

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

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# Contents

Sport and Division Information	3
Baseball Divisions	4
Softball Divisions	5
Registration Cost & Financial Aid	5
Spring Season Information	6
Fall Season Information	6
Volunteer/Coach Information	7
Tryouts and Team Formation	7
Team Practices and Time Commitment	7
Game Play	8
Weather Policy	8
Little League Boundary Policy	8



## **Sport and Division Information**

- What sports are offered at University Little League? For the fall and spring seasons, we offer baseball and softball programs.
- How are divisions determined? Eligibility for a division is based on <u>Little League Age</u> for baseball and softball as determined by a players birth month and year. This chart is updated annually by Little League International and dictates division eligibility. Generally, divisions of play at University Little League are as follows:

	Fall 2025	
Age Division	Leage Age	Date of Birth
Baseball PW 4/5	League Age 4-5	9/1/20 to 8/31/22
Baseball PW 5/6	League Age 5-6	9/1/19 to 8/31/21
Baseball CP	League Age 7-8	9/1/17 to 8/31/19
Baseball Minors (Fall)	League Age 9-10	9/1/15 to 8/31/17
Baseball Majors	League Age 11-12	9/1/13 to 8/31/15
Baseball 13U (Intermediate)	League Age 13	9/1/12 to 8/31/13
Baseball 14U (Juniors)	League Age 14	9/1/11 to 8/31/12
Softball Daisy League / Coach Pitch	League Age 6-8	1/1/17 to 12/31/19
Softball Minors	League Age 9-10	1/1/15 to 12/31/16
Softball Majors	League Age 11-12	1/1/13 to 12/31/14

If you have specific questions regarding divisions, please contact registration@fwull.com

- How do I determine the youngest birthdate for a child to be eligible for <u>baseball</u> at University Little League? A player's eligibility depends on the season:
  - For a Spring Season: Eligibility is based on the current year's Little League Age Chart. Formula for Latest Birth Date = August 31, (Current Year 4). Using the Spring 2025 season as an example: The latest birthdate would be August 31, (2025 4), which is August 31, 2022.
  - For a Fall Season: Eligibility is based on the next year's Little League Age Chart. Formula for the Latest Birth Date = August 31, ((Current Year + 1) 4). Using the Fall 2025 season as an example: The latest birthdate is August 31, ((2025 + 1) 4), which is August 31, 2022.
- How do I determine the latest birthdate for a child to be eligible for <u>softball</u> at University
   Little League? The rule for which age chart to use depends on the season, and the entry-level
   softball division at ULL is for players who are Little League Age 6.
  - For a Spring Season: Eligibility is based on the current year's Little League Age Chart. Formula for Latest Birth Date = December 31, ((Current Year 1) 6). Using the Spring 2025 season as an example: The latest birthdate would be December 31, ((2025 1) 6), which is December 31, 2018.



- For a Fall Season: Eligibility is based on the next year's Little League Age Chart to prepare players for the upcoming spring. Formula: Latest Birth Date = December 31, (Current Year 6). Using the Fall 2025 season as an example: The latest birthdate is December 31, (2025 6), which is December 31, 2019. If your daughter is not yet old enough for the softball program, the league recommends starting in the Pee Wee Baseball division to learn the fundamentals of the game
- Can my child play in a division outside of their designated Little League Age (i.e., "play up" or "play down")? Eligibility for a division is based on a player's Little League Age, which is determined by their birth month and year. University Little League encourages all players to participate in their age division. Requests to have a child play outside of their assigned age division are granted only under extenuating circumstances. Such requests require formal approval from the player's current division commissioner and the desired division's commissioner, and final approval from the Board of Directors. To inquire about this process, please contact the appropriate commissioner for your child's current division.

