



Naperville Little League Baseball

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**2017 General Information Guide
(last updated 01/12/2017)**

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1. The State of the Naperville Little League Baseball (NLLB)

Our goal - Through proper guidance and exemplary leadership, NLLB assists children 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 program is designed to develop superior citizens rather than superior athletes.

Statistics for the the 2016 season:

- 1,351 players played on 110 teams during the regular season.
- 250 played in the Summer Tournament.
- 387 played in Fall Ball.
- 15 played in the Challenger program.

In 2016 NLLB provided:

- The [Positive Coaching Alliance](#) training series for all coaches.
- On-field training sessions for all players and a series of coaching clinics for new and experienced coaches; both presented by professionals from the Bulls Sox Academy.
- Professional training videos on our website provided by the MLB Chicago White Sox.
- A program for mentally / physically challenged players.
- The opportunity for Naperville youth to learn responsibility and earn compensation as umpires.

To gain feedback from our families and measure our strengths and weaknesses, we conducted a post-season survey .

- On the plus side, the program continues to improve being positively rated in most areas.
- Under areas for improvement, a desire was expressed for better communications, better performing umpires, and an improved means to honor team placements.

Regarding 2017:

- We are excited about our offerings which are outlined on the following pages.
- We will strive to address the shortcomings noted, and build on our strengths.
- We are pleased the Chicago White Sox have renewed their jersey program with NLLB, allowing us to keep our fees reasonable and provide continued training for the players, umpires, and coaches.

We appreciate that you are considering our program.

Larry Lucas
President, Naperville Little League Baseball



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2. Overview of our 2017 Program offerings:

- a. **7 year olds (must be at least in 1st grade)** - This "A1" Division, is machine-pitch for the entire season. One game is played during the week at 6 pm and another on Saturday. The season starts April 22 and ends by June 30. The registration fee is \$140.
- b. **8 year olds (and some 7 year olds with permission)** - This "A2" division is machine-pitch the first half of the season, and kid-pitch for the second half of the season. One game is played during the week at 6 pm and another on Saturday. The season starts April 22 and ends by June 30. Teams will compete in a round robin tournament at the end of the season. The registration fee is \$140.
- c. **9 and 10 year olds** - there are two levels of play,
 - i. The "AA" Division is for players not drafted into the Supreme Division, or who choose to not tryout. One game is played during the week at 6 pm and another on Saturday. The season starts April 22 and ends by June 30. Depending on standings at the end of the season, certain "AA" Division teams will compete in the City Championship Tournament at the conclusion of the regular season. The registration fee is \$185.
 - ii. The Supreme Division, is for players who tryout and are drafted onto a team. Games are scheduled one evening a week at 6PM or 8PM, and one on Saturday. The season will start April 8 and ends by June 30. Depending on standings at the end of the season, certain Supreme teams will compete in the City Championship Tournament at the conclusion of the regular season. The registration fee is \$340.
- d. **11 and 12 year olds** - there are two levels of play,
 - i. The "AAA" Division, is for players not drafted for the Major Division, or who choose to not tryout. Games are scheduled one evening during the week at 6 pm or 8 pm and one on Saturday. The season starts April 22 and ends by June 30. Depending on standings at the end of the season, certain "AAA" Division teams will compete in the City Championship Tournament at the conclusion of the regular season. The registration fee is \$185.
 - ii. The Major Division, is for players that tryout and are drafted to a team. Games are scheduled one evening during the week at 6 pm or 8 pm, and one on Saturday. The season will start April 8 and ends by June 30. Depending on standings at the end of the season, certain Majors teams will compete in the City Championship Tournament at the conclusion of the regular season. The registration fee \$340.
- e. **The Sunday League** is additional baseball during the regular season for all ages, depending on the player/parent interest. See section 9.
- f. **All-Star Tournament**, see section 10.



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- g. **Summer Tournament**, see section 11.
 - h. **Fall Ball**, see section 12.
 - i. **Challenger Program**, for players that are mentally or physically challenged. See section 13.
3. **Board of Directors:** Board members are elected by Regular Members in Good Standing and serve for a one year term, starting in November. For the names of the Directors and contact information, please see www.NLLB.org and click "[Board of Directors & Contact Information](#)".

4. **Age Determination**

Naperville Little League is open to boys and girls ages 7 to 12 depending on their birthdate. Little League International has instituted some age changes that will be fully implemented in the 2018 season. Naperville Little League Baseball is working toward implementing these age changes, while trying to give some options to those players directly affected. Please click [here](#) to view Little League International age determination charts. Please see below for Naperville Little League Baseball's age determination for our specific Divisions.

