



# Linganore Urbana Youth Athletic Association Newsletter

www.luyaa.org

Spring 2008

## DIRECTORY OF LUYAA OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

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### **Bob Mochi**

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### **Robyn Stewart - Secretary**

secretary@luyaa.org (301)865-9984

### **Athletic Directors**

**Open (Fall)**

**Open (Winter)**

**Open (Spring)**

### **Ambassador to the BOE**

**Open**

### **Business Manager**

**Julie Jarboe**

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LUYAA Mailing Address:

PO Box 302

New Market MD 21774

## Letter from the President

Hello LUYAA Family,

It's hard to believe, but Fall sports are over and Winter sports are up and running. The seasons may change and the sports may end, but our volunteers never stop. Because LUYAA has such great volunteers, our programs grow bigger and better each year for our young athletes.

It is my pleasure to welcome our returning Board members, Todd Hilton, Rich Long and Robyn Stewart, and welcome our newest Board member, Doug Makosy.

I would like to recognize our sport commissioners for their hard work and dedication. Our commissioners put countless hours of energy into each program to make it the best it can be. Without the tireless efforts of our commissioners, LUYAA would not be the great organization it is today.

None of this would be possible without the continued support of our LUYAA families. Your contributions are very much appreciated and are highlighted by the many valuable programs we are able to offer our children.

Best of luck to all of our teams during the upcoming sports season. **GOLUYAA!**

Sincerely,

Charlie Dunn  
LUYAA President

## **LUYAA Refund Policy - UPDATED NOV 2006**

All refunds will be directed through the LUYAA webpage, [www.luyaa.org](http://www.luyaa.org). In the event that Internet access is unavailable, please contact the registrar.

A \$10 Administrative fee will be imposed on all refunds requested within 2 weeks of the last registration day at school. (\*)

A 50% Refund will be issued for refunds requested before the completion of the second week of practice. (\*)

No refunds will be given after the completion of the second week of practice. (\*)

Late fees and annual membership dues will not be refunded.

(\*) Unless a child does not make a select or travel team and no intramural team is available in the same sport, or if the sport is full at the time of payment or cancelled for lack of enrollment.

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## **LUYAA Late Registration Policy**

A registration is considered to be “late” if not turned in at the official LUYAA Registration or if not paid for online by the close of online registration.

All late registrations will be subject to a \$25 late fee. \$10 of the late fee will be deposited into the LUYAA Land Fund.

Directions for registering late can be found on the LUYAA webpage at [www.luyaa.org](http://www.luyaa.org). In the event that Internet access is unavailable, please contact the registrar.

Registration is not complete until full payment is received.

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## **LUYAA Bylaw Article II—Purpose**

2.01—To organize and promote athletic and recreational programs on intramural and competitive levels on the basis of good sportsmanship and fair play; these standards are to be observed at all times.

2.02—To offer those programs to all interested youth in the Linganore and Urbana High School districts; any exceptions to be made at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

2.03—To teach youngsters, through participation, the fundamentals and principles of sports.

2.04—To take into consideration, first and foremost, the health, welfare and ability of each individual participant.

## **Financial Disclosure Policy**

adopted 10/30/2006

LUYAA members in good standing who wish to obtain financial information must do so in writing in advance. Requests can be made via email to [treasurer@luyaa.org](mailto:treasurer@luyaa.org) or by US mail. The treasurer has the right to deny requests that would require the release of confidential information or be deemed unreasonable.

Members who have their requests denied can appeal to the LUYAA Board of Directors in writing, and that decision will be final. Appeals should be directed to the LUYAA President.

In accordance with section 6-410 of the Maryland Solicitations Act, any person may request a current financial statement at no charge. That financial statement will be provided within 30 days.

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## **Newsletter Advertising**

The LUYAA Newsletter is distributed three times a year to families in the Linagore & Urbana High School area that have participated or expressed interest in our programs. It is also distributed electronically via email and our website.

### **Current Advertising Rates:**

1/6 Page 2.33”W x 5”H	\$50
1/6 Page 5”W x 2.33”W	\$50
1/12 Page 2.33”W x 2.5”H	\$30

If you would like to advertise in our next issue, please email [bizmgr@luyaa.org](mailto:bizmgr@luyaa.org) for a current rate sheet. Or call 301-591-2402.

## Chain of Command

- Your Immediate Coach
- Activity's Commissioner-Coordinator
- Athletic Director
- LUYAA Board of Directors

Please try to resolve any problems through the chain of command. Please contact the athletic director before contacting members of the board. If there is a problem in following the above chain of command, the LUYAA Board of Directors has an open door policy; call any director or attend any board meeting.

