

Aaron Davis

My name is Aaron Davis, I'm currently the manager of the AA Division Swamp Monsters and have been involved with Cap City since my son began playing in 2017. I helped coach his team two seasons in the National League; managed it three seasons in the A Division, and just finished the team's spring season in AA (while also volunteering some Saturdays in the National League, as Covid Coach for my daughter's team). Each year with Cap City has been more rewarding than the last, and that's led me to want to volunteer and give back to the league in a bigger way. I could list several reasons why I appreciate Cap City and have been moved to seek a position on the board, but I'll focus on just a couple.

First, as I've discussed with current board member and AA Commissioner Pete Wilding, Cap City fosters a sense of community in our neighborhoods around Lafayette, bringing together both kids and parents in a positive way. I believe that is in no small part because of the way the league conducts itself and the ideals it promotes. And having coached since 2017, I feel that I know those ideals well. I have spent a good number of pre-season Saturday mornings in Positive Coaching Alliance training. One recommendation I heard early on from a PCA instructor stuck with me and has guided my coaching: measure a season's success by how many players want to come back. By that score, the Swamp Monsters have done well. Most years all of our players returned, and brought along friends, leaving us bursting at the seams.

Second, the absence of two seasons during the pandemic drove home just how special this program - and these years - are for us as parents. As I just wrote to my team's parents in an end-of-season note:

"I believe the kids enjoyed the season, but I'm not sure they appreciated it as much as I did. Like so many other things that became evident during the pandemic, the ups and downs and growing up that is part of Little League can be easily taken for granted. So, getting back on the field with everyone made it all the more special and memorable. I loved that each of the kids had moments of glory as the season progressed. And I can attest that each of them improved as ballplayers along the way."

Finally, I'd be remiss not to mention that in each of my interactions with board members over the years, I've found each one earnest and sincere in working for the betterment of the league, it'd be an honor to join. Thanks for your consideration, -Aaron

David Diedrich

I've served on the Cap City LL Board as Treasurer since November of 2018. I value the opportunity to give back to an organization that has given our son the chance to learn the game and all the life lessons it brings. CCLL has helped our family to develop and strengthen friendships, with baseball and "keeping it fun" as the focus.

As a board member, I have held the role of Treasurer. My professional experience proved a good fit, so was able to continue the excellent progress of the prior treasurers. The league has filed accurate and timely tax returns, including its first long form IRS 990 in fiscal year 2019. We assembled a working finance committee to meet quarterly to review financials and provide advice to the full board. The finance committee has improved budget accountability so that the board gets a clear picture of the resources necessary to run the league. During a difficult covid year, I led the development of an Investment Policies Statement. Cap City now formally manages reserves with guidelines that facilitate transparency and improve fiduciary oversight of the league's finances.

For potential and incoming board members who find appeal in the role of Treasurer, I am happy to discuss transitioning the Treasurer duties and shifting my efforts to where they are most needed. The Treasurer's

Playbook (and similar manuals for all board roles) is a new resource that will help future treasurers to be successful in this role.

The current board, commissioners, coaches, sponsors, and volunteers have shown extraordinary resolve making a wonderful spring 2021 season come to fruition. The Cap City leadership built on progress to professionalize the league to better serve our community. This is a winning team. I feel honored to be a part of this community and to continue for another term of service on the board.

Pete Wilding

I've been involved in Cap City Little League for the past 5 years and have served on the Cap City Board for the past 2 years as Equipment Manager. Additionally, I have been the AA commissioner and also a coach. I've met a lot of great people through my involvement in Cap City, and it's been particularly great to have a hand in getting community baseball back on the calendar this spring.

I would be very pleased to serve on the board again!

Jonathan Hecht

I would like to be considered for election to the Board of the Capital City Little League. As a former little league player and now little league coach, I have first-hand experience with the many benefits of youth baseball. Given my experience, I think I can be a valuable member of the Board.

My son Willem played on the AA Foxes this year, and I was a co-coach of the team. To say that the season was a joy would be a vast understatement; it was the sunlight at the end of a very long tunnel. Not just because we made it to the Championship game but because it brought us close to normalcy in an utterly abnormal time. I credit this season with helping my family emerge from our home and reengage with our friends and the community. The care that the Board put into the season with COVID protocols and rules was evident and paid dividends. I watched the players on the Foxes learn baseball and improve their skills. Far more importantly though, I saw them smile and have fun. So, not only did they continue to develop a love for the game and an understanding of the rules, they reconnected with friends and the outside world. I would like to be a part of the League going forward so I can help other kids and families benefit in the way that mine did this year.

My baseball philosophy is simple: teach kids the game but more importantly, teach them to be good sports and good people. Give all kids a chance at all positions no matter their skill level. Always have fun and support your friends.

These are lessons that will last a lifetime and I want to be a part of that and the Capital City Little League.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions.

Josh Novikoff

I'm a committed A Division coach/dad, assistant coached in National, and my younger son will start t-ball next season. I coached and led adult rec leagues for many years and was glad to transition this energy into youth sports.

I'd like to explore division rule changes to improve fun, learning, game play, pace of play, and player (and parent) interest. For example, in t-ball this would include shorter base paths and smaller rosters across more teams to increase at bats and emphasize infield play rather than outfield and bench languishing. In AA, I would champion a switch to modified kid pitch which would replace walks with a switch to 3 hittable coach pitches following 4 kid-pitched balls, thus providing more hitting, fielding, and live running opportunities. I would also do away with advancing on wild pitches and passed balls. Such changes should make this level more enjoyable and developmentally appropriate.

We should always be thinking about these types of thoughtful changes that can make the game more fun and compelling, attract, retain, and nurture ballplayers, and in turn increase CCLL's capacity to compete in and win DC state tournaments and beyond.