South Portage Little League!

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## **ATHLETE HEALTH SCREENING – MANDATORY REQUIREMENT**

All SPLL Athletes must have a Health Screening form completed for EVERY day that they come to SPLL (practices, games, other activities). Parents must submit the ONLINE form every day – BEFORE their Athlete is allowed to Play Ball for SPLL.

Every day that your Athlete is scheduled to play – PLEASE go to the following site:

<https://forms.gle/ETfLSnb8m3zAvst57>

Any Athlete that does NOT submit this health screening form will NOT be allowed to practice or play for that particular day.

To help with this process – we will be posting signs throughout the park with QR-code scanning for you to quickly complete the screening tool when you arrive to the SPLL complex.

Questions? Please contact Josh at [president@southportagell.com](mailto:president@southportagell.com) or Becket at [safety@southportagell.com](mailto:safety@southportagell.com)

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## **EQUIPMENT**

### ***Available (shared) Equipment***

*South Portage Little League will provide each team some equipment available for sharing among the team: Bats, Batting Helmets & Pitcher's Helmets (Machine Pitch), Balls, Tee's (for T-ball) & Catcher's Gear*

### ***Equipment Assistance***

SPLL has been granted brand new equipment to provide to families in need. If you are financially unable to secure the necessary equipment, please contact Josh [president@southportagell.com](mailto:president@southportagell.com)

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## **SPLL MARKETPLACE**

A marketplace for South Portage Little League families to buy, sell and trade outgrown baseball & softball gear.

Dust off those old helmets, bats & gloves and the outgrown ball pants with more life left! Perfect place to share!

Our [SPLL Marketplace](#) can be found on our South Portage Little League [Facebook page](#), and click on our GROUP called SPLL Marketplace. Request to join this swap-meet to find gently used and new items that SPLL families are looking to sell. Post your own items or buy from others in the Group.

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## **UMPIRES NEEDED**

No experience? No problem! Training will be provided.

For more information, please contact: [President@southportagell.com](mailto:President@southportagell.com)

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## **CONCESSION & FIELD WORKERS NEEDED**

SPLL has part-time / flexible jobs for the Spring/Summer! Interested? Contact: [President@southportagell.com](mailto:President@southportagell.com)

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## **COVID UPDATE**

Per recommendations from Little League International, Michigan District 2 Little League has developed the guidelines below by working with the Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services Department. The following plan will be adopted by all leagues that are part of District 2. These guidelines are based on currently in-effect guidance and recommendations from various governing bodies and can change as the guidance changes.

### **Guidelines Current as of March 31, 2021 - these are subject to change:**

- Per current [MDHHS Interim Guidance for Athletics](#), all players and coaches will be required to wear a mask at all times.
- 6ft social distancing must be maintained by spectators on bleachers, or when seated along fence lines.
- If dugouts are used, players and coaches must be masked at all times. Players must social distance as much as possible.
- Hand Sanitizer will be available for each team. Players are requested to use prior to each at bat, and upon return from the field to their designated area outside of the dugout.
- It is highly encouraged that all players have their own equipment. If a player does not have their own helmet, it is recommended that the league provide a helmet that a player can use for the duration of the season and return at the end. Shared equipment (i.e. catcher gear, team bats, fielding helmets with facemasks) will be sanitized after each use. It is recommended that coaches minimize the number of players using shared equipment on a daily basis (i.e., one or two designated catchers per game )
- Leagues will establish a daily health screen recommendation for parents to complete on their own for their player prior to each practice or game.
- Coaches will make a note of all players, coaches, umpires and any other volunteer who assists with a game or practice - for example in their scorebook - for purposes of contact tracing.
- All players ages 13 and up will be required to participate in weekly COVID-19 testing to be eligible to participate in any clinic, practice or game. More details to come.

· As players that travel to other locations for games (for those divisions that interleague) – all parents, players and coaches should expect to follow the host-league’s rules – including (but not limited to) strict always-on mask requirements, no use of bleachers, and no food items from concession stands. Please follow host-league’s rules responsibly and without argument. Failure to follow the rules can result in forfeiture of the game for SPLL.

We will encourage spacing out and team circle ups vs. huddles and spacing out along the fence line vs. everyone in the dugouts. At this time, we will not allow team hand-shakes (good-game) lineups after the game – players line their base path, tip their hats/wave, and offer a “good game” from a distance.

**PLEASE NOTE: SPLL expects that these guidelines will change in the future – possibly multiple times throughout our season. Please be on the lookout for updates as we approach the season. This may include relaxing the mask-requirement for players on the field of play or other requirements. We recognize the inconveniences these rules might impose – please understand that our players’ and volunteers’ safety is our #1 priority.**

Questions? Email [President@southportagell.com](mailto:President@southportagell.com)

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## SAVE THE DATE

**Sunday, June 13th- South Portage Little League Night at the Growlers!**

SPLL will be giving ALL registered players a ticket to the game, additional tickets available for \$13 each, see below!

# South Portage Little League Night

## HOMER STRYKER FIELD

SUNDAY, JUNE 13th – 1:35 FIRST PITCH

Registered players will receive:

- A Growlers hat
- Pre-Game Parade
- A skills camp with the Growlers head coach and players
- A Porter visit during the season
- Involvement in between inning promotions

Additional family tickets can be purchased for \$13 during player registration!

[Click here to buy additional tickets!](#)