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Registration Now Available

It's time to register for 2015 Fall Season. All kids with special needs ages 5 - 18 who want to play ball on a non-competitive co-ed team are eligible! If you played in a previous year or you played in the 2015 Spring Season, and you want to play fall ball, YOU MUST REGISTER YOUR PLAYER FOR OUR FALL SEASON. Walk-ons are accepted but not encouraged.

[Register](#)

NOTE: This is a change from previous years, where the registration for the spring season carried over to fall. With our new software provider, Sportngin, each registration season stands alone and records cannot be transferred.

You can access our player registration system by simply going to our web site www.kiwanismiracleleague.org and clicking on the purple REGISTER button, or you can click the registration button above.

Questions? Contact Joyce Byrne, player committee chair, at joycelbyrne@aol.com or 515.208.0822.

2015 Fall Season "Extras"

Hope you can join us for some extra KML baseball this fall! We've lined a special All Star event which we're sure you'll enjoy!

- *Players & Families:* Here's your chance to play on the REAL Iowa Cubs field. Join in some fun at the weekend tournament featuring the national Wounded Warriors baseball team. 8:30 am - 10:00 am, Sunday, September 27. Wear your KML team shirts. Just go to the

main gate at Principal Park and you will be directed to the actual field. Have fun! Sign up at the Players' check-in tent this week!



- We welcome new owners of the Kona Ice franchise so we'll be treating the van's presence at our ball park a little differently. Last year, we said the player drink tickets could be used for a free ice cone. This year, 25% of the total day's sales at the Kona Ice van will be returned to the Kiwanis Miracle League. Hope you all enjoy one of these flavorful treats! Thanks for visiting our KML concession stand AND the Kona Ice Van on September 26.



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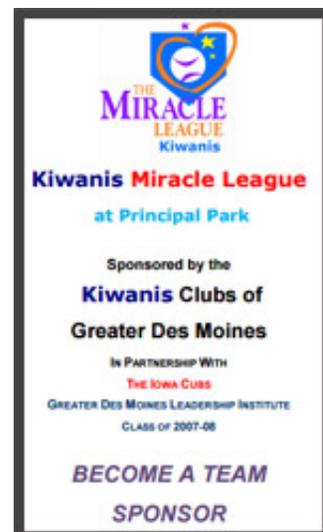
Team Sponsorships Still Available



Ever wanted to own your own baseball team? It's not too late to become a 2015 Team Sponsor! Your contribution of \$500 will go a long way in helping the Kiwanis Miracle League continue to be available to all of our players free of charge.

You or your company will get a vinyl banner that will hang on our dugouts throughout the 2015 season. You'll be listed on our web site and in the many brochures we make available throughout the year. But best of all, you'll be helping our players realize their dreams of playing baseball on a real team and on a real field!

Contact Jan Burch, board president, for more information at 515.457.7691 or burchhr@aol.com.



Highlight Reel

Spring 2015 Season Recap:

Our 2015 Spring Season is now history. It was a very good season - eight Saturdays and NO rain outs!!!! That was a record! We also initiated our new online Registration software and it was a success with 234 registered players. Our league had 32 new players!

As usual they were welcomed with open arms by teammates and Coaches. All 32 are coming back for the Fall!

Here is hoping that we have the same luck for this Fall, lots of beautiful weather and more new players!

Thanks to All!
Joyce

The Spring Season in Pictures

Spring 2015 Season Opener



DSM Police & Firefighters Game - June 3rd



Iowa Cubs June 13th



Barnstormers Game - June 16th



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Players' Corner



Miracle League has given our son Max so many wonderful opportunities! Not only is he able to play a sport he loves in a comfortable and safe environment, he has made some wonderful friends. One such friend started out as a buddy! Lieutenant Dave Seybert from the Des Moines Police Department was Max's buddy at the very first DMPD/DMFD game at the ball park. They quickly bonded and formed a lasting friendship. Through the years, Lt. Dave has been there to help make many special memories for Max. For instance, Max had the opportunity to tour and call roll at the DMPD on his birthday! Lt. Dave has also volunteered his time with one of Max's social groups. Of course, each year Max and Lt. Dave pair up as buddies on the Kiwanis Miracle League field. It has been so fun for us to watch Max make life long friends and gain self-confidence and maturity through his years playing ball! Thank you!

-Jaimi and Paul Bird

Golf Fundraisers Benefits Miracle League



On June 22nd, approximately 120 golfers played in a 4-person best ball golf tourney sponsored by *Vision Financial Group* at Ankeny's Briarwood. The tourney's proceeds were divided evenly between the Downtown Kiwanis Miracle League and the Ankeny Miracle League, with each receiving \$4,100!

Organizer, Cindy Vandenberg, of Vision Financial Group, visited the Downtown Kiwanis Miracle League with her daughter and was struck by the joy at the venue. She immediately decided to recommend to her committee that the proceeds of this year's tournament be split between the two ball parks.

Cindy and her team solicited all of the Corporate Sponsors, and made all of the arrangements for the food (deliciously catered by Gino's) and prizes. Despite a 30 minute rain delay around 10:00 am, everyone had a fantastic time.

Playing on a Kiwanis team recruited by Bob Mitchell were (left to right) Ryan Newton, Mike Schneider, Bob, Mike Musich, and Dave Turnball. The team shot a 59 which was one of the better scores, but, due to the flighting, were left out of the scoring prizes. Bummer. Nevertheless, each walked away with at least one door prize!

