

Munster Little League
Annual Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 17, 2025

The Munster Little League met in regular session on Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at the Rotary Shelter at Community Park, Munster, Indiana. The meeting opened at 7:21pm. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct annual special business.

Board Attendees: K. Jurcik, B. Matthews, K. Cherry, R. Rommelfanger, M. Bruni, A. Rubio, A. Keefner, D. Panaggio, R. Bishop, B. Bryner, J. Braatz, G. Souris

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Vice President A. Keefner at 7:12 pm. At time of commencement, 23 members were present, which did represent a quorum.
- II. **Approval of Agenda** – J. Castellano presented the meeting agenda. K. Cherry motions to approve. J. Jamicich 2nd. Motion approved.

III. **Reports –**

President's Report – A. Keefner (J. Castellano unable to attend)

- 428 players for Spring- up a little from the year before
- Have been consistently above 400 players in the league since Covid; a testament to the board, the league and community overall
- 8 Majors, 8 Minors, 7 C League, 5 Prep, 10 TBall; playing games 5 nights a week;
- All Star Teams: 7U-12U; District Teams for 10/11/12; All District teams won Districts; 10s District team made it to the State finals and ended up runners up!!
- Still have a very strong league that is competitive not only in our area, but throughout the state
- Hosted both 10U and 11U District Tournaments; thank you to all of the volunteers that allowed us to continue to make these tournaments a success
- Fall Ball- good numbers; opened up to other towns as well. Finishing up the season in the next week and will start the tournaments
- Improvements: changed the infield mix back to the original red; moved C League mound; fixed the C Field scoreboard
- Kudos to the grounds crew and Kyle Cherry for keeping the fields looking awesome; we are lucky to have the help that we do!
- Fall cleanup will be coming up in Oct; not as bad as Spring cleanup. The Grounds Crew does a lot of the shut down as the tournaments end and the fields are done being used.

Treasurer Report – D. Panaggio

Highlights

- Currently have \$56K in the bank- between MLL and the separate Challenger League
- All invoices have been paid; only 1 outstanding- for umpires
- Collected \$192K in revenue this year; \$144K in registration; \$35,000 from sponsorships; \$5K from generous donations
- Expense- \$183K; \$49K for uniforms and equipment; \$37K in Town of Munster fee and maintenance; \$22K in umpires; \$7500 for tournament and travel costs; \$10K for insurance and LL Charter fees; Surplus of \$9K- good position heading into next year.
- Still paying for grounds crew and umpires; money in the
- Financial reports; taxes have all been filed; received a note from the tax attorney we hired a few years ago.

IV. **Proposed Constitutional Changes**

No proposed constitutional changes today. By this time of the meeting, we were at 22 members, which is short of the 27 we would need for an official quorum.

V. **MLL Membership Questions and Comments**

- Have seen a dramatic increase in the negative interactions with coaches and parents with umpires. It's getting harder to find umpires- you will see games cancelled as the kids get older since umps don't want to do it anymore. Young kids are unwilling to become umpires because they don't want to deal with the parents and the threats. Propose a stiffer penalty for any parents or coaches who are ejected from games. Right now it is a 1 game suspension. Think we should have the manager committee meet to see if more of a suspension is warranted. Possible to be that a manager would not be able to manage in the next season.
- We coexist with the kids who just want to play rec and those that want to play travel. It's a good balance and we provide the best environment that we can.
- Challengers (Beth Matthews)- would like to see players, coaches and families embrace the Challenger league more; would like access to the master list of games, practices, and tournaments to accommodate the league (May-July). Practices are on Thursdays at FHH; games are on Sundays from 6-7p.
- Any ideas for infrastructure/fields?: C Field needs an update; worth the investment to turf the bullpens- can use scraps- build up the mounds; lights at the batting cages (more expensive endeavor)
- Can we just turf different parts of the field to every year to make for less maintenance? K. Cherry recommends- instead of

turfing the mounds, we look to invest in high end movable mounds- can be around \$3K?

-Equipment issues?: chest protectors are rough; catchers gear is always an issue. Equipment being returned is always a challenge as well. Maybe bring back the equipment swap at spring cleanup? Haven't done for the last few years.

- Special events- any ideas for anything new? Those can be shared at any time.

-Update meeting minutes on the website.

VI. Board Election Discussion –

Self-nominations for a two-year term:

Self-Nominated - New:

Jim Hollendonner- Approved

Tim Kamin- Approved

Vaneth Portillo

The above members have all been verified to be Munster Little League members in good standing.

Self nominated - Returning:

J. Castellano

K. Jurcik

A. Rubio (for a 1 year term)

G. Gouveia

A. Keefner (for a 1 year term)

M. Bruni

J. Jamicich

R. Bishop

K. Cherry (for a 1 year term)

B. Matthew (will move to a non-voting/sustaining member- as part of the MLL Constitution)

Motion to accept all self-nominated new and returning Board members: K. Cherry motions to approve; A, Rubio 2nds; motion passes unanimously.

Board members with one term remaining:

K. Adley, D. Panaggio, R. Rommelfanger

Board members that are not returning:

Ray Petrocelli

George Souri

VII. Adjournment – A. Rubio motions to adjourn at 8:11 pm. M. Bruni 2nds. Motion approved.

The next regular meeting to be held on Wednesday, October 8, 2025- place TBD.

MLL Meetings are open to the membership and held on the second Wednesday of every month.

MLL financials are available upon written request to the Treasurer.