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# Encino Little League



## 2008 Parent/Player Handbook

Encino Little League  
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*www.encinoll.com*

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## *Welcome to Encino Little League!*

Proudly celebrating our 53rd season of youth baseball, Encino Little League is open to all children 5-15 years of age. Our mission is to provide a safe, enjoyable and community-minded recreational environment for our children. We want every child who participates in Encino Little League to:

- have fun;
- learn baseball fundamentals;
- appreciate the importance of community, friendship, sportsmanship, and teamwork; and
- Experience great memories to last a lifetime.

As our mission statement indicates, Encino Little League is more than a youth baseball organization. It's a place where neighbors meet, siblings play, loved ones root and community spirit thrives. That's why we are known as "Encino's Little Treasure."

We have wonderful children who make ELL special. From the smallest child (Rookie Division) to the teenagers (Junior Division), we have been blessed with extraordinary kids. But it takes more than children to make ELL special. It takes parents who appreciate and foster the true sense of community spirit that exists at ELL.

We are fortunate to have dozens of parents who dedicate their time as coaches and managers, and many more who volunteer in other ways big and small. Our League is run by a nine-member Executive Board, with the support of more than 25 General Board members, all of whom go above and beyond to help our League thrive. I take my hat off to all the volunteers who have given their time and energy on behalf of ELL. You are the backbone of our League.

Again, we welcome all the new and returning parents and children to the Encino Little League family. Have a great season!!!

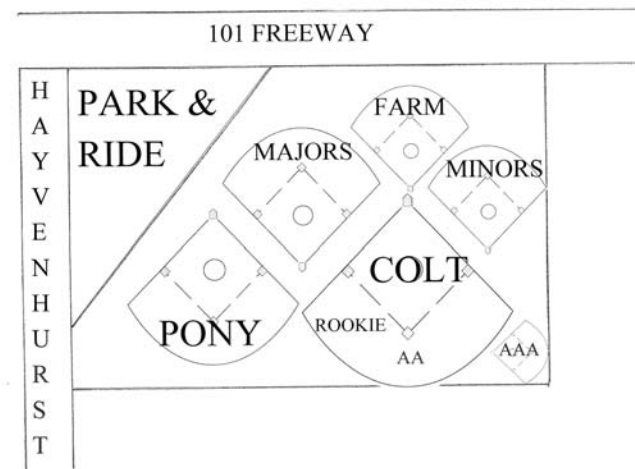


Jeff Cohen  
ELL President  
2007-2008

## *ELL Complex*

Located at 5120 Hayvenhurst Avenue just south of the 101 Freeway, our state-of-the-art complex contains six baseball diamonds, batting cages, pitching mounds, and a volunteer-led snack stand.

ENCINO LITTLE LEAGUE MAP



# Spring 2008 Calendar

**Opening Ceremonies:** Sunday, Feb. 24th

**Season Begins:** Saturday, March 1

**Picture Day:** Saturday, April 26

**Executive Board Elections:** Saturday, May 17

**Playoffs begin:** Tuesday, May 27

**Season Ends:** Saturday, June 7

## ELL Website

Our website -- [www.encinoll.com](http://www.encinoll.com) -- is the go-to source for all League information: field conditions, calendar, game and practice schedules, standings, snack stand schedules, rules, forms, news, events and more. Please bookmark it and check it regularly.

**District 40:** [www.eteamz.com/CAD40](http://www.eteamz.com/CAD40)

**Western Region Headquarters:** [www.eteamz.com/llbwest](http://www.eteamz.com/llbwest)

**Little League International:** [www.littleleague.org](http://www.littleleague.org)

### \*\*\* *Registration* \*\*\*

Registration for Encino Little League is handled online through our website [www.encinoll.com](http://www.encinoll.com).

You can update changes to your ELL account by entering your username and password and then editing your profile. **Please make sure your email address (and your spouse's) is up to date, as the email address(es) provided during registration is the address we use for sending out all League-wide information during the season.**

#### *Little League Required Documents:*

\* A **Birth Certificate** is required for proof of age.

\* Three (3) **proofs of residence** (from the list below) within the boundaries of ELL are required even if you have played with the league before.

