



COACHES INFORMATION

COMMITMENT

The Elite program requires more commitment from coaches over regular season Little League. A season for Elite runs from September to August and is detailed more below. The team manager will have to show commitment to teaching, coaching, roster management, some administration and carrying on the core Little League principle of community and making sure the players have fun.

TEACHING

Coaching an Elite program will afford coaches the opportunity to extend the teaching of the game beyond the regular Little League season. The opportunity of having practices from September to April will mean the coaches need to be teaching more complex aspects of hitting, fielding, pitching and game strategy. This will allow the players who really want to expand their softball abilities to do so in an affordable program.

ATTITUDE

Coaches should focus on team building, increasing players skills and making the game of softball more enjoyable for all involved. Players are encouraged to focus on dedication to the team but it is understood that players may have other activities or functions they need to attend and may not be able to attend every team event.

TRYOUTS

Normally held in August, for our inaugural season they will be held in September. The Elite program is earned by the players. A position on the team is not guaranteed each year. Coaches should evaluate all players on a fair basis with the intention of fielding a competitive team that has players that can field at every position. Because of the mandatory play rules, rosters should be constructed with enough pitching to participate in a potential 6 game tournament over the weekend. All players on Elite rosters must be on regular season Little League rosters in their respective leagues. Only exceptions will be for players whose local league is not fielding a team in that division and is unable to combine with another league.

FALL SCHEDULE

Fall will consist of practices and possibly some scrimmages or doubleheaders on Sundays. Players may have been committed to other sports so participation should not be mandatory.

WINTER SCHEDULE

Teams will take November and December off with the exception of any team holiday parties. For January and February, it is expected indoor practices will be held at the coaches discretion. No more than two a week is a suggested as players will have other sport and activity commitments. Indoor practices could consist of core strengthening, fielding drills, hitting with soft or wiffle balls (if allowed), etc. Coaches will help in securing indoor practice time.

PITCHING/MANDATORY PLAY

Elite will follow all Little League rules. Players will be required to get in the required minimum play for each game. For pitching, great effort should be made to have enough pitching. A pitcher cannot pitch more than 12 innings in a day and 7 or more innings in day requires a day of rest. Every effort should made to avoid pitchers not being able to participate in regular season Little League games because of use in the tournaments.

TOURNAMENTS

12u Tournaments will be held in April, May, June and July. 16U tournaments will be in June, July & August because of CIAC rules. Most likely there will be one tournament a month with one month having two. Each team will have the chance to host one tournament. Tournaments will consist of round robin play on Saturday with each team playing 3 games. On Sunday will be the playoff round consisting of three rounds. No tournaments will be held that require overnight travel, all tournaments will be located within Eastern Connecticut.

FUNDRAISER

Each team may hold one player participated fundraiser during the season. Other fundraisers may be held. Funds can be used for softballs, umpires and any equipment needs of the team.

FUNDS

Funds will be handled by one league involved for each team. Funds can only be used for Elite team purposes and a separate accounting should be kept.