



East Nepean EAGLE EDITION

Fall Edition

November 2004

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY NOVEMBER 22, 2004

TIME 7:00 PM

EARLY REGISTRATION 6:30 PM

ROOM 1A BEN FRANKLIN PLACE

CENTREPOINTE DRIVE, NEPEAN

Please note that any presentation of motions must be post marked no later than November 15 to be notified for the agenda.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A magical season for all of East Nepean. The event that is still top of mind and centre of conversations of everyone is the **East Nepean Eagles, Canadian Little League Champions!** I still get a shiver when I say it.

This team is indeed special. From the time when I approached Mike Crepin to consider coaching our major team this season to working with the committee hosting the Ontario Little League Championships and then following the team through the Districts, Provincial play-downs, Canadian championships and the ultimate.... Participating in the **Little League World Series**. This team has made East Nepean a Canadian Champion League and all those associated with the league past and present have had a hand in making the league what it is today.

Congratulations to all of you!

The 2004 season was full of extra activity. The baseball novel "*Cairo Kelly and the Mann*" was received with great excitement from the players. There were exciting tournaments and playoffs throughout the league this season. The league hosted the minor district playdowns and Doug Frobels Park looked awesome. The players, aged 9-10, were quite excited to play at such a great baseball diamond. There was some great baseball in the summer season with surprising upsets in the playdowns and summer playoffs.

Check the divisional reports for more details.

On behalf of the players of East Nepean a very big thank you to everyone that volunteered in making this year a fun and exciting season.

Look for what is coming in the 2005 season.

East Nepean is sending a Challenger Team to Calgary Alberta to participate in the Challenger jamboree scheduled for the July 2005. See the Challenger section for more details.

SENIOR CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS...the league just confirmed this exciting news. More information in the spring newsletter. If you want to help out with organizing this tournament contact me at 226-3835. The committee will be forming and taking action later this month.

That is it for now. See you at the AGM.

REGISTRATION MADE EASY

1. Complete the registration form.
2. Attach a post dated cheque March 1, 2005 payable to ENLL.

3. Mail to: East Nepean Little League,
R.P.O. Merivale, P.O. Box 65010,
Nepean K2G 5Y3

Or drop it off at 140 Meadowlands Drive West, Nepean.

Avoid the line-ups and register now!

**Message from Mike Crepin:
Manager of the Canadian Little League Champion East Nepean Eagles**



Wow what a summer this was!!

You play or coach the game because you love the game; you seek lasting friendships, and you believe in the team concept. However with this being said, THE DREAM is still at the far edge of your mind each and every season.

THE DREAM is of course, participating in the Little League World Series. Still, armed with the knowledge that over 3 million boys and girls from over 100 countries (forming approximately 7500 Competitive "A" Baseball teams) begin each year pursuing THE DREAM, you tend to temper THE DREAM with a dose of reality, and revert back to the real reasons why you play or coach the game.

In 2004 as always, wearing the Eagle and representing Nepean was a matter of pride. Entering the Provincials as District II Champions was exciting. And of course, representing Ontario in the Nationals was a first for the Eagles. But truly, the accomplishment of ending the season as "Team Canada" and living "*The Dream*", while being the 1st Team ever from Ottawa to do so, is beyond words. But we do know that this not something that is to be celebrated just by the players, their families and the Coaches alone. Rather, it is something that the East Nepean Little League membership as a whole, from Blastball to Big League, from 1956 to present day can take credit for. All of our membership, past and present must step up and take a bow for this achievement, as we have all played a part in one way or another.

While in Williamsport, the support that we received via e-mail, phone calls or just word of mouth, made us want to be in two places at once and share the excitement of those sending their good wishes. I know that the players, parents and coaches would like me to thank you all on behalf of the Team. It was great just knowing that you were all behind us back here in Nepean.

