



Madison Little League Information Night

November 10, 2021



Welcome



Tonight's Agenda:

- About Madison LL
Paul DelaCruz, Vice President and Seniors Division Commissioner
- Volunteer Opportunities
John Ward, Treasurer and AA Commissioner
Head of Madison Travel Baseball
- Playing in Madison LL
Paul DelaCruz



A little light housekeeping...



- Attendees are muted by default
- Slides should be about 30-40 minutes
- All questions will be answered at the end
 - Use the Q&A button to write a question anytime, or...
 - “Raise Hand” and we will call on you at the end of the slides



Little League History



- Little League baseball began in Williamsport, PA in 1939
- By 1946, there were just 12 leagues, and all were in Pennsylvania
- By 1951, there were more than 700 leagues in the US, Canada and Latin America
- Today, Little League is the world's largest youth sport organization, with nearly three million players across 90 countries



About Madison LL



- This is our 71st season
- Madison LL was chartered in 1952, likely making us one of the first 1,000 leagues formed
- We provide access to baseball for all players of all abilities and all financial means
 - Experience, skill level and ability to pay are not considerations
- We offer six divisions of baseball for players aged 5-16



Madison LL Board

<https://madisonll.teamsnapsites.com/board/>

- We are a volunteer organization
- We have 17 board positions occupied by 13 different people
 - 5 Administrative
 - 6 Operational
 - 6 Divisional Commissioners
- We need numerous additional volunteers to run a successful season
 - 40-50 Managers
 - 100+ Coaches
 - Concessions, Field Maintenance, Umpires

Volunteer Opportunities



- Managers and Coaches
- Concessions Committee
- Fields/Facilities Committee
- AA Division Umpires

Express your volunteer interest during Registration
or visit the [Contact Us page](#) on our website





Managers and Coaches

<https://madisonll.teamsnapsites.com/coaches-reqs/>

- Managers (aka Head Coach)
 - “Owner” of the team
 - Coordinates practices and game play
 - Ensures player availability / reschedules games if needed
 - Team point-of-contact for Madison LL Divisional Commissioner
- Coaches (aka Assistant Coaches)
 - 2-3 Asst Coaches per team depending on division
 - Help run practices and games
 - Stand in for Manager at games if Manager is not available

Concessions



- Coordinator Jenn Walsh; need several volunteers
- Responsible for Rosedale Field snack bar
- Operations on weeknights and weekends
- Primarily AAA and Majors parents
- Concessions are a significant revenue source for MLL





Fields/Facilities

- Coordinator Nelson Aguiar; need several Field Leads plus volunteers
- Pre- and post-season: general cleanup, light landscaping, grounds beautification
- In season: surface repair and grooming (divots, raking, etc.)
- NOT responsible for field prep for weekday games
- May be responsible for field prep for weekend games



AA Division Umpires



- Need 1-2 Coordinators
- Responsible for organizing players aged 12+ to umpire AA Division games (approx. 48-60 games total)
- MLL provides scheduling tools
- MLL provides training to the volunteer umpires



Playing in Madison LL



- Divisions of Play
- Spring, Summer and Fall Options
- Commitment to Play
- Winter Training
- Registration
- Assessments
- Team Formation
- COVID Safety
- Key Dates



Divisions of Play

<https://madisonll.teamsnapsites.com/divisions/>



Division	League Age	Pitch Type	Style	Frequency
Tee Ball	5-6	Tee	Instructional	Sat Mornings
Farm	6-7	Coach	Instructional	2x per week
AA	8-9	Coach / Player	Instructional	2-3x per week
AAA	9-10	Player	Competitive	2-3x per week
Majors	10-12	Player	Competitive	3x per week
Seniors	13-16	Player	Competitive	3x per week

- 10-year-olds can declare for the Majors draft - if not drafted, they play in AAA
- All 9-year-olds are in the AAA draft - if not drafted, they play in AA
- 6-year-olds with one year of Tee Ball (or other baseball) can play Farm



Spring Travel Baseball



- Madison Travel Baseball offers a Sunday-only travel league option in the Spring
- This option will not conflict with the Madison LL baseball season
- Madison Travel Baseball is for higher-skilled players looking for additional playing opportunities at a higher level of competition
- Teams play in the USABL; games are in Madison and area towns
- Available levels include 8u-14u (actual teams will depend on interest)
 - 8-10 yo: 46/60
 - 11-12 yo: 50/70
 - 13-14 yo: 60/90
- Players will have the option to express interest in Madison Travel Baseball at registration