1. Driver's License	5. Federal, State and Local Records
2. Voter's Registration	6. Support Payment Records
3. School Records	7. Home Owner or Tenant Records
4. Welfare Records	8. Utility Bills (only 1 allowed)

## *Overview of ELL Divisions*

### ROOKIE (T-BALL):

- Rookie League is an introductory level designed for the first time player.
- Rookie Division is for League Age 5 year olds and first time 6 year old players (League Age is as of April 30th, 2008)
- The essence of the Rookie division is to have fun while learning the basics of the game.
- When batting, **players hit off a batting tee the entire season. No exceptions!**
- All players play on defense
- Typically 6 batters or 1/2 the line-up bats each inning. This determines the end of each 1/2 inning.
- There are no outs and no score is kept.
- Base runners are not removed from a base even if an "out" is made.
- Games are a maximum of 6 innings or 1 hour, whichever comes first.
- Practices are at the manager's discretion.

### AA DIVISION - UNDERHAND COACH PITCH

- The AA Division is for League Age 6 year olds and for some 7 year olds (League Age as of April 30th, 2008)
- There is one scheduled game per week on Saturdays and an occasional weekday game.
- **AA follows the same basic rules as T-Ball except: Batters face underhand coach pitch (soft toss).**
- The play is a more simulated game environment **but no score is kept.**
- If an out is made, the batter (or runner) will be called out and removed from the base.
- Practices are at the manager's discretion.
- Time limit for AA games is 6 innings or 1 hour, whichever occurs first.

## *Upper Division Overview*

### **AAA DIVISION -- OVERHAND COACH PITCH**

#### **NATIONAL**

- The AAA “National” Division is for League Age 7 year olds (League Age as of April 30th, 2008).
- There are two scheduled game per week: one on Friday late afternoon and one on Saturdays.
- AAA is overhand coach pitch
- No score is kept during the regular season. At the end of season, there is a Jamboree tournament where score is kept.
- There are no walks.
- Practices are at the manager's discretion.
- Time limit for AAA games is 1 and 15 minutes, or 6 innings.
- Team selection is done by draft.

#### **AMERICAN**

- The AAA “American” Division is for League Age 7 and 8 year olds. (League Age as of April 30th, 2008).
- There are two scheduled game per week: typically one on Friday late afternoon and one on Saturdays.
- AAA is overhand coach pitch
- There are no walks
- Practices are at the manager's discretion.
- Time limit for AAA games is 1 and 15 minutes, or 6 innings.
- Team selection is done by draft.
- Score is kept.

**FARM:** Farm is for League Age 8 and 9 year olds. Farm is the beginning of kid-pitch. Also, beginning in Farm, players play with an official (“i.e., hard”) Little League baseball.

**MINORS:** Minors is for League Age 9, 10 and 11 year olds.

**MAJORS:** Majors is for League Age 10, 11 and 12 year olds.

**JUNIORS:** Juniors is a Little League-approved division for League Age 13, 14 and 15 year olds.

In Farm, Minors, Majors and Juniors, there are two scheduled games per week; one on Monday-Thursday and one on Saturdays. Practices are at the Manager’s discretion.

**NOTE: THE FARM, MINORS AND MAJORS DIVISIONS ARE BASED SOLELY UPON A DRAFT. THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS REGISTERED FOR THE LEAGUE -- BY AGE GROUP -- AND THE NUMBER OF TEAMS IN EACH DIVISION DETERMINES HOW MANY PLAYERS MAY BE DRAFTED INTO A PARTICULAR DIVISION.**

**NO CHILD IS GUARANTEED TO BE DRAFTED INTO A PARTICULAR DIVISION.**

## Equipment

### Uniforms

ELL provides all players with a team uniform that includes a jersey and baseball cap. Parents are responsible for purchasing baseball pants (Rookie and AA excluded), socks, belt, and other equipment.

### Bat

The right bat for your child is one that lets him/her generate maximum bat speed. You accomplish this with a bat that's not too long or too heavy. The best way to find the "right" bat is to start with the sizing chart, then try different size bats in that general length range. The bat that feels "comfortable" and "easy to swing" should be selected. (see chart, p. 12)

### Gloves

Gloves that are too big prevent beginners from developing proper fielding skills. Kids' gloves should not be bought to grow into. The best way to learn the fundamentals of fielding is by wearing a glove that fits well (see chart, p. 12)

### Cleats

Baseball cleats enable your child to have sufficient traction when batting, running and fielding. Buy rubber cleats only. No metal spikes allowed.

