

# Loudoun South Little League

2026 Spring Season

Manager Meeting



# Agenda

- Welcome
- Board of Directors
- Spring Season Key Dates
- Admin – Player Agent
- Safety – **Priority #1**
- Equipment
- Season Information
- Coaches Corner
- Field Maintenance
- Umpires
- Little League Rules & Regulations, Local Rules
- Social Media Overview & Opening Day
- Play Ball!



# Board of Directors – Volunteers

<b>President</b>	Brian Triplett	<b>Scheduler</b>	Steve Riccio
<b>Vice President &amp; BFC</b>	Jon Mollerup	<b>Umpire-In-Chief</b>	Lamont Ruffian
<b>Secretary &amp; Info Officer</b>	Brandon Vaughan	<b>Safety Officer</b>	Shant Tossounian
<b>Treasurer</b>	Nick Umstead	<b>Coaching Coordinator</b>	Michael Funk
<b>Softball Coordinator</b>	Chris Moore	<b>Fundraising Coordinator</b>	Jason McDonough
<b>Majors/AAA Player Agent</b>	Steve Guthrie	<b>Concessions Manager</b>	Lindsay Coleman
<b>AA/A Player Agent</b>	Luke Pirrello	<b>Equipment Manager</b>	Chris Warfield
<b>Rookie/IR/T-ball Player Agent</b>	Mike Nachmias	<b>Facilities Manager</b>	Steve Sphar
<b>Softball Player Agent</b>	Nick Polizzi	<b>Community Affairs Officer</b>	Alicia Schweitzer
<b>Volunteer Coordinator</b>	Kristina Donahue		



# Key Dates (Subject to Change)

- **Week of March 3:** Coach Introduction Emails to Families
- **March 7:** Equipment Distribution - TBD
- **March 7-8:** Mandatory PRCS maintenance clinics at Bolen Park
- **March 6-9:** Discount Days at Dick's Sporting Goods
- **Week of March 9:** Practices Begin
- **March 16:** All-Star Manager application details released
- **Week of March 23:** Games Begin
- **April 11:** Opening Day Ceremony @ Byrne's Ridge Park—**MUST ATTEND**
- **April 25:** Picture Day @ Gum Spring Middle School
- **May 8:** Home Run Derby (Rain Date: May 15)
- **May 16/17:** All-Star Roster Announcements & Uniform Try-On
- **May 26:** Playoffs Begin (Majors/AAA/AA/A)
- **May 31:** All-Star AL/NL Practice + Celebration
- **June 6:** Beginners' Last Game (TB/Rookie)
- **June 3-4:** Championship Games
- **June 11-13:** Single "A" All-Star Games
- **July:** Fall Season Registration Begins

All dates  
posted  
on  
[LSLL.org](http://LSLL.org)



# Administration

- Pool Players
  - Coordinate with Player Agents if you know or think you might need a pool player – the earlier the better
  - Pool players are first come, first served (cannot request specific player)
  - Cannot pitch and must bat last
  - Minimum play requirements still apply
- Replacement Players
  - Different from pool players; permanent replacement players due to player injury, withdrawal, etc.
  - Coordinate with Player Agents if a replacement player is needed
  - Availability is not guaranteed; dependent on waitlist



# Safety

- Background checks required for ALL volunteers
- LSSL Safety Manual; Available on LSSL.org
- Required Forms/Training:
  - Medical Release Forms (*Manager gathers*)
  - Abuse Training Certificate (Child)
  - Concussion Training Certificate
- Understand your players' medical issues
- Maintain First Aid kit
- Adult Coaches must always be in the dugout.
- Only 3 Coaches allowed on field
- All must be cleared before setting foot on any field, **no exceptions!**
- Injuries – Incident Reporting Form; Available on LSSL.org
- Weather & Lightning
  - Use common sense
  - 30-minute rule

Questions? Contact Shant Tossounian @ [safety@lssl.org](mailto:safety@lssl.org) or 201.927.8661





# Uniforms



AMERICAN LEAGUE						NATIONAL LEAGUE					
Lansing LUGNUTS	Durham BULLS	Scranton RAILRIDERS	Aberdeen IRONBIRDS	Quad Cities RIVER BANDITS	Wichita TIGERS	Lake Erie STORM	Eugene EMERALDS	Rochester RED WINGS	Hartford YARD GOATS	Greensboro GRASSHOPPERS	Carolina MUDCATS
SPORT RED	RUSH BLUE	ANTHRACITE	RUSH BLUE	BLACK	BLACK	BLACK	BLACK	SUNDOWN	MIDNIGHT NAVY	TEAM ORANGE	BLACK

AMERICAN LEAGUE					NATIONAL LEAGUE				
Boston RED SOX	Baltimore ORIOLES	Kansas City ROYALS	Texas RANGERS	Minnesota TWINS	Milwaukee BREWERS	St. Louis CARDINALS	Chicago CUBS	San Francisco GIANTS	San Diego PADRES



