

Kirkland

NATIONAL

Parent Information Night
February 3, 2020



Little League

- Global, Non-Profit, Recreational Baseball and Softball
 - 7000+ Little League Charters in over 80 countries
 - Roughly 3 Million players worldwide
- Regular Season Goals
 - Stronger Kirkland Community- “superior citizens”
 - Achieved through Baseball and Softball instruction
- Post Season Goal
 - All-Stars = World Cup (represent Kirkland on a global stage)

LLI Mission Statement

*"Through proper guidance and exemplary leadership, the Little League program assists children in developing the qualities of citizenship, discipline, teamwork and physical well-being. By espousing the virtues of character, courage and loyalty, **the Little League Baseball and Softball program is designed to develop superior citizens rather than superior athletes.**"*



Little League “Org Chart”

Little League Int’l

Williamsport, PA



West Region

San Bernardino, CA



State*

Washington

District 9 (of 13)

Sammamish, WA



Charter

Kirkland National

North half of Kirkland

- Manages published rules
- Approves all rules waivers
- Ensures consistency worldwide
- Runs all World Series Events

- Final approval on Constitutions, Local Rules, Inter-league requests, All-Star combos, and most non-rules waivers
- Runs all West Region Tournaments

- Resource and Advisors for Charters
- Approve some waivers and sponsors others to West Region
- Reviews Constitution, Local Rules, and Inter-league requests then sends to West Reg.
- Coordinates all Inter-league and Combinations
- Runs District All-Stars

- Write and revise Constitution, Local Rules
- Sets up, manages and operates each season
- Optimizes play experience for players
- Requests waivers as needed

Kirkland National

- Kirkland Little League founded in 1951
- In 1957, Williamsport required “North Kirkland” to split off and become a new Charter
 - LL limits Charter size by population and/or registration
 - New Charter became Kirkland National; old Kirkland American
 - While KA and KN cooperate, they are separate 501c3 entities
- 100% managed and operated by volunteers
 - LL is a program that helps communities “build community”
 - Local community leaders setting an example for kids

