

Home Runs And Triple Play Days

04/05/2013

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Cheer the Dodgers and Angels, and attend a special event honoring Baseball great Jackie Robinson this month!

For some people April means only one thing – the start of baseball season. It's time to wonder whether Josh Hamilton will play as well for the Angels as he did for the Rangers and whether Carl Crawford will play for the Dodgers at all. Young Southern California baseball fans can root for their favorite home teams in several ways.

Both the Angels (www.angels.com) and the Dodgers (www.ladodgers.com) have kids' clubs. Membership in the Jr. Angels costs \$18 and includes perks such as a Mike Trout replica jersey, two Angels ticket vouchers and the chance to win prizes. The free Jr. Dodgers membership gives kids the chance to announce "It's time for Dodger Baseball" before a game or appear on Dodgervision as the Jr. Dodger of the Game.

Both teams also offer a packed lineup of game day promotions. On Friday nights, Dodger Stadium lights up fireworks. Most Sunday games include "Kids Run The Bases" and some also feature "youth baseball days," with giveaways (like the a kids-sized Matt Kemp jersey April 7 or kids' batting helmet day on April 28) geared for kids. Angels promo days include Surfing Rally Monkey night July 23 and "Salute To Kids" day Sept. 8. Both clubs offer several bobblehead giveaways as well.

Fans of baseball history won't want to miss Jackie Robinson Triple Play Day. Taking place at the Sports Museum of Los Angeles, this baseball-themed event raises funds for the Zimmer Children's Museum's public school youth development program, youTHink. This private museum holds a wonderful collection of sports memorabilia, and will display a one-time exhibit focusing on Robinson and his baseball era. A VIP luncheon includes a private tour hosted by owner Gary Cypres and there is also an afternoon "community viewing party," which features youth activities, self-guided museum tours and appearances by baseball legends.

Jackie Robinson Triple Play Day, VIP lunch 11 a.m.-2 p.m., community viewing party 2-6 p.m. April 13, Sports Museum of Los Angeles, 1900 Main St., L.A.; zimmermuseum.org/sportsmuseum.html. VIP lunch: \$350 adults, \$150 children. Community party: \$50 adults, \$25 children.