# New Equipment Rules for 2026

- **Equipment Inspections Rule 3.01** - Managers are responsible for the inspection and proper use of equipment prior to the start of each game. **PENALTY:** *The manager and player will be ejected from the game. Both the manager and the player will also be suspended for the next game.*
- **Bat Alteration (Rule 1.10 A.R.2)** - *Products to Assist the Batter:* Updates wording to allow the use of thumb protectors and clarifies that products such as, but not limited to, choke-knobs and choke-up assists are not allowed.
- **Use of Pine Tar (Rule 1.10)** Note 2 – Use of Pine Tar: Allows the use of pine tar or any other similar adhesive substance at all levels of Little League Baseball and Softball.
- **Use of Bat Donut Weight (Rule 1.10 A.R.2)** – No longer allowed to use Bat Donuts
- **Rule 1.11(a)(3) – Sleeves Worn by the Pitcher:** Removed the “neoprene” sleeve distinction in the rule to now include all sleeves. (Baseball only)
- **Jewelry (Rule 1.11j)** - Jewelry is allowed to be worn, unless it is believed to pose harm or injury.
- **Helmet Stickers (Rule 1.16)** - Allows the use of Helmet Stickers or decals provided such usage is not excessive, offensive, and does not make inappropriate references, such as drugs and alcohol.
- **Procedures for Use of a Double First Base** Rule 7.15(g): Clarifies that on an uncaught third strike, the fielder and the runner can use either part of the base. (Baseball and Softball)



# 2026 LSSL Equipment Bags

## T-Ball – IR/ROOKIE

- Team Bat
- Team Helmet
- Catchers Gear (helmet/mask, chest protector, shin guards, glove)
- Tanner Tee
- First Aid Kit
- Hustle Chain
- Baseball Base Dig Out Tool
- Bucket of Practice Balls
- 2 Dozen Game Balls (LS LOGO)

## A – AA – AAA – MAJORS

- Catchers Gear (helmet/mask, chest protector, shin guards, glove)
- Tanner Tee
- First Aid Kit
- Hustle Chain
- Baseball Base Dig Out Tool
- Bucket of Practice Balls
- 2 Dozen Game Balls (LS LOGO)



# 2026 LSSL Equipment Pick-Up TBD

To avoid multiple pick-up requests, we will wait until EVERYTHING is 'in' before we begin distribution.

1. Team Uniforms
2. Coaches Uniforms
3. Practice Balls
4. Game Balls
5. Equipment Bag

*The equipment bags will be organized, categorized and have a QR code associated to them by the end of this weekend. The uniforms will not be in till the 2nd week of March, as with the game balls. Managers will be emailed with a more accurate date of when things will be available.*



Contact Chris Warfield at [equipment@lssl.org](mailto:equipment@lssl.org) or 703.283.5350

# Season Information

- Team Website
  - [www.loudoun.gov/fieldstatus](http://www.loudoun.gov/fieldstatus) (real time)
  - Rainoutline.com (app avail)
- Fields assignments for practices & games
  - Practices offsite not permitted (not insured)
  - Scrimmages allowed
- Concession Stand Volunteers at Byrne's Ridge and Hanson.
- Contact Lindsey Coleman @ [Concessions@lsll.org](mailto:Concessions@lsll.org)



# Scheduling

- **Canceled Games & Ties**
  - In the event fields are closed due to weather, I will cancel the games/practices
  - If fields are open, but it's not safe to play a game, we will reschedule
  - In Spring, there are no ties, and a continuation must be scheduled
- **Field Requests (Not a Scheduling Concierge Service!)**
  - Please check the master calendar on the website first to make sure the field is free before sending a request.
  - Send an email with your team's name, requested day/time and field location
- **Game Reschedule Requests - Don't do it...**
  - Meet all reschedule criteria – Missing 2/3 background checked Managers or Adequate players (PA Pool Player)
- **Scrimmages on 3/21**
- **Rip City:** Check what lanes are reserved for LSSL upon arrival, they may change daily.
- **Playoffs**
  - Single A and Above: Starts last week of May/early June
  - Rookie and below: Regular games continue through 6/6



Contact Steve Riccio at [scheduler@lssl.org](mailto:scheduler@lssl.org) or 978.202.8096

# League Tools

- Gamechanger (Push Only)
  - Schedule
  - Roster
  - Format: LSSL Majors XXXX, LSSL AAA XXXX, etc.
  - Team Manager
  - Scoring
  - **New Features this year**
- League Website – LSSL.org
  - Roster and Player Information
  - Schedule
    - Download Calendar Feed
    - Notifications and Alerts



# Coaches Corner

- "Cheat Sheet" & Safety Bases
- **PRCS Maintenance Training – 3/7 and 3/8**
- Clinics for Pitcher and Catchers
- Fundamental Drills & Plans
- Roster & Lineup Tools
- Identify Volunteers Early
- [www.littleleague.org](http://www.littleleague.org)

Contact Michael Funk @ [coaching@lsl.org](mailto:coaching@lsl.org)



# Coaches Corner

## Pitch Counts and Rest Days

- Baseball Pitch Counts by League Age:
  - 13-16 – 95 pitches per day
  - 11-12 – 85 pitches per day
  - 9-10 – 75 pitches per day
  - 7-8 – 50 pitches per day
- Baseball Days Rest for League Age 14 and Under:
  - 66 or more pitches – four (4)
  - 51-65 pitches – three (3)
  - 36-50 pitches – two (2)
  - 21-35 pitches – one (1)
  - 1-20 pitches – no rest required



