

Rob Bava (National, Coach)

My Passion for Naperville Little league is to help kids enjoy the game of baseball. In addition, I want this league to be the strongest league in all of Illinois. My Passion is to assist the league with tryouts/registrations/awareness and growth in overall participants. I am running as a board member- coach.

I have participated on the board for 1 year. I also want to see our league create competitive balance at all levels.

Overall, I want the kids to forge new relationships/friendships that can last a lifetime.

Kerry I. Bleuher (Continental, Non-Coach)

Please accept this as my request to be nominated for the candidates for the Naperville Little League Board of Directors for the 2016-2017 term. My children have participated and are currently participating in NLLB and have found great enjoyment through baseball. I wish to participate in this organization because I believe it is a truly valuable part of the Naperville Sports community. Since very early on I have respected the attitude and mission of the organization and coaches. Naperville is a very competitive athletic town and NLLB must be able to compete within that structure, but I hope to bring perspective to the board that will allow NLLB to continue to be the BEST choice for BASEBALL in Naperville.

The old African proverb "It Takes A Village" is an important to me. My desire to continue to volunteer service through Naperville Little League is due in part to my own and my children's positive experiences through NLLB. I wish to see as many children as possible has the same motivational, recreational, instructional and positive experience that we have gained over the years. NLLB makes our "Village" stronger by providing safe, constructive and fair opportunities to all players. I wish to be an active participant in the "Village" to continue the success of NLLB.

Mike Czuba- (National, Coach)

Little League baseball still stands for today, what it stood for 30 years ago. Community, development, character and competition. Having grown up in Naperville, I was able to experience the Little League as it grew with the city. Naperville Little League is a 100% volunteer organization. When I first signed my son up for baseball, I had some questions as to how things were run. That is when I decided to volunteer to help. I have enjoyed my 1.5 years on the Board of Directors and last year as a Manager and National League Director. Is Naperville Little League perfect? No. For a volunteer organization with 1800 kids, 50 parks, 100 umpires and multiple leagues, needs and issues, we

do a lot to try and manage it. I have a passion for leadership and development. We have been able to put the National League back on stable ground and build a solid foundation of future leaders and volunteers for years to come. I'd be honored to sit on the board for another year and help lead Naperville Little League to grow even stronger.

Doug Daniels (American, Coach)

My name is Doug Daniels and I'm asking for your nomination to join the NLLB Board of Directors. Nearly 8 years ago my family moved to Naperville and made it our home, and having been previously involved with other little league programs we are truly enjoying the benefits of being associated with a model organization like NLLB. I have 3 sons (18, 11 and 10) who have all developed "life skills" through the game of baseball that will position them to develop into responsible, productive members of society. My youngest sons have been involved with NLLB for 3 years, are currently participating in Fall Ball, and in 2017 will compete in the Supreme and Majors divisions.

I have been involved with NLLB for 3 years, serving as an assistant coach at practices and as a bench coach and scorekeeper during games. I have been active year-round with winter batting practice, spring training, the regular season/playoffs, all-star tournaments, Supreme/Majors tryouts and Fall Ball. My responsibilities have included preparing/exchanging lineups with opposing teams, verifying pitch counts, submitting official game reports to the league office and mediating any on/off-field disputes between players, coaches, umpires and fans. These experiences have underscored the quality of leadership throughout all 4 leagues (American, National, Continental and Republic) and have given me a profound appreciation of the core values that provide such a strong foundation for success. NLLB is a community treasure, and I would be honored to carry on the good work of the current/previous boards that have set the bar high in terms of organizational excellence.

I most enjoy spending time in the dugout as the drama of each game unfolds and the boys are faced with a range of emotions: jubilation, pride, excitement, uncertainty and disappointment. As an HR director in professional services for nearly 30 years, I've learned that these competitive experiences serve to build confidence for overcoming adversity and realizing the strength of contributing to an inclusive team that shares a common goal. I hope to have the opportunity to make NLLB an even better organization for future generations within our Naperville community.

Jeff Dorjath (American, Non Coach)

My name is Jeff Dorjath. I'm an 18 year resident of Naperville. I have been involved in this terrific community based Little League program for 3 years. The first 2 years as a coach and now this past year as a member of the NLLB Board of Directors, where I served as American League Director. Prior to my involvement in Little league, I served for 8 years as a manager and Board Member for the Naperville Diamonds Fastpitch Softball organization and Southwest Suburban Softball Assoc. where I was the Vice President of Leagues and ran the "House" programs. I'm a firm believer that if you want to see change or improvement, you have to get involved.

I hope to be re-elected to the BOD for NLLB to continue to help strengthen and guide this great program which has such a positive impact on the lives of our children.

Jeff Egan (Continental, Coach)

I am a lifelong baseball person. I grew up as one of six and we all played sports competitively. I played baseball the most of any, and was fortunate to have a great Dad and coaches along the way who encouraged my interest. I played through the Little League and Pony levels, then high school, and walked on for a few years in college at the Division 1 level, before injuries and the realization that my dream of playing centerfield for the Yankees or anyone else would not come true.