KNLL Board of Directors

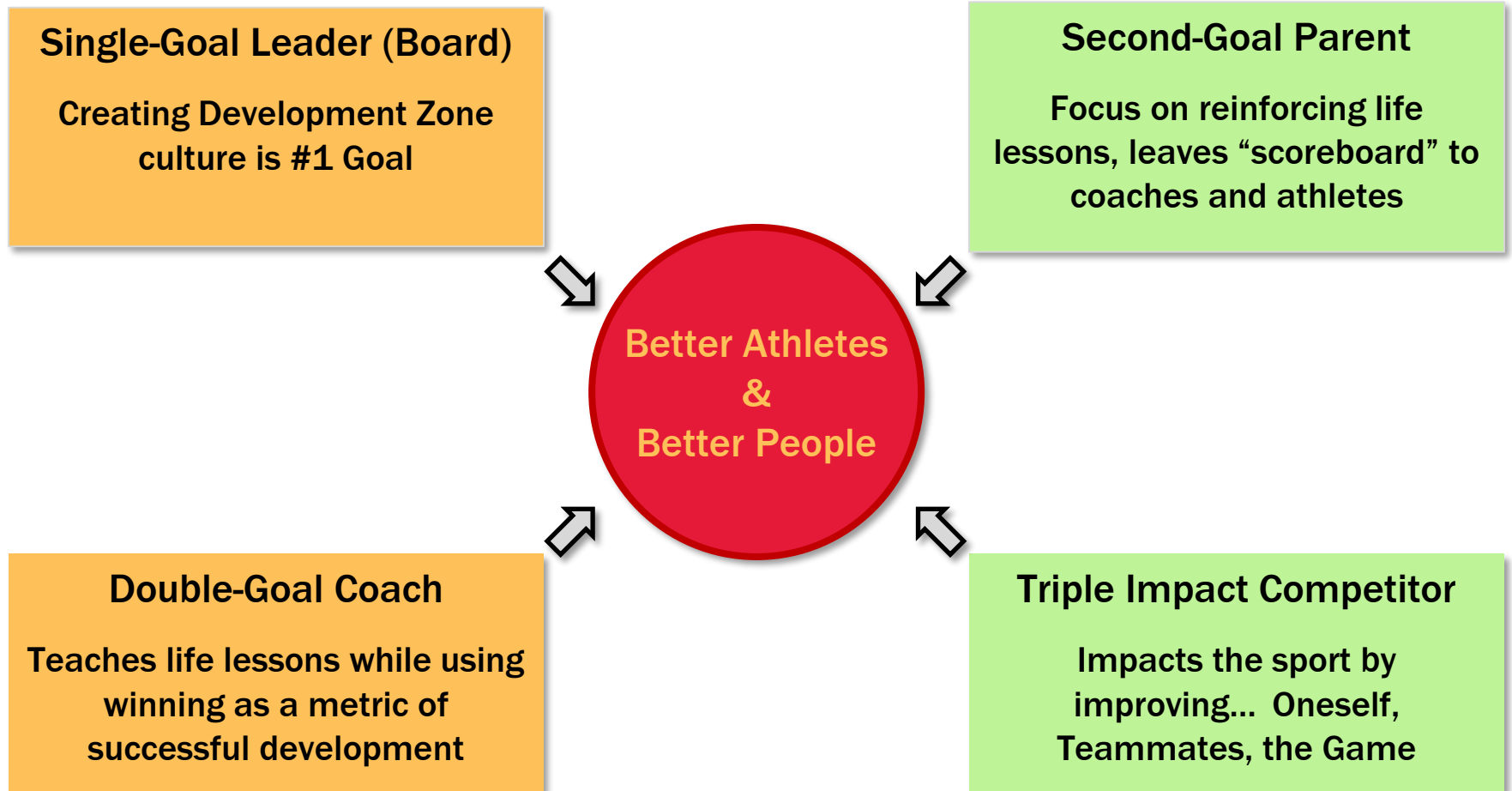
Board Officers

President – Cliff Harlow
VP Baseball – Ryan Duckworth
VP Softball – **Joe Hauck**
Treasurer – Paul Baer
Secretary – **Catrina Sheputis**
Baseball Player Agent (Upper) – Chris Adams
Baseball Player Agent (Lower) – **Curt Ayer**
Softball Player Agent – Barbara Trulson
Safety Director – Nicole Dill

Board Members

Umpire in Chief Baseball – Steven Kehrli
Umpire in Chief Softball – **Open**
Operations Chief – **Curt Ayer**
Equipment Director – Marcus Ware
Scheduling Director(s) – **Open**
Fundraising Director – Wendy Ayer
Communications Director – **Catrina Sheputis**
CIO/Registrar – Chris Parker
Marketing Director – Willie Whitmore
Baseball Upper Director – John Dederman
Baseball Lower Director – **Open**
Softball Upper Director – **Joe Hauck**
Softball Lower Director – Tom Olson
Parent Liaison – Somer Parker
Tee Ball Director – John Falcone
Special Projects Director – Kenny Booth

PCA Development Zone



“This is what we do here...”

Teach “life skills” through the instruction and competition of baseball and softball

- Dedicated to the development of...
 - Baseball and Softball skills
 - A passion for Baseball and Softball
 - Future leaders of Kirkland
- Build a supportive community
- Focus on players coming back every year
- 100% run and managed by volunteers

Two Misperceptions...

- LL might **not** be what you think it is...
 - Official Mission Statement and goals
 - Things have changed since “we were kids”
 - Philosophy (i.e. Regular Season = Development)
 - Rules (i.e. All 12 yo must play at Majors)
- Softball might **not** be what you think it is...
 - Not just “baseball with a bigger ball”
 - Managing girls has differences from boys
 - Lower registration numbers create challenges

Little League's Challenge

- Hybrid program with conflicting goals
 - Recreation ball during the regular season
 - Tournament ball during post season
- Regular season is developmental and less competitive than “select”
- More stringent rules than other local rec programs due to post season play

Volume of Rules (word count)

Other Local Rec Sports

LW Youth Soccer	2K
CoK Youth Basketball	2K
B&G Club Volleyball	None



2020 Little League

BB Rulebook	97K
SB Rulebook	81K
Rules Changes	2K
Resource Guide	17K
Policy Statements	10K
<u>KNLL Local Rules</u>	<u>13K</u>

Total Word Count: 220K

Moby Dick, by Herman Melville
is 209K words!

Why is Softball Managed Differently from Baseball?

