

Oll Hardball Meeting
May 13, 2026
Plaskowitz Conference Room

Attendees:

Joe Smeraglino
Ryan Butanowicz
Kevin McCarthy

Alex Biro
Kyle Laham
Jay Jaffer

Bryan Terlizzi
Jeff Silverman
Adam Dinihanian

Luciano Verdura
BJ Palumbo

Start of Meeting: 7:37pm

Meeting led by VP of Baseball, Joe Smeraglino

The purpose of our hardball meetings is to share information about the upcoming season, provide a place for families to ask questions about their players or levels, and explain volunteer opportunities. OLL is entirely volunteer-run. Our Executive Board meets monthly, and ideas or feedback raised during hardball meetings may be brought forward at those sessions.

Introduction of any Executive Board Members

Notes for this meeting are on our website

How are games going?

- Scorekeeper double lineups issue
- Seemed to slow down – be sure they are not creating a new team and ask for help if the team is not coming up

Any Issues with Uniforms/Equipment?

- Contact Jeff Silverman
- No issues at this time and everything is
- Extra ice packs in the snack stands

Inclement Weather

- Thank you for your cooperation!
- League communication will go out, but we may wait as late as possible to cancel
- Alex will reach out to reschedule
 - Most likely added on the back end of the schedule

- We may need help to get the fields ready on Saturday
 - Leaf blowers, rakes, scoop cups

Field Maintenance

- Rake mound, batter's boxes and catcher's area.
 - Even dirt means less puddles
- If raking basepaths, North and South and not East and West
- Ask about bucket of clay on each field to fill in holes on mound
- Chris can turn on sprinklers if mound seems dry and possibly look into water sprayers for mounds

Field Improvements

- Upgraded speakers on Roche still in progress. Added air horn speakers on the 1st and 3rd base lines
- Additional speaker on Goldberg 1st base dugout coming soon
- Upgraded equipment on Goldberg to announce and play music
- Push to talk microphone

2026 Season Timeline

- May 9: Picture Day
 - Moved to High Plains due to forecast. There was a good turnout.
 - Make up is tomorrow here!
 - Send out reminders to your team about the makeup
- Snack Stand
 - How is it going?
 - Continue to assign family members to the snack stand and fill out sheet for site director so we know who is covering
 - Only need to do it for 1-2 innings and then rotate with another family
- Site Director Sign Up
 - Make sure to sign up for site director when you don't have a game
 - Make sure snack stands are covered and be the point person for all games
 - Weather issues, you are the point of contact to work with managers and umpires
- E-Bike and E-Scooter Sign
 - Printed some signs to put up around fields to not allow it
- Batting Cage Use and Sign

- Printed signs for the batting cages, OLL has the priority
- Tournaments are being held here but we maintain the cages so have priority
- Ability to come here at any time to use them, first come first serve
- Smoking/Vaping Policy
 - Orange regulation section 307-2 prohibits smoking (and similar activities) in all public areas such as parks, greens, and outdoor recreation areas.
 - State law prohibits smoking within 25 feet of doors/windows of buildings. (The scorekeeper boxes and snack stands are buildings.)
- Coaches/Spectator Expectations
 - Positivity!
 - No arguing with umpires or scorekeepers
 - New youth program umpires
 - Possible elimination of second umpire for Majors games. One behind the plate seems to be sufficient enough
- Postseason teams
 - Our postseason teams consist of "District" teams and "Seabreeze" teams. The teams represent Orange and play other towns to try and win their respective tournaments. For the Majors level, OLL plans to enter a 12u District, 11u District and 12u Seabreeze teams.
 - OLL puts together one "District" team for each level that is offered by our district consisting of a 12u, 11u and 10u team. The players are selected for these teams via a process in which all the managers and eligible coaches of the division vote for whom they believe will make up the most competitive team. This is generally based on regular season performance.
 - Players not selected for the "District" team are then eligible to play on the "Seabreeze" team. These teams are also competitive teams that compete in a separate tournament at their respective age level. Players must have played a minimum of 8 games (playoff games included) for their regular season team to be eligible to play on either a "District" or "Seabreeze" team.
 - 10u players playing up in Majors are eligible for 10u district team if they don't get selected for the 11u district team.
 - Majors managers should give analysis on players to Minors managers so they are aware of the player and his capabilities
 - The time commitment and dedication to play on a postseason team is much more intense than of the regular season. Depending on the

manager, you can expect to have 5-6 practices per week starting in June. Games will start at the end of June and will continue through mid July, based on how far the team advances. For those players that are willing to play, the expectation is to attend all games and practices and not miss any time due to vacation. Additional cost of around \$250.

- Inquiry emails will go out to gauge interest
- District selection dates: May 27th for Majors and May 28th for Minors
 - Respond by Sunday, May 24th if you are interested
- Current selection process is each manager brings two coaches from the team, players are spoken about, based on the interest form. Anonymous voting occurs for the amount of players needed. If a player received 75% of the vote they are on the team and if any player receives 25% or less of the votes they are off the ballot. Next round of voting occurs for the amount of players remaining to fill the roster.

Motion to amend District Player Voting by Joe Smeraglino

Seconded by Jeff Silverman

All in favor

- Proposed Amendment to District Player Voting
 - Managers and up to two roster coaches per team shall attend and participate in a meeting to select the 12 players that represent Orange in 12, 11, and 10-year-old district competition. The statistical results of the Spring regular season gathered by the league shall be provided to each manager and roster coach in attendance. Each manager shall recommend players from their team for participation in the district competition. Managers and roster coaches shall discuss before voting. Each manager and each roster coach shall be entitled to vote only once for each team. The ballot will require the manager and/or roster coach to put the players for that team into a ranked order. The 12 players who receive the most votes will be selected to the team.
 - In the event of a tie, the player with the highest average ranking, after excluding the highest and lowest ranking, will be placed on the team. This tie breaking method will be used until all 12 players have been selected. In the event that the average ranking for a player is also tied, the player with the most number of highest ranking votes among those involved in the tie, shall be the player selected. For example, after removing the highest and lowest ranking for the players involved in the tie, the number of #1

rankings will be counted for each player. If that is a tie, the number of #2 rankings will be used to determine the winner...and so on and so forth until the tie is broken. In the event that all of these result in a tie, the manager of the district team may break the tie until 12 players have been selected.

- The 12-year-old and under team shall be selected first. The 11-year-old and under team shall be selected second. The 10-year-old and under team shall be selected third.
- Prior to participating in the meeting each manager and roster coach must agree that all discussions and results are all to be kept confidential. Managers and roster coaches are further obligated to notify the hardball player agent and executive vice president/counsel of violations of this confidentiality. All materials must be returned before a manager or roster coach may leave. Results of this selection process shall not be disclosed until a date and time set by the hardball board. Failure to comply with this confidentiality requirement shall be a basis for disciplinary action by OLL, including, but not limited to, exclusion from participation in OLL, district and/or post-season competition for the manager, roster coach, and their player(s).
- The district team selection process will be administered and overseen by the hardball player agent. The hardball player agent may modify this process as necessary to ensure fairness for the players. The executive vice president/counsel for the league shall oversee the hardball player agent and make reasonable efforts to ensure the fairness of the process for the players. In the event of a conflict of interest or unavailability of the hardball player agent and/or executive vice president/counsel then another member of the executive board shall be selected to perform their duties.

Motion to approve District Player Voting by Joe Smeraglino

Seconded by Alex Biro

8 members approved, 3 members abstained

Meeting end time: 8:50pm

