

LITTLE LEAGUE[®]

INTERNATIONAL





Chula Vista, 2,266
California miles

Russelville, 607
Kentucky miles

Ramstein AFB, 3,981
Germany miles

Staten Island, 157
New York miles

San Antonio, 1442
Texas miles

Taoyuan, 7,721
Chinese Taipei miles

Maracaibo, 2,138
Venezuela miles

Chiba City, 6,637
Japan miles



HISTORY

- Founded in 1939 by Carl Stotz
- First organized league had 3 teams all sponsored by local businesses
- First game was played on June 6, 1939
- First World Series was played in 1947
- The concept of Little League spread rapidly and by the start of the 1950s there were more than 150,000 Little League players nationwide
- Expanded internationally in 1951 to include programs in Canada and Panama
- In 1957, Monterrey, Mexico became the first country outside of the United States to win a Little League World Series
- In 1974, Little League expanded to include softball
- Today Little League is the world's largest and most respected youth sports organization with more than 2.6 million participants play Little League in all 50 states and in more than 75 countries across the world.





MISSION OF LITTLE LEAGUE

Little League Baseball, Incorporated is a non-profit organization whose mission is to “to promote, develop, supervise, and voluntarily assist in all lawful ways, the interest of those who will participate in Little League Baseball and Softball.”

Through proper guidance and exemplary leadership, the Little League program assists youth in developing the qualities of citizenship, discipline, teamwork and physical well-being. By espousing the virtues of character, courage and loyalty, the Little League Baseball and Softball program is designed to develop superior citizens rather than stellar athletes.

MEMBER BENEFITS

THE LITTLE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT

- 8 World Series tournaments for boys and girls ages 11-18, all televised worldwide on ABC and ESPN
- Four other tournaments that advance to the state level
- The Little League International Tournament is the largest, and most well renowned, youth sports tournament in the world
- More than 30,000 games are played in 2 months to determine 8 World Series champions, making the Little League International Tournament the world's largest youth sports tournament
- Nearly 50 games are televised each year, including all 32 games of the Little League Baseball World Series championship in South Williamsport, PA
- Little League reimburses leagues for travel above the district level at a rate of \$1 per mile for one round trip to each tournament site
- Media coverage is superior to that of any other youth sports tournament including coverage on ABC, ESPN, and in major newspapers across the country

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

- FREE access to Little League's Coach Resource Center for all chartered leagues –www.LittleLeagueCoach.org
 - Includes areas for both baseball and softball as well as different areas for various ages of players
 - Updated regularly and includes video clips, articles, and the latest news
- Clinics and Seminars for Managers, Coaches, Umpires and League Officials are offered at Williamsport, regional centers, and many other locations across the country every year
- Leagues keep umpires up to date with the Little League's Umpire Registry. By joining the umpire registry, umpires can be sure that they have the latest rule books and other training materials

LITTLE LEAGUE IS FOR EVERYONE

- Programs for boys and girls ages 5 – 18
- The Challenger Division provides opportunities for boys and girls who are mentally or physically challenged
- Little League offers a healthy combination of community based programming by offering regular season play among local teams and access to the world's largest youth sports tournament for more advanced players





LITTLE LEAGUE SAVES YOUR LEAGUE MONEY

- Most leagues can charter AND insure teams through Little League for an average cost of about \$5 per player – less than what most programs were previously paying for their local insurance policy
- 125 FREE background checks for each league and an unlimited number of checks at \$1 per check
- \$1 per mile travel reimbursement for tournament travel past the district level (one round-trip)
- FREE Rule Books and Operating Manual
- Grants available through the Urban Initiative Program and Challenger Division for qualifying leagues only

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

- Allows a community to bring baseball and softball operations under one umbrella
- Provides opportunities for a community to be represented in the Little League International Tournament
- Various opportunities to host Little League tournaments

INSTANT RECOGNITION

- The “Little League” name is the most recognized and respected name in youth sports
- Leagues use the “Little League” brand to grow local program through name recognition and the many opportunities Little League offers
- Worldwide recognition every August as at least 49 Little League Baseball and Softball games are televised worldwide on ABC and ESPN

