

2021 Little League® International Pandemic Response Advisory Commission

The 2021 Little League® International Pandemic Response Advisory Commission will focus on examining the effect and impact of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic on the seven divisions of the 2021 Little League World Series Tournament Season and will provide recommendations for all relevant aspects of tournament operation.

COMMISSION PURPOSE: This group of distinguished professionals have agreed to voluntarily provide their wide range of expertise and independent counsel to assist Little League International with the planning and successful implementation of a 2021 Tournament Season, while being attentive to the related implications of COVID-19.

The members of the 2021 Little League International Pandemic Response Advisory Commission are:

Dr. Daniel Lueders – Commission Chair; Little League International Board of Directors

A member of the Little League International Board of Directors since 2018, Daniel Ryan Lueders, M.D., currently serves as a Sports Medicine Physician and Assistant Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and as an Assistant Team Physician for the Pittsburgh Steelers. After completing his residency and fellowship training at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, Dr. Lueders served on faculty at the University of Michigan before taking his current position in Pittsburgh. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and member of the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine. Growing up, Dr. Lueders was a multi-sport athlete, playing baseball, soccer, tennis, and basketball.

Hugh E. Tanner – Chairman, Little League International Board of Directors

Mr. Tanner has been involved with the Little League program in a variety of different roles throughout his career, from volunteering as a coach and League President for West University Little League in Houston, Texas, where he founded the Little League Challenger Division® program to his current role as Chairman of the Board. In addition to his volunteer role as Chairman, Mr. Tanner is also a Partner and Chair of Oil and Gas Litigation Practice at Winston & Strawn LLP. Mr. Tanner received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Mississippi's School of Law in 1985, where he was managing editor for the Mississippi Law Journal. Mr. Tanner received his Bachelor of Business Administration, cum laude, in accounting from the University of Mississippi in 1980. Mr. Tanner is a member of the University of Mississippi Hall of Fame.

JoJo Rinebold – Little League International Board of Directors

A member of the Little League International Board of Directors since 2018, Mrs. Rinebold is the owner and principal of The Rinebold Company, a female-owned consulting practice based in central Indiana providing communications, marketing, and brand strategy expertise. Prior to being a small business owner, Mrs. Rinebold was on staff at the NCAA national office for more than a decade as managing director of brand strategy and events. Mrs. Rinebold has more than 30 years of experience in professional and amateur sports, entertainment, education, and member associations. She is also an adjunct faculty member of the Indiana School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) Executive Education Program, teaching marketing and communications for non-profits. In addition, Mrs. Rinebold has volunteered with Zionsville Little League for the past nine years in several roles working alongside her husband Michael who served in a number of Board positions including League President. Together, she and Michael led the effort to relocate the Little League Central Region Headquarters which opens in summer 2021.

Dr. Rutul Dalal – UPMC Susquehanna

Rutul Dalal, MD, currently serves as the medical director of Infectious Diseases and chair of Infection Prevention & Control for UPMC in northcentral Pennsylvania and is based out of UPMC Williamsport. He completed his residency and fellowship training at Howard University Hospital, Washington D.C., and is a fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the American College of Physicians. Growing up, Dr. Dalal played cricket, soccer, and field hockey, and understands the roles being active and playing sports have in a child's development. He is passionate about athletics and has years of experience as a medical consultant for sporting events locally and abroad.

Dr. Kensa Gunter – Clinical & Sport Psychologist; Director, Mind Health

Dr. Kensa K. Gunter is a licensed psychologist and a Certified Mental Performance Consultant (CMPC) through the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP). She is based in Atlanta where she provides counseling and mental performance services to individual athletes, serves as the sport psychologist for various teams, and provides consultation services for different sport organizations. Dr. Gunter is committed to elevating conversations about mental health and performance. She is also an advocate for honoring cultural diversity and being intentional about inclusion as it relates to individuals, organizations, and systems. Dr. Gunter currently serves as the President of AASP. She also serves on the National Advisory Board for the Positive Coaching Alliance and is a member of the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee's External Mental Health Taskforce.