Softball and Baseball operations have become more aligned **wherever possible**. However, four factors impede 100% alignment:

- Lower registration
- Different rules
- Different motivation and development
- Different culture

Closed vs. Open Leagues

Registration numbers are lower for Softball, therefore...

- Inter-league play is required almost exclusively
 - i.e. one or more Charters field teams in a Division
- Combining teams is sometimes necessary
 - i.e. players from KALL and KNLL on the same team
 - Regular Season and Post Season
- Both scenarios require cooperation and compromise with other Charters

Softball is a Different Game

- Equipment
 - 6 different types of softballs are used
 - Different bats
- Field
 - Flat pitching plate, at 3 different distances, plus pitching circle
 - Longer batters' boxes
- Rules
 - Running slap hits
 - Bunts and delayed steals are good!
 - Pitching is underhand with inning counts not pitches

Motivations and Development

- “Boys play good TO feel good; girls play good WHEN they feel good”- inspiration begets success
 - Girls 1.5x more likely to drop out of sports by age 14
 - 70% of girls drop out of sports by age 17
- Physical differences necessitate additional training
 - More prone to torn ACL and concussions
- Puberty impacts girls earlier than boys
 - Bigger disparity in size and ability among girls 10-14
 - Self consciousness, team interactions

Softball Culture is Different

- Baseball- “LLWS is the greatest experience for 12 yo baseball player”
- Softball- “PGF Nats is the greatest experience for 12 yo softball player. Then USA Nats, NSA Nats, and USSSA Nats. LL has a WS??”
- In 2018, 13 yo girls received college commits
- Select softball season is simultaneous with LL

Divisions

Little League

Tee Ball

Minors

Majors

Intermediate

Juniors

Seniors

KNLL Baseball

Tee Ball

Minors

A

AA

AAA

Coast*

Majors

Intermediate

Juniors

Seniors

KNLL Softball

Tee Ball

Minors

A

AAA

Coast

Majors

Not in Softball

Juniors

Seniors



KNLL Division Ages

Baseball

- **Tee Ball**- aged 4-6, never played
- **A (Coach Pitch)**- aged 7, 5 or 6 if played a year of Tee Ball
- **AA (Mod. Player Pitch)**- aged 7-8
- **AAA (Player Pitch)**- aged 9-10
- **Coast**- aged 10-11
- **Majors**- aged 11-12
- **Intermediate**- aged 13
- **Juniors**- aged 13-14
- **Seniors**- aged 15-16

Softball

- **Tee Ball**- aged 4-6, never played
- **A (Coach Pitch)**- aged 7, 5 or 6 if played a year of Tee Ball
- **AAA (Mod. Player Pitch)**- aged 8-9
- **Coast (Player Pitch)**- aged 10-11
- **Majors**- aged 11-12
- **Juniors**- aged 13-14

Exception Requests

- If you feel your child should play outside of the guidelines previously outlined
 - Fill out Exception Request Form within registration
 - Contact the program Player Agent
 - Fill it out, sign it, get it back to Player Agent before Evaluations
- **PLEASE NOTE:** requests are granted when...
 - The player's skill matches the new Division
 - AND...**
 - There is room on a team roster within that Division

Team Formation Upper Divisions

AAA Baseball & Coast, Majors, Intermed, Juniors

- All players are evaluated
 - Softball; players LL Age 9 and above evaluate
- Blind serpentine draft per LL and KNLL Local Rules
- New teams created from scratch every year
- Siblings are traded to same team for comparable player
- No friend, coach, or childcare requests
- Coaches draw numbers to determine which team they get

Why?

- LL **requires** team drafts at Majors and above
 - Other rec sports do not have this requirement
- Drafting teams of parity is a better experience for players
- New teams each year builds community within Kirkland
- We provide those same benefits to BB AAA and BB/SB Coast

Team Formation Lower Divisions

T Ball, A, AA Both & AAA Softball

- By school
 - If more kids from one school than team size, group is split
- New teams created from scratch every year
- Siblings on same team
- We do our best to accommodate one, reciprocal buddy request
- Late registrations are placed on teams at league discretion; based on team size and school

Why?

- LL requires team rosters of “equal” size
- Unlike other rec sports, LL divisions are by age **and** skill, not grade
 - There is no “moving whole teams up together”
- New teams each year builds community within Kirkland

[Home](#)[Registration](#)[Information](#)[News & Events](#)[FAQs](#)[Contact Us](#)

2020 Spring Registration is Now Open!

Registration for KNLL 2020 Spring Season is Open. We're excited for the upcoming season and looking forward to another great year.