## Sport Commissioners

Athletic Dir. (Fall)	Open	
Athletic Dir. (Winter)	Open	
Athletic Dir. (Spring)	Open	
Baseball	Kevin Glassic	(301)607-6438
Basketball	Dave Sowers	(301)831-3824
Cheerleading	Donna Rumburg	(301)807-8585
Field Hockey	Sue Lake	(301)831-3065
Football	Sandy Baker	(301)607-9668
Golf	Kay Cook	(240)674-3612
Lacrosse	Jaine Ackley	(301)706-0359
Pom Pons	Suzanne Patton	(301)748-0771
Soccer	Bob Locicero	(301)662-5525
Softball	Lon Santis	(301)865-7238
Wrestling	Ken Wolfe	(240)405-5671

## Help Wanted

The following volunteer positions are open:

Athletic Director (Fall, Winter & Spring)

Ambassador to the BOE

Fall Cheerleading Commissioner

If you are interested please contact Charlie  
Dunn at [president@luyaa.org](mailto:president@luyaa.org).

## Treasurer's Report

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed the wonderful holiday season. I hope everyone enjoyed playing their winter sport. I would like to say a big thank you to all our volunteers!!

Spring is coming and we will enjoy watching our kids play in the warmer weather! We will continue with the online registration. Online registration is so convenient for a lot of people. We will have open registration at New Market Middle School if you prefer to register in person. Please check the LUYAA website ([www.LUYAA.org](http://www.LUYAA.org)) for important information with refund request, late registration and much more.

I encourage parents to come to a LUYAA board meeting. This is a great opportunity to see how the different programs are run and make any suggestions to help better our programs. Volunteering is so rewarding I hope all of you will consider a area in the LUYAA program to help out. LUYAA has so many great volunteers. Thanks for all your time and efforts!! :)

## Returned Check Policy

Checks that are returned by the bank will be automatically processed electronically. In order to write checks to LUYAA the following must be agreed to:

*If my check is returned unpaid, I authorize my account to be debited electronically for both the check amount and return check fees.*

# 3 Ways to Register

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## 1. Pay Online

1. Visit our website at [www.luyaa.org](http://www.luyaa.org) and click on the link for “Online Registration.
2. You will be taken to the provider’s website where you can register your children for LUYAA sports.
3. Please register your child starting with the oldest and ending with the youngest.
4. Please complete all the fields on the form.
5. **Click on the link for “Help” if you have problems.**

## 2. Pre-Enroll Online & Pay at Registration at NMMS (Express Line)

1. Follow the instructions for Online Registration above
2. Select the payment type “Bring to Registration”
3. Print an extra copy of your receipt and bring it to the school on one of the registration dates.
4. Turn in your receipt with payment of CASH or Check.

**WARNING - If you sign up online and select the “Bring to Registration” payment option, but do not come to the school, your registration will be considered “LATE” and Late fees will then apply!**

## 3. Register at the school

1. Check the registration dates on the front of the newsletter and on our website. Updates on cancelled or postponed registrations will be posted on the website and the registration hotline as soon as possible. There should be someone for each sport there and they often give out information for the upcoming sport and may have other things that need to be taken care of such as equipment, sizing, purchasing, or paperwork to be filled out.
2. At registration you must fill out a form for each child for each sport. If you have a question about the sport, go to that table and talk to them before you get in the registration line. Don’t write out your check amount until you are told the total that you owe. Please try to sign-up all your children at one time. It makes it easier to apply the multiple sibling discounts.

### **Late Registrations:**

All registrations are considered late after the last registration date at the school. There will be a \$25.00 late fee imposed on all late registrations. Late Registrations will be done online.

### **Refunds**

All refunds will be directed through the LUYAA webpage, [www.luyaa.org](http://www.luyaa.org). Please see the refund policy on page 2 for more details.

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## **COACHES MUST SIGN UP ONLINE TOO!**

All LUYAA Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Division Coordinators, Team Mom, Concession Coordinators and Fundraising Coordinators now must pass a criminal background check. If you are planning on volunteering for one of these positions, please register early, as the paperwork takes time to be processed.

1. Visit the LUYAA website to register through the Online Registration page. You can register as a coach when you register your children online, or by yourself.
2. If you have had a background check done in the last 3 years, then all you have to do is register online. If you are new, or have not done a background check yet, you will need to download the signature form and turn it in. Instructions are on the form.

## Background Checks

All head coaches, assistant coaches, division coordinators, concessions coordinators and team moms, must have a Criminal Background Check approved and be approved by the commissioner before any practices may begin.

### LUYAA Background Search Criteria (Rev. 10/30/2006)

1. Individuals found to be guilty at **any** time of the following crimes will not be accepted for any position within the LUYAA organization. Guilty means the individual was found guilty following a trial, entered a guilty plea, entered a no contest plea accompanied by the court's finding of guilty, regardless of whether there was an adjudication of guilt (conviction) or withholding of guilt. The policy does not apply of criminal charges resulted in acquittal or dismissal.