Summer and Fall Options



Summer

- Madison LL selects All-Star teams for the LL World Series qualifying tournament (aka Williamsport)
- Madison Travel Baseball organizes travel teams
- Madison High School runs a developmental program for incoming freshmen interested in trying out for the HS team

Fall

- Madison LL does not have a fall season
- Madison Travel Baseball organizes travel teams



Commitment to Play



- Madison LL is a recreational league, but we are not a casual league
- We play baseball 2-3 times per week for ages 8+, and all teams at all age levels play every Saturday from April to June
- Registering for Madison LL is a commitment to participating – we expect players who register to attend (nearly) all practices and games
- With rosters of 12 players, it only takes a few unavailable players for a team to not have enough to play
- A team short just 4 players can end up negatively impacting 20 other kids – the rest of the players on the team, plus all the players on the opposing team

Commitment to Play



- We love multi-sport athletes, but... some activities overlap with Little League baseball so much it is impractical to try to do both

High Overlap	Some Overlap	Little Overlap
Club Baseball	Travel Basketball	Band/Orchestra/Chorus
Travel Soccer	Travel Hockey	School Play/Musical
Lacrosse		Madison Travel Baseball

- Players who prioritize other spring activities that heavily overlap with the Madison LL season, especially competitive club and travel sports, should consider whether Madison LL is the right choice



Winter Training

<https://madisonll.teamsnapsites.com/registration/>



- MLL is offering winter training clinics
- Available for players 9-12 years old
- 8-week evening program Jan 18 to Mar 17, once per week
- Hosted at Extra Innings with professional coaches
- Registration open soon - additional fees apply





MLL Registration

<https://madisonll.teamsnapsites.com/registration/>

- Registration runs Dec 1 to Jan 31
- You will log into (or create) a TeamSnap account
- Divisional eligibility is based on [League Age](#)
- LA 6 and LA 10 players have choices
- Some players will need to attend assessments
- You will be able to express interest in Madison Travel Baseball
- New players are required to show proof of age and Madison/Harding address or school attendance

Assessments

<https://madisonll.teamsnapsites.com/assessments/>



- Three groups of players must attend assessments:
 - League Age 11 players who have not previously played Majors
 - League Age 10 players who want to declare for the Majors draft
 - League Age 8 or older players who did not play MLL last spring
- Players are evaluated on fielding, hitting and pitching
- Players must sign up in advance for an assessment time slot
- Assessment sign up opens at the same time as Registration on Dec 1
- Dates, times and locations TBA



Team Formation

<https://madisonll.teamsnapsites.com/team-formation/>

- Tee Ball and Farm (ages 5-7)
 - Players are assigned to teams
 - Consideration given to school and friend requests made at registration (but no guarantees)
 - Roster sizes are typically 10-13 players
- AA, AAA, Majors, Seniors (ages 8-16)
 - Players are selected to teams based on a draft
 - Helps to promote an equitable distribution of talent across all teams
 - Roster sizes are typically 12-13 players

COVID Safety

<https://madisonll.teamsnapsites.com/covid-safety/>



Madison LL requires all participants and spectators to follow CDC and NJ Dept. of Health guidelines for outdoor activities and organized sports

- Distancing is encouraged for athletes, coaches, umpires and spectators, regardless of vaccination status
- Masks are optional and are encouraged for unvaccinated individuals
- All participants in Madison LL activities are required to self-screen daily for COVID-19 symptoms (similar to the requirement for Madison Public Schools students)





Key Dates

- Dec 1-Jan 31: registration
- Feb TBA: assessments
- Feb 14-Mar 6: teams formed
- Mar 15: Tee Ball reg closes
- **Mar 21-25: MPS spring break**
- Mar 26-Apr 3: outdoor practices/scrimmages
- Mon Apr 4: season begins
- Sat Apr 9: Opening Day parade
- **Apr 15: Good Friday**
- **Apr 18-22: SVMS spring break**
- May TBA: summer All-Star tryouts
- **May 27-31: Memorial Day Holiday**
- Wed Jun 1: playoffs start
- Mon Jun 13: playoffs complete
- **Tue Jun 14: last day of school**



Questions