# Coaches Corner

## Baseball Pitch Tracking

- Update Website (*24 hours*)
  - Pitch Counts and Catcher Innings (*not Majors*)
- Baseball Pitcher/Catcher Game Rules
  - Pitch in Only 1 game Per Day
  - Limit Reached During Batter
  - 41 or More Pitches = No Catcher
  - Catch 4 innings = No Pitch
- Communicate with Travel Teams and Parents



# Coaches Corner

## Softball Pitch Tracking

- Softball Pitching Rules: Regulation VI(b) - Pitchers:
  - A player may pitch a maximum of twelve (12) innings in a day.
  - If a player pitches in seven (7) or more innings in a day, one calendar day rest is mandatory.
  - Delivery of a single pitch constitutes having pitched in an inning.
- Softball Pitching Mandatory Rest:
  - If a player pitched in seven (7) or more innings on Column A, then that player can pitch again on Column B.

Column A	Column B
Sunday	Tuesday
Monday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Thursday
Wednesday	Friday
Thursday	Saturday
Friday	Sunday
Saturday	Monday



# Coaches Corner

## Reminders

- Volunteers during games:
  - Tee-Ball, IR & Rookie: Manager plus 3 Coaches
  - A, AA, AAA, Majors, Juniors, Middle School: Manager plus 2 coaches
  - All others must remain outside of playing field
  - Other assistants may help during practices, but ALL must be cleared as volunteers.
- No on-deck circle or hitting sticks
- Maintain dugout
- No alcohol or tobacco of any kind
- Managers are responsible for their families!



# Field Maintenance

- Maintenance is an LSSL Coach Responsibility
- Equipment Box Lock Combination: **4256**
- County responsibility for prep and postgame field maintenance on Priority One (1) and Two (2) fields. *Working with PRCS to be able to assist.*
  - Byrne's Ridge
  - Hanson Park
  - Lyndora Park
  - Brambleton
  - Tillet
  - Moorefield
  - High School Fields



# Priority 3 Field Maintenance

- All school fields should be prepped for games by the **Home Team**.
- The **Away Team** is responsible for the post game maintenance.
- Post game maintenance includes leveling all holes in the batter's boxes, pitcher's mound and going into and coming off the bases.
- Both teams should clean all trash from the dugouts using the trash bags provided in the equipment bin.

Contact Steve Sphar @ [facilities@lsll.org](mailto:facilities@lsll.org) or 703.829.7630



# Field Supplies

- Help us help you!
- Pay it forward.

**LOUDOUN SOUTH**

★ LITTLE LEAGUE ★

**ATTENTION:** If supplies are running low or have been depleted, please scan the QR code and complete the online request form.



**Field Location:**

Buffalo Trail Elementary



# Umpires

- Lamont Ruffin is the 2026 Umpire-in-Chief
- 2026 Spring Assignments:
  - Mostly Youth
  - Generally, 2-man crews for Majors/AAA
  - Generally, 1 umpire assigned for AA/A
- Team Umpires **Needed; required for A/AA**
  - Recruit/identify for your team and have them add volunteer role (team umpire) on their profile
- Game Coordinators **Required**
  - Present on field for pre-game meeting
  - Present for entire game



Contact Lamont Ruffin @ 984-209-0448



# Little League Rules & Regulations, Local Rules

- 2026 Rulebook (Online App)
- Local Rules – Posted on LSSL Website ([www.lssl.org](http://www.lssl.org))
- How to Approach an Umpire
- Protesting a Game
- Mound Visits
- Behavior – ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY!



# Rule Clarifications

- No electronic devices (*except for rules and scoring, or one-way catcher communication*)
- Night game curfews
- Warm-up pitches
- Equipment in the dugout
- Speed-up the game



# The Role of Social Media for LSSL

- Celebrating the league and its values
- Celebrating team and player achievements, big plays and fun
- Engaging with LSSL families, the community, and our sponsors



**3.6k Followers**



**1k Followers**



# How you can help!

- **Loudoun South Fan Cam.**
  - Nominate a parent to share game-day and LS chain photos and video via the Fan Cam.
  - Find the link in our FB and Insta profiles.
- **Professor Diamond is back!**  
Participate in interviews when we're out and about.
- **New ideas?** Share them with me!



Alicia Schweitzer @ [community.affairs@lsl.org](mailto:community.affairs@lsl.org) or 724.422.7751



# Plan to Attend Opening Day

- Kick off to the season with a player parade, ceremonial first pitch, concessions, and merch for sale!
- Scheduled for **Apr. 11, 9:00-10:00AM** @ Byrne's Ridge Park
- Managers and coaches are expected to attend with their players.
- All players will receive new LSSL swag
- Stay tuned for more details.



**“How do you define a successful season?”**



# Play Ball!

Brian Triplett

703.201.2363

[president@lsll.org](mailto:president@lsll.org)