- a. Any crimes against children
- b. Any felony conviction involving violence
- c. Any sexual offense
- d. Any felony theft.

2. An individual found to be guilty of the following crimes within the past **5** Years immediately preceding his/her application will not be accepted.

- a. More than one criminal offense that is drug or alcohol related, or more than on driving while under the influence (DWI) conviction.
- b. Misdemeanor possession of a controlled substance or drug paraphernalia.
- c. Misdemeanor possession of concealed weapon.
- d. Sale or delivery of an alcoholic beverage to a minor.
- e. Petit theft
- f. Misdemeanor domestic violence.
- g. Multiple crimes.

## Baseball

Welcome to LUYAA Baseball 2008!

Baseball is excited to build on the success of its first year of affiliation with Babe Ruth / Cal Ripken Baseball with some exciting plans for Spring 2008. We're proud to announce the addition of brand new 60'/70' diamonds at Utica Park that will host numerous events, including two inaugural wood bat tournaments and one or more Ripken Baseball Maryland State Championships this summer. The addition of the Utica Park facility will allow our program to continue to offer a diverse selection of youth baseball instruction at all levels.

We have not forgotten about our existing fields. Plans are in the works for major renovations to our New Market Elementary and Kemptown fields. After completing work last year including new backstops at Kemptown fields 1 and 2, two new batting cages at Kemptown, and the purchase of a new concession stand, LUYAA Baseball plans continue improvements with work on the New Market and Kemptown field 3 backstops. We also look to recondition our infields so that playing conditions on our fields continue to be some of the best in the area. As was the case last year, we will need everyone's help to make these improvements reality. Specifically, baseball is looking for one or two main corporate sponsors in addition to the local team sponsors we rely on annually. We are also looking for families and local companies with specific expertise or contacts, including fencing and landscaping companies, to assist in



our efforts. Any information should be directed to [baseball@luyaa.org](mailto:baseball@luyaa.org).

LUYAA baseball continues to field full time select (travel) teams under the team name Lightning at age groups ranging from 9U to 16U. Travel teams will workout throughout the winter to prepare for season opening tournaments in March. Information on our travel program can be found on the Lightning website at [www.LUYAALightning.com](http://www.LUYAALightning.com).

Also the intramural program will hold its evaluations indoors at the Frederick Sportsplex on Sunday March 3 for ages 8 through 12. Please check your email after registration for information on times. Information will also be made available on our website at [www.leaguelineup.com/LUYAA](http://www.leaguelineup.com/LUYAA).

Finally, Baseball is looking for a few good women and men to coach or provide assistance on our baseball committee. In particular, LUYAA baseball has committee openings for several division coordinators and a public relations representative. We are also looking for coaches at every level. Coaches should be in place and available prior to the March 3 evaluations. All coaches will be certified by Babe Ruth / Cal Ripken Baseball this spring. Once again, we plan to hold at least one coaching clinic prior to the start of the 2008 season. Anyone interested in coaching or working on the committee should email their name and contact information to [baseball@luyaa.org](mailto:baseball@luyaa.org).

Kevin Glassic  
LUYAA Baseball Commissioner  
[baseball@luyaa.org](mailto:baseball@luyaa.org)

## Basketball

No article submitted.

For information please contact

Dave Sowers  
LUYAA Basketball  
baseball@luyaa.org



We are currently in our Winter Cheerleading season with 4 teams of girls. They are working hard and learning fast and have already cheered their first games.

Fall Cheerleading will return before we know it so keep watching for updates later in the year. Registrations will begin in May.

Cheer Commissioner  
cheerleading@luyaa.org

## Cheerleading

Another great Fall Season of Cheerleading has past. We had 11 teams of girls between Hawks and Lancers from ages 5 through 13.



Many exciting things happened this season; lots of practices and great football games were our highlights. The girls cheered on the boys rain or shine and did a great job of it! We had cheer camp in August attended by over 100 girls followed by a family picnic. Homecoming game and Eighth Grade Recognition along with the traditional Powder Puff Game where the cheerleaders played football and the Football players cheered were some of the other season highlights. Again this year, several of the older teams participated in the MMYFCL Competition, with all teams placing with high marks. Awesome job to all.

The girls did a wonderful job of fundraising for the teams to give them just a little bit more and help pay for the banquet. Thanks to everyone!

The season ended with two wonderful banquets, including door prizes and a great DJ which was enjoyed by all.

