

WMLL Parent Handbook -- Baseball

Mission Statement: West Madison Little League is a volunteer-driven, non-profit organization, which strives to provide a fun, first class environment for all children, regardless of their skill level, to learn the games of baseball and softball. Through proper guidance and exemplary leadership, all Directors, Officers, Managers, Coaches, Parents and Members shall devote themselves to teaching game skills and, equally importantly, the fundamental principles of sportsmanship, courage, discipline, teamwork, physical well-being and doing one's best. Our core goal is to develop superior citizens and a love for the game.

Parent/Volunteer Pledge: I will teach all children to play fair and to do their best. I will positively support all managers, coaches and players. I will respect the decisions of the umpires. I will praise a good effort, win or lose.

Spring 2012

Dear Parents / Guardians:

Welcome to West Madison Little League's 54th season. This Parent Handbook is designed to answer basic questions you might have, as well as to provide you with the names of the individuals to contact if you have other questions or concerns. For cost saving reasons and to avoid paper waste, your WMLL Board of Directors has chosen to make this handbook available only online this season at www.wmll.org. Feel free to print a copy.

The WMLL website is also a source for information about WMLL, and includes schedules, standings, highlights and announcements. We will send out periodic newsletters via eNewsletters with general and league information. Please let us know if you have any ideas for improving our communications.

WMLL provides participants the opportunity to develop positive lifetime attributes including sportsmanship, leadership, discipline and team work. Within structured programs of baseball and softball, WMLL strives to develop each participant's physical skills, knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the game. We also try to provide a level of competition appropriate to age and skill, and to create an environment which fosters the enjoyment of the game and of the WMLL experience. We hope that you participate in and enjoy the "family atmosphere" that exists at your ball park. It is a place where friendships are forged and memories are etched in the minds of young and old alike.

We are very enthused about the successful addition of a Challenger Division of play for Children with Disabilities as part of our Fall Ball program. Our plan is to continue with this program in 2012 and hopefully expand it to more children. If you know of anyone with a disabled child age 8 to 16 in Dane County, please have them check our website and contact us for more details. Registration will begin online on June 15.

We hope that all families will continue to enjoy our new picnic pavilion that overlooks the Senior and Major fields. You will notice that Stop-N-Go stores is now the official sponsor of the pavilion and we thank them for their significant donation to WMLL. This has been a great addition to the wonderful park-like setting at the complex. The board encourages all families to consider making a donation and having a commemorative brick engraved and placed on the wall of the pavilion this summer. What a great way to create a legacy of your child's years playing West Madison Little League baseball and softball.

Your volunteer Board of Directors is dedicated to making the Little League experience a positive one for everyone and to assist you and your family in any way that we can. We have numerous opportunities for people who are interested in volunteering at WMLL. Please contact me or Bill Battista, our Executive Director (239-6161), if you are interested in learning more. Have a great season, and most importantly, ENJOY YOURSELF!

Sincerely,

Tom Heneghan

Tom Heneghan
WMLL Board President

This League is Your League...Please Help Keep it Clean

Over the last several years, WMLL has invested heavily in facility improvements for the safety and enjoyment of everyone. Please take pride in the great facilities on which we play...both baseball and softball. Clean up after yourself and help maintain the beauty of these special fields. If everyone picks up their own trash, as well as a piece of someone else's, our facility will remain beautiful. Every person in the West Madison Little League family should take responsibility for making sure our sites stay neat, clean and safe for our children.

Please do your part! THANKS!

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NOTE:

Minimum playing time regulations, pitching rules and other local modifications to the official Little League rules can be found in the Local Rules section of our website (www.wml.org) for each WMLL league.

