



**MUNSTER LITTLE LEAGUE  
INCORPORATED IN 1952**

# **Munster Little League – 2026**

*Dates, times and locations are subject to change.*

## **Monthly Meeting Schedule**

All meetings commence at 7:00pm unless otherwise noted.

October 19, 2025 – 313 Taproom  
November 12, 2025 – Location TBD  
December 10, 2025 – Location TBD  
January 14, 2026 – Location TBD  
February 18, 2026 – Location TBD  
March 11, 2026 – Location TBD  
April 8, 2026 – Location TBD  
May 13, 2026– Location TBD  
June 10, 2026 – Location TBD  
July 8, 2026– Location TBD  
August 12, 2026 – Location TBD  
September 9, 2026 – Location TBD

## **Special Meetings**

Draft Meetings Spring– Majors 3/9, Minors & C-League 3/10, T-ball & Prep TBD.  
Manager/Coach Meeting – March 18th- 6pm-8pm. (Location TBD)  
All-Star Ballot Counting – Date/Time/Location TBD  
All-Star Meeting – Date/Time/Location TBD  
Draft Meetings Fall– Majors 7/27, Minors & C-League 7/28  
Annual Meeting – September 16, 2026: 7pm – Rotary Shelter Community Park.

## **Important Dates**

Evaluations – Majors 3/2, Minors 3/3, C-League 3/5 @ Elliot Elementary from 5pm-9pm  
First Day of Spring Practice – TBD  
Spring Set-up Day – April 4, 2026: 9:00am – Community Park  
Opening Day – April 20, 2026 (Major, Minor & C-League)  
Picture Day – May 2, 2026 – MHS – Time TBD  
Mother’s Day Weekend – No Games – May 9, 2026 – May 10, 2026  
Memorial Day Weekend – No Games – May 23, 2026 – May 25, 2026  
All-Star Voting – Date/Time/Location TBD (Players Ages 12, 11 & 10)  
End of Spring Season – Date TBD (Major, Minor & C-League)  
July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade – July 4, 2026: 1:00pm line-up at Munster Community Pool  
Fall Ball Evaluations– Saturday, July 25, 2026 – Community Park  
Fall Opening Day – August 17, 2026  
End of Fall Season – October 8, 2026  
Fall Shut-down Day – October 17, 2026: 9:00am – Community Park

## OUR FACILITY



**COMMUNITY PARK  
HOME OF THE MUNSTER LITTLE LEAGUE  
8601 CALUMET AVE.  
MUNSTER, IN. 46321**

**Important Information**

## **Weather**

How we go about making determinations whether or not to cancel a game:

Believe it or not, this is one of the toughest decisions we make as a board during our regular season and the truth is, no matter what the final decision ultimately is, it is inevitable that certain people are not going to be happy either way. Please know that often times, these decisions are made from outside of Munster while we are at work. We rely heavily on weather apps, radar and forecasts to make the best decision. Obviously, the goal is to get our scheduled games in; however, each decision is made based on the safety and wellbeing of our players, fans and volunteers. A secondary consideration is our fields and the damage they could potentially sustain, however, your safety and your child's safety are the most important thing to all of us.

There really is no guideline that we can turn to regarding when a game should or not should not be played with the exception of lightning.

**Lightning:** Little League gives us a nice motto, "if you can see it, flee it; if you can hear it, clear it." The Munster Parks and Recreations Department oversees the Thorguard Lightning Prediction System. In the event of lightning in the area, the warning horn will sound for 15 seconds. Everyone will be required to leave the dugouts and bleacher areas and seek shelter during this time period. For purposes of lightning, the Rotary Shelter is not a proper shelter as lightning can spread out from the actual strike. According to the NWS, radial horizontal arcing can travel up to 60 feet from the point of the strike. The NWS suggests going to your vehicle. When the lightning has moved out of the area, and All Clear Horn will sound in short horn blasts. If the All Clear has not been given within 30 minutes, game play will be suspended. The MPR Lightning Prediction System document can be found on our website as well as within each of our dugouts.

**Rainfall:** Depending on the amount of rainfall, the MLL may or may not cancel game play. In addition, a slight rain or mist will probably not be grounds to cancel. If a heavy downpour takes place during a game, teams can remain in dugouts and the Rotary Shelter may be used, provided there is no lightning in the area.

**Cold Weather:** We have to face the reality that we live in an unpredictable climate, especially during the months of April and May. We may enjoy 70-degree weather on one day and the very next day, the temperature is 35 degrees. Cold weather will not be the sole determining factor to cancel a game unless the temperature is below 40 degrees at game time (games will not be suspended if the temperature dips below 40 degrees after gameplay has begun). Please be prepared and have your children dress appropriately for the weather conditions. The official temperature will be based on the Little League WeatherBug App utilizing the location of the Munster High School. (This app can be downloaded for both ios and Android – It also has a "Spark" feature which gives you a real time look at where lightning is located around you).

**Other Severe Weather:** In the event extremely severe weather occurs without warning (i.e.

tornado) and does not allow for ample time to leave the area, the park restrooms are the designated locations to shelter in place.

### **Weather Q & A:**

1. So who can call a game? Before gameplay begins, any Board Member, but only if the Board member (or Board member's child) is not directly involved in any of the scheduled games.