## Field Hockey

Just because we are getting over the Holidays does not mean that spring is not that far away, and we all know what that means....LUYAA FIELD HOCKEY!!! We had a great season last spring and are preparing for this year. We look forward to seeing all of last year's participants and welcome any new players who want to come and have fun while learning the game. This year players can register on-line or stop in during LUYAA Spring registration at New Market Middle School. Practices will start the last week in March and are scheduled for Sundays and Wednesdays throughout the spring. We will have additional practice and game information in the early spring and will



post it on the LUYAA website. One major change to this year's program is that since everyone practices and plays games at the same time, buddy requests will not be granted. Teams will be determined by dividing the girls evenly by age, experience and school districts. We have this to be the best way to divide the teams.

Sadly, the ladies below who have been running this program for 3 years need a break. The hope is to have new adults work with us this Spring so the change over will be effortless. The program really runs itself, the LUYAA organization is easy to work with, the High School field hockey players help coach the practices and the High School players teach the girls the skills. You don't even have to know the game or have played the game to run the program. We would hate to see the program end. Please take some time to talk to one of the ladies below to find out about the rewards of running such a wonderful and fulfilling program. Monica Keeney-Sherlock is planning on stay for a few more years but she can not do it all by herself. If no one steps up, field hockey opportunities in the Urbana/Linganore area starting Spring 2009 will be next to nil.

Hope to see everyone at registration or receive your registration on-line!

Sue Lake, Joan O'Connell, Stacie Doherty, Monica Keeney-Sherlock  
fieldhockey@luyaa.org



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# Football

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I have written many Newsletters for Football and thought how can I make this one different?



So many people to thank. Our program is so large and takes so many wonderful people to run it. But the people I would like to thank the most are our players. The hours, the hot summer days of practice and the unbearable cold toward the end. These kids put forth so much effort. We have children from 5 to 14 practicing, having fun, making friendships and learning what it is truly to be part of a team.

I woke up this morning at 5:30 as usual, put my two older kids on the bus (my High Schoolers) yes I still watch and make sure they get on safely and went to take my shower, exhausted but needed to get ready for work. I pull back the shower curtain to find dinosaurs and trucks and boats from my eight year old that took a bath the night before and left them there just because. My first reaction was to get frustrated because he did not clean up his mess, then I realized there will be a day when all the toys are gone the house is empty and I will miss the times I had to clean the toys out of the tub.

I guess my point is that all you parents should be so proud of yourselves for making these memories with your children. Football memories they will share with their kids your grandkids. Times that seem to be so hectic will be our greatest memories. So thank you to all the players and the Dads and Moms for being a part of our football program!

The 2007 season was another great year of Football!  
It came with its many challenges  
member of the new Mid Maryland

Football League. Our coaches and players handle it well and with class.

Year after year we try and improve our Football program so please send in the feedback form located on the football page. We welcome the parents and players feedback. New for 2008 we would like to start a football committee. This will help bring in more volunteers and make the program even better. Fresh faces and ideas. Please e-mail football@luyaa.org if you are interested in being a part of the Luyaa team.

There are many people to thank for the 2007 season. First I would like to thank Boh and Linda Dixon. Boh was the Linganore Area Director and put in many, many hours. Right along his side was Linda Dixon doing everything that was needed to be done. Thank you both for a job well done. Congratulations to Coach Dixon and his team for making it all the way to the Super bowl. I would also like to thank Annette Hampton she was our Assistant commissioner for Linganore. Annette put a lot of time and energy into the program. Thank you Annette. Thanks to our Team Mom Coordinator Denise Hawkins. Last but certainly not least are Rich Long and Todd Hylton our I-70 Area Director and Assistant Area director respectively. Congratulations to them and coach Geppi and the 10 & under I-70 team for winning the Super Bowl. Rich and Todd is a great asset to the Linganore program. Thank you both for an outstanding Job. We also have Coach Rock and his 12 & under team who won the Super Bowl. Congratulations!  
Please remember if you are not mentioned by name you are appreciated in every way. All our coaches and team moms te crew that lines the fields and sets up and breaks down after a long day. A big thank you to every Lancer I hope you all had a great season.

Charlie Dunn our Urbana Assistant commissioner and Carla Steele our Team Mom Coordinator and Concession and Apparel manager. Thank you doses not seem to be enough. Your dedication to the Luyaa is incredible and I only hope to be working with you in the future. Thank you to Tony Delisi and Dave Morton for running T-1 our concession trailer on practice nights and Chris Steele for working so hard on game days. It takes a lot of preparation to pull off game day concessions. Dave Madaras I-70 Director and our 13 & under Super Bowl Winning Coach. Congratulations! Greg Komara our Federal Area Director. Thank you for all your time. Rob Snelick, Assistant Area Director and Brook Jeu, our equipment manager. John Moles for lining our fields. Chris Jones for all the field prep and donations. Thank you all. You all are an incredible asset to our program. Again all our Team Moms, the glue that holds us all together.

Thank you to everyone who may have done any little thing to help these kids. You just do not realize what a difference you make.