From a coaching perspective, I have to say on behalf of all of the coaches that this Team of Players were awesome. They

stepped up to the plate and met each challenge both literally and figuratively. They worked hard leading into the season, and were able to seize the moment at every opportunity because of their dedication during our preparation. They did their Community, City, Province, and Country proud. They represented us all with the class we've come to expect of a team from East Nepean. Coaching this team was like being the Captain of the "Good Ship Lollypop" The Players led the way ... they deserve all of the credit ... well done kids!

A very big "*Thank You*" to the rest of the Team the siblings, relatives and parents. We salute your patience, trust, understanding, and unwavering support of the coaching staff during the Team's run. It's easy to stay focused when we are all on the same page! A very special thanks to the Campbell Family for providing the leadership and council we required along the way.

I don't want to talk about the Baseball experience in this article for a couple of reasons. The first being that most of you know at least one person who was involved, and if not, feel free to approach anyone who was. I don't think any of us will get tired of reminiscing about it. But for sure, you will find it more interesting to hear the different interpretations of all who were involved, player and spectator alike from a baseball sense, as opposed to my views alone. The second is that this experience was more about the things beyond the game, and more about the life lessons this beautiful game brings to us all.

I would like to leave you with four incredible memories.

- 1) The last out at the Canadian Championships, and the realization that the East Nepean Eagles would be representing Canada at the LLWS.....Wow !!!
- 2) The first morning we viewed Lamade Stadium (Couldn't see it when we arrived, it was too dark)!
- 3) Watching the team put on the "Team Canada" sweaters for the first time (no photo available for that one)!
- 4) Having the Team's picture taken at the memorial where the Karl Stotz placed the 1st home plate, cut out of a used tire so that the 1st Little League game could be played.

CHALLENGER REPORT By Steve Suttie

Our Challenger Division had another excellent season, thanks in large part to the players' favourite coach, Kevin Page, who always looks like he is having more fun than the kids. Special thanks also go out to Connie Regimbald, who, after running East Nepean Little League's Challenger program for the past three years, resigned as Director at the end of the season.

I am proud and excited to be back involved with the Challenger program. As usual, next season brings some challenges for us. For example, we hope to increase registration and move back towards a more structured program including returning to using the buddy system. For those new to the game, buddies assist the players to the degree necessary – whether it be pushing a wheelchair, pointing a player in the right direction, or helping them hit or field/throw the ball. It's beneficial for all - buddies and players make some new friends, buddies get exposure to kids who have various physical and/or mental challenges and, maybe best of all, parents and family get a well deserved break and can sit in the crowd and cheer the players on (and yell at their coach!!), just as they do in other sports. Also, buddies can earn hours towards their high school community service requirements. Incidentally, we also have an annual Buddy of the Year Award who, for last season, was Jordan Bourdages.

In addition, I'm very excited to let you know that we have been invited to send a team to play in the 2005 Canadian Challenger Jamboree to be held in Calgary, Alberta at the end of June 2005. Challenger Division teams from across the country will be attending this inaugural event. Hopefully, the idea will take off and become an annual tournament with ENLL potentially playing future host. We have been advised that Little League Canada and the Tournament Organizing Committee hope to be able to cover travel expenses for players and parents. We are also considering fundraising to help reduce costs further. More details will follow, however, in the meantime, should you want more information or wish to help out with either organizing or fundraising, please contact me at home at 825-8773 or via email at steve.suttie@sympatico.ca.

BLASTBALL REPORT By Natalie Hatina

2004 was the most successful year for Blastball yet! As this division has now grown to become the biggest part of East Nepean, the expectations for this upcoming year are very exciting! Blastball has become a unique version of T-Ball, that is tailored to teach our young players the mechanics and techniques of the game, while keeping their attention focused on the main event... having a BLAST!

As the director, I would like to take this opportunity to thank

all of our volunteer coaches, as our children would not be able to enjoy this game without their hard work and dedication. Last year, Blastball had over twelve teams, which in turn produced 28 volunteers! I would also like to thank Jason Campbell from the Teen Survivor Cancer Network who provided over 100 Blastball players with a year end barbeque and party!