#### **Baseball Divisions**

- Pee Wee (Little League Age 4 to 6): ULL's initial baseball level focuses on development, creating a supportive and safe environment. Using softer, compression baseballs enhances safety and builds players' confidence as they begin their baseball journey. The pitcher position requires players to wear heart protectors due to their closeness to the batter. Coaches pitch from a kneeling position a short distance from home plate. If children don't hit the ball after three swings, they'll switch to hitting from a tee (allowing two or three swings based on the division before a strikeout is called). There will be no draft for this division; instead, team requests can be included during registration, and coaches may form or bring teams (with a maximum size of 12). Consequently, tryouts are not necessary for the Pee Wee division. If no team request is made, players will be assigned to a team. While we do keep score, the primary focus remains on teaching the children about baseball, ensuring they enjoy the experience, and promoting fair play and sportsmanship, which are core values within the University Little League community.
- Coach Pitch (Age 7 & 8): The Coach Pitch division focuses on player development and essential skills, such as throwing, catching, and hitting. True to its name, coaches pitch from a greater distance while standing. This division serves as a bridge from Pee Wee to Minors. At this stage, players use a hard ball, and new rules are introduced to improve the gameplay.
- Lower Minors (Age 9): This division marks ULL's introduction to player-pitched baseball, emphasizing ongoing skill development in throwing, catching, and hitting, while fostering a deeper understanding of game strategy and creating sound baseball habits. Players will experience live pitching from the mound, learn more defined defensive roles and fundamental strategic plays, and start to grasp concepts like leading off and stealing, all within a structured game format that prioritizes learning alongside the competitive aspects of the sport..



- **Upper Minors (Age 10):** Serving as a crucial transition, the Upper Minors division bridges the gap between foundational player-pitched baseball and the more advanced Majors. At this stage, players should have a solid grasp of fundamental skills and will focus on refining their pitching command, exploring secondary pitches when age-appropriate, executing more sophisticated defensive plays like double plays and cut-offs, and engaging in more aggressive and situational base running, all while navigating an increasingly competitive game environment that sharpens strategic decision-making.
- Majors (Age 11 & 12): Majors offers the most competitive and thorough baseball experience, primarily for players aged 11 and 12. Athletes in this division will demonstrate high-level pitching with improved control and speed, execute complex defensive strategies with accuracy, utilize advanced base running techniques including smart stealing and situational awareness, and participate in games managed with sophisticated tactical decisions like bunting and hit-and-runs, all within a competitive environment that prepares them for higher levels of baseball while reinforcing core values of sportsmanship and teamwork.

#### Softball Divisions

- Daisy League / Coach Pitch (Little League Age 6 9): This is an instructional division focused on player development and basic fundamentals such as throwing, catching, and hitting. This division uses an 11-inch ball with coaches serving as pitchers from a 35-foot pitching distance. Teams can be pre-formed, but we will attempt to place any girls without teams on a "house" team or an existing team. If your daughter is not yet old enough for Softball, we recommend starting off in our Pee Wee Baseball division to get the basics of baseball.
- Lower & Upper Coach Pitch (Little League Age 7 9): Coach Pitch is an instructional division focused on player development and basic fundamentals such as throwing, catching, and hitting. CP uses an 11-inch ball with coaches serving as pitchers from a 35-foot pitching distance. Coach Pitch teams can be pre-formed, but we will attempt to place any girls without teams on a "house" team or an existing team. If your daughter is not yet old enough for Softball, we recommend starting off in our Pee Wee Baseball division to get the basics of baseball.
- Minors (Age 9 & 10): This is the first level of kid-pitch softball offered at ULL. Minors is a hybrid of girls pitching with a coach coming in to pitch after 4 balls have been thrown. There is no change in pitching distance or ball size from Coach Pitch to Minors. Once the girls reach minors, we will host evaluation tryouts and a coaches draft in order to attempt to create evenly-matched teams.
- Majors (Age 11 & 12): Majors is the final division at ULL and girls will pitch with a 12 inch ball and from a 40 foot distance.

### Registration Cost & Financial Aid

• **How much is it to register?** For the spring season, the registration fee is \$200-\$250. For the fall season, the registration fee is \$160-\$180.



- **Is financial aid available?** Yes, financial aid is available. You can apply using this link: <u>ULL Financial Aid Application</u>
- What does the registration fee cover? The registration fee covers a jersey and hat, Little League International fees, and insurance.
- What does the registration fee <u>not</u> cover? Your player will need a baseball glove, a batting helmet and bat. You will also be responsible for pants, belts, socks, and cleats. Any bat used must be stamped with "USA Baseball" logo:









## Spring Season Information

- When does registration open for the Spring season? Online registration for players and volunteers typically opens on January 1st.
- When does registration close for the Spring season? Registration typically closes in late January, at which point a waitlist may open.
- When will the game schedule be available for the Spring season? The game schedule is typically finalized in early February and then published to teams.
- When is Opening Day for the Spring season? The first game of the season is typically in mid to late February.
- Will there be a picture day for the Spring season? Yes, picture day is generally in early April for the Spring season.
- When is the last game of the Spring season? The last game (Championship game) is typically in mid to late May, but may vary by division.