Players will be playing or competing in tryouts in the following Divisions based on their age and/or ability.

Division	Age	Birth Date Range
A	7 & 8	8/31/10 to 9/1/08 (Must be at least in first grade)
AA	9 & 10	8/31/08 to 5/1/06
AAA	11 & 12	5/1/06 to 5/1/04
Supreme*	9 & 10	8/31/08 to 5/1/06
Majors*	11 & 12	5/1/06 to 5/1/04

* Drafted Divisions



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5. Which League am I in?

NLLB has four separate Leagues, arranged by elementary school borders which feed into District 203 and 204 High Schools. The elementary school boundary in which your player resides determines which league you are in.

National League: Beebe, Ellsworth, Highlands, Mill St., Naper, Prairie, and Steeple Run

American League: Brookdale, Brooks, Cowlshaw, Fry, Georgetown, Gombert, Longwood, May Watts, McCarty, Owen, Peterson, Steck, Welch, White Eagle and Young

Continental League: Elmwood, Kingsley, Maplebrook, Meadow Glens, Ranchview, Riverwoods and Scott

Republic League: Builta, Clow, Graham, Kendal, Patterson, and Springbrook

Other areas served: Naperville residents located in Wheaton CUSD 200 are in the National League and Naperville residents located in Plainfield CUSD 202 are in the Republic League.

The following private schools are located in Naperville Little League's boundaries. Any student attending these schools may play in NLLB.

SS Peter & Paul School (National League)
201 E Franklin Ave
Naperville, IL 60540

St Raphael (Continental League)
1215 Modaff Rd
Naperville, IL

All Saints Catholic Academy (Continental League)
1155 Aurora Ave
Naperville, IL 60540

Bethany Lutheran School (Continental League)
1550 Modaff Road
Naperville, IL 60565

Dupage Montessori School (National League)
24W500 Maple Ave
Naperville, IL 60540



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6. Supreme & Major Divisions.

For the Majors and the Supreme Divisions, the initial tryouts were last August, and the teams were filled to about 80% capacity. The balance of the rosters will be filled with players from the winter tryouts. If your player tried out in August and did not get selected, they are encouraged to tryout again.

Players wishing to be considered for the Supreme or Major Divisions must register by January 7, 2017, and then attend the appropriate tryout as listed on our website. To tryout, players register in the "AA" or "AAA" Division and pay the appropriate fee. Players will be evaluated for their pitching, hitting, fielding, throwing and running skills. (12 YO's, see section 7.) If the player makes a drafted team, an additional balance of \$155 will be due.

After the drafted Division rosters are filled, players not assigned to a drafted team will be assigned to an "AAA" or "AA" team. If the is not selected to a select team, and he/she decides not to play, then if requested, a refund can be issued, less \$50. See para 18.

Winter tryouts will be conducted at Bulls Sox Academy; 6200 River Bend Drive, Lisle, IL 60532 (630) 324-8221. For a map to Bulls Sox Academy click: [MAP of BULLS/SOX](#). The tryouts are scheduled as follows:

January 7, 2017 Majors Tryouts/Supreme Make-Up Tryouts

5:30-7:30PM - All 12 year olds (Make up tryout for all Continental League and American League Supreme players)

7:00-9:30PM - All 11 year olds (Make up tryout for all National League and Republic League Supreme players)

If you are unsure of your player's Little League age, see section 4.

Jan 14, 2017 Supreme Tryouts/Majors Make-Up Tryouts

5:30PM - 8PM - National League and American League

7:30PM-10PM - Republic and Continental Leagues

7. Twelve Year Olds:

International Little League rules state that a 12 YO that "wishes" to play in the Majors Division will be assigned to a Majors Division team. Every year we have a few 12's that play in the Majors but unfortunately were over matched in terms of talent and would have had a better and a more meaningful experience playing in the "AAA" Division with their neighborhood friends of the same age. In order to assist in the appropriate placement of 12's, NLLB will have the team managers **and** independent evaluators at the tryouts to rate the players. Shortly thereafter, the team managers will



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meet to draft the individual teams, and all 12's will be eligible to be drafted. The 12's that met the minimum standards set by the Independent evaluators must be drafted.

For any 12's that didn't meet the minimum standards and the managers did not draft, the parents will be contacted and so advised. The parents will be asked to sign a form with two choices, 1) they agree with the decision of the independent evaluators and managers that the player will have a better time on a AAA team, or 2) regardless of the evaluations, they want their player to be placed on a Majors Division team, and it shall be done.

