



West Hills Little League FAQs

Team and Manager Selection

How does draft work?

Upper division (Caps-Senior Division) managers are our most experienced Little League managers and spend significant time assessing ballplayers to prepare for the draft. In most cases they have coached for several seasons and are familiar with the players. Players are chosen by managers based on skills and how a player can best contribute to a team.

The draft process is a method in which the managers select their teams. There are specific rules mandated by Little League International that we must follow as part of our charter. During a division draft, each manager is given a list of eligible players from which to select. Selection is made in a "serpentine process" where Manager #1 picks a player, then Manager #2 and so on until the last manager has picked a player. This ends a "draft round" and the process reverses, with the last manager starting the next round. This continues until all teams have selected a pre-determined amount of players.

Does everyone that attends try-outs get drafted to a team?

Players who are league age 7 - 8 and would like to try out for a caps division (and have played at least one year of rookies), can try-out. Please keep in mind, that by trying out, it does not automatically place them within a caps team. Players league age 7 -12 have to attend at least 1 tryout in order for them to participate in draft.

Try-outs are held prior to the season starting in order for managers to view players and evaluate who they might like on their team. This enables a draft to take place so that teams can be selected in a fair and balanced method.

All players will make it on a team. If a player fails to attend at least one tryout, they will be placed in the age appropriate division.

How does lower division (Tee Ball-rookies) team placements work?

Players are randomly assigned. In regards to player/manager requests, we try to accommodate requests, but cannot make any guarantees. The objective is to create evenly balanced teams.

How does All-star team get formed?

In order to be eligible for an All-star team each player must have attended WHLL tryouts at the start of the season. Then they must complete 60 percent of the regular season games. Each player may fill out the All Star form to be eligible if they have met the requirements. After all the applicants are gathered:

- Little stars: The Minors division managers vote to determine which 8 year olds in Minors shall be included in 7/8 year old team. Caps managers vote to determine which 7/8 year olds will fill remaining spots.
- 9/10: The Majors division managers vote to determine which 10 year olds in Majors shall be included in 9/10 year old team. The Minors managers vote to determine which 9/10 year olds will fill remaining spots.
- 10/11: All players of the Major division and all 12 year olds in Minor division will vote to select the first (7) tournament players. This will be done by secret ballot. The remainder (5 or 6) players will be chosen by the Minors and Majors managers in a ballot form.
- 11/12: All players of the Major division will vote to select the first (7) tournament players. This will be done by secret ballot. The remainder (5 or 6) players will be chosen by the Minors and Majors managers in a ballot form.

How do managers and coaches get selected?

Managerial candidates are presented by president of the league, and then approved and appointed to teams by a manager selection committee (Player Agents, Umpire in Chief and other board members). End of the year surveys assist with the selection as well.

Can I request a manager or for my child to play with a friend?

During the Spring season, in the Caps, Minors and Majors divisions your child is drafted and requests are not taken. In 4 year old Tee Ball, Tee Ball and Rookies we will try to accommodate requests, but cannot make any guarantees.

In the fall season we attempt to accommodate requests in all divisions, but cannot make any guarantees.

Rules

When does substitution play begin?

For the majors division, substitution play begins the last Saturday in April.

When can caps division begin to steal home?

In the Caps division, stealing home begins the first Saturday in April.

What exactly is the mandatory play rule?

During regular season play, every rostered player present at the start of a game will participate in each game for a minimum of nine defensive outs and bat at least one time for regular season games. (See league rules for further information on shortened games)

For tournament games, mandatory play is adjusted slightly. During tournament play, there is no mandatory play requirements for the Senior League Divisions. At all other levels, if a tournament team has 13 or more eligible players in uniform at game, then every player on a team roster shall participate in each game for a minimum of one at bat. If a tournament team has 12 or fewer eligible players in uniform at a game, then every player on a team roster shall participate in each game for a minimum of six consecutive defensive outs and bat at least one time.

NEW Intermediate and Senior Divisions

These two divisions are to follow District 41 rules, West Hills Little League will not have separate rules for this division. Please check back for district rules at a later date.

Pitching

Who is in charge of pitch count during game?

The official scorekeeper should inform the umpire when a pitcher has delivered his/her maximum limit of pitches for the game. The umpire will inform the pitcher's manager that the pitcher must be removed in accordance with Regulation. However, the failure by the scorekeeper to notify the umpire, and/or the failure of the umpire to notify the manager, does not relieve the manager of his/her responsibility to remove a pitcher when that pitcher is no longer eligible.

What happens if a manager fails to pull a kid before hitting pitching max?

Manager will have to serve a one game suspension.

What is the pitching max for each age?

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

Exception: If a pitcher reaches the limit imposed in Regulation VI (c) for his/her league age while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occurs: 1. that batter reaches base; 2. That batter is put out; 3. The third out is made to complete the half-inning. Note 1: A pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of that day. Note 2: Any player who has played the position of catcher in four or more innings in a game is not eligible to pitch on that calendar day.

Are pitchers allowed to wear arm sleeves?

A baseball pitcher can wear an arm sleeve, but it must be fully covered by an undershirt. And, any part of the pitcher's undershirt that can be seen must be a solid color, and the sleeves cannot be white or gray. Also, a pitcher cannot wear any items on his/her hands, wrists, or arms which may be distracting to the hitter. So, if your child plays baseball and wants to use an arm sleeve on the mound, keep a long-sleeved dark-color undershirt on hand.

Miscellaneous

How is age determined in little league?

The age determination date for a little league baseball player is the actual age of a child as August 31 of the current year.

Should I buy my child their own helmet, bat, glove?

We do suggest that each child have their own glove. Helmets are provided by the league for each team, but you are more than welcome to provide your child with their own helmet. Bat Rules information is listed on the Little League website, Visit www.littleleague.org

When Opening Day Ceremonies and what is involved?

Opening Day is scheduled for Saturday, February 29, 2020. Teams will be introduced, the Board of Directors will be introduced, All-Star championship teams will be recognized, and special guests will speak and important members of our Little League family will be recognized and remembered.

Is there a Refund Policy?

Registration fees only:

- Full refund – until 1st tryout
- 50 percent – until 1/25/2020
- No refund- after 1/25/2020

When does the season start?

Spring: Practices will begin in February and games run from March to late May/early June. All Stars may go into July. Fall: Practices will begin in late August and games run from September to mid-November.

What days are practices?

Practices are usually held in the afternoon/evening on weekdays. The specific practice days depend on which team the player is assigned, and you will receive practice days and times when team assignments are made.

I still have questions. Who do I contact?

Technical questions: whllinformationofficer@gmail.com

Eligibility, division, regulations questions: westhillsllupperplayeragent@gmail.com and westhillslllowerplayeragent@gmail.com

Fundraiser questions: kellydelamarter86@yahoo.com

Anything else: westhillsllpresident@gmail.com