### Cups (For Male Players Only)

Cups must be worn by all male players at every game and practice. For players in Rookie, AA and AAA divisions, soft cups are sufficient and more comfortable for the younger children. In Farm and up, where a hard baseball is used, hard cups are essential to provide the necessary protection. For children in AAA and up, we also recommend buying sliding shorts that hold the cup in place while also providing extra padding for the legs, buttocks and inner thighs.

## Equipment Sizing

### Baseball Bat Sizing Chart

		Most Popular Length by Age												
Age		5-7		8-9		10		11-12		13-14		15-16		
Length		24"-26"		26"-28"		28"-29"		30"-31"		31"-32"		32"-33"		
Batter's Height		3'-34"	3'5"-3'8"	3'9"-4'	4'1"-4'4"	4'5"-4'8"	4'9"-5'	5'1"-5'4"	5'5"-5'8"	5'9"-6'	6'1"-over			
Batter's Weight	under 60lbs	26"	26"	28"	29"	29"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	61-70	27"	27"	28"	29"	30"	30"	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	71-80	-	28"	28"	29"	30"	30"	31"	-	-	-	-	-	
	81-90	-	28"	29"	29"	30"	30"	31"	31"	32"	-	-	-	
	91-100	-	28"	29"	30"	30"	31"	31"	32"	-	-	-	-	
	101-110	-	29"	29"	30"	30"	31"	31"	32"	-	-	-	-	
	111-120	-	29"	29"	30"	30"	31"	31"	32"	-	-	-	-	
	121-130	-	29"	30"	30"	30"	31"	32"	33"	33"	-	-	-	-
	131-140	-	29"	30"	30"	31"	31"	32"	33"	33"	-	-	-	-
	141-150	-	-	30"	30"	31"	31"	32"	33"	33"	-	-	-	-
	151-160	-	-	30"	31"	31"	32"	32"	33"	33"	33"	-	-	-
	161-170	-	-	-	31"	31"	32"	32"	33"	33"	34"	-	-	-
171-180	-	-	-	-	-	32"	33"	33"	34"	34"	-	-	-	
over 180lbs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33"	33"	34"	34"	-	-	

### Baseball Glove Sizing Chart

Sizing Chart		
Age	Position	Glove size
Under 8	Infield	9 inches
Under 8	Outfield	11 inches
9-13	Infield	9-10 inches
9-13	Outfield	11-12 inches

## *Volunteers*

**ELL is a volunteer-run organization.** All board members, team managers and coaches volunteer their time to make each season of baseball memorable for your child. We therefore ask everyone to assist the league sometime during the season. Some of the activities you can help with include:

Team Parent (assist team manager)

Field Maintenance (help with field set-up/clean-up)

Scorekeeper (keep score)

**\*\* Snack Stand (required for every team) \*\***

### **Snack Stand**

During the online registration, our snack stand volunteer requirements were described to you. At that time, you chose to either work your required snack stand shift or pay an nonrefundable “opt-out” fee of \$75.00

Check the Snack Stand Schedule page of the Website for more information.

## *Megan’s Law*

**Little League International requires any parent volunteer entering the field and involved with the players to complete a background check form known as “Megan’s Law.” Since every parent at ELL is expected to volunteer in some capacity during the season, all parents are required to complete the background check – even if you have done so in previous years. This is an annual requirement!**

### **Mandatory Little League Regulations**

**Reg I - (c) 9.** Conduct an annual background check on all personnel that are required to complete a “Little League Volunteer Application” prior to the applicant assuming his/her duties for the current season. No local league shall permit any person to participate in any manner, whose background check reveals a conviction or guilty plea for any crime involving or against a minor. A local league may prohibit any individual from participating as a volunteer or hired worker, if the league deems the individual unfit to work with minors. A local league must conduct a search of the applicable government operated statewide sex offender registry. If no sex offender registry exists in a State /Province, the local league must conduct a statewide/province-wide criminal background check through the appropriate governmental agency unless prohibited by law. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in the suspension or revocation of tournament privileges and/or the local league’s charter by action of the Charter or Tournament Committee in Williamsport. If a local league becomes aware of information, by any means whatsoever, that an individual, including, but not limited to, volunteers, players and hired workers, has been convicted of or pled guilty to any crime involving or against a minor, the local league must contact the applicable government agency to confirm the accuracy of the information. Upon confirmation of a conviction for, or guilty plea to, a crime against or involving a minor, the local league shall not permit the individual to participate in any manner.