I am looking forward to the 2008 season. I will invest the time and energy to make this coming season even better. This is truly all about the kids. I hope they all had a great time.

Enjoy your time off. The Football season will be up and running before you know it.

Good luck to all the kids in there sports in between.

**GO LANCERS  
GO HAWKS  
GO LUYAA FOOTBALL**

Sandy Baker  
Luyaa Football Commissioner  
football@luyaa.org

## Golf

The spring 2008 Instructional Golf Program will be open to boys who are 11-18 years of age and to girls who are 9-18 years of age, as of April 1, 2007.

The cost of the Program will be \$100. We meet from mid-April to mid-June one afternoon. We will again offer two levels of instruction: (1) Instruction in Basic/Intermediate Skills and (2) Instruction in Competition. However, in 2008, there will be skill drills for kids who will participate in the Competition program. Parents will not have the opportunity to merely register for Competition. EQUIPMENT—Your son or daughter will need his or her own equipment. At a minimum that should include a metal wood (driver or fairway), mid-iron (5, 6, or 7 iron), wedge, putter, and bag. Most starter sets include these clubs. Starter sets vary in price, but reasonably inexpensive sets can be purchased at general sporting goods stores like Sports Authority or Dick's; in addition, the Rattlewood pros can help you fit your child for clubs and will order them for you. Sneakers are fine and golf shoes with plastic cleats are also ok. The weather is likely to be quite variable in April and May, so be sure your child has a jacket and hat/visor. You may want to consider getting your child a golf glove as we will be spending significant time practicing.

Your child should have some tees and a few golf balls at first. Please be aware, golf registration tends to fill up quickly. I suggest strongly that you sign up as soon as registration opens. Once the limit has been reached, a waiting list will be started. Should spots come open, they will be filled from the waiting list first-come-first-served. Participants from last season will not receive special consideration.



Please do not register your child if he or she cannot attend a significant majority of the sessions; I don't want to withhold a spot from a more committed player. Finally, as more kids move onto the course, we will need parent chaperones; if you are interested, please let me know. If you have any questions prior to registration, please feel free to e-mail me. I look forward to another successful year of Golf!

Kay Cook  
Golf Commissioner  
golf@luyaa.org

## Lacrosse

Lacrosse is gearing up for another successful spring season. Boys will continue to play in the SMYLA league, under the coordination of Heather Erdman (Urbana) and Kim Smith (Linganore). Girls will play in the WMYLC league, with Lisa Guay coordinating the program. Please join me in thanking our coordinators for all their time and commitment in helping make this program a success.



Our Fall program wrapped up with another banner year. Sixty eight novice boys, and 51 novice and experienced girls joined us to learn and sharpen their lacrosse skills. We also implemented our first junior coaches and ref in training program for high school mentors to our youth. Many thanks to girls coaches Bill Olson, Julian Rock and Jason Wright, and our junior coaches Rachel Ackley, Kelsey Ayers and Kat Lambert for doing a fantastic job!

The novice boys had a successful Fall lacrosse season yet again, due to the selfless and energetic commitment of

our Head coaches Robert Walburn (K-4th grade) & Tom Powell (5th-8th grade) and Assistant coaches Adams, Young, Vandenheuvel, McGill, LaRocco, Hill, Shaddix (Kyle - UHS), Powell (John - UHS), DeMember, Lockett, Ambrose, and the many others that stepped up help make this a fun experience for the 68 boys that wanted to give lacrosse try! We sure look forward to seeing them this spring. Thank you!

Indoor lacrosse is in full swing, midway into the girls season, and nearing completion of the boys season. Girls fielded a middle school team and our first ever elementary school team. Thanks to Kim Lenta and Julian Rock for coaching these teams. Boys had tremendous success; fielding three Elementary school teams, and five Middle school teams (3 Urbana and 2 Linganore). A large number of volunteers stepped up to coach these boys with an additional focus of preparing everyone (including themselves) for the upcoming spring season. It has been a real pleasure to witness a great deal of growth in individual and team play this season. Enormous gratitude goes out to the following indoor boys coaches and additional volunteers:

- Urbana ES - Brian Cahill, Rob Cooper, Tom Flood, John Fremming & Paul Knotts
- Linganore ES - Stan Swoyer, Andrew Twillman
- S. Carroll ES - Chris Dizon
- Urbana White MS - Jayne Hench, Tex Welch & Matt Thomas (UHS)
- Urbana Gray MS - Jayne Hench, Tex Welch & Matt Thomas (UHS)
- Urbana Blue MS - Tex Welch, Jim McKeever, Joel Winters, Jon Moles & Charlie Dunn
- Linganore Red MS - Bobby Fowler
- Linganore Black MS - Kevin Salter

Fundraising: Many thanks to the Frederick Stars Lacrosse Club for their generous donation to our program this fall. Thanks also to SSL

Lacrosse League's Fall Ball program for allowing us to sell concessions at their annual Fall Ball Play Day. This was an extremely successful fundraiser which we will definitely do again! Kudos and thanks to all the parents for their generous financial donations and support of our various fundraisers. Special thanks to Christy Lowe and Carla Steele of Premiere Promotionals for their help with the Urbana apparel sales.

