# Little League ${ }_{\circledR}$ Baseball and Softball 



## Approved Double Elimination Tournament Brackets for Baseball and Softball Tournaments

Two defeats eliminate an entry. The losers of games in the Winners' Bracket move into specific places in the Losers' Bracket. The two teams that advance the farthest in each bracket meet for the championship. Should the Losers' Bracket finalist defeat the Winners' Bracket finalist, the two teams are re-matched for the championship. Consult the current information on schedules, byes, and forfeits. District Administrators/ Tournament Directors should photocopy these pages for use annually.

Note: When scheduling is complete, all schedules are to be provided to the appropriate Headquarters office for approval by July 1, BEFORE the tournament begins. Once the tournament is played, completed brackets (with financial statement) are mailed to the appropriate Headquarters office. Consult the current Tournament Rules and Guidelines (printed in Rulebooks) for specific information on scheduling, byes and forfeits.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Here are some answers to the most common questions we receive at Little League Headquarters each year regarding Tournaments.

Q: Can a local Little League waive its rights to a player who lives within its boundaries, allowing that player to participate in another Little League program?

A: A local Little League does not have the authority to waive such rights. ONLY THE CHARTER COMMITTEE IN WILLIAMSPORT HAS THIS AUTHORITY. (See "CHARTER COMMITTEE/WAIVERS OF RULES AND REGULATIONS" in the Rulebooks). If the Charter Committee votes to grant a waiver, the District Administrator will be informed in writing. Waivers, if granted, are for the current season only.

Q: Can a child who does not have residence within a league's boundaries play in that league for the regular season only, provided he/she is not eligible for Tournament Play (all stars)?

A: No. However, the local league may request a waiver, listing all circumstances that warrant such a waiver. Only the Charter Committee in Williamsport can make the final decision. (See "CHARTER COMMITTEE/WAIVERS OF RULES AND REGULATIONS" in the Rulebooks). If the Charter Committee votes to grant a waiver, the District Administrator will be informed in writing. Waivers, if granted, are for the current season only.

Q: If a parent signs a notarized statement granting temporary custody of a child to a friend or other family member, can that friend or family member's residence be used for registering a child to play in Little League?

A: The ONLY acceptable documentation regarding a change of custody is COURT-ORDERED CUSTODY, a decree issued by a judge who has jurisdiction in the matter.

Q: Does the District Administrator have the authority to grant a waiver of a rule or regulation? Example: Could the District Administrator give permission for a local league to register players whose residence is outside the league's boundaries?

A: ANY waiver of a rule or regulation can only be made by the Charter Committee in Williamsport. No other person or group has this authority. If the Charter Committee votes to grant a waiver, the District Administrator will be informed in writing. Waivers, if granted, are for the current season only.

Q: What is the required method for selecting Tournament (all star) teams?
A: There is no required method. The local league board of directors decides annually on the selection method. However, a suggested method is included in the Tournament Rules and Guidelines section of the Rulebooks.

Q: What is the difference between Regular Season and Tournament Play (all stars)?
A: During the Regular Season, every eligible child in the league's boundaries is given the opportunity to try out and participate on a team. Generally, the Regular Season begins in the spring and can last until September, but the start/end dates for the Regular Season vary. In Tournament Play, a league holding charters in the proper divisions may enter teams in up to five baseball and five softball divisions in the International Tournament. Tournament Play begins around July 1 and ends in late August with World Series tournaments in eight divisions of baseball and softball. Many of the rules and regulations are the same for Regular Season and Tournament Play. However, there are some exceptions, detailed in the Tournament Rules and Guidelines section of the Rulebooks. Some Districts have "Special Games" tournaments (sometimes called "Strong Team Tournaments" or "Tournament of Champions.") Special Games require specific written approval from Little League Headquarters. Little League also offers a "Second Season" program, sometimes called "Fall Ball" or "Winter League," with details available at your Regional Center, listed on page 2 or 3 of the Rulebooks.


| Three Teams | Division: $\ldots$ <br> Site(s): $\ldots$ |
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| Update phone: $\ldots$ |  |
| Next level: $\ldots$ |  |



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