2. What about if a game is currently underway? In the case of inclement or threatening weather, a game may be stopped only by the umpire in charge of the game; the respective Divisional Commissioner; or any Board member, but only if the Board member (or Board member's child) is not directly involved in any of the games in progress. The Board member shall terminate all games in progress.

3. How will I get notified? The board will send an email out via the league online database as well as a text alert as soon as a determination is made.

4. How soon before a game will I be notified? Unfortunately, weather is very fluid and always rapidly evolving. We will attempt to get an answer to you as soon as possible.

5. If the earlier scheduled games are cancelled, can I assume the later games are cancelled as well? No. The email sent from the board will make it clear as to what is going on. Our intention is to play the later games; however, we will consider all factors when making that type of decision.

6. How will games get rescheduled? The League Scheduler will attempt to reschedule all games canceled due to weather. Updates will be provided via the league online database.

7. After I receive an email from the MLL concerning a game cancellation or a rescheduled game, can I reply to the email to voice my concern? You can, however, the email originates from a general email box. Emails from that box are checked periodically. See Q & A: 8 & 9.

8. If I do not agree that a game should have been cancelled, is there anyone I can talk to? Contact your manager who will relay your concerns to the respective commissioner.

9. If I think a game should have been cancelled, is there anyone I can talk to? Contact your manager who will relay your concerns to the respective commissioner.

10. What about other weather phenomena not listed? The board takes this issue very seriously. We will make the best decision for all based on the facts as we know them.

11. How can I get the latest weather information? Download the Little League WeatherBug App for your ios or Android device or contact the Munster Parks Weather Hotline at 219-836-6927. You will also get updates from the MLL via the league online database.

Trying to predict the weather is tough. Cancelling games is tough. Trying to re-schedule games is tough. The Board members have regular day jobs, located in towns/cities across the area and

may not be in the immediate vicinity when weather hits. We rely on handheld devices and weather apps like everyone else. We will continue to try our best when it comes to this area of administration within the MLL and will always make it the number one priority to keep our players, fans and volunteers safe. We ask for your continued patience and understanding.

## **Volunteer Background Checks**

Per Little League National Rules, “All managers, coaches, Board of Directors members and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to, or contact with players or teams, must annually complete and submit a ‘Little League Official Volunteer Application’ to the local league president. Annual background screenings must be completed prior to the applicant assuming his/her duties for the current season. Refusal to annually submit a fully completed ‘Little League Official Volunteer Application’ must result in the immediate dismissal of the individual from the local league. (See Regulation I(b) and I(c) 8 and 9.)

What does this mean in regard to the MLL? It means that there is no discretion when it comes to this National rule and every volunteer must have an application on file with the MLL and successfully completed a background check. For purposes of game play, only those individuals who have completed a volunteer application are permitted to be inside dugouts and/or on the playing field. There is absolutely no exception to this mandatory rule. In other words, if you know that you have not completed an electronic volunteer application and submitted to JD Palatine (official Little League contractor); you cannot enter a dugout or playing field, period. This point has been driven home to our managers and they will assist us in enforcing this mandatory rule. Unannounced inspections of all MLL dugouts will be made periodically to ensure that this rule is being followed.

Completed/signed volunteer applications provide important personal information and give authority to the MLL to conduct background checks. Little League International has contracted with JD Palatine to provide the MLL and other local leagues with a special Internet site that allows members to search a criminal records database of more than 350 million criminal records as well as sex offender registry records from across the country. The JD Palatine screening process is done electronically and the MLL will only be notified if there are any issues learned during the process. All results are screened by the Membership Coordinator and MLL President prior to the approval of the volunteer.

We take this aspect of administration very seriously and hope that you will adhere to this mandatory rule. The safety and wellbeing of our kids is the MLL’s number one priority!

## **Code of Conduct**

Were you aware that the MLL has a code of conduct for all adult members of this league, including managers, coaches, other volunteers, fans and parents? The answer is that we do. Our code of conduct policy can be found in the MLL Safety Plan. The safety plan is posted to our website.

Our managers have already had a mandatory meeting and/or were advised at divisional drafts concerning the MLL's expectations of them, including their conduct while in the presence of players or during any MLL related event (gameplay, practices, team parties, etc.). Managers have been advised to monitor the conduct of their team and take appropriate action if necessary to ensure that baseball remains fun and safe for all!

Code of Conduct signage will be placed on or around all MLL fields at the Community Park. At a minimum, we expect the following:

- ✓ Absolutely no tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drug use will be permitted at the Community Park or any designated practice fields during game play or at practices.
- ✓ Support all athletes and coaches equally.
- ✓ Obscene or demeaning language is not acceptable at any time.
- ✓ Arguing with umpires, game officials, managers, coaches, players and/or other fans is not acceptable at any time.
- ✓ Please return all foul balls to the designated ball return, umpire or player dugout.
- ✓ Remove all trash from spectator areas after each game.
- ✓ Remain in designated spectator areas. Do not go out onto the field or into the dugouts.
- ✓ Leave all coaching decisions and instructions to the manager/coaches.
- ✓ Maintain an even temperament regardless of the score or the situation on the field.
- ✓ Have fun and enjoy watching Munster Little League Baseball!

Please remember: These are kids; this is a kids game, managers, coaches and game officials are volunteers; umpires are human; and if you think you can do it better, please see the Membership Coordinator for a volunteer application!

Another thing to remember is that your child(ren) can see what is going on in the stands and within dugouts from their vantage point on the field; they are always watching you and the example you are setting!!!