Your support allows us to provide coaches and players with the best program possible. We're working to increase playing time (as we did by adding extra indoor games for our large boys teams this year), update sorely worn equipment, improve fields, and provide coaches training and coaching tools for our teams. Thank you for contributions, which are critical to the success of this program.

Please be sure to lend a hand by volunteering some time for the program this spring. As a volunteer organization, we need plenty of help to make the work load reasonable for all. As my grandmother said, "Many hands make light work." Check out the website for the volunteer positions we need help with.

It has been a pleasure working with each of the lacrosse families (Urbana and Linganore); We look forward to seeing you this spring. - Heather Erdman (Urbana Boys Coordinator), Kim Smith (Linganore Boys Coordinator), Lisa Guay (Girls Coordinator) and, with sincere gratitude for all your help and support,

Jaine Ackley, Commissioner  
lacrosse@luyaa.org

## Poms

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Registration for our Fall 2008 Lancer and Hawk Pom season will be held during May registration.



You can check out the LUYAA.ORG website for up to date information regarding the upcoming season.

Thanks to everyone for a great Fall 2007 Pom Season - we are looking forward to the 2008 season and have already been making preparations! If anyone would like to volunteer for coaching, asst. coaching or team mom, please contact me at Hawkspomcoach@comcast.net.

Suzanne Patton  
Pom Commissioner  
poms@luyaa.org

## Soccer

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I would like to begin by thanking all of our volunteers from the fall season, without whom there would not be a LUYAA Soccer. From our programs for the three and four year olds on up to our highest levels of travel soccer, these volunteers make it possible for the children of our organization to have fun and play the sport. You are the role models for these children and eventually these children will become adults who, because of your example, volunteer in their communities.



While this is the traditional "off season" for soccer, the LUYAA Soccer Committee is always on the

job. The committee meets once a month all year long in a never ending quest to improve the program. The winter months allow us the opportunity to thoroughly investigate and research methods and ideas to keep the program fresh and progressive.

I would like to give you an update in regards to a few items. The first item is our competitive/travel soccer uniform situation.

All children who participate in competitive or travel soccer, which is to say all children at the U9/10 and older age groups, will need to order new travel uniforms for this spring. The current Adidas uniform is now seven seasons old and is no longer being serviced by Adidas. This is fairly typical. You will be able to order your uniform online. We will be keeping with a similar color scheme but the uniforms will be slightly different. Uniform costs will be fairly close to the most recent pricing. These uniforms will be good for three years. Your uniform cost at the travel soccer levels is not included in your registration fee, it is in addition to your registration fee. In house children, which is to say those U 8 and younger, will not have to order a uniform. Your uniform is included in your registration fee.

The second item to address is the state of our in house soccer program, which is again, our U 8 and younger children.

This past fall saw us complete our first full season of the UK Elite led academy style training at the U8 and younger age levels. I realize that this was a break from our traditional way of doing things in LUYAA Soccer, but, after much research, a determination was made that this method was one which had proven to be very beneficial when properly implemented. The idea behind having U8, U6 and U5 aged players trained in an

academy style setting with a set week by week curriculum was driven by the following goals:

1. A desire to have all of the children in an age group exposed to the same soccer curriculum so that each child is learning the same skill sets at the younger ages, regardless of their parent volunteer coach's level of expertise.
2. A desire to have progressive skill sets, so that each age level builds upon the skills learned at the previous stage.
3. The desire to have that program overseen and implemented by professionals whose job is to train both children and coaches.
4. The desire to then place these children into an environment where they can work on their individual foot skills without pressure and without fear of failure.
5. The desire to maximize the number of touches each child gets with the ball. Do away with lines, laps and lectures and replace those three "L's" with more ball touches.

Why?

Previously, your experience with your child in the younger ages of soccer was often times based on the expertise of your coach. As is the case with any volunteer organization, that experience varied based on the coach's level of soccer knowledge and the coach's ability to relate it to your child's age group. Much of the time that team driven method worked, and at times, it didn't. While we almost always had a few accomplished coaches at the younger age levels, we also typically had several inexperienced coaches who were stepping up only because nobody else would. While all of the coaches had good intentions, there was no doubting that some children were receiving much better training than others, and it was based simply on the luck of the draw of who was assigned to which team. Our research told us that our most experienced coaches needed to be with our beginner players. Unfortunately, that clashed with the reality of a volunteer coach organization.