Because I had brothers and a Dad who loved baseball, I was taught how to play the game. My Dad was a coach and so we all learned to respect the game first, play hard all the time, and respect your opponent. With kids of my own now, I enjoy teaching them what I learned and passing it on. When I played, as for most of us of a certain generation, there were no travel teams and Little League was a mix of some very good players and kids who struggled. Since I come from that experience, I am a believer that if a kid wants to give it a shot to play, he should be able to play. And if you teach and support the right way, you can help each kid get the most out of their level of ability.

We have lived in Naperville for 12 years, and I have been a head coach the past 3 seasons with NLLB, and an assistant for 2 years before that. Even before becoming a Dad, I was an assistant coach in Little League when we lived outside Illinois. I have also coached boys and girls soccer, and basketball the past 5 years. Given my background, I think I could help the group discussion to ensure we maintain what is already a strong brand, consider feedback and ways to improve, and continue the momentum in the community.

Mike Fekety (American, Non-Coach)

My name is Mike Fekety and I have been involved with Naperville Little League for 20 years. I have four (4) boys who participated in Naperville Little League (NLL), all from 8 to 12 years of age. I started out as a volunteer helping out the coaches. Over time I became an assistant coach, and then finally manager for many years. As the boys got older I found I had a passion for Naperville Little League because of all the good experiences and memories. As such, I joined the NLL Board of Directors 4 years ago, where I started out as American League Director and umpire coordinator, then became Treasurer. This past year I have been President of the Board. I am running as a non-coach for the American League.

Jim Geovanes (Continental, Non-Coach)

My name is Jim Geovanes. I am interested in becoming more involved as a board member of the Naperville Little League. I am a 17 year resident of Naperville with my wife, Katie, and 2 children, Marissa and Jimmy, ages 12 and 10. My son, just finished his first season of Little League this summer.

Professionally, I am a Physical Education teacher at Oak Park and River Forest High school as well as one of the Sophomore Baseball Coaches. I have coached High School baseball for 19 years with 17 at OPRF. In those 17 years of coaching, I have been so lucky part of 9 teams that have made the State Tournament elite 8 with 2 second places and a State Championship in 2012. We have sent over 70 kids onto play college ball all over the country, with most of those scholarships being for academics and baseball.

Needless to say, I love the game of baseball and made a very wise decision when choosing a career that incorporated a game that I am so passionate about. I played high school ball and knew that my playing days were over as I was too short, too skinny, too slow, too awkward to play collegiately.

I have always had in the back of my mind that I wanted to be more involved in the community. I have coached for the park district and for 19 sports as my kids were growing up in Naperville. Being a high school teacher, I have a great rapport with kids of all ages and parents as well. I have a very loud voice, naturally, but will also listen intently to ensure that all messages are getting across. Most important, I am firm, fair and consistent. With my high schoolers those three traits are not always popular but I have learned that sticking to those traits minimizes a lot of problems with students and parents alike.

Mark Kranz (Continental League, Coach)

I would like to be considered for the NLLB Board of Directors. I am currently coaching a Fall team and have coached my oldest son in NLLB every season since Fall 2013. I have two younger sons who will soon enter the program. Our family has lived in Naperville for 14 years.

Our job as coaches and parents is to teach the game. We are baseball teachers. Baseball is more than just hitting, pitching and fielding. It is the most cerebral of all major sports. If we can teach our kids not only the fundamentals, but all of the little things on and off the field, we have done our part. Coaches and parents should be on the same page. We should not be afraid of success, nor apologize for it, as success is the result of hard work and learning from our mistakes and growing from them. Let's make baseball fun for them, and educate them on the game as well. I appreciate your consideration.

Emily Langan (Republic, Non-Coach)

My name is Emily Langan and currently our 9 year old son is on a Republic Supreme Team for NLLB. My husband and I also have two additional children who plan on being involved with NLLB as well. We've been a part of NLLB for the past two years since moving here from Pasadena, CA. I want to serve on the Board of Directors because I love the game of baseball and I feel that my athletic background as a former player and coach can assist the league in a positive way. In addition, I want to become more involved in my community.

Prior to moving to Naperville, I have 7 years of coaching experience at the high school level. I was a Varsity volleyball coach for both girl and boy programs in Cincinnati, OH and served as a Varsity assistant in Albuquerque, NM. I have experience in maintaining a budget, fundraising, hiring coaches, scheduling officials, ordering equipment and uniforms, organizing game and practice schedules, working with parents along with facilitating youth summer camps. As a parent, I volunteered as the head basketball coach for my son's first grade basketball team.

I look forward to having the opportunity to work with the league and hopefully, offer insight and perspective both as a parent and coach!

Mike Llewellyn (Continental, Coach)

I have lived in Naperville since 1984 and I grew up playing in the Continental League. I managed an A league team for 2 seasons, AA last season and this season I will manage a Supreme team. This past season I also served as the player agent for Continental AAA and Majors leagues. As the player agent last

season I got to see the amount of time and effort it takes to keep NLLB operating at a high level, and it motivated me to want to be more involved in the leadership of the league. As a member of the Board of Directors I would like to help keep NLLB growing in a positive direction. I feel my experience of being a manager and listening to the concerns of parents over the last 3 seasons will help me bring fresh ideas to the board and improve the league. I feel the most important responsibility of the league is to provide a positive experience for the kids so that they will want to continue to play baseball and become fans for life. I have many great memories of playing in the league when I was young and want to make sure that the kids in the league today have a chance to create their own great memories.