#### Fall Season Information

- How is league age determined for the Fall Season? The Fall season is focused on development and preparation for the next Spring season. Therefore, for Fall play, we use the Little League Age Chart for the *following* calendar year to determine a player's league age. As an Example: For the Fall 2025 season, player eligibility and division placement will be based on the 2026 Little League Age Chart. A player born in June 2020 will have a league age of 6 for the Fall 2025 season, as that will be their official age for the Spring 2026 season.
- When does registration open for the Fall season? Online registration for players and volunteers typically opens in mid/late July.



- When does registration close for the Fall season? Registration typically closes in mid-August, at which point a waitlist may open.
- When will the game schedule be available for the Fall season? The game schedule is typically finalized in late August and then published to teams.
- When is Opening Day for the Fall season? The first game of the fall season is typically in early September.
- Will there be a picture day for the Fall season? No picture day is offered in the Fall.
- When is the last game of the Fall season? The last game (Championship game) is typically in early November, but may vary by division.

### Volunteer/Coach Information

- How can I volunteer with University Little League? University Little League relies on dedicated volunteers to ensure a successful and enriching experience for all players. We offer various volunteer opportunities, and online registration for volunteers, specifically coaches, typically opens simultaneously with player registration.
- **Do I need special qualifications to volunteer as a coach?** Previous coaching or playing experience is not required to coach, however, anyone wishing to coach must pass a background check and specific certifications mandated by Little League.
- What volunteer roles are available? Beyond coaching, we also need volunteers for roles such as scorekeepers, field maintenance, and assistance with league events. If you have a specific skill or interest, please reach out to info@fwull.com.

## **Tryouts and Team Formation**

- **Does my child have to tryout out?** For our Pee Wee Baseball and Coach Pitch Softball divisions tryouts are not utilized. For all other divisions, a tryout is utilized.
- When are tryouts? Tryouts are typically scheduled for mid to late January (Spring) and mid to late August (Fall).
- **How will I know my child's tryout time?** Tryout times will be published on the league's website and emailed to registrants a few days before tryouts.
- When is the draft? The draft is typically scheduled a few days after tryouts.
- When will I know what team my child is on? Team rosters are uploaded to the league management system (Sports Connect) shortly after the draft.

#### Team Practices and Time Commitment

• When will team practices begin? After team rosters are finalized, your coach will oversee scheduling practices and relay that information to you.



• What is the typical time commitment for a season? Generally speaking, for the spring season, you should expect 3 events per week (1 game and 2 practices, or 2 games and 1 practice). For the fall season, generally 2 events per week.

## Game Play

• What rules are utilized for games? University Little League adheres to the official rules and regulations set forth by Little League International. These rules govern aspects of play, including pitching limits, field dimensions, equipment standards, and player eligibility, ensuring fair play and a consistent experience across all divisions. Additionally, ULL employs specific local rules to best suit our league's unique needs and circumstances. Parents and coaches are encouraged to familiarize themselves with both the Little League International rules and our local ULL rules. You can find the complete Little League official regulations and playing rules on the official Little League International website.

## Weather Policy

- When will rain outs be announced? We aim to inform families of rain out conditions as soon as possible, but generally should not be expected any earlier than 2PM of game day.
- What is the league's lighting policy? All on field activities (practices or games) will be paused for 30 minutes if lightning is detected within a 5 mile radius of the ball park.

## Little League Boundary Policy

- How is player eligibility determined? In accordance with Little League International rules, a
  player's eligibility is determined by their residential address or the physical location of the
  school they attend. For the 2025 season and beyond, children who are Little League Age 4-7
  can register to play in any Little League program, regardless of their home or school location.
  For players aged 8 and older (in 2025), they must live or attend a school within a league's
  designated boundaries.
- How can I verify if I am within University Little League's boundaries for my player? There are two primary ways to be eligible to play for University Little League:
  - Home Address: Your player is eligible if your primary residence is located within the geographic boundaries defined for ULL.
  - School Attendance: If your player attends a school whose physical address is within ULL's boundaries, they are eligible to play in our league, even if your home address is outside the boundary lines.
- What if we move outside the league's boundaries after my child has already played at ULL?

  If a player has already participated with University Little League and your family subsequently



moves to a new residence or changes schools to one outside of our boundaries, your child may be able to continue playing at ULL under a Regulation II(d) waiver. This requires completing a specific form and providing documentation from the last season you were eligible. Please contact the league President to initiate this process.