

## LITTLE LEAGUE MAGAZINE

Through a partnership with Major League Baseball, *Little League Magazine* is provided to players in June or July. To ensure that players at each league receive the magazine, the league president is asked to submit team rosters through the MyTeam system. Parents with computer skills may be able to assist the local league with this task.

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Some parents find it easy to excuse non-participation. It is an erroneous notion that unless a parent has qualifications as a coach, manager, umpire or some kind of administrative capacity, they cannot be accommodated as a member of the league.

There are a wide variety of services required for the overall operation of Little League in a community. There are fields to be built and maintained, fences to be painted and equipment to be cared for. There are fund-raising activities and special projects. There are responsibilities that range into the particular talents and inclinations of people found in every community.

## REPLACEMENT NEEDS

Each year approximately 500,000 youths graduate from the program. Usually, parents “graduate” with them. There is a hard-to-replace loss of experienced adult leadership and service. Each league shares this experience in varying degrees. Parents of new youngsters coming into the program must take up where others leave off. This is where the enrichment of thousands of adults, each helping, each lending experience, brings out a faith and confidence in the child that will be retained for many years.

For every new Little Leaguer, there must be additional resources and help. Little League offers a beneficial climate that extends not only to the children, but also to the parents, families and communities as well.

Unfortunately, it is the unwelcome behavior of parents at Little League games where the program draws its greatest criticism. Indifference on the part of a parent is almost certain to be reflected in a child’s attitude towards the game. Presence of parents in the stands during a game should be a source of encouragement and stimulation for the Little Leaguer. While it is the prerogative of baseball fans at professional games to voice loud, uncomplimentary opinions of umpires, managers and players, this practice is not condoned at Little League games. It is always in order to applaud a good player or an outstanding feat of baseball skills. However, parents must accept the fact that umpires, coaches and others identified with the program are volunteers and should not be subjected to criticism during ball games, especially by those unwilling to lend a hand.

## HOW TO CONTACT LITTLE LEAGUE

Little League Baseball®  
International Headquarters  
PO Box 3485  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
(570) 326-1921

Eastern Region Hdqtrs.  
Bristol, Conn.  
(860) 585-4730  
States:  
CT, DE, ME, MA, MD,  
NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT

Central Region Hdqtrs.  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
(317) 897-6127  
States:  
IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MO,  
MN, NE, ND, OH, SD, WI

Southern Region Hdqtrs.  
St. Petersburg, Fla.  
(727) 344-2661  
States:  
AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC,  
SC, TN, VA, WV

Texas State Hdqtrs.  
Waco, Texas  
(254) 756-1816  
States:  
TX, OK

Western Region Hdqtrs.  
San Bernardino, Calif.  
(909) 887-6444  
States:  
AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT,  
NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, WY

Access Little League on the Internet at:  
[www.littleleague.org](http://www.littleleague.org)

*Little League Baseball does not limit participation in its activities on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual preference or religious preference.*

Little League Baseball®

# Parent News

What Parents in Little League®  
Should Know

The Little League movement, formed in 1939 in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, has grown to become the world’s largest youth sports program granted Federal Incorporation by the Congress of the United States. Yet it retains its independent identity through the sponsorship of the Little League Foundation.

The values of Little League Baseball are many, with the balanced development of the child as the ultimate goal. Through Little League Baseball, youngsters develop and appreciate the need for teamwork, sportsmanship and unselfish cooperation - disciplines to be treasured for a lifetime. Physical development of the child through Little League Baseball is a prime concern, under the safest and most time-tested rules ever adopted by a youth sports program.

From beginning to end, the local Little League is strictly a volunteer effort. Concerned adults dedicate their time, service and often their personal funds, to maintain an exemplary program wherein children may develop into young adults.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

As a parent of a child in the Little League program, you are a most valuable asset. By understanding how the Little League program operates, you may better understand how to become involved in the league. Be counted as a parent who wants to take an active part in the enrichment of their child’s life. As a volunteer program, Little League Baseball cannot survive without your help. This overview of the program is designed to give you a brief look at many aspects of the Little League program.