**Note: More information regarding background checks is available at [www.littleleague.org](http://www.littleleague.org)**

# Sponsors

Many childhood memories begin with the crack of a bat. Many life-long friendships start in the stands. Encino Little League is a place where families come together to share the values of sportsmanship, self-confidence, leadership and a strong sense of community. To maintain and modernize our facilities, we need the help of our community leaders. Please be a part of that circle of helping hands.

## Team Sponsor: \$750.00

All Encino Little League teams are responsible for a minimum contribution of Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00). The League encourages each Team Manager to contact local businesses for their support. Each Team Sponsor receives recognition at the field of the team it is sponsoring as well as in the Yearbook and on a plaque. Encino Little League is a non-profit organization and the contribution is tax deductible. All money collected for Team Sponsorship is used for ongoing expenses (maintenance, repairs, etc.) as well as for capital expenditures (field remodel, parking lot, snack stand, etc.).

## Corporate Sponsorship

Encino Little League also has a Corporate Sponsorship program. The League has different levels of contribution in exchange for which we have recognition on scoreboards, field banners (multiple fields available) and our Web site.

Scoreboard Signage is available on the Major Field

Field Banners are available on:

Farm, Minor, Major, AAA and Colt Outfields

*Note: (Rookie Division plays on the Colt Outfield Area)*

The corporate sponsorship levels are as follows:

## Hall of Fame Sponsor: \$5,000.00

Scoreboard Sponsorship, your choice of field *(subject to availability)*

Web Site Listing/ Link

Web Site Banner Ad

## Gold Sponsor: \$2,500.00

Includes Four (4) 3' x 5' Banners, your choice of fields.

Web Site Listing/ Link

Web Site Banner Ad

## Silver Sponsor: \$1,750.00

Includes Two (2) 3' x 5' Banners, your choice of fields.

Web Site Listing/ Link

Web Site Banner Ad

## Bronze Sponsor: \$1,250.00

Includes One (1) 3' x 5' Banners, your choice of fields

Web Site Listing/ Link

## Web Site Banner Ad

\$500.00

## Wall of Fame Tiles: Major Field Snack Area

8" x 8" = \$1,000.00

6" x 6" = \$500.00

4" x 4" = \$250.00

**Sponsor forms are available online. For more info, contact:**

Mike Chase: (310) 701-7111; [michaelchase@chasecenters.com](mailto:michaelchase@chasecenters.com)

Rick Baer: (818) 298-2386; [rick\\_baer@ml.com](mailto:rick_baer@ml.com)

**Encino Little League Tax I.D. # 95-2159715**

# ***ELL Code of Conduct***

*Encino Little League's Executive Board has mandated the following Code of Conduct for all managers, coaches, parents and players to sign. All members of Encino Little League agree to comply with the following standards.*

No Board Member, Manager, Coach, Player or Spectator shall:

1. At any time, lay a hand upon, push, shove, strike, or threaten to strike an official.
2. Heap personal, verbal or physical abuse upon any official for any real or imaginary belief of a wrong decision or judgment.
3. Demonstrate dissent at an official's decision by throwing a glove, helmet, hat, bat, ball or any other forceful unsportsmanlike like conduct.
4. Use unnecessarily rough tactics in the play of a game against the body of an opposing player.
5. Physically attack any board member, manager, coach, player or spectator.
6. Use of profane, obscene or vulgar language in any manner at any time.
7. Appear on the field of play, stands, or anywhere on the ELL complex while in an intoxicated state at any time. Intoxicated is defined as an odor or behavior issue.
8. Gamble upon any play or outcome of any game with anyone at any time.
9. Smoke while on the premises including parking lots.
10. Discuss publicly with spectators, in a derogatory or abusive manner, any play, decision or his/her personal opinion on any players during the game.
11. Fraternalize with spectators during the course of the game. Managers and coaches shall remain in the dugouts or on the field during the game.
12. Speak disrespectfully to any manager, coach, official or league representative.

