



“Manhattan Optimist Club”

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This was the third and last Kansas USA Softball Tournament of 2025 hosted at Optimist Park. There were 2 age divisions - 8U and 12U. The 8U's (3 teams) played on Franke Field and the 12U's (7 teams) played on both Jessica & Brummett Fields.

The MOC volunteers main tasks this day were to help park vehicles, maintain infields between games, keep the restrooms running, and provide trash & recyclable services.

Our MOC volunteers included Clyde Scott, Heather Peterson, Brad Horchem, Bob Seymour, Bryan Joy, Dan Oneill, Bill Wisdom, Tom Hawk, Mel Hunt, Jim Franke, and Steve Boeckman. Many of these volunteers also volunteered the day before at the Chili Crawl and several the day after fixing Tree Lot A-Frames.

THANK YOU to these volunteers!!

Supplies



We had 2 sets of Restroom available ... the ones in the Maroon Shed and the ones in Bldg #3. For the Restrooms, we used 20 rolls of toilet paper, 9 rolls of hand towels, 6 air fresheners, and 4 bottles of hand soap.

To line the 3 infields required 5 50 lb. bags of line marker.

Trash & Recyclables



At the end of the day we collected 9 containers of trash and 6+ containers of recyclables.



The "younger" generation either can't read, doesn't know about recycling, or doesn't care about recycling as only about 20% of the recyclables were put in the recycle containers. The good news is that the recyclables were at least put in a trash container and not left on the ground.



Once the recyclables were removed from the trash, we ended up with $3\frac{1}{2}$ 55 gallon bags of actual trash. Haven't finished going through the recyclable containers yet.

Parking ... or No Parking



To assist out visitors on where "not to park", we used cones in several areas to identify the "no parking" areas.

Field Signs ... Some Confusion



Although removed now, we had to cover the Optimist & Bidwell Fields signs with tarps as there was a good possibility that it would have caused some confusion for the teams playing . These fields were not being used to play any games.

Picnic Tables



These 8 picnic tables are now in their winter storage area, but all 13 of our picnic tables were dispersed on the various fields for seating and eating.

Storage



I can't tell you how many times (too many) this collection of chairs, wash stands, & Christmas decorations have been moved to-and-from the Restrooms in Bldg #3. Had to move them "from" for this tournament and will have to move them "to" once the water is turned off.

The Optimist Park Raccoons



As tempting as it is to chow down on the leftover food found in the trash containers, this array of food items is best left to the Optimist Park Raccoons.