8. "A", "AA", & "AAA" Divisions.

For players that play in the non-drafted Divisions, there is an effort made to assign players by neighborhood/school, or with friends, but there are no guarantees. It can get complicated and sometimes the numbers and balance of ages don't work out, especially as kids progress to the older "AA" and "AAA" divisions, therefore there are no guarantees.

The "A", "AA", and "AAA" Division teams will usually have 12 -14 players on a team depending on enrollment. Every effort is made to form teams by April 8.

The "A2", "AA", and "AAA" Divisions end with post season tournaments.

Little League will allow "A" Division players sign up together as a group using one of these two options: **(note this is the only level that this option is offered)**

1. Nominate 6+ players to stay together as a group and nominate a Manager for the team. These 6+ players will be combined with other players to form a team.
2. Nominate 12-13 players to form a complete team and nominate a Manager for the team. In this case NLLB will name your team after your designated elementary school's mascot, if desired. The players have to reside within the same league boundaries (Republic, National, etc.), or attend schools within that area.

To access of one of these options contact NLLB for the proper procedure to follow.

9. Sunday League.

Depending on the number of players/parents/coaches interested, there will be tryouts for teams to play an approximate 8 game travel schedule usually on Sundays. This is for players that want to play more ball, in a travel environment. It is unrelated to the post season all-star teams and the players' regular season team, and the details will be released around Jan 15 by League Directors.



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10. All-Star teams.

There is post season All-Star play for 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12's. Teams are selected by each League and age group around June 20, with practices starting later in the month. The competition starts anywhere from the last week in June to early July. A player so chosen will need to be available for play through the end of July. 8 and 9 year olds can still compete in our Summer Tournament and participate in All Stars, however, due to timing issues, 10, 11 and 12 year olds cannot compete in both Summer Tournament and All Stars.

11. Summer Tournament.

There is a Summer Tournament where players are assigned and play approximately 6 games in a round robin format, ending with a championship game for each division. Play typically starts the second week of July, and finishes by the end of the month. The player is not making a commitment to be at all the games, and there are few if any practices.

12. Fall Ball.

Teams are formed by age groups and play starts about the second week in September, and they play about an 8 game schedule. Like the Summer Tournament, the player is not making a commitment to be at all the games, and there are few if any practices.

13. Challenger Division.

For players that are mentality or physically challenged, NLLB is pleased to offer this program. While the plans for 2017 have yet to be addressed, in 2016 we offered a 4 game season during the month of August, at a minimal cost to parents. If interested, please contact the NLLB office.

14. Opening Day Dates

Estimated opening day for the 2017 season is as follows:

- 7 - 8 yr old "A1" and "A2" Divisions Saturday April 22, 2017
- 9 – 10 yr old Supreme Division Saturday April 8, 2017
- 9 – 10 yr old "AA" Division Saturday April 22, 2017
- 11 – 12 yr old Majors Division Saturday April 8 2017
- 11- 12 yr old "AAA" Division Saturday April 22, 2017



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15. Residency Requirements:

Naperville Little League players must live within School Districts 203 or 204 boundaries or attend school within 203 or 204 Boundaries. School attendance shall be established and supported by a document such as a student's report card, indicating enrollment for the current academic school year, if asked for by NLLB.

School district boundaries can be found at the following websites:

<http://www.naperville203.org/cms/lib07/IL01904881/Centricity/Shared/maps/MapAttendanceAreas.pdf>

http://ipsdweb.ipsd.org/Documents/Boundaries/Boundary_Map_Packet_Current.pdf

16. Registration Dates & Payment

Any player wishing to try out for the 9 & 10 yr old Supreme Division or 11 & 12 yr old Major Division should register ASAP and absolutely must do so prior to the winter tryouts (Jan 7). All other players must register before March 15, 2017. Any registrations after March 15 will be accepted on a space availability basis, and pay an additional late registration fee of \$50. For the non-drafted Divisions, refunds prior to Apr 1, 2017 will be made less a \$50 processing fee; no refunds will be processed after Apr 1, 2017. There are no refunds for drafted players.

For Summer Tournament and Fall Ball, late fees and refund fees will apply. All Summer Tournament and Fall Ball registration fees will be determined prior to those programs commencing.

Little League offers a \$10 discount for each additional family member.

Registration and payment must be completed online; go to www.NLLB.org, and Visa, MasterCard, Amex, Discover, and PayPal are accepted.