## HOW IT'S ORGANIZED

Each Little League is chartered directly by Little League Baseball, Incorporated, in Williamsport, Pa. The charter to operate a Little League program is issued once each year under authorization of the Congress of the United States. For purposes of effective administration, a Board of Directors elected each year governs Little League Baseball. Headquarters staff, a field organization of International Advisory Councils, District Administrators, and elected league officers fulfills the organizational structure.

The Little League name and trademark may not be used under any circumstances, except as authorized by the International Board of Directors.

## REGISTRATION

A completed application form and proof of age (preferably a birth certificate) are required at registration. Volunteers are needed even before the season begins. Distributing information to schools, churches, newspapers, radio stations, etc., helps to assure that youth in your area are notified of the registration dates.

## REGISTRATION DATES

Take the time at registration to review the league's boundaries to ensure that you are registering your child at the correct league. Only those youngsters that meet the residency requirements are eligible to participate. A copy of the residency requirements should be available from the local league, if necessary.

## ACCIDENT INSURANCE & GENERAL LIABILITY - A REQUIREMENT

Action to require all leagues to carry player accident insurance was legislated by the Little League Congress in 1957.

Also, as a result of action by the International Board of Directors in 2000, general liability insurance is now mandatory for all leagues for the adequate protection of volunteers. It was previously mandatory only for leagues that hosted tournaments.

Accident Insurance, with a minimum of \$100,000 per person/per claim and General Liability Insurance, with a minimum of \$1 million per occurrence/per aggregate may be secured locally or through group plans available

to local leagues as a result of their affiliation with Little League Baseball. However, copies of all policies not purchased through Little League must be filed at Headquarters, submitted at the beginning of the season to insure coverage meets the minimum standards Little League Baseball requires.

Other group plans that are available to local leagues through their affiliation with Little League are as follows: Association Directors and Officers Liability Insurance and Crime Insurance.

**NOTE:** The local league, not the parent, pays the premium. It must not be inferred that a parent who contributes to the support of a local league is paying for an insurance policy on a youngster. The policy is another service offered by your league.

## SAFETY - THE MOST IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION

Little League Baseball has the best record of safety and protection of any youth athletic program in the world. Safety practices are refined through continuing studies, application of rigid standards in equipment and the adoption of rules and regulations. The medical world has praised Little League for instituting regulations that limit physical exertion during this crucial phase in a child's development.

Parents may be assured their children utilize the best and safest equipment available, as required by Little League Regulations. Administrative training through Little League Baseball has created an atmosphere of concern and safety-consciousness unequalled by other programs. ASAP (A Safety Awareness Program) was instituted to assist and educate leagues with tips on maintaining a safe environment for players, volunteers and fans.



## AUXILIARIES

Parents' responsibilities, other than managing and umpiring, have long ago established their value for the success of the league. Almost every league has an active auxiliary and it is proven experience that the more active and productive the auxiliary participation, the more efficient the league functions.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO EDUCATE

Little League provides a number of education programs to leagues. Currently, Major Leaguer Mark McGwire and Olympic Gold Medalist Michele Smith, are featured on baseball cards distributed to leagues to help educate children on issues of safety. Each card features safety tips for on and off the playing field. Little League also distributes information from the National Spit Tobacco Education program to educate players about the harm of smokeless tobacco.

## DUGOUT CLUB

The Dugout Club was established in June of 1998. The club is geared towards youngsters between the ages of 5 and 12. The membership includes a Dugout pin, Team Dugout poster, password to a special site on Little League's internet homepage, free admission to the Peter J. McGovern Little League Museum and newsletters during the year.

## ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Literature and material about Little League can be obtained through local league sources. Regular meetings of the local league are important sources of information. Officers of the league should welcome the opportunity to explain fully how the program operates. League get-togethers provide excellent avenues for league personnel to meet parents and for both to become better acquainted.

## LITTLE LEAGUER NEWSLETTER

The Little Leaguer Newsletter is mailed four times per year to league presidents, District Administrators and other volunteers. This valuable newsletter provides information about running the league, news from around the world, World Series information and reminders about rule changes, etc. It is now available to volunteers through a paid subscription. Contact your league president or call (570) 326-1921 to request a subscription form.