



For immediate release

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## California Little Leaguer Named Good Sport of the Year

SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. (July 6, 2010) – It's hard to find someone who has anything but positive comments when asked about Lake Forest, Calif., seventh-grader Cody McCoy. In fact, everyone from his family, to league personnel, to his friends, have nothing but good things to say when reflecting on the example he has set.

"Cody always demonstrates the values of Little League, both on and off the field," Matt Stern, the President of Saddleback Little League, said. "He's a great leader on his team, and encourages players when they're down. He also helps out throughout the league. He serves as a junior umpire, helps younger kids and volunteers for field cleanup and tryouts. He is a person that others can look up to and emulate. We're all very proud of him."

McCoy, a Little League participant since Tee Ball, has been selected as the recipient of the 2010 Little League Good Sport of the Year Award. The 12-year-old, along with his family, will be recognized at a breakfast and an on-field ceremony during the 2010 Little League Baseball World Series in South Williamsport, Pa. The 64<sup>th</sup> World Series will be played Aug. 20-29.

The Good Sport Award annually recognizes a Little League player who has demonstrated superior qualities of sportsmanship, leadership, a commitment to teamwork and a desire to excel. The criteria for selecting the recipient does not consider the child's playing ability or statistics. Hundreds of players worldwide are nominated for the award each year.

The award was established in 1989 to amplify the importance of Little League Baseball and Softball as a leadership training program, utilizing baseball and softball as a vehicle for instilling principles that can be used the rest of their lives.

The son of Bryan and Cheryl McCoy, Cody is the epitome of a team player, despite the fact he is one of the better players in Major Division. Mainly a catcher for the Angels, he also has pitched and played first and second base. He was a selection to the All-Star team this season.

"He has always been willing to support his teammates, whether it was congratulating them or encouraging them," his father, who has served as a coach on each of Cody's teams and is a coach of the All-Star team, said. "He is a giver whose believes sportsmanship and team morale are important.

"He is a very coachable player who also gives back to the local league by helping them with clinics, tryouts and field days. He has also worked as an umpire and assisted other players in the league by providing encouragement and keeping their morale high."

In addition to the attributes already mentioned, Cody has put others before himself by allowing other players on his team to get extra playing time - playing innings scheduled to be played by him. He is also an excellent student having earned the President's Gold Award at Gates Elementary for maintaining a 3.5 grade-point average throughout the school year.

"Cody has exhibited a willingness to contribute in any way with his actions," Stephen D. Keener, President and Chief Executive Officer of Little League Baseball and Softball, said. "Being a good sport has little to do with talent and ability and everything to do with character and attitude. During his Little League years, Cody has been an exemplary teammate, but even more important, he has set an example for others that follows our vision of what Little League is all about."

"I enjoy helping the younger kids and other players on our team," Cody said. "If we have fun as a team, everyone feels like they are part of what we are doing."

Little League Baseball and Softball is the world's largest organized youth sports program, with nearly 2.6 million players and 1 million adult volunteers in every U.S. state and scores of other countries.

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### **Past Recipients of the Little League Good Sport Award**

1991-Rondy Spardella, Aldine LL, Houston, Texas  
1992-Scott Ford, Walla Walla (Wash.) LL  
1993-Luis Rivera, Coatesville (Pa.) LL  
1994-Joey Pitchford, Pinole (Calif.) LL  
1995-Jose Aguire, Sunrise LL, Canoga Park, Calif  
1996-Tracy Theriault, Sanford-Springvale LL, Sanford, Maine  
1997-Greg Turner, Northern LL, San Angelo, Texas  
1998-Madison McDaniel, York County LL, Yorktown, Va.  
1999-Zachary Dwight, Sunrise LL, Woodland Hills, Calif.  
2000-Caitlin Neeson, Southwestern Port St. Lucie (Fla.) LL  
2001-Robert "Bobby" Malouin, Central Country (R.I.) LL  
2002-Taylor Thompson, Amelia LL, Beaumont, Texas  
2003-Brianna Dudley, Northwest LL, Santa Rosa, Calif.  
2004-Aaron Willis, West Side LL, Santa Rosa, Calif.  
2005-Dawson Fair, National LL, Elizabethtown, Tenn.  
2006-Cory Bowman, Dubuque (Iowa) LL  
2007-Riley MacKnight, Southside American LL, Syracuse, NY  
2008-Kevin Trainor, Viera Suntree LL, Melbourne, Fla.  
2009-Dieter Miller, Golden Hill LL, Fullerton, Calif.