[Register NOW](#)

Kirkland National Little League

Registration

Take a look at our current open Registrations for players, coaches, and volunteers.

[Learn More](#)

Baseball

KNLL has 8 Baseball Divisions for boys ages 4 to 14. Players are teamed with others of equivalent skills to make baseball an enjoyable and positive experience for all.

[Learn More](#)

Softball

KNLL has 6 Softball Divisions for girls aged 4 to 14. Players are teamed based on a combination of age and skill to create an enjoyable and positive experience for all.

[Learn More](#)

Tee Ball

Tee Ball is a non-competitive program focused on fun, fitness, and fundamentals where players ages 4–6 are first introduced to the basics of baseball and softball.

[Learn More](#)

[Home](#)[Registration](#)[Information](#)[News & Events](#)[FAQs](#)[Contact Us](#)

Registration Overview

2020 Spring Registration is NOW OPEN!

[Register Players](#)

**2020 Manager, Coach, and Volunteer Registration
is NOW OPEN**

[Register to Volunteer](#)

Program Gallery



<https://www.teamsnap.com/>



Products ▾

Pricing ▾

Why

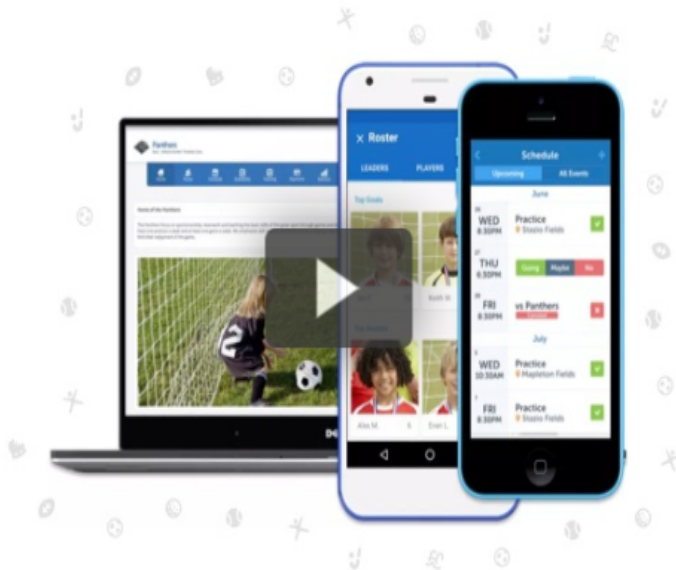
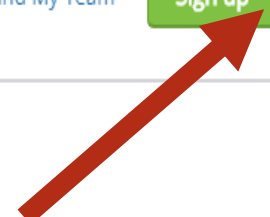
Company ▾