The current academy method affords each child the opportunity to be trained in a setting which features a professional coach. It also allows us to expose our parent volunteer coaches to professional coaches and a researched practice plan and curriculum. The new parent volunteer coach doesn't have to show up at practice and wonder what they'll do today to keep the children busy. Now they have a curriculum in place and an example of how to implement it by watching and participating in the academy session from earlier in the week.

To close the loop we reduced our in house four on four league for U 6 children to a three on three league, and we brought all of our U 8 children in house for a five on five league. On smaller sided teams each child touches the ball more often. The more touches on the ball, the more fun a child has and the more skill improvement in that child. The idea of keeping it in house sprang from a desire to keep things low pressure. That meant no refs, no leagues, no standings and no pressure on five, six and seven year olds to win. Pressure makes adults afraid to make mistakes, and it makes children want to quit. Pressure to win also leads to playing the game to win as opposed to learning to play the game the right way, even at the expense of losing the game. By taking the pressure to win out of the equation, it allows the children the ability to try moves with the ball, take chances and to be creative. If they fail and the other team scores, it isn't a big deal because we aren't keeping score and we aren't charting standings at that age level. The critical part to keep in mind at these younger age levels is that the fun of playing the game, individual skill development and confidence with the ball are the most important things. If children do not learn foot skills and things like use of the weak foot for example at the younger ages of soccer, it is much more difficult for them to learn them as they get older. Experience tells us that they will not try tricky moves and use of their weak foot in a game if they are afraid of failure.

As these children move up through the academies and into the competitive leagues by U9 and U 10, they will have been exposed to the basics and funda-

mentals of soccer, and their coaches will have been exposed to professional practice plans. In the near future it is likely that the academy concept will expand into the U 9 and U 10 age groups.

If you have any questions in regards to our younger age groups, or anything else regarding LUYAA Soccer, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached via email at [soccer@luyaa.org](mailto:soccer@luyaa.org)

Bob LoCicero  
LUYAA Soccer Commissioner

## Softball

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As we settle into our post-holiday season hibernation, the thought of spring around the corner should keep us going. With the warming weather will come the fun and excitement of LUYAA girls' softball. We hope you are ready to enjoy being a part of it.



LUYAA is proud to offer the only intramural girls' softball program in Frederick County and also fields teams in the Frederick County Girls' Softball League (FCGSL). We grew again in 2007, serving 250 girls ages 6-14. We were most pleased with the inclusion of six MAYAA and 4-County teams in our league in 2007 and look forward to having them with us in 2008. As in years past, we plan to continue to grow and improve the program even more.

To help our parents' planning, we have set the days of the week that each age group will participate. For intramural play, the 8Us will have activity on Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays; 10Us will go on Tuesdays or Fridays and Saturdays; 12Us will get together on Mondays or Wednesdays and Saturdays; and 15Us will hit the diamonds on Tuesdays or Thursdays and Saturdays. We hope to field 10U, 12U and 15U teams in the FCGSL this year and if so, they will have activity all three days of the week. Age is determined on January 1, 2008.

As you may have noticed, the upper age limit now extends to 15U. This is consistent with a change at the FCGSL. Please note that 15 yr-old high school varsity pitchers are not allowed to pitch in the FCGSL.

The 8U program will continue to evolve. This year we are going to focus on instruction with game play being introduced gradually. Essentially, there will be three clinics a week; parents are encouraged to bring their child at least twice. A coach will be responsible for one day of the week. The girls will be provided reversible jerseys and as the season progresses, game play will be introduced gradually. By the end, they will be playing regular games. Although this breaks the traditional "team" mold, we are excited about the cross-pollination, convenience, and developmental format this change provides.

Some other minor changes include the softball committee's decision to stop providing helmets for participants; mostly for health reasons. LUYAA still has a quite a few decent used helmets and faceguards (mandatory in the FCGSL). Stay tuned or check the website for how these will be available.

For girls nine and above there will be option at registration for choosing to play in the FCGSL. The FCGSL provides a higher level of competition with games played throughout Frederick County. If too few choose this option in an age bracket, there will be no FCGSL team for that age group and the girls will be put on intramural teams. If too many choose this option, tryouts will be held with the remainder being put on intramural teams.

The intramural program over the last couple of years has had tight competitive balance, which is a priority of the Softball Committee. As last year, the Committee will not honor teammate and coach requests. Anyone that manages to register in a higher age group than qualified for will be moved down. Anyone wishing to preserve a carpool due to a genuine need or play-up in a higher age group than qualified for (or down) must have the Softball Committee's approval.

Check the softball webpage at <http://www.luyaa.org/softball.htm> through the winter and the season for the latest information about clinics, schedules, standings, rules, policies, and other information.

