



California District 57

Little League
Dave Wetmore, Administrator



LOCAL MOM WINS NATIONAL AWARD

California District 57 and San Ramon American Little League is pleased to announce that San Ramon American Little League Vice President/Safety Officer Elaina Jurecki has been named 2006 Little League Mom of the Year by Little League International of Williamsport, PA.

The Little League Mom of the Year Award was established in 1991 as a symbolic form of recognition and tribute to the millions of mothers in communities around the world who contribute their time to the Little League program. Each year Little Leaguers across America compose an essay that explains why their mother's should be the Little League Mom of the Year. From that group, one Little League mother is selected.

Jurecki was unaware that son's Jake, age 13, and Andrew, age 11, submitted the essays that resulted in the honor and received news of the national award by mail. As a mom, her Little League involvement began in Huntington Beach, CA, where she Managed Jake's Farm Team and helped with Andrew's T-Ball team. After moving to San Ramon in 2000, Elaina joined the San Ramon American Little League Board of Directors and became Manager of Andrew's Minor's Division team. Since then, Jurecki has served on the Board in various roles ranging from Player Agent, Safety Officer and Vice President and has been a key volunteer in organizing try-outs, player drafts and numerous fundraising events.

The best part of her involvement in the League comes from making sure that all children in the League have fun and learn from their Little League experience. "I have always focused on fundraising to make sure baseball is affordable to all and that the League is able to offer scholarships to those players that need it most so that everyone can get into the game, not letting money get in the way. Lot's of kids call me 'Coach' which is nice to hear, especially for a woman, as it is usually a male's role."

Most important to Jurecki, however, is the ability to spend quality time with Andrew, Jake and husband Steve doing something that the entire family participates in and enjoys. The family takes a "team" approach to Little League on and off the field. "I do get the wonderful opportunity to step in for Steve when he is out of town, so I have had plenty of opportunities to substitute coach/manage our son's teams".



Elaina Jurecki with her sons Andrew (left) and Jake

As part of the honor, Jurecki has been awarded an all-expenses paid trip to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, PA in August for the entire family. Williamsport has been the home of Little League since it was founded there in 1939, and the final game of the tournament is traditionally on the weekend before the Labor Day weekend.