13. Tamper or manipulate any league rosters, schedules, draft positions or selections, official scorebooks, rankings, financial records or procedures.
14. Challenge an umpire's authority. The umpires shall have the authority and discretion during a game to penalize the offender according to the infraction up to and including removal from the game.

The Board of Directors will review all infractions of the ELL Code of Conduct. Depending on the seriousness or frequency, the Board may impose additional disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the League.

***You have read the Encino Little League Code of Conduct and hereby promise to abide by its mandated rules and regulations.***

## ***ELL Rules of the Complex***

1. *Field use is for registered players in Encino Little League programs ONLY and is limited to the field within that division. No open play on other fields is allowed, even if that field is not in use. Any other field use is by WRITTEN PERMISSION ONLY from Encino Little League. Violators will be removed by security and may be prosecuted for trespassing.*
2. *Batting helmets (with faceguards) shall be worn by all batters, at all times, including batting cages.*
3. *No smoking, alcoholic beverages, or glass beverage containers.*
4. *No dogs or other pets.*
5. *No bicycles, tricycles, big wheels, in-line skates, roller skates, scooters, razors, motorized scooters or skateboards.*
6. *No parents, siblings, friends or other visitors are allowed on the field or in the dugouts or bullpens.*
7. *No warm-ups, calisthenics or other activity are allowed within the grass infield or home plate area on any field. The only exception is for infield practice. All warm-ups should be conducted in the outfield.*
8. *No amplified music from any source.*
9. *All fields, bleachers and dugout areas shall be trash and litter free following games and practices. Infields shall be dragged, pitching and home plate areas raked, bases removed and equipment put away after use.*
10. *No outside food or snacks shall be brought into the complex.*
11. *For the last game or practice of the day, access gates to dugouts and fields shall be LOCKED.*

## **TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR FIELDS**

**PICK UP ALL TRASH NEAR THE STANDS  
RAKE TOWARD THE MIDDLE OF THE  
BASEPATHS, NOT THE SIDES  
INFIELDS SHOULD BE DRAGGED  
PROPERLY  
DUGOUTS SHOULD BE CLEANED BEFORE  
YOU LEAVE  
EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE LOCKED AND  
STORED AWAY**

*Players must remove any trash (bottles, cups, etc.) from their dugouts after their game. Spectators are also encouraged to clean up around the stands after their game.*



No dogs allowed in the complex...**anytime!**

**VIOLATION OF ANY OF THESE RULES  
MAY RESULT IN THE IMMEDIATE  
REMOVAL FROM THE COMPLEX,  
SUSPENSION OF MANAGERS OR  
COACHES, REVOCATION OF FIELD  
USES OR THE TERMINATION OF FIELD  
RENTAL AGREEMENTS.**

## FIELD MAINTENANCE POST-GAME CHECKLIST

To help keep our fields in top condition, please follow these field maintenance procedures. Prior to starting, remove bases and plug holes. When finished, remove plugs and replace bases. Except for the last game of the day, leave plugs in and place bases in the dugouts.

1. **BASE PATHS:**  
You will find either a rake or small broom at each field. When raking (broom) the base paths, **RAKE FROM HOME TO THE BASES.** Stand on the grass (dugout side) Use a pushing motion (away from you) towards the center of the base path; Then from the infield grass towards the center of the base path, pulling towards you **DO NOT TOUCH THE GRASS WHILE DOING THIS, KEEP THE DIRT OFF THE GRASS** The home plate area is composed of a clay dirt material. The rest of the infield is Angel Dirt. These materials do not mix.
2. **HOME PLATE AND PITCHERS MOUND: USE A RAKE ONLY**  
**Home Plate:** Push the clay towards home plate from the edges of the batters circle and rake out all holes in the batters box. Then smooth the clay for an even appearance. **Pitchers Mound;** Push the clay towards the rubber; **DO NOT RAKE THE MOUND AREA GETTING THE CLAY ON THE GRASS.** Pack the dirt in front of the rubber and rake out the holes. Smooth the clay for an even appearance. Use only mound clay for both home plate and mound areas **NO INFIELD DIRT!**
3. **INFIELDS**  
When dragging the infield, take care, keep the dirt off the grass, you do not need to drag all the way to the edges of the grass (leave a 1 foot gap). Do not to accumulate the dirt by first and third base. Pay extra attention please **do not to drag the Angel Dirt onto the grass** as it ruins the blades of the lawn mowers and raises the costs of maintenance. **KEEP THE ANGEL DIRT OFF THE GRASS.**