SERVICE AND SUPPORT

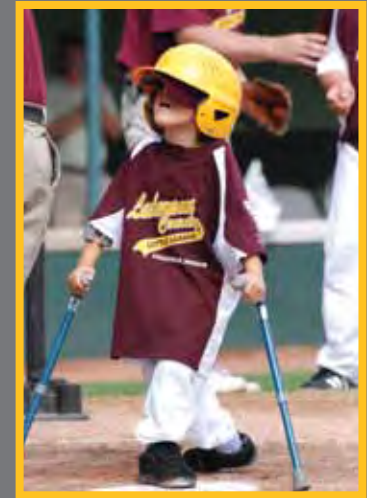
- FREE Rules Interpretation Service by telephone and email
- FREE Operating Manuals provided to board members every year
- FREE Rule Books
- Full-time staff available to answer questions and concerns
- 5 regional offices in the United States to help service leagues on a local level



LITTLE LEAGUE INITIATIVES

CHALLENGER DIVISION

- Provides an opportunity for boys and girls ages 5-18, or up to age 22 if still attending high school, with physical and mental challenges the opportunity to enjoy the full benefits of participation in a Little League program
- Provides a framework so that leagues may offer a structured athletic activity for all youth in their community
- "Adaptive Baseball"
- Players use "buddies" to assist them during game play
- Special rules allow for flexibility to adapt the game to meet the needs of the player



CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAM

- Established in 1998 to educate local volunteers on ways that they can help insure the safety of children in their league
- Beginning in 2003, leagues are now required to conduct background checks on managers, coaches, and other volunteers with regular access to the children in the league
- Little League provides 125 free background checks, and an unlimited number of checks at \$1 per check, to all leagues through a partnership with Lexus Nexus

URBAN INITIATIVE



- The Little League Urban Initiative Program is a vigorous attempt to provide access to the benefits of the Little League program to boys and girls within urban communities where safety, security and comfort are not common realities for children
- The program's goal is to identify and then create or renew baseball and softball programs in these communities bringing the values of teamwork, fair play, respect for authority, and the desire to excel to the children's lives
- There are 3 main categories of assistance available: equipment acquisition, training and education, and in some cases, cash grants for capital improvement projects and field development/renovation



U.S. REGIONS



LITTLE LEAGUE FIELD CENTERS

INTERNATIONAL REGIONS



STRUCTURE OF LITTLE LEAGUE

LITTLE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL

- Located in South Williamsport, PA
- Home to 80 full time employees
- Responsible for International Operations of Little League

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS

- Five regional headquarters are located across the United States. In addition, offices are located in Canada, Hong Kong, Puerto Rico and Poland
- Provide support to leagues and district administrators within each region
- Host various training seminars and clinics

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS

- Volunteers who oversee leagues at a local level
- Elected every 3 years by leagues in the district
- Act as a liaison between local leagues and the regional offices
- More than 650 District Administrators worldwide

LOCAL LEAGUES

- Local, volunteer-run baseball and softball programs that choose to affiliate with Little League

MORE THAN 7,100 LEAGUES WORLDWIDE



DIVISIONS OF BASEBALL



TEE-BALL

- For players ages 5-8
- Instructional program where children are taught the fundamentals of hitting, running, fielding, and throwing in a fun environment
- Players either hit off a tee or are pitched to by a coach
- May be played on a 50' or 60' diamond

MINOR LEAGUE

- For players ages 7-11
- Instructional program that builds on the fundamentals learned in tee-ball
- May be broken into several sub-divisions such as "machine pitch," "coach pitch," "player pitch," etc.
- Allows less experienced players an opportunity to gain more experience before advancing to the Little League Division
- Played on a 60' diamond with a 46' pitching distance
- Tournament opportunities for players ages 9 -11

LITTLE LEAGUE (MAJORS)

- For players ages 9-12
- A league may limit this division to 10-12 year old players or 11-12 year old players
- Players from the Major Division may qualify for a league's 11-12 year old tournament team that has an opportunity to advance to the Little League Baseball World Series in South Williamsport
- Played on a 60' diamond with a 46' pitching distance