WMLL Board of Directors & Responsibilities

League Officers:

President	Tom Heneghan	256-9233	theneghan@whdlaw.com
VP-Baseball	Harry Miller	233-0866	hlmiller@wisc.edu
VP-Softball	Chip Hunter	833-3930	hunterfamily@charter.net
Sec./Treasurer	Maury Tomczak	271-5892	iextskis@sbcglobal.net
<u>Exec. Director</u>	Bill Battista	239-6161	eartags@aol.com

Baseball League Coordinators:

Atlantic League	Steve Hagens	444-6363	shagens@dls-ww.com
Pacific League	Mark Newburg	831-0334	newy@tds.net
Central League	Steven Smith	576-1466	ssmith1091@tds.net
Major League	Frank Lenocho	233-1483	lchester@sbcglobal.net
Badger League.	Harry Miller	233-0866	hlmiller@wisc.edu
Senior League	Andy Chitwood	233-3521	ajcwood2@charter.net

Girls' Softball League Coordinators:

Rookie & Minor	Chip Hunter	833-3930	hunterfamily@charter.net
Major	Tom Heneghan	256-9233	theneghan@whdlaw.com
Junior	Mike Metcalf	848-7639	mmetcalf12@charter.net
Senior Lg	Randy Norton	288-9696	randaln@charter.net

Budget Planning/

<u>& Tracking</u>	Paul Zwaska	848-7236	pzwaska@beaconathletics.com
<u>Concessions</u>	Andy Chitwood	233-3521	ajcwood2@charter.net
<u>Clothing</u>	Andy Chitwood	233-3521	ajcwood2@charter.net
<u>Future Planning</u>	Paul Zwaska	848-7236	pzwaska@beaconathletics.com
<u>Groundskeeping</u>	Paul Zwaska	848-7236	pzwaska@beaconathletics.com
<u>Maintenance</u>	Jim Steeves	209-2815	jsteeves@sbcglobal.net
<u>Pitching Clinics</u>	Bill Battista	239-6161	eartags@aol.com
<u>Playing Rules</u>	Harry Miller	233-0866	hlmiller@wisc.edu
<u>Registration</u>	Randy Norton	288-9696	randaln@charter.net
<u>Safety Officer</u>	Mike Metcalf	848-7639	mmetcalf12@charter.net
<u>Scholarships</u>	Bill Battista	239-6161	eartags@aol.com
<u>Skills Session</u>	Andy Chitwood	233-3521	ajcwood2@charter.net
<u>Sponsorships</u>	Bob Jordan	848-9921	cow@mailbag.com
<u>Rosters & Photos</u>	Maury Tomczak	271-5892	iextskis@sbcglobal.net
<u>Umpires:</u>			
Baseball	Ken Compton	669-4895	idontnodou@aol.com
Softball	Becky Christy	345-2183	gobadgers@charter.net
<u>Website</u>	Bill Battista	239-6161	eartags@aol.com

2012 WMLL Calendar

Although specific dates vary from year to year, the basic timing and sequence of events remains consistent from one year to the next. Check the WMLL Calendar on website, also.

Jan. 5	Registration for Regular Season Begins Online at www.wmll.org
Feb. 29	Registration due date for guaranteed spot on a team
Mar. 15-22	Coaches Meetings for all leagues (5/2 for Senior Baseball)
Mar. 24	Baseball & Softball skill sessions at Memorial H.S. Field House
Mar. 25	Last day to request refunds (4/29 for Senior Baseball)
Mar.26-29	Baseball & Softball drafts (5/2 for Senior Baseball)
Apr. 12	Team Rep Meetings at Vitense
Apr. 14	Annual field clean-up day, 9 AM – Noon
Apr. 14	Pitching Clinics, 7 PM, at Memorial HS Field House
Apr. 28-29	Opening Weekend Festivities (except Sr Baseball and Softball)
May 12-13	Baseball Team Pictures (6/3 for Sr Lg Baseball)
May 12	Softball Opening Day & Pictures
May 27	Opening Day, Senior Lg. Baseball (tentative)
June 7-8	WMLL Nights at the Madison Mallards
June 15	Registration begins for WMLL Fall Ball season
June 16 or 23	Major Lg baseball teams play all games at Helfaer Field in Milwaukee
June 19	Little Lg night at the Brewers vs Toronto (tentative)
July 2-24	Approximate dates for various league playoffs
July 19	Fall Ball Registration ends
July 20-22	"Main Event" Softball Tournament at WMLL
July 25-31	WMLL Fields are closed for off-season maintenance
Aug. 13	Last Day to request refunds for Fall Ball
Aug. 20-24	Fall Ball Parent Meetings at WMLL, including Challenger League
Aug. 27	Opening Day of Fall Ball season
Sept. 1	Opening Day for Challenger League for Children with Disabilities
Oct 13	WMLL annual meeting (tentative)
Oct 14	End of Fall Ball season

