



# 2025 Welcome Letter from the President

Parents & Guardians,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you and your family to another season of softball and baseball with Mill Creek Little League. Whether you are a returning participant or new to the league, I am certain this 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. We have enclosed a checklist and information regarding certain season-opener tasks that will help you prepare for the season ahead.

The 2025 Spring Season begins in April and goes through June. Please review the [MCLL Calendar](#) regularly for other important dates.

All the information in this packet is available at [www.millcreeklittleleague.com](http://www.millcreeklittleleague.com).

All our best,

*Preston Kallshian*

President – Mill Creek Little League



# 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 are encouraged to get involved in one thing or another. Anyone can volunteer - community members, grandparents, siblings, students, friends, neighbors, high school students.

## Opportunities

We must have 1.) Coaches, 2.) Umpires, 3.) Score Keepers and 4.) Volunteers to help with field preparation and takedown – without these volunteers, it makes it very difficult to play. Other ways to help include operating the scoreboard/announcers booth at Freedom Field, be a designated Team Parent or safety focal, work a few shifts at the concession stand or help with special events. [Learn more](#) about these roles.

## How to Apply

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 a volunteer application and background check before assuming his/her duties.

When you register your player, you also can apply to be a volunteer. If you are applying after you register your player, 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.



## Required Training

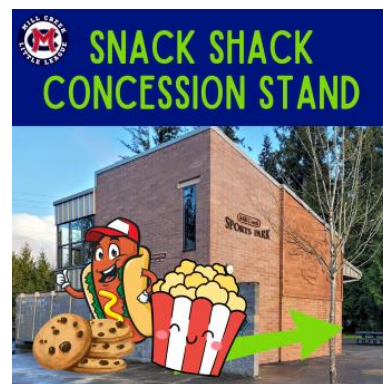
All volunteers must complete the [Abuse Awareness Course](#) annually. (Note: Coaches have additional training requirements listed on the [Volunteer Training Webpage](#).)

## Identification Badge

Once the Volunteer Application, Background Check and required training is complete, an identification badge will be generated for you (please give the league appx. 1 week to generate the badge). Badges can be picked up at the Snack Shack (during operating hours) and should be worn anytime you are volunteering.

# 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 Freedom burgers, giant hot dogs, corn dogs, soft pretzels w/ cheese sauce, nachos, fresh baked cookies, ice cream, coffee, hot cocoa, candy and more. Cash (small bills preferred), Apple Pay and credit cards are accepted.

## Volunteer Sign-Up

All parents are encouraged to sign up for at least one shift. Keep in mind, that anyone can volunteer (community members, high school students, siblings, grandparents, 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 all teams in our league. The league assigns concessions operations, by week, to all teams within all divisions. The number of weeks assigned to a team considers the extent to which the division utilizes 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.

## Assignments

The team concession schedule will be published at the beginning of the season. Teams assigned for an upcoming week, should be timely and proactive to secure staffing.

## Obtain Food Handler Card

We encourage all families to help in the Snack Shack. If you can help, 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 "4B2A"). 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.)

## Training

The [Snack Shack Volunteer Guide](#) includes simple step-by-step instructions, including how to use the open/close the concession stand, how to use the cash register, etc.

## Building Access

If you arrive for your shift and the building is locked, there is a keybox to the right of the door. To obtain the code to the key box, please contact our [Director of Concessions](#) or text 425-263-0110.

## FAQ

Please review our [Snack Shack FAQ](#) to learn more. Contact our [Director of Concessions](#) if you have additional questions.

# Uniforms & Equipment

## Uniforms

### All Players

- Parents are reminded to LABEL ALL GEAR.
- If a player wears glasses, “Safety/Sports Glasses” are recommended. (Sunglasses are permitted.)
- Watches, rings, pins, jewelry, and 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.
- 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, belts, and socks (coaches will tell the team what color/style).
- Tee-ball and Rookies may not need a belt, depending on pant style (some don't have 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 (89ers/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.

### 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.

### 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.

# All Parent Checklist & FAQ

- Have fun, be positive and always be supportive of your player!*
- Equipment & Uniforms** - Prepare and/or gather equipment and uniform items. Jerseys will be given to coaches to hand out to families before the first game.
- MCLL Safety Awareness Plan** - Review our [Safety Awareness Plan](#).
- Sudden Cardiac Arrest Pamphlet** - Review the [Sudden Cardiac Arrest Pamphlet](#).
- Show good Sportsmanship**
  - All players and spectators must treat other 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.
- Game Changer App** - Download the app (used to manage RSVPs, keep score, communicate as a team.)
- Volunteer** – Help with score keeping, umpiring, Team Parent tasks, playing music, game day snacks, etc.