Help

Find My Team

Sign up

Log in



The easiest way to manage your team or sports organization

Email address

Get Started

Registration Fees

Fee structure is based on level of play

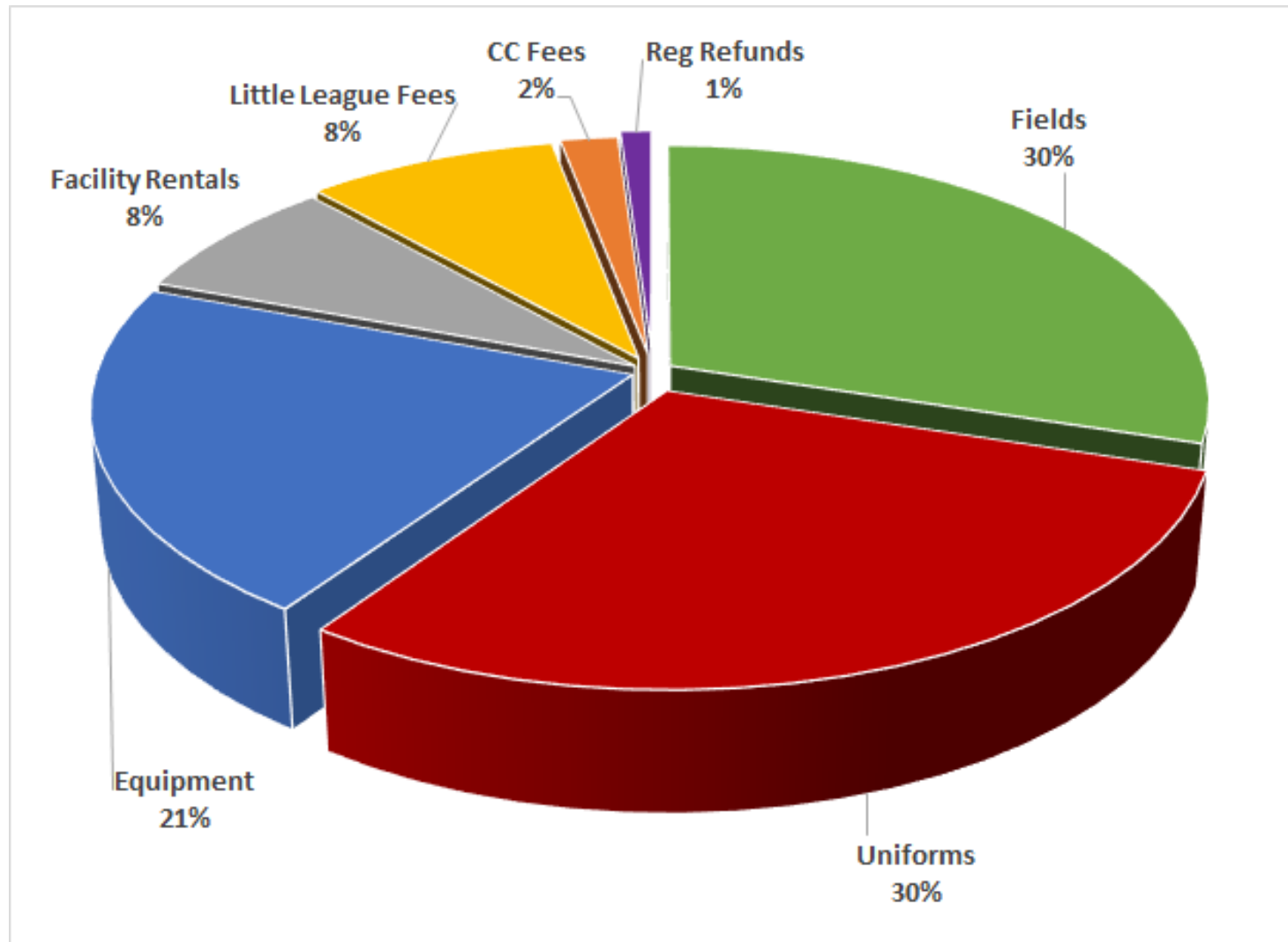
Baseball-Juniors/Int/Majors/Coast/AAA	\$195
Softball- Juniors/Majors/Coast	

Baseball- A/AA	\$155
Softball- A/AAA	

Tee Ball	\$75
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***Family maximum is \$390.00**

Breakdown of Registration Fees



KNLL Budget 2019-20

Income- \$120,500

Registration	\$76,000
Donations*	\$20,000
Fundraising	\$ 5,000
Sponsorships	\$14,000
Mariners Tix	\$ 4,500
Clinics	\$ 1,000

* Includes corporate volunteer grants like Microsoft

Expenses- \$120,500

Fields	\$31,000
Uniforms	\$31,000
Equipment	\$21,800
Facility Rentals	\$ 8,000
Little League Fees	\$ 9,000
CC Fees	\$ 2,050
Reg Refunds	<u>\$ 1,100</u>
Subtotal	\$103,950
Mariners Tix	\$4,500
Clinics	\$2,000
Tournaments	\$5,500
Advertising	\$1,000
Misc/Office	<u>\$3,550</u>
Subtotal	\$16,550

Donations and Sponsorships

- Corporate grants for volunteer hours
 - Microsoft
 - Boeing
 - Alaska Airlines
- Matching gifts
- Direct corporate donations and sponsorships
- Personal donations

Wendy Ayer fundraising@kirklandnational.com

Why Volunteer?

- LL's Mission is to develop kids to become our community's future leaders
 - We need you to serve as a role model!
- KNLL is 100% volunteer and needs many to provide the best experience to the players
- All umpires for All-Stars are volunteers
 - In the near future, D9 will require leagues to provide umpires for All-Stars to participate

How Do I Volunteer?