The WMLL Board of Directors generally meets the second Sunday of each month. See the website home page, or call any officer or Board member for specific times and location. Parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

Service Commitment

West Madison Little League is a people-dependent organization. We need helping hands from everyone in order to be the best league we can be. Our greatest asset is the energy and enthusiasm that individuals bring to our association's activities.

To insure the success of West Madison Little League, we require that for every child participating in our program, a parent or guardian must perform service in the league.

A variety of opportunities exist for individuals to fulfill that obligation. Service options include:

- *League officer or board member
- *Head or assistant coach
- *Team representative
- *Spring or fall grounds or maintenance work
- *Concession stand worker

Do you have any other special talents or skill not listed here that you would like to apply to satisfy your service commitment? Let a board member know what you can do and you are on your way to making WMLL a better organization.

Not everyone, however, has the time to help the association. In that case, a parent or guardian can pay an additional \$100.00 per child in the program to satisfy their service commitment.

League Coordinator Duties

Each league or age level of play is overseen by a Board member who acts as the league coordinator. The league coordinators are very important to the operations of West Madison Little League. Their primary responsibility is to help manage the smooth operations of the respective age grouped leagues. Generally, this duty requires the individual to create the playing schedule, recruit coaches, chair coaches' meetings, distribute and monitor team equipment, print and interpret local playing rules, assist in tournament coach and player selection and serve as the day-to-day contact person and on-site administrator for a particular league. It is a major responsibility and time commitment.

In addition, a league coordinator facilitates the flow of information from the coaches and parents to the Board of Directors and from the Board of Directors to the coaches and parents.

Team Representative Duties

The team representative assumes a variety of tasks designed to insure good communication within the team and the smooth running of off field team business. This individual works closely with the head coach and together they will determine the exact duties of that team representative.

Some suggested team representative responsibilities are

- Prepare and distribute a player and parent roster with phone and emails
- Distribute team handouts, WMLL newsletters, schedules
- Assist the coach in distributing and collecting team uniforms
- Schedule parent / guardian service for the concession stand and spring and fall field cleanup and maintenance
- Coordinate team concession snack schedule and payments
- Organize the team's participation at picture day
- Plan team gatherings, such as an end of season party
- Facilitate communication between the parents and coach and/or WMLL directors
- Assist with distribution and collection of coaching evaluations

A team representative is a crucial component to the team having an enjoyable and successful season.

Coach Duties

WMLL managers and coaches must be leaders who recognize that they hold a position of trust and responsibility in a program that deals with a sensitive and formative period of a child's development. Although knowledge of the game is important, these men and women must be something more than just skill teachers. It is required that these individuals have the understanding, patience and capacity to work with children and the ability to inspire respect from their players, players' families, umpires and spectators. Above all else, managers and coaches must realize that they are helping to shape the physical, mental and emotional development of young people.

The heart of Little League is what happens between the adult manager/coach and the player. Children this age are strongly influenced by individuals whose ideals and aspirations are similar to their own. These adults and players share a common interest in the game, a desire to excel and a determination to win. Because of this unique bond, managers/coaches must be sensitive to the mental and physical limitations of each player and recognize that the game is a vehicle for training and enjoyment, not an end in itself.

Some Specific duties of these individuals are:

- Teach players specific game skills and strategies

- Assure that players look like a team – wear the uniform properly and display appropriate team spirit and sportsmanship
- Work to provide a safe playing and warm-up environment
- Discuss in a professional and civilized manner disagreements with the umpires and not tolerate any abuse or intimidation of these umpires by the players and their parents or other spectators. Remember, our umpires are our own WMLL children!!
- Work with the team representative to maintain communication with the team's parents and WMLL league directors
- Play the game in accordance with national and local rules
- Distribute and collect equipment and uniforms

Any individual who wishes to be a manager/coach should contact the specific league coordinator responsible to indicate your desires and submit an application form which outlines qualifications.