17. Spring Registration Fees

- 7 and 8 YO Divisions \$140
- 9 – 10 yr old “AA” Division \$185
- 9 – 10 yr old **Supreme** Division \$340
- 11- 12 yr old “AAA” Division \$185
- 11 – 12 yr old **Majors** Division \$340

Summer Tournament and Fall Ball fees will be determined after the first of the year.



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18. Managers, Coaches, and Other Volunteers

Little League is a volunteer organization. Your child will enjoy a great experience this spring and summer because volunteers contributed their time. Won't you help too? This is a community service you can participate in and be proud of.

In order for Little League to be successful we need team Managers and Coaches. The Manager runs the team and is assisted by coaches. The Manager is the primary contact with Little League and parents. Teaching kids baseball skills is a shared responsibility for the Manager, Coaches, and parents.

In addition to Managers and Coaches, Little League has many volunteer opportunities you can participate in and are vital to the program. Examples are umpire coordinators, clerical, data entry, IT, adult umpires, web design, handyman, field maintenance, marketing/promotion, help with social media, equipment distribution / return, and many other tasks.

All Managers, Coaches, and other adult volunteers are required to sign off on a "Naperville Little League Code of Conduct" and fill out a "Little League Volunteer Application" form which is available on our NLLB.org site. The volunteer form requires a social security number and a photocopy of a government issued identification as background checks are conducted on all volunteers. This form has to be renewed annually.

To register as a Manager, Coach, or another volunteer, go to <http://nllb.org/coaches--volunteers.html>. The list of Regular Members in Good Standing is available by clicking [here](#).

19. Coaches' Clinics

During the 2016 season, there were several clinics coordinated by the Bulls Sox Academy, for our volunteer coaches and managers. Information on these clinics for 2017 will be released as soon as they are finalized.

20. Scholarship Opportunities

It is Naperville Little League's policy that no child should ever be turned away or limited to participation because of a parent or legal guardian's inability to pay a fee. As such NLLB offers need based scholarships. We may also ask that in lieu of a fee, a parent may be asked to contribute volunteer time.

For more information contact us email@NLLB.org, or call the office.



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21. Sponsors

Sponsors are an important element to the success of Little League. Besides providing financial support to the program, sponsorship shows your business's support of our community and youth sports.

What benefits do I receive as a sponsor?

Besides the gratification of knowing you are supported a healthy, character building program for young children, your company's name will be printed on the jerseys of one or more team's uniforms, your company's logo with a link to your website will be displayed prominently on Little League's website (approximately 150,000 "hits" per year), and your business will receive a commemorative plaque with team picture at the end of the season.

Naperville Little League is a 501c(3) non-profit organization and your donation is tax deductible.

You should register as a sponsor no later than March 1, 2017 in order to provide Little League sufficient time to print your company's name on the team's jerseys.

For more details and to sign up as a sponsor go to www.NLLB.org.

22. Umpires

Naperville Little League provides umpires for games at all levels of play. Younger and new umpires are used for the 7 & 8 and AA divisions, and more experienced umpires are used for the AAA, Supreme, and Majors.

Little League compensates our youth umpires on a per game basis.

Our program has adult umpires who volunteer their time as well. Although umpires older than 21 will not be paid for their services, Little League will provide any adult who commits to umpire 10 games with a complete set of umpire gear to keep.

Little League offers 2 umpire clinics through the Park District in the spring that all new umpires are expected to attend and experienced umpires are expected to attend a more advanced training session. Background checks will be performed on all umpires over 18 years old will

If you have a child who is at least 12 years old as of April 30, 2017 and wishes to umpire, monitor our website www.NLLB.org for more information.



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23. What's Next?

Here is your checklist for joining Naperville Little League

- Register and pay online at www.NLLB.org.

Deadlines are:

- Players trying out for Majors or Supreme teams, Jan 7, 2017
- Players wishing to play in our A, AA or AAA divisions - March 15, 2017 for team placement, thereafter the registration fees increase by \$50.

If applicable, attend the Supreme or Majors tryouts.

While you are registering your player, please volunteer to Manage, Coach, or help out in another capacity.

- Register to Manage or Coach at <http://nllb.org/coaches--volunteers.html>
- Download, fill out, and deliver your Manager, Coach, and volunteer form to our office.

While registering your player, let us know if your business would be willing to sponsor a team.

- Visit <http://nllb.org/sponsors.html>

Deadline: prior to having any contact with any players in our program.

Enjoy opening day, and the balance of the season!