JUNIOR LEAGUE

- For players ages 12-14
- A league may choose to limit this division to players age 13
- A full range of tournament play is offered including a World Series
- May be played on either a 80' diamond with a 54' pitching distance or on a conventional 90' diamond with a 60'6" pitching distance

SENIOR LEAGUE

- For players ages 14-16
- A league may choose to limit this division to players ages 14-15 or 15-16
- A full range of tournament play is offered including a World Series
- Games are played on a conventional 90' diamond

BIG LEAGUE

- For players ages 16-18
- A league may choose to limit this division to players ages 17-18
- A full range of tournament play is offered including a World Series
- Games are played on a conventional 90' diamond





DIVISIONS OF SOFTBALL

TEE-BALL

- For players ages 5-8
- Instructional program where children are taught the fundamentals of hitting, running, fielding, and throwing in a fun environment
- Players either hit off a tee or are pitched to by a coach
- May be played on a 50' or 60' diamond

MINOR LEAGUE

- For players ages 7-11
- Instructional program that builds on the fundamentals learned in tee-ball
- May be broken into several sub-divisions such as "machine pitch", "coach pitch", "player pitch", etc.
- Allows less experienced players an opportunity to gain more experience before advancing to the Little League Division
- Played on a 60' diamond with a 35' pitching distance

LITTLE LEAGUE (MAJORS)

- For players ages 9-12
- A league may limit this division to 10-12 year old players or 11-12 year old players
- Players from the Major Division may qualify for a league's 11-12 year old tournament team that has an opportunity to advance to the Little League Softball World Series
- Played on a 60' diamond with a 40' pitching distance

JUNIOR LEAGUE

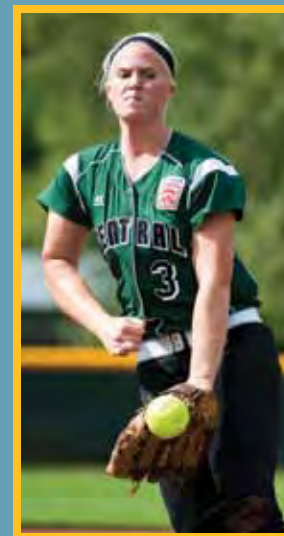
- For players ages 12-14
- A full range of tournament play is offered including a World Series
- Games are played on a conventional 60' diamond

SENIOR LEAGUE

- For players ages 13-16
- A league may choose to limit this division to players ages 14-16 or 15-16
- A full range of tournament play is offered including a World Series
- Games are played on a conventional 60' diamond

BIG LEAGUE

- For players ages 14-18
- A league may choose to limit this division to players ages 15-18, 16-18, or 17-18
- A full range of tournament play is offered including a World Series
- Games are played on a conventional 60' diamond





TESTIMONIALS



"Little League was a great period in my life. We never won a championship, but we tried real hard. I guess that's what Little League is all about - trying"
- Nolan Ryan, Baseball's All-Time Strikeout King



"My participation in Little League in Pine Bluff, Ark., opened doors for me, and showed me there were other opportunities in life that I could have with hard work and perseverance. I want to thank the volunteers of the Pine Bluff National Little League who took the time to nourish and care about what became of my life. I would also like to thank the Little League organization and the Little League Urban Initiative for sharing my vision to provide opportunities like I had to African-American youngsters who need it the most." - Torii Hunter



"I wanted to play in college and playing Big League Softball gave me the chance to compete and be the best. I attribute all of my wanting to coach with the game of Little League. Those were the favorite times of my life."
-Heather Tarr, Head Softball Coach, University of Washington

WHAT OTHER LITTLE LEAGUE PROGRAMS HAVE TO SAY...

- **SERVICE** - "For our area's three Little Leagues (1,700 kids, 140 teams) the Little League organization has been there, from the District Administrator, all the way up through the regional centers, to Little League Headquarters."
- **STRUCTURE** - "We didn't have to invent anything. There is a wealth of things to look at (instructional material) and I'm comfortable saying we can get better by doing what is out there. Since we've joined we've helped three areas that did not have programs before."
- **LITTLE LEAGUE STANDS OUT** - "Joining Little League created interest for kids. It's a feather in our cap if we say we belong to Little League. Being with Little League helps show we are trying to improve, and do good things for our program."