Safety First

West Madison Little League believes in “safety first.” These are some specific safety reminders:

- Players should warm-up away from crowds and traffic patterns and **MUST NOT** swing bats outside the fences of the playing field, unless they are in a batting cage or soft-toss station
- Parents should remind their children to not jump or run down the bleachers, not allow them to play underneath the bleachers and to be careful on the playground equipment
- Parents and children should always be on the lookout for foul balls and thrown balls
- Parents should take extra care in dropping off players and other children at the driveway or upon entering the parking lot – small children are hard to see
- When threatening weather approaches, move to cover but not under the trees

WMLL also is an active participant in Little League, Inc.'s “A Safety Awareness Program” (ASAP). For a copy of the complete Safety Plan, check the WMLL website on the "Local Rules" page.

League Descriptions -- Baseball

Atlantic League

This minor league program is for 8 and 9 year old players. This is a “pitching machine” program which is designed to develop the player’s defensive and offensive skills and understanding of baseball strategy from the perspective of different positions. A primary emphasis will be on the individual’s enjoyment of the sport.

Pacific League

This minor league program is for 10 year old players. This is an individual’s first exposure to live pitching by players. During this year, the player will continue to improve defensive and offensive skills as well as the understanding of the game of baseball. While maintaining the emphasis on enjoying the game, the level of competitiveness is increased slightly in this league. A few of the higher skilled 10 year olds may be drafted up to the Central League.

Central League

This major league program is primarily for 11 year old players (but a few 10 year olds may be selected to play on these teams) and parent-designated and Board-approved 12 year old players who are not as developed in skills. There will be a continued emphasis on the improvement in defensive and offensive skills, as well as the understanding of the game of baseball. Although competitive in nature, this league will still maintain a focus on the enjoyment of the sport. A few of the higher skilled 11 year olds may be drafted up to the Major League.

Major League

This major league program is primarily for 12 year olds, but a few 11 year olds may be selected to play on these teams. Player skill levels are advanced and, while enjoyment is still promoted, the competitiveness aspect of the sport begins to increase significantly.

Badger League

This junior league program is primarily for 13 and 14 year olds that want to further develop their skills in preparation for participation at the high school level. The game is played on a full size baseball diamond and follows many high school rules. The need for more sophisticated skill development and the introduction to the larger diamond makes this league challenging and fun. Note: 14 year olds in high school usually opt to play in the Senior Lg, but may remain in the Badger league, as well.

Senior League

This senior league program is primary for high school age players ages 14-16. Many league players will have played on a high school team or will, in the future, be playing interscholastic baseball. This league is designed to continue a player’s preparation for a high school team and is WMLL’s highest level of competition and player skill development. Individuals will become more specialized in the positions that they will play and participation time will vary.

Philosophies of Participation

As players progress into higher leagues, the level of competitiveness increases. Throughout all the levels of WMLL, participation is insured by local rules, which require minimum playing times. In the Atlantic, Pacific, and Central baseball leagues, and in the Minor, Major and Junior softball leagues, there are stated philosophies which guide the actions of coaches.

Atlantic (8-9's), Pacific (10's) and Central (11's) Leagues

Philosophy

The Atlantic and Pacific leagues and the Central league, although competitive in nature, are instructional leagues intended to develop each player's understanding of baseball strategy and her/his offensive and defensive skills. The primary emphasis is on each individual's participation, the exposure to a range of defensive positions and the enjoyment of the game of baseball.

Implementation

The following are guidelines for coaches to use in implementing the WMLL philosophy of participation. In creating these guidelines, it is recognized that coaches require and deserve latitude and flexibility to create an environment that achieves the WMLL philosophy. It is further recognized that player factors affecting teamwork and skill development, such as attendance, sportsmanship and effort may affect the implementation of these guidelines.

- Defensive playing time rules are recognized as absolute minimums, not guidelines or suggestions. No player or groups of players should be singled out, either positively or negatively, by consistently receiving either the maximum or minimum amount of playing time, and...