Larry Lucas (American, Non-Coach)

Our goal is to provide a learning experience while having a good time, in a safe environment. I'm retired, and currently I'm a paid part time employee of the league, and a manager of a Major League team, both of which I'll resign from, if elected. My experience includes managing all ages from 7 to 14 YO's, in both league play and at the all-star level. On a personal note, our 4 boys played in the Naperville Little League Baseball (NLLB) program, and beyond.

In addition to my current positions, I have assisted the NLLB organization as Player Agent, Operations Manager, team coach, and a volunteer on many projects. Regarding the business aspect of running a league, I have a BA and MBA degrees.

I bring an in-depth knowledge of both National and local rules, a working relationship with our key partner (Naperville Park District), and years of experience in working with parents, players, coaches, and the Board. I am retired, and I have the time and passion to devote to my number one past time, Naperville youth baseball. If you think I'm right for this position, I would appreciate your support. Thank you.

Jim Meurer (Republic, Non-Coach)

Jim Meurer has been a Little League volunteer for 26 years. He is a current Naperville Little League Board member as well as the Assistant District Administrator for Illinois District 11 and the Umpire Consultant for Illinois District 11.

His role in Naperville Little League is to educate and grow our youth umpire program through clinics and hands on instruction. His experience includes assignment to three World Series, including the Little League World Series in Williamsport and six Regional Tournament Series.

Ray Shinkle (National, Coach)

Ray Shinkle has been a resident of Naperville for 13 years and has been a NLLB National League Manager and active volunteer since 2013. Ray was lucky enough to marry Suzy Shinkle in 2003, who was a 1st Grade teacher at Naper School for 12-years and is also an active volunteer with NLLB. Ray is father to an 18-year stepdaughter, McKenna Freund, who is a freshman and the University of Missouri as well as his daughter Mary, who is 12 and a 7th grader at Jefferson Jr. high, and son Charlie, who is 10 and a 4th grader at Mill Street School.

Ray also volunteers his time on the Cress Creek CC golf committee and is an assistant coach with St. Raphael Football as well as Rockets basketball. Ray is also the Founder and President of Insite RE, Inc., which is a site acquisition firm for wireless carriers and tower companies with offices in Oak Brook, Minnesota and Arizona.

Raphael Louis Vitón (National, Non-Coach)

As an NLLB board member, I focus a majority of my volunteer time on the individual & collective process of helping to raise awareness and congruence of adult behavior to higher standards of purpose, relationship and performance on the baseball field and in the bleachers.

My 11-year old son has been playing in the league since he was very young and I've been helping to support our outstanding group of coaches with practices and games as a MIGS "game coordinator" when I'm not traveling for work.

Outside of the NLLB, I specialize in innovation leadership, business transformation and gender, diversity & inclusion initiatives for fortune 500 companies in transition from their current level to a more effective "next level." Similar to the NLLB, my role usually involves focusing on VUCA environments helping leaders integrate generative (drama free) corporate lifestyle habits while building durable transformation assets, transformation muscles and skills-based tool boxes that create more agile/adaptive/engaged businesses.

Rob Russell (Republic, Non-Coach)

My name is Rob Russell. My son and I had our first experience in NLL last year. He had played the previous 5 years in the Wheatland program. He's been selected to the Majors team for next season. I was extremely impressed with the quality of coaches and how well run it seemed to be and would be proud to take part in continuing to grow the quality of the organization. I've always been very involved in my son's baseball, football, and scouts programs through active participation and assisting the coaches and leaders in anyway

necessary. I also have a daughter who is more into dance and cheerleading so I'm mostly a spectator there.

I work for a major global corporation. I'm currently in a sales function and spent most of my career thus far in manufacturing. Recognizing that Little League Baseball is also a major global organization I'm well equipped to make sure we keep the big picture in mind while keeping the priority on our local teams and most importantly the safety and development of our children. I firmly believe that team sports in a well run organization have a profound impact on the development of our youth and I'm confident that I have the skills and passion to continue and improve on this great program.

Michele Wyllie (Continental, Non-Coach)

I have lived in Naperville since 1978 and along with my husband grew up playing competitive sports at all levels. One of the main reasons I moved back to Naperville is because it is such an amazing place to raise a family. I have two boys who live and breathe the game of baseball and currently play for Naperville Little League. They have had nothing but positive experiences and it is my sincere intention to continue this trend for all kids who play Naperville Little League at all competitive levels.

I worked in corporate America for several years prior to having a family. This past year I was the Treasurer of the U11 Continental RedHawks, a position I will continue with the U12 team. Naperville Little League has recently made many improvements to the overall program. These improved changes has fueled my desire to help be a part of the leadership that continues to make Naperville Little League a first class organization for our community. I feel my organizational skills and energy, coupled with my experience as a Little League parent, will help to promote a fun, safe learning environment for baseball players of all levels.