As East Nepean celebrates the past with our Canadian Championship and trip to The World Series in Pennsylvania, we can only look to the future with our great upcoming ball players! For those of you who want your children to have a BLAST this spring, please feel free to contact me for additional information at nataliehatina@rogers.com. I look forward to hearing from all players, old and new....Let's Play Ball!

ROOKIE REPORT by Dee Murphy

It was a very exciting year in the Rookie division. I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make this year successful. We had 8 teams in the division, with 4 at each level.

After a well-played playoff, the Orioles took the Canadian division and the Reds took the Nationals division. However, all teams are to be congratulated on a great season and their good sportsmanship. It's at this level we are building the blocks for future years and the kids should be proud of their accomplishments this season.

This was the first year in many that East Nepean entered a summer rookie team. Thanks to Sean McPherson for coaching our kids. After a very successful regular season, the Eagles faced Kanata in the finals. It was a well-played game that unfortunately ended in heartbreak for our Eagles.

Congratulations to Jacob Symington for winning the Campbell award, and to Jake Skuce for winning the Gators Award.

See you in the spring!

MINOR REPORT By Peggy O'Neill

This year's Minor Division was a great success. With 104 players we had 8 teams. With the help of Shaun McGee, we were able to offer several spring clinics to all minor players. We also hosted a Minor Canadian Spring Tournament. We had teams from Arnprior, Pinecrest, CFR & West Carleton. Congratulations to the TWINS teams in both the Minor Nationals and Canadians this spring. Summer Ball this year was also a big success. Ross Duggan and John Campbell coached the Summer B team. The players learnt a lot and had fun doing it. For most of the players it was their first time ever in a Tournament. This summer we hosted the Minor

Districts. With a lot of hard, manual labour we had Doug Frobel Park looking like the big leagues. The Summer A team started out as a bit of a challenge with a roster of only 10 players. The boys played close to 58 games between spring and summer ball. We started out the season by winning the Barry's Bay Tournament, taking 3rd place in the Scott Tokessy Memorial, and at CFR we won the Skills Competition and took 2nd place losing to Upper Canada, the 2nd place Provincial Champions! But with a great bunch of kids always giving 100%, they were able to make it into the City Championship Game against CFR. With a team of only 8 players they were tied in the bottom of the sixth! So into extra innings we went. The winning run came in by CFR in the bottom of the 6th, with the bases loaded and two out! What a tremendous effort by both teams! Thank you to both teams for an exciting game! Thank you to all the coaches and volunteers for all the time you put into making this another successful season! I look forward to seeing you all back again next year.

MAJOR REPORT By Steve Laviolette

Enrollment was up a bit this spring, allowing us field seven teams in Major. Interest also high during the year as we had great turnouts at clinics held during the spring.

The Canadian division again had only three teams this year, but this approach made for lots of high calibre baseball and many very exciting games. The Dodgers and Reds started strong while the Marlins went a while before winning their first game. However, the Marlins reversed their fortunes later in the season and continued on to win the Playoff Championship. Once again, a team that started slow won the Playoff Championship.

The National division was back up to four teams this year, thanks to the increased registration. Things were quite uncertain before starting as we had only one coach and a couple assistants to cover four teams. However, parents responded in a fantastic manner and we ended up with many volunteers on each team. My biggest impression of the ball season is the enthusiasm displayed by the parents during the opening week of the National division. The attitude of the parents surely set a great tone for the players all season. As for the wins, congrats to all teams: the Padres for winning the Championship, the Cardinals and Mets for their regular season success, and to the Dodgers for finishing off so strong after a tough season. An extra mention goes to the Mets for their sportsmanship in how they handled their final game.

Regardless of winning or not, the best aspect of the spring season was the great comradery that was enjoyed by all the players, parents and coaches all season. The games really were all about friends enjoying baseball and each other's company.

The summer season was especially exciting with our hosting of the Little League Provincials and our All-Star team's success in making it to the Little League World Series (and also winning a game there). For more info about our Major "A" Eagles, see Mike Crepin's feature article. Since I did not have the time to help out like I would have liked, I wish to thank the many people who stepped up to do the work of hosting the Provincials, particularly Bruce and Louise Campbell, fundraising machine Wayne Hobbs and the "do everything" lady, Gail Deduk.