*Generally, when 10 or fewer players are present and six defensive innings are played, every player should play more than the minimum number of defensive innings

*Generally, when 11 or more players are present, no player should be in the defensive lineup for six innings.

- Positions in the batting order should rotate. No player or groups of players should be singled out, either positively or negatively, by constant placement in the most desirable or least desirable positions in the batting order.
- The instructional goals of these leagues are achieved by beginning to focus on a number of positions at which each player receives instruction and playing time in both practices and games. Instruction in the skills of all positions should be available to all players.

Effort should be made to give game playing time at all positions which a player has the skills to handle safely and at which he/she, through their effort in practice, expresses a desire to play. As a minimum, over the course of the season, all players should receive significant playing time at both infield and outfield positions. Coaches should look for opportunities, such as in one-sided games, to rotate players to positions less familiar to them.

WMLL General Policies

Treatment of Umpires

Umpires should be treated with respect. Please recognize that these young people are learning a skill and many are umpiring for the first time. Treat each of them as if they were your own children. If you have any specific concerns with a particular umpire or umpiring in general, please feel free to make your comments known to the league coordinator or umpire coordinator.

1. The league will not tolerate any harassment of the umpires by managers, coaches, players or fans or any harassment / organized cheering against any opposing player or team.
2. The umpires will not tolerate any abusive language, equipment throwing or other violent behavior by managers, coaches, players or fans.
3. Any person guilty of participating in these actions will be warned once by the umpires. Second violation will result in ejection from the game and removal from the WMLL field areas. In severe instances the offending party will be immediately ejected. The umpire will report such ejections to the umpire coordinator who will notify the Baseball Operations Committee Chairperson. Unsportsmanlike behavior which results in a game ejection carries with it another one game suspension. For a second game ejection there will be an automatic three game suspension and for a third game suspension, the individual will receive a season ending suspension.
4. To question an umpire's ruling only the manager is to represent the team. He/she must call time out and calmly consult with the umpire. A manager must not run out of the dugout or yell objections. The manager should provide the players and fans with an exemplary model of sportsmanship.
5. During all consultations with umpires about their rulings, the manager must remain in foul territory. To check on an injured player's status, the manager/coach may be on the playing field after an umpire requests their assistance.

Weather

1. If inclement weather has occurred, the field manager will determine if and when the field is in playable condition. A sign in the parking lot and messages on the answering machine (274-6556) and the website (www.wmll.org) will indicate when games are postponed because of weather.
2. If a field is not playable at game time, but might be playable in a short period of time, the game will be delayed no more than fifteen minutes. The conditions will be checked after fifteen minutes and, if the field is still unplayable, the game will be canceled and rescheduled by the coordinator. Do not ask for or expect preferential treatment in the rescheduling of games.
3. If a rain / lightning / lighting failure delay occurs after a game has started the first fifteen minutes of the total delay time does not count as part of the game time limit. When the game has been delayed for thirty minutes or more, the game will be considered either a suspended contest or an officially completed contest depending on the inning and the score.
4. When lightning is visible, the Board of Director(s) / umpires present will suspend the game for fifteen minutes and all coaches, players, spectators and umpires will take immediate shelter in the dugouts, near the concession stand or in private vehicles to insure their safety. After this fifteen minute delay, if lightning continues the board of director(s) / umpires present will call the game.
5. A game called after completion of two innings and before it is an official completed contest will be considered a suspended game. A suspended game shall be resumed at the exact point of suspension. The line ups and batting order of the teams shall be the same as the moment of suspension, subject to the substitution rules. A player who was not at the original game may be used as a substitute when the game is resumed. Prior to leaving the field of play, the coaches will verify the line ups, score and exact point at which play has been stopped i.e. outs, balls and strikes batter, runners score, etc. Any dispute should be referred to the league coordinator and/or Baseball Operations Committee for resolution. The league coordinator shall attempt to reschedule the suspended game at the time when the two teams will be playing each other again. The suspended game will be played prior to the regulation game or another suspended game. All pitching regulations will be determined by the week during which the suspended game is being resumed.
6. These rules will not restrict the Board of Director(s) present at the field from immediately canceling play at WMLL fields in order to insure the appropriate safety of coaches, players, spectators, umpires and concession workers.