Chartering with Little League for the first time is a quick and easy 3-step process that can often be completed in less than two weeks. For additional information about how to charter, you can also contact Little League International at (570) 326-1921.

3 Steps to Chartering with Little League for the First Time:

1. *Complete and Submit a Charter Application*

The Little League Charter Application is the form where you will indicate how many teams your league will be chartering in each division. Additionally, this is the form where you can purchase accident and liability insurance through Little League. For additional information on how to charter with Little League, you can view an interactive sample charter application online at http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms_pubs/Charter_Tutorial_09.pdf.

Once completed, the charter application can be mailed to:

Little League International
539 US Route 15 Hwy
PO Box 3485
Williamsport PA 17701-0485

To request a charter application, you can either make your choice online by selecting Affiliation Information Form from the Start/Find a League menu, or contact Little League International at (570) 326-1921 and ask for League Development.

2. *Submit a League Constitution and List of Board Members*

Each affiliated Little League program must submit a League Constitution. A constitution is the legal document that governs the operation of your Little League program. We strongly encourage all leagues to adopt the Little League Model Constitution; however, if you have an existing constitution you may submit that as well. Along with your League Constitution, please also submit a list of current board members for our records. The Little League Model Constitution can be found online at <http://www.LittleLeague.org>

Once completed, please submit your Constitution and list of board members to your respective regional office.

3. *Submit a Boundary Map*

All Little League programs must file a boundary map of the area from which they will draw their players. The boundary map should include a closed boundary, as well as a written description of that boundary. You should work with your local District Administrator to complete the map. If you are not sure who the District Administrator for your area is, please contact Little League International or your regional office. Once completed, please submit your boundary map to your respective regional office.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much does it cost to join Little League?

The cost of affiliating with Little League is \$16 per team for all age levels in baseball and softball.

What does my league need to do in order to join Little League?

There are three steps that must be completed in order to charter with Little League. First, you must complete and submit a Charter Application. You may request a charter application online at: http://www.littleleague.org/Learn_More/Start_Find_a_League/Affiliation_Information_Form.htm.

Second, you must submit a copy of your league's constitution. A sample constitution that you may use can be found at: http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms_pubs/Constitution_Sample_09.pdf.

Third, you must submit a league boundary map signed by your league president and your Little League District Administrator. A boundary map should be a physical map of your community with your league boundaries outlined and described in writing.

Where should I send my charter application?

Your charter application should be sent to Little League International at:

539 US Rte 15 Hwy
PO Box 3485
Williamsport PA 17701-0485

Your boundary map and constitution should be sent to your respective regional office.

What is the deadline for submitting a charter application?

Leagues should submit their charter application prior to beginning their regular season.

How long does it take for my charter application to be approved?

Once submitted, most applications are approved within 2 weeks.

Are Little League programs required to carry insurance?

Yes. All Little League programs are required to carry both accident and general liability insurance. Both of those insurances are available at very competitive rates through the Little League program. Often leagues can save money by purchasing insurance through the Little League program.

What amount should I place in Box G on the Charter Application (liability insurance)?

Liability insurance is based on the number of teams your league is chartering. The rates are as follows:

1 or 2 teams: \$236 flat
3 – 7 teams: \$337 flat
8 – 14 teams: \$539 flat
15 or more teams: \$30.30 per team + \$135 flat

Will I receive rule books?

Each league receives one rule book free of charge for each team chartered. Rule books will be sent after your league's charter is processed.

When can my league register to participate in the Little League International Tournament?

A Tournament Enrollment Application will be mailed to your league several months before the start of the tournament. Your league may register at that time.

How much does it cost to compete in the Little League International Tournament?

The tournament entry fee is \$100 per team. This is paid prior to entering the district tournament and covers all tournament participation through the World Series level of play. Leagues will be reimbursed for tournament travel at a rate of \$1 per mile for one round trip to the tournament site for all tournament play beyond the district level.





LITTLE LEAGUE. INTERNATIONAL • BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL
539 U.S. Route 15 Highway • P.O. Box 3485 • Williamsport, PA 17701-3485 • 570-326-1921 • Fax: 570-326-1074

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