Obviously, summer ball is not just about the A-team, no matter how well they did. Our summer programs are mostly about development, so I am proud to report that we again had two "B" teams in our summer program. These teams also had a fantastically successful summer, placing second and third during the season and with Wayne McCormick's team also winning the Playoff Championships. These are great accomplishments, especially considering that the "B" program included a couple District Playdown teams. Our two Major "B" teams also did very well at tournaments and in general had a great time this summer.

Finally, hats off to the umpires and the umpire leadership provided by Stephan Demers and Joan Horan. We had excellent and reliable crews this year.

JUNIOR REPORT By Doreen Kilbride

The spring season consisted of 4 teams. There were 2 Junior Canadian teams and 2 Junior National teams. The Juniors played an interlocking schedule with other leagues in District 2. I would like to thank the Spring head coaches for volunteering their time - Bob Cimon, Ken Johnson, Warren Gould and Bill Bennett and also a "big" thank you to the parent volunteers.

In summer ball we had one 'A' team coached by Bob Cimon and one 'B' team coached by Warren Gould. Both teams interlocked with District 2 and District 6. Congratulations to the "A" team for winning the "B" side championship division game. The "B" team had a great summer season with a 13-1 record and lost the championship game in the 7th inning to Orleans. What a heartbreaker!

BIG LEAGUE REPORT

The Big League Eagles made a 2nd consecutive trip to the League Finals this year, only to be defeated by Gloucester in the best of three final. The team finished 3rd in the league standings and advanced to the final by defeating Carleton Russell 9-0 and the defending champions from Kanata 7-3. Seven members of the team were also selected to play on the District All-stars that competed at the Ontario Big League Championships.

Big League offers 17-18 year olds the opportunity to compete in a 4 month season, with 2 games per week. With most of the players working part-time jobs, this program is the perfect fit for those that want to continue playing competitive baseball.

The highlight of the season for the players and coaches was watching the success of our 12-year-old Eagle team that advanced to the World Championships. The conversation at many games was focused not just on the results of the Major Eagles, but reminiscing on our own experiences at the Major level.

The nucleus of this team has played in East Nepean for 10 years. Many expressed the sadness they felt knowing this was their last chance to wear the Eagle uniform. The following players are graduating from East Nepean this year: John Campbell, Ryan Cowan, James Hollingsworth, Ben & Ryan McGovern, Ryan Ng, Ryan Scully, Jason Tunis, Dylan Villeneuve, and Jeff Wilms.

East Nepean would like to congratulate Paul Bloomfield for being named 2005 Summer All Star Coach for Big League in District 2. A great accomplishment!

AWARD SELECTION

The league has awards to highlight the contributions that players bring to East Nepean Little League. The executive of the league selected the recipients of these awards after the directors obtained information from their many sources. We are proud to present these awards and look forward to do so each year.

You're Safe Umpire Award is presented to a youth umpire to recognize their contribution in making the game an event for the players of East Nepean Little League

Recipient – **Rickey Horan.**

The Campbell Award is presented to a player in each age division who best exhibits the spirit that Jason Campbell showed in his battle in fighting cancer. This player shows continuous hustle, eagerness to do their best and be supportive of his/her teammates.

Blastball Division	-	Angelica Lobsinger
Rookie Division	-	Jacob Symington
Minor Division	-	Jamie Burritt
Major Division	-	Matthew McIntyre
Junior Division	-	Matthew Rendell
Senior Division	-	Steve Frost
Big League Division	-	Ben McGovern

Gators Award: Gators Indoor Baseball Facility owner Wayne Holbrook is sponsoring the Most Improved Gators Award. This goes to the player that is committed to practicing and shows the determination to improve.

Blastball Division	-	Mallory Hobbs
Rookie Division	-	Jake Skuce
Minor Division	-	Nicholas Havelock
Major Division	-	Shawn Green
Junior Division	-	Nick Rothschild
Senior Division	-	Aaron Bartsch
Big League Division	-	Ryan Ng

The Buddy Award is presented a helpful assistant in the Challenger Division.