Tournament Team Policies

West Madison Little League Tournament Team Policies (Baseball)

(Adopted 3/99, revised 6/04, 6/05, 8/06, 12/07, 1/08, 3/09, 3/10, 3/11)

Each season the Board of Directors shall determine the age levels at which tournament teams, sometimes called all-star teams, will be formed, and the number of tournaments each team shall enter under official WMLL sponsorship. Generally there shall be two tournament teams, one from each chartered league, formed at each level for which there is an official Little League tournament. These teams are designated "District" teams. Subject to sufficient numbers of interested players and coaches WMLL shall form third tournament teams, designated "Open" teams, at the following age levels: 10 year old; 11 year old; and 12 year old. Subject to sufficient numbers of interested players and coaches WMLL shall also form two "Open" teams for 13 year olds, one "Open" team for 14 year olds, and one "Open" team for 15 year olds. District teams shall be selected first, followed by Open teams.

Player Eligibility & Selection

1. Players must meet National Rule eligibility standards (see National rule book for details), which require a player to have participated in 60% of his team's games between opening day and June 15. Participation on high school teams will be an excused absence.
2. Age eligibility to participate in the tournament team selection process is as follows:
 - All Players WMLL age 10, and those 9 year olds participating during the regular season in the Pacific League are eligible for the "10 year old" tournament teams.
 - All Players WMLL age 11 playing in the Central or Major League are eligible for the "11 year old" tournament teams.
 - All Players WMLL age 12 are eligible for the "12 year old" tournament team.
 - All Players WMLL age 13 and 14 are eligible for the "Junior" Division District team. 14 year olds shall make up at least 75% of the roster of each Junior Division District Little League Tournament team.
 - All Players WMLL age 13 are eligible for a "13 year old" Open tournament team (exception: a 13 year old who is offered a position on the "Junior" Division District tournament team is not eligible for the "13 year old" tournament team). 13 year old Open Tournament Teams will be selected by WMLL Division.
 - All Players WMLL age 15 and 16 in the Senior League are eligible for the "Senior" Division District team.
 - Players WMLL age 15 are eligible for the "15 year old" tournament team.

Note: For the above eligibility standards a player who elects to "grandfather" to an older age level, will be considered that older age.

Note: With the exception of Senior League players who move from a "Senior" Division District team to a "15 year old" tournament team, a player may participate on only one WMLL tournament team each season.
3. The selection of tournament team players will be based on a combination of player votes, league division coach votes, performance at a try-out, tournament team coach evaluations from viewing regular season games, and additional player evaluations and ratings as provided by the other head coaches in the league's division. The player selection procedure is as follows:
 - a. Player Division Vote: Except for the Pacific (10 Yr Old) and Central (11 Yr Old) Leagues, players will vote for the 11 players from their league and division most deserving of being on a tournament team. Players may not vote for individuals on their own team for the purposes of this vote. Note: players will not vote in the Pacific and Central Leagues, as many players at this age do not yet have enough knowledge of the other players in the league.
 - b. Player Team Vote: Players vote for the 4 players (6 players in Pacific and Central Leagues) on their own team most deserving of being on a tournament team (separate vote from #a above). Players may vote for themselves.