The mission of LUYAA's Intramural Girls' Softball program is to provide for the continuing development of softball skills for young female athletes. Competition increases as girls move up the program, but above all, emphasis is placed on having fun, learning teamwork, and increasing skill sets.

At the 8U level in our program, athletes learn the most basic fundamentals of softball. There is no scorekeeping although making outs while fielding is encouraged. At the 10U level, athletes are introduced to the skills expected at the highest level and these skills are honed at the 12U level. Games are umpired and score is kept above 8U.

At the 15U level, athletes are reinforcing functional skills and learning the nuances of the game. Although still learning a lot, athletes essentially compete at a level consistent with what they will see if they continue playing organized softball, giving them a hint of what they will see at the high school level. Unless registration is unexpectedly strong, 15U girls will play in the FCGSL.

There will be workouts at least one day in February for each age group (except 8U) and practices will start as soon as the weather allows in March. The season will begin April 12th and end before the last day of school for Frederick County public schools. After this, we will field teams in summer or fall leagues; giving those players wanting it another 6 to 12 weeks of softball.

Intramural practices and games are typically about two hours in length, usually once or twice during the week and once on Saturday. Weekday practices and games are held after school. Saturday practices and games are held throughout the day.

Most 10U and 12U intramural games and 15U home games are played at the three softball fields at Windsor Knolls Middle School (WKMS). Activities will also take place at New Market Middle School and Watkins Park in Mt. Airy. The 8U division plays at Green Valley Elementary School.

As with any completely volunteer organization, the success of our program depends on the dedication of participants and others. Many thanks go to all the volunteers, coaches, and especially the Softball Committee for their tireless efforts. It takes the contributions of many to make a successful program and we are always seeking volunteers for participation in the softball committee and for coaching. Please contact us using the information below when you decide you are ready to help the program.

In particular, this will be my only daughter's last year of LUYAA softball and although the last three years has been more fun than not, I could not volunteer the time necessary to continue in this role after that. Anyone interested in becoming the next LUYA softball commissioner should contact me.

Team sports such as softball teach lessons not found in books, TV, or video games. I believe that the game of softball is a representation of life's joys and struggles. Just like the game of softball, life has long periods of relative inactivity punctuated by intense moments of decisiveness. How we respond on the diamond in those moments can help us grow as individuals; and we enhance our mental and physical wellness throughout our lives through sports. We promise that the 2008 LUYAA girls' softball program will strive to build a good foundation for this, above all, for each participant.

LUYAA Softball – There's nothing "soft" about it.

Lon Santis  
Commissioner  
(301) 865-7238 (home)  
(202) 266-4333 (work)



# REGISTRATION

LUYAA  
PO Box 302  
New Market MD 21774

Non-profit  
Organization  
Auto  
US Postage Paid  
Frederick MD  
Permit #401

## LOCATION DATES & TIMES NEW MARKET MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETORIUM

Saturday, January 26, 2008  
8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.  
**ONE DAY ONLY!**

Check the website or the Registration  
Hotline in case of inclement weather.

**Online Registration  
Opens Jan 19, 2008**

[www.luyaa.org](http://www.luyaa.org)



# LUYAA

## SPRING

### REGISTRATION

Baseball	T-Ball Rookie - Machine Pitch Instr. Coach Pitch Minors Majors Seniors	Ages 5-6 Ages 7-8 Ages 8-11 Ages 8-10 Ages 11-12 Ages 13-17	\$90 \$110 \$120 \$145 \$145 \$170
Lacrosse	Boys and Girls Boys and Girls Boys Girls	U9 U11 U13 and U15 U13 and U15	\$95 \$110 \$110 \$120
Softball	Clinic Intramural Intramural Intramural	Ages 8 & Under Ages 10 & Under Ages 12 & Under Ages 15 & Under	\$65 \$75 \$75 \$75
Golf	<b>NO ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR GOLF!!!</b> Boys Girls	Ages 11-18 Ages 9-18	\$100 \$100
Soccer	Soccer Tots 3x3 U6 Academy U8 Academy Competitive Boys/Co-ed Competitive Girls	Ages 3-4 (as of ??) K & PreK 5's Grades 1 & 2 U10 - U14 U10 - U14	\$55 \$70 \$75 \$80 \$80
Girls Field Hockey		Grades 3-8	\$45
Summer Basketball:	Boys Girls	Grades 5-8 Grades 5-8	\$60 \$55

\*All prices include \$20 of raffle tickets

\*All Select or Travel Teams may require more fees.

(240)331-9184 - Registration Hotline

Family Membership - \$15 PER YEAR

Sport fee discounts: 3rd Child is charged \$15, 4th child or more - free  
Late registration - ADD \$25/Child/Sport - \$10 Transfer fee for Changing Sports  
Late registrations in effect Jan 26, 2008 at 2:01 p.m.