

GLEN OAKS LITTLE LEAGUE

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Charlie Russo, President

Steve Teitelbaum, Secretary

Mike Petillo, Vice President

Mike Allen, Safety Officer

Dennis Noonan, Vice President, Challenger Division **Brian Cavallo, Fundraising Director**

Pete O'Rourke, Treasurer

Phil Guglielmetti, Trustee

NEWS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2011

Contact: Corey Bearak
(718) 343-6779

WEPRIN, BRAUNSTEIN HELP OPEN GLEN OAKS LITTLE LEAGUE, APRIL 2, 9:30am

The Glen Oaks Little League holds its 60th Anniversary opening day ceremony, including a parade, Saturday, April 2, 9:30 a.m., at the Glen Oaks Oval [Intersection of 260th Street and 74th Avenue], Field #1 next to the basketball courts on the Oval's east side, announced President Charlie Russo. The League expects a number of public officials and dignitaries, including Council Member Mark Weprin and Member of the Assembly Ed Braunstein, to help over 350 boys and girls, their siblings and families kick-off their season which includes a new division for special needs youth. The teams will begin to assemble at the Oval at 9:30 a.m. and after 10:00 a.m. Ceremonies, teams will parade down 260th Street along Union Turnpike through Glen Oaks, Floral Park and Bellerose.

The Glen Oaks Little League, established in 1952, consists of approximately 350 boys and girls between the ages of 5 to 16 from the Glen Oaks, Floral Park, New Hyde Park and Bellerose sections of northeast Queens. The league sponsors t-ball, softball and hardball programs, as well as a new Challenger Division established to help bring the joy of playing baseball into the lives of special needs children.

The Glen Oaks Little League's Challenger Division, designed for children ages 4 to 21 who are mentally and/or physically challenged, currently has approximately 30 children registered, ranging in ages from 4 through 19, according to division Vice President Dennis Noonan. Most of these children are on the Autism spectrum, with varying levels of abilities. Many of their parents have been frustrated with a typical Little League experience because the children are unable to truly participate. In the Challenger Division, games will be kept to approximately one hour in length and will be played with Tee Ball rules. [In Tee Ball everyone gets to hit, from a tee or pitched, everyone gets to field, and everyone gets to score. Each player has the option of having a shadow with them; the shadow will help keep the child focused and assist when the child needs help]. Anyone interested in more information about this division, or who has a child who would like to play or who would like to contribute time or money, please contact Challenger Division Vice President Dennis Noonan at: GOBBClinic@aol.com.

The Glen Oaks Little League Board consists of President Charlie Russo, Vice President Mike Petillo, Vice President - Challenger Division Dennis Noonan, Secretary Steve Teitelbaum, Treasurer Pete O'Rourke, Safety Officer Mike Allen, Fundraising Director Brian Cavallo, and Trustee (and Past President) Phil Guglielmetti. For more information call at (718) 347 5620.

WHO: The Glen Oaks Little League, Council Member Mark Weprin and Member of the Assembly Ed Braunstein, New Challenger Division for Special Needs Youth

WHAT: 60th Anniversary opening day ceremony, followed by parade

WHEN: Saturday, April 2, 9:30 a.m.,

WHERE: Glen Oaks Oval [Intersection of 260th Street and 74th Avenue], Field #1 next to the basketball courts on the Oval's east side [260th Street, two blocks north of Union Turnpike]