- www.kirklandnational.com/registration
 - Register as a volunteer
 - Complete online background check
- “Team” Volunteer Roles
 - Manage or Coach
 - Umpire
 - Scorekeeper
 - Field Maintenance/Clean Up Crew
 - Team Parent (for younger divisions)
- “League” Volunteer Tasks
 - Fanfest
 - Fundraising
 - Board/Committees



Open Board Positions

- Softball Umpire-In-Chief
- Director of Softball (Upper)
- Director of Baseball (Lower)
- Scheduling Director(s)
 - Ideally two...

Batting Cage Update

Completed

- Preliminary design ✓
- Public outreach and communications ✓
- Grant application to County ✓

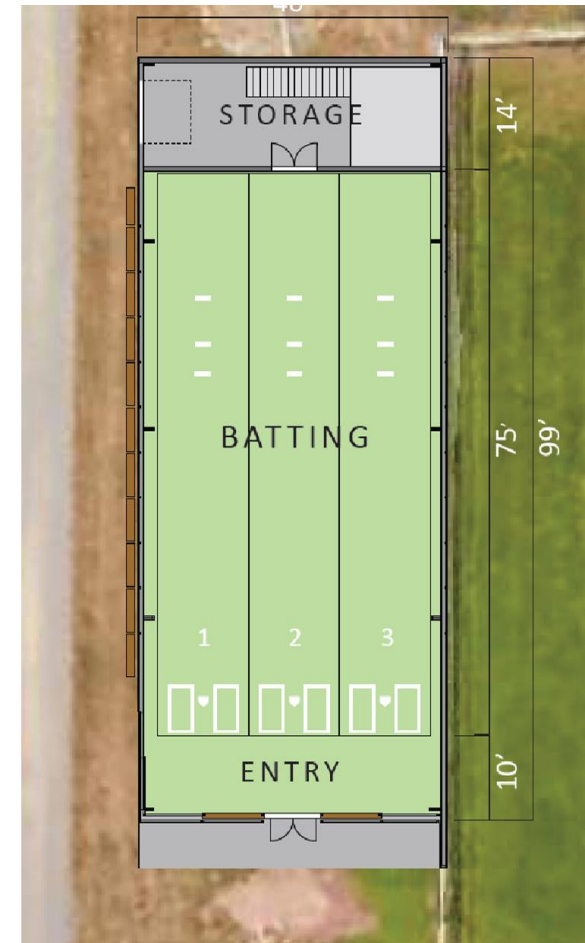
In Process

- King Co. design and grant application review
- City of Kirkland permitting

Future Tasks

- Final design (upon receiving permits)
- Construction!

Preliminary Design



Why the Batting Cage?

- Decrease expenses by \$11-12K/year
 - “Free” indoor training facility
 - Early Spring and All-Star batting cage time
 - Exclusive to KNLL
 - “Free” storage
 - Increased storage space
 - Close to our main fields
- Expands the development KNLL can provide to players
 - Fall Baseball and Softball practice when it rains
 - Winter Clinics
- Provides one hitting lane/field/game

Key Dates

02/18 – BB Majors Draft

02/19 – BB Coast Draft

02/20 – BB AAA Draft

02/21 – Registration Closes (All SB, BB A & AA)

02/22 – SB Evaluations (LWHS Softball Field)

02/22 – SB Upper Draft and Lower Formation

02/23 – BB & SB Teams Announced

(All Levels, except T-Ball)

02/25 – Managers/Coaches Meeting

(Safety / PCA)

02/26 – District 9 Softball Interlock Meeting

02/26 – Indoor Practices may start

03/02 – Outdoor practices may start

03/05 – Umpire Training 101

03/06 – Umpire Training 201

03/07 – Umpire Field Training

03/08 – Tee Ball Registration Closes

03/14 – Tee Ball Teams Announced

03/23 – BB (Upper) & SB Games Begin

03/25 – T-Ball Pre-Season Practices Begin

03/30 – BB (Lower) Games Begin

04/15 – Tee Ball Games Begin

05/01 – All-Star forms are sent out

05/02 – FanFest & Pictures

06/13 – BB and SB City Championships

Who do I contact for questions?

- Parent Liaison - Parent Advocate
 - Answer your questions or find out who can
- Player Agent - Player Advocate
- Division Director - Coach Advocate



Questions?