## Frequently Asked Questions & “Good to Knows”

### When will practices and games be?

Schedules will be available a week after registration closes, when teams are formed and coaches are identified. As a rule of thumb, the Spring Season begins at the beginning of April and goes through the middle of June. Upper divisions (majors and higher) may start practicing in March. Teams generally practice a few times a week at the beginning of the season, and then just play a few games per week at 5pm or on Saturdays between 9:00 am and 7:00 pm. Tee-ball does not have separate practices, they practice right before games.

### How do we keep score?

MCLL uses the [Game Changer App](#) to score games for the Farm Divisions and higher. If you can help to keep score, review our [Scorekeeping Tip-Sheet for Beginners](#). We have WiFi at Freedom Field, contact a league official for the password.

### Are umpires volunteers?

Yes, all our umpires and coaches are volunteers. Please respect their calls and coaching decisions.

### How do I get fan gear?

Spectators can purchase from our “timeless collection” at <https://www.vindicodesign.com/mcll>.

### When are team pictures?

Pictures will be taken at Little League Day on April 19. A schedule and link to purchase will be provided.

### Are there restrooms at the ballfields?

Yes, the league provides honey buckets at all fields. If locked, your team parent or coach has the code.

### How do I get my child featured on your social media page?

Follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) and tag us in your posts to be featured.

# Designated Team Parent Checklist

This checklist is for *designated Team Parents*.



- Parent welcome meeting** - Help coach with planning and coordination.
- Coordinate volunteers** - Help identify a Game Changer Scorekeeper, umpire, safety volunteer and field prep/takedown help. During your Division's week at the Snack Shack, encourage families to sign-up. We suggest using our [Volunteer Form](#) at your Parent Welcome Meeting.
- Recognition** - Help coach with recognition throughout the season (i.e., rotating golden chain).
- Game Snacks** - Create a sign-up (i.e., [Signup Genius](#)) and send to families.
- Team Communications**
  - Share game day details (i.e., volunteer roles, time, who is bringing snacks).
  - Share information you receive from the league with families (and vice versa).
- Team Building**
  - Encourage weekend or post-game gatherings (i.e., go for ice cream or order pizza delivery).
  - Make time at the end of the scheduled game time to do a base relay race, etc.
  - "Favorites" – try hanging a blank poster board at practice as an ice breaker activity. Ask for 3-4 favorites (favorite food/candy, video game and sports movie) plus their preferred walk up song. You can use this information for announcing batters.
- Music & Announcing**
  - You or another are encouraged to play music (before game, in between innings, as batter walks to plate and after game). If playing walk-up music, it should only be played for 5-10 seconds as the batter leaves the dugout to the time they step up to the plate, then turn it off (as to not distract pitcher).
  - Music should not contain an explicit language.
  - *Tip:* the ["Walkout Song DJ" App](#) allows you to pre-record announcements and music clips. You can re-arrange songs, to follow the batting lineup (get the lineup from the coach).
  - To use the audio equipment at Freedom Field: 1.) Plug the 3-prong C-USB into Android (for Iphone – use the 1-prong USB wire), 2.) Turn power to "AC", 3.) Control volume with the "MP3 Player" knob.
  - If using the microphone, use the Mic volume knobs, and make sure to turn the mic off when not in use.
- Team Banner**
  - Our [Mill Creek Little League Day](#) is our league's annual "opening day celebration" on April 19, 2025.
  - Festivities include our parade of teams, team photos and more.
  - It's a tradition that each team make and carry a custom team banner in the parade, then hang it on the backstop at practices/games. Designs may include player names, numbers, coaches, and theme.
  - Banners are typically 72" x 36" in size, are made of vinyl and have grommets.
  - The most economical option is to design/order through the [Canva website](#) (\$75). Here is a [Canva template](#) that you can use - contact [Jen Kallshian](#) for help.
  - Other local vendors we have used in the past are [PostNet Snohomish](#) and [Streamline Digital Imaging](#), who can also design the banners (\$150-\$200).
  - Team parents typically take the lead on design, ordering and seeking reimbursement from families.
- Organize end of season party / recognition** – Use our [End of Season Recognition Tip Sheet](#) for guidance.