Our thanks to Cindy and her committee at Vision Financial Group for all of the effort to put together a really FUN day for a great cause: The Metro-area Miracle Leagues. We hope to be able to do it again in 2016.



(1st row, l-r) Cindy Vandeberg, Vision Financial Group, and Kiwanis Miracle League board members- Rob Baldus, Joyce Byrne, Becky Gruening, Carol Stone, Kerry Walter-Ashby, Bob Mitchell, Jan Burch

Back row, l-r) Daryl Peitersen, Kent Babcock, Doug Vinsand, Nadine Kastner, Bill Keck, Mike Schneider, Kevin Shetler, Tom Pflanz.

September 17, 2015... Vision Financial Group selected the two area Miracle Leagues as beneficiaries of its second annual golf tournament held in June at Briarwood Golf Course in Ankeny—the Kiwanis Miracle League at Principal Park in downtown Des Moines and the Ankeny Miracle League/Playground at Hawkeye Park in Ankeny. Over 100 golfers enjoyed a great day of golf despite a rain delay and lunch provided by Gino's Restaurant/Catering. Shown below at the monthly board meeting to accept the proceeds are Cindy Vandeberg, vice president, Vision Financial Group, and board members of the Kiwanis Miracle League. Accepting for the Kiwanis Miracle League is Jan Burch, president (far right). Accepting for the Ankeny Miracle League is Kerry Walter-Ashby.

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Donor News & Opportunities

AmazonSmile

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Do you shop online at Amazon.com? Whether you're a casual or frequent Amazon shopper, your purchases can help the Kiwanis Miracle League!

The next time you hop online at Amazon.com, simply enroll in AmazonSmile and name the MIRACLE LEAGUE OF DES MOINES KIWANIS as your charity of choice. Why? Because .05% of your purchases will be donated to the Kiwanis Miracle League! First time shoppers should go to <http://smile.amazon.com/> to set up your account naming the KML as your charity. Frequent long-time shoppers can designate just as easily. It's a one-time thing—and will benefit Des Moines' favorite ball park! Thanks!

Save on Your Taxes while Helping The Kiwanis Miracle League!

The *Kiwanis Miracle League* Board has established an *Endow Iowa Fund with the Greater Des Moines Community Foundation*. This is an exciting new opportunity for our friends and families to help us secure the financial future for the league and, at the same time, save big dollars on their income taxes.

Donors who give to an *Endow Iowa Fund* not only can deduct the gift on their federal income tax return, but can get credit against their state income taxes in the amount of 25% of their gift. Instead of a state tax deduction, which might result in a tax savings up to 8%, donors get a credit of 25% – regardless of whether they itemize deductions or not! Here's an example:

	\$1,000 Gift to <i>Miracle League</i>	vs	\$1,000 Gift to <i>Endow Iowa Fund</i>
Federal tax savings	\$ 280		\$ 280
State tax savings	\$ 50		\$ 250
Net cost of gift	\$ 670		\$ 470

*Assumes 28% tax bracket for federal and 5% tax bracket for state.

Donations to an *Endow Iowa Fund* must be made to the *Greater Des Moines Community Foundation* for the benefit of the *Kiwanis Miracle League of Des Moines Kiwanis Endow Iowa Fund*. Principal amounts donated to the fund are held and managed by the community foundation, and the *Kiwanis Miracle League* can draw as much as 5% from the fund annually to use in whatever way best benefits the league.

So now our donors have choices – they can make donations directly to the *Kiwanis Miracle League* for use in covering operating expenses and capital improvements – and deduct those gifts as charitable deductions on their state and federal tax returns, or they can contribute to the *Greater Des Moines Community Foundation for the Kiwanis Miracle League's Endow Iowa Fund*, and get a 25% tax credit against their state income taxes, in addition to their usual federal charitable deduction.

State tax credits are allocated to donors on a first come, first served basis annually - until the total amount of credits allowed by the state are used up. This year \$6 million in tax credits are available!

Help the *Kiwanis Miracle League* continue to offer a special place for special needs children enjoy playing baseball on a team – donate to the *Miracle League* or to the *Kiwanis Miracle League's Endow Iowa Fund*. Talk to your tax advisor about how these choices might affect your personal tax situation.



Our KML Calendar of Events

Aug. 29	Fall Season Begins—Games beginning at 9 AM
Sept. 5	Games beginning at 9 AM—Popsicle Day
Sept. 12	Games beginning at 9 AM—KONA ICE Van Day
Sept. 17	KML Board of Directors meeting
Sept. 19	Games beginning at 9 AM
Sept. 26	Games beginning at 9 AM—KONA ICE Van Day
Sept. 26-7	Wounded Warrior Games
Oct. 3	Games beginning at 9 AM
Oct. 10	Games beginning at 9 AM—Last Day of Fall Season
Oct. 15	KML Board of Directors meeting
Oct. 17	Year-end Trophy/Pizza Party
Nov. 19	KML Board of Directors meeting

Keep up with us via

our website: www.kiwanismiracleleague.org

Twitter: [@kiwanismiracle](https://twitter.com/kiwanismiracle)

Our Facebook page: Facebook.com/kiwanismiracleleague

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Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute
Class of 2007-2008

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