- c. Coach Division Vote: Head Coaches will vote for the 11 players in their league and division who they feel are most deserving of being on a tournament team.
 - d. Coach Team Vote: Head Coaches will vote for the 4 players on their own team most deserving of being on a tournament team.
 - e. The League Coordinator combines and totals the votes in numbers a, b, c, and d above and creates a list of the top 25 players, ranked by vote, from each league and division. Except for players who will not commit to the tournament schedule, these 25 players will be invited to the try out. An open tryout supersedes the second sentence of this section (see item 4 below).
 - f. The League Coordinator combines the votes in b and d above to create a top 3 list for each team. Except for players who will not commit to the tournament schedule, individuals on the top 3 list for each team will be invited to the try out if they are not already on the tryout list based on e above. An open tryout supersedes the second sentence of this section.
 - g. After the try out, the head coach will evaluate all the information gathered, as noted in Item 3, a-f above, and nominate a tournament team roster to the League Coordinator.
 - h. If the nominated players for the tournament team roster include the top 8 as defined in e above, and all players nominated are in the top 15 as defined in e above, the roster shall be considered final.
 - i. If the nominated roster does not meet the criteria in h above, the coach will be required to meet with the league coordinator and league president to explain and justify his selections. This group of three will then finalize the roster. *Note: younger players who are “playing up” a league (10s playing in the Central, 11’s playing in the Major, 14 year olds in the Senior Lg.) are eligible for the tournament team at their respective age level, even though they may not have been included in that league’s voting as described above*
4. The league coordinator will determine how many players are to participate in the tryout. A minimum of 25 players will be asked to tryout for each age level. With the approval of the WMLL president the league coordinator may declare an open tryout which any tournament eligible player may attend.
 5. The player/child of the head and assistant coach are exempt from attending the try-out. All other players must attend a tryout to participate on a tournament team. Each player involved will bring a written note to the tryout from a guardian/parent indicating any family/individual plans, such as a vacation, that could or will conflict with the tournament. A supplemental tryout can be scheduled by the league coordinator if the individual’s excuse is “reasonable” for missing the original tryout. This supplemental tryout must be held prior to the official tryout and must be attended by the tournament team coach and league coordinator.
 6. Players trying out are not guaranteed a place on a tournament team. The tournament coaches with the advice of the participating Board of Directors – a minimum of 1 Board member will be involved in the process – will make the final player selections. The Board member involved in the selection may not have a child participating. Each league team does not have to be represented on a tournament team.
 7. Roster size. At the 10, 11, 12, Junior Division, and Senior Division levels the District team roster size shall be eleven (11) players. At the 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 year old levels the Open team roster size shall be eleven (11) or twelve (12). At the 15 year old level the roster will contain a maximum of 15 players. Up to a maximum of 15, all 14 and 15 year olds selected to a Senior Division District team shall automatically be on the 15 year old Open team roster for the Reedsburg tournament. No alternate will be designated for any tournament team. District teams who make late additions to their rosters may not select players who have accepted a position on an Open team.
 8. If a tournament team player is unable to participate, a replacement player will be selected, if possible, from the individuals who have attended the tryout.
 9. A player selected to a tournament team will be required to pay a participation fee, the amount of which will be determined annually by the Board, to defray WMLL’s expenses. If a player needs financial assistance to participate, he/she should make the request to the Board through their tournament team coach.

Coach Selection

1. To be eligible for selection an individual must be a current coach in the age appropriate WMLL league. Each tournament team will have an officially appointed head coach (manager) and one officially appointed assistant coach.
2. To be a head coach of a District team or 13 year old Open team an individual must submit a letter of application to the Board. The letter of application should state why the person wants to be a tournament coach, what criteria he/she would use in selection the team and what baseball/softball coaching and playing experience he/she has and how that would benefit the tournament players. After tournament team voting has been conducted (as described above), the head coach may select the 1 official assistant coach from among the top 11 players, by vote, on the list described in part 3, e above. After the tournament team roster is finalized, the head coach may select additional assistants.
3. The Board will approve the head coach for each tournament team and the President and relevant league coordinator will approve the one official tournament team assistant coach that is requested by the head coach.
4. Prior to the tryouts, all coaches must meet with the President to review WMLL and National Little League tournament team policies and procedures and must agree to strictly adhere to these policies and procedures.

Financial Support by WMLL

1. WMLL will pay the entry fees to up to three tournaments, including the District tournament.
2. To purchase jerseys, hats (embroidered with WM and a number) and full socks, WMLL will contribute an amount to be determined annually by the board.
3. If a tournament team will be participating in Little League state or national tournament competition at a site more than 150 miles from Madison, WMLL may contribute toward player and coach transportation, meal, and lodging expenses. In these instances, the President and Treasurer will determine if financial support will be provided and the amount of the contribution.