



LITTLE LEAGUE
BASEBALL CANADA
www.littleleague.ca

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COACHES CORNER

Coach – Inspire - Play

Issue 6

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Welcome to the June issue of the Coaches Corner.

Tournament season is just around the corner and this edition will focus on that time of year. Remember to download a copy of the free Little League Rulebook App. Once you download the app, you will continue to receive annual updates for free.

At www.littleleague.org website, you will also find a list of 2023 rule changes and clarifications.

The Little League® Data Center, located at LittleLeague.org/DataCenter, is Little League International's online repository for local league and district information. The Data Center is where annual charters are submitted, as well as, the location where many of the annual league operation activities are completed.

At this time of the year, charter applications should have been submitted by all the leagues (deadline April 15th) and charter fees paid (deadline June 1st) to Little League Canada. Once charter fees are paid, leagues are considered to be in good financial standings with Little League Canada and can now participate in post-season tournament play.

Tournament Play – there are several definitions of tournament play but for the purposes of this newsletter, we are focusing on post-season tournaments (aka all-stars) which leads to a World Series (baseball – Majors (Little League), Intermediate, Junior & Senior Divisions, softball – Majors, Junior and Senior Divisions)

Completing the Tournament Affidavit

Congratulations on being selected by your league to manage this year's All-Stars!

Thank you for extending your volunteer time from the regular season into Tournament/All Star season.

An important early step in your All-Star season will be creating a Team Affidavit that provides proof that all players on your team are eligible by age, live or go to school inside league boundaries, and have played in the required number of games during the regular season. While this may seem like a lot of work and detail just to let the players play, please understand this is Little League International requirement of every tournament around the world. These details rules and validation process are in place to ensure everyone is playing on a level playing field and to the same guidelines.

Please know that while you may have a team representative work with all parents/ guardians to collect the information needed, you, the league president and player agent are ultimately responsible for accuracy of the content. Your team will not be able to participate in the tournament until the team affidavit is approved by the District Administrator or its representative.

Keep this binder in a safe place and with you at all tournaments. It has personal, sensitive information in it about each player and their family so parents are entrusting you to handle the information responsibly. You may be asked to produce it at the start of the tournament and before each game.

First Step – Gather the information

- Download all approved documentation from the LL Data Center (eg. Regular Season Combined Teams Forms, Regular Season Interleague Play Forms, Split Division Format Forms and Tournament Combination Requests Forms)
- Obtain copies of signed Regulation II(d) and 4(h) forms from your League President or District Administrator
- Proof of birth for the players
- Proof of residency or school enrollment forms for the players (NOTE: **All proofs must be dated between Feb. 1st of the previous year and Feb. 1st of the current season** (Feb. 1st 2022 and Feb. 1st, 2023)).
- Completion of all forms as required by your Division and Little League Canada (eg. medical release forms, media release forms, Passport template, etc.). Each of these governing bodies will communicate the required documentation to the President.

Second Step – Completion of the Affidavit Through the Little League Data Center

Ensure you have access to the Data Center. An Affidavit Instruction video for how to use the online tool (<https://www.littleleague.org/university/articles/steps-for-completing-the-little-league-international-tournament-affidavit/>). Take the time to watch this 10 mins video as it will save you considerable time and answer many questions.

Third Step – Completion of the Tournament Verification Checklist (self-explanatory)

Fourth Step – Tournament Binder, Order of Paperwork

This information will be provided by your District Administrator. The following is a sample:

Use a 3-ring binder and the placement of the paperwork as follows:

- 1) Original birth certificate in its own compartment (sealed bag, envelope, etc.). The DA will view and returned immediately back to the manager or team parent.
- 2) Little League British Columbia Provincial Tournament Roster
- 3) Tournament Verification Checklist
- 4) Boundary Map (signed and dated by both the President and DA)
- 5) Combined Play form (if applicable)
- 6) Tournament Team Eligibility Affidavit (8 pages)
- 7) Tournament Player Verifications and supporting documents in the order that they are listed on the affidavit. Example:
 - a. Player 1 – Tournament Player Verification, copy of birth certificate, 3 proofs of residence OR School Enrollment form, and any Regulation forms if applicable.
 - b. Player 2 – a/a and then onwards for the rest of the team
- 8) Medical releases – place all at the back in the same order as the players are listed on the affidavit

QUESTIONS – If you have any questions regarding all-stars or the tournament affidavit process, please direct them to your President and/or District Administrator.

Canada Region Tournaments

BASEBALL

Majors (Little League)	Regina, SK	August 1 to 10, 2023
Intermediate (50/70)	Vancouver, BC	July 16 to 25, 2023
Junior	Lethbridge, AB	July 29 to August 7, 2023
Senior	Ottawa, ON	July 15 to 24, 2023

SOFTBALL

Majors	Victoria, BC	July 29 to August 1, 2023
Junior	Victoria, BC	July 25 to 27, 2023
Senior	Sydney Mines, NS	July 21 to 23, 2023

History

Little League Baseball came to Canada in 1951 when charters were granted to leagues in Sydney, Nova Scotia, and Vancouver, British Columbia. Canadian leagues competed alongside U.S. leagues in early region tournaments, and the Montreal National Little League became the first Canadian entrant in the Little League World Series in 1952.

When Little League Baseball expanded the World Series to an eight-team format in 1958, the Canadian Region was established. Despite the name, however, the region only encompassed leagues in Ontario and Quebec. Leagues in Western Canada continued to compete in the Western and Northern Region tournament structures, and leagues in the Maritimes could not advance beyond the Maritime Provinces championship tournament.

In 1965, the first all-Canadian champion was crowned. Western Canada champion East Trail, British Columbia traveled to Dundas, Ontario, to face the Eastern Canada champions from Stoney Creek, Ontario. Stoney Creek defeated East Trail 4-0 en route to Canada's best-ever finish, second place, at the Little League World Series.

The Canadian Region tournament is a seven-team, round-robin tournament. Tournament participants include the provincial champions from Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, and Saskatchewan; a divisional champion from the Atlantic Provinces; and the host league.

Click to view a timeline showing the [evolution of the Canadian Region Little League tournament structure](#).

On behalf of the Coaching Advisory Action Group, thank you for reading our newsletter.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for future issues such as coach to be featured, stories or jokes, please submit them to: bradleysdj@ns.sympatico.ca

Thank you!