Dr. Angela Hewlett – University of Nebraska Medical Center

Angela Hewlett MD, MS, is Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) and the University of Nebraska College of Public Health. She serves as Medical Director of the Nebraska Biocontainment Unit, where she actively participated in the care of several patients with Ebola virus disease, and has since provided subject matter expertise through the National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Center (NETEC), the SHEA/CDC Outbreak Response Training Program, and multiple other national and international biopreparedness advisory groups and venues. Dr. Hewlett currently directs the COVID-19 Infectious Diseases team at UNMC/Nebraska Medicine, and serves as an Infectious Diseases Advisor for the US Olympic Team and USA Gymnastics. She has authored more than 95 publications and book chapters. Her textbook 'Planning for Bioemergencies: A Guide for Healthcare Facilities' was released in 2018. Dr. Hewlett earned a BA in Biology from the University of Texas at Austin, and an MD from the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) in Galveston, Texas, where she also completed a residency in Internal Medicine. She served as Chief Resident, then completed a 2-year fellowship in Infectious Diseases followed by a 1-year NIH-funded research fellowship with a focus in Hospital Epidemiology and Infection Control. She also holds a master's degree in Clinical Sciences-Clinical Investigation from the University of Texas Medical Branch.

Seth Kinley – UPMC Susquehanna

Based out of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Seth Kinley is the director of Musculoskeletal Operations at UPMC in the Susquehanna region and has served in a leadership role with UPMC Sports Medicine for greater than 10 years. He holds a master's degree in Exercise Science from Auburn University, Alabama, where he completed an athletic training fellowship with Hughston Sports Medicine. Prior to his work with UPMC Sports Medicine, Mr. Kinley was an athletic trainer serving in various settings. Mr. Kinley played Little League Baseball in the Williamsport area as a youth and is a proud parent of two children, both of whom played Little League also in the Williamsport area.

Doug Koszalka – Pennsylvania Department of Health

Doug Koszalka has been the Director of the Bureau of Community Health Systems for the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) for more than 10 years, being responsible for operational oversight in 60 counties across Pennsylvania. Prior to this appointment, he served as a PA DOH District Executive Director for the northcentral public health region, which encompasses Williamsport. In these roles, he supervised and managed public health response during H1N1 and Ebola. He has been the representative from the PA DOH for the Little League Baseball World Series since 2007. He has a bachelor's degree in economics from Allegheny College and graduated from the Northeastern Regional Public Health Leadership Institute. He currently resides in Montoursville with his wife, Debbie.

Dr. Tod Olin – National Jewish Health

Dr. Tod Olin is a pulmonologist and director of the Exercise and Performance Breathing Center at National Jewish Health, Denver, Colorado. He has published in the area of pediatric airways disease, as well as in the area of high-performance exercise limitation. He is specifically interested in helping children and adults exercise safely and comfortably, whether sick or well, fit or obese, toddlers or Olympic-level athletes. Most recently, he has invented two novel therapies for exercise-induced laryngeal obstruction (also known as vocal cord dysfunction), a condition for which Dr. Olin is considered a global leader. Dr. Olin also sees the value in working with sporting bodies to promote population health and works with multiple local and national sporting bodies. He directs the respiratory program for the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and is a respiratory consultant for USA Swimming.



Jeremiah Yolkut – Major League Baseball

Jeremiah Yolkut is Director of Events & Scheduling for Major League Baseball, with operational oversight of the league's jewel events, including the All-Star Game, the Home Run Derby, and the Postseason and World Series. Mr. Yolkut also oversees the annual MLB Little League Classic in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, MLB's Field of Dreams game in Iowa, and its Winter Meetings. As part of MLB's Scheduling group, Mr. Yolkut helps guide the creation and maintenance of both the Championship Season and Spring Training schedules and serves as a primary liaison to MLB clubs on the rescheduling of postponed games. Prior to joining MLB, Mr. Yolkut was Manager of Competitive Play at the United States Tennis Association. During his tenure, he worked on the operations of the US Open and International Team events, while helping the governing body's global quality assurance group for tennis ball and tennis court integrity. Mr. Yolkut, a St. Louis native, graduated from Boston University with a Bachelor of Science in Communications. He lives in White Plains, New York, with his wife and four children.

*The commission will work in conjunction with Little League International staff, led by President and CEO, **Stephen D. Keener**, as well as Chief Operating Officer, **Patrick W. Wilson**; Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer, **Liz DiLullo Brown**; Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, **Karl Eckweiler**; and Senior Vice President of Administration and Chief Financial Officer, **David Houseknecht**.*