Recipient - **Jason Bourdages**

UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

By Peter Hansen

By the time you are reading this, all uniforms and equipment would have been sorted, cleaned, repaired, folded and stored away for the winter, waiting for the smell of grass and warm temperatures to mark the arrival of another baseball season. If you come across any uniforms or equipment, please call Peter Hansen (home # 228-9239) to arrange a drop off.

UMPIRES NEEDED!!!!!!!!!!

Earn \$20 a game. Free clinics provided to learn the rules and guidelines. Must be at least 14 years of age. Contact The Umpire in Chief Stephan Demers 761-0396.

COACHES WANTED

The league is looking for summer allstar coaches for the A and B teams. Deadline for A Allstar applications is December 31st, 2004. Send your resume to the Coach Selection Committee at the league address, RPO Merivale PO Box 65010 Nepean Ontario K2G 5Y3 or e-mail to stewwilsonis@rogers.com

All other teams need coaches and if you want to help out, the league will be sponsoring coaching clinics in the new year. Look for the spring newsletter or the web site for updated information. The contact person is Mike Crepin, 825-8573, e-mail: crepin8573@rogers.com

BINGO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please contact Joan Horan at 825-2251 if you are interested in learning how working Bingos can help out you and East Nepean Little League.

EAST NEPEAN CLOTHING

****A GREAT GIFT IDEA****

The league has the **NEW** Eagle Logo T-Shirts, jackets, track suits and other great gift ideas.

Contact Louise Campbell: 226-3835.

Spring Training 2005

East Nepean Little League is pleased to announce a winter conditioning program.

Who: Ages 7 - 12, **LIMITED SPACE** to the first 24 paid players. Register now!

When: Saturdays January 8 to March 26
4 to 6 pm

Where: Gators Indoor Baseball Facility
1644 Bearbrook Drive
beside Louis Riel High School at the Mini-Dome



Why: Sharpen your skills with our winter camp headed up by :

Mike Crepin, Manager of the East Nepean Eagles **2004 Canadian Little League Champions**, 2000 Canadian Minor Champions and the 1999 Canadian Minor Silver Medalists. East Nepean's Director of Player and Coach Development and Infield instructor at Gators (formerly Grounder's) Indoor Baseball facility since 1997.

TBA: Several guest instructors now playing or teaching within Major League Organizations.

And of course, several of the most experienced coaches within ENLL.

Cost: \$130.00 **LIMITED SPACE, REGISTER NOW! Includes camp T-shirt**

Complete the registration form and mail to
Spring Training 2005,
ENLL P.O. Box 65010,
R.P.O. Merivale,
Nepean K2G 5Y3

Or drop off at 140 Meadowlands Drive West.
Contact Louise Campbell 226-3835.

Upcoming event: Mike and Stephen Kusiewicz



We would first like to send our personal congratulations to the East Nepean Little League organization, coaches and players for your success in representing Canada in the Little League World Series.

You will remember those exciting days for the rest of your life.

As a parent of a former East Nepean baseball player, I was

proud and excited when my son made it to the provincials. I can only imagine how you and your son/daughter felt when they represented Canada in the Little league World Series.

Now imagine how you and your son/daughter would feel if they represented Canada as a member of the Canadian Olympic Baseball Team.

As a former member of the East Nepean Eagles and as a member of the Canadian Olympic Baseball Team, I can tell you that dreams do come true.

Did you ever wonder whether you can make it or how it would feel to be an Olympian or professional athlete? Come join me and find out in an upcoming event scheduled for mid January.

Mike and Stephen would like to invite the East Nepean Baseball Association, coaches and players to an upcoming event scheduled for mid January. Mike will share his inspiring stories of personal goals, achievements and how he successfully turned his dreams into reality.

Mike will offer a personal one hour baseball session to a lucky participant at the event. If you are interested in attending, please contact Stephen Kusiewicz at 723-7200.