4. **COACHES BOXES AND ON DECK AREA: GROOM WITH A RAKE ONLY.**
5. **WATER DOWN THE INFIELD BETWEEN GAMES.**  
This helps in two ways: dust control and ground compaction. **DO NOT OVER WATER**
6. **FIELD DAMAGE REPORTS**  
Check field for damage. Report it to your Division Commissioner so we can have repairs scheduled.
7. **CARE FOR TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT**  
Secure area and return tools, rakes and brooms before leaving. If you are the final game of the day, pull bases and **PLUG BASE HOLES!**
8. **DUGOUT AND BLEACHERS MAINTENANCE**  
Keep dugout free of trash. Have parents pick up trash in bleachers. Please use the containers provided.
9. **GATES & LOCKS:** If you are last one out, please lock the gates. *If we follow the maintenance rules, we will have the best available playing fields for our children for many years to come.*

## *Post-Season Tournaments*

### **Tournament of Champions - TOC**

Encino Little League is one of 12 leagues within District 40. TOC is a District 40 tournament for the championship teams of the Majors and Minors divisions. No player(s) may be added to these teams at the conclusion of the league season.

### **Little League Baseball Tournament**

#### **“All Stars” - Minors and Majors Divisions**

The **official** Little League Baseball Tournament is as follows: 9-10 year old division, 11 year old division and 11-12 year old division. Levels are District, Sectional, State, Division, Region and World Series. The objective of the 9-10 year old division and the 11 year old division is to provide these children the opportunity to participate in a baseball tournament at District, Sectional and State levels at the conclusion of regular seasons. Majors division teams can go all the way to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, PA.

The All-Star teams represent Encino Little League at these tournaments. Players are selected by the Division Managers at the end of the regular season based on their overall playing ability, eligibility and availability. The roster should include sufficient pitching strength to meet tournament schedules/rules. Players may participate in other youth baseball programs prior to the first game involving that player's team. Once play begins for the all-star tournament team, players named on that all-star team's affidavit (official roster) may NOT participate in any other youth baseball program until that team is eliminated from tournament play.

The League President selects the Managers and Coaches of ELL's All-Star Teams.

## **Non-Little League Post-Season Tournaments**

Encino Little League is pleased to offer an expanded program to provide more kids the opportunity to play post-season baseball. While tournament play is not for everyone, they can be positive experiences for many kids. They draw upon the skills developed during the regular season and raise the level of play.

ELL authorizes tournament teams and allows them to use our league insurance, provides a field for practices and provides a league infrastructure. Most tournaments are categorized as 8 & under, 10 & under, 12 & under and Juniors (13-14).

Many tournaments are played by experienced teams from other leagues and sometimes travel teams.

Our competitive teams representing ELL are formed to provide the greatest opportunity of winning their games. Players are invited to join the team based on their ability and should make a commitment to be at all practices and games. All teams should include sufficient pitching strength to meet tournament schedules/rules.

The League President selects the Managers and Coaches of ELL's Tournament Teams.

## ***ELL 2007-2008 Executive Board***

Our nine-member Executive Board oversees all aspects of Encino Little League's operations.

<b>Jeff Cohen</b>	<b>League President, 2006- 2008</b>
<b>Jonathan Fried</b>	<b>Past President, 2004- 2006</b>
<b>Jeff Bacon</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Mike Chase</b>	<b>Sponsorships</b>
<b>Kerry Gelbard</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>Craig Hoyt</b>	<b>Facilities</b>
<b>Matt Klink</b>	<b>Website</b>
<b>Larry Krutchik</b>	<b>Baseball Operations</b>
<b>Jane Lewis</b>	<b>Snack Stand/Volunteers</b>

The above listings are general areas of responsibility to help you direct a question to the appropriate individual. To contact an E-Board member by email, please go to the Board of Directors page on the ELL Web site ([www.encinoll.com](http://www.encinoll.com)).

## **HAVE A GREAT SEASON!**