



Madison Little League 2024 Season Information Night

November 15, 2023



Welcome



Your Host:

Paul DelaCruz, MLL Vice President

Tonight's Agenda:

- About Madison LL
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Playing in Madison LL



A little light housekeeping...



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



About Madison Little League



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, 1.5 million players participate on more than 100,000 teams in 5,500 leagues across more than 80 countries



Madison Little League



- This is our 73rd 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
- Every year, 500-600 kids aged 5-15 play on 40-50 teams in 6 divisions



Madison LL Board

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



- We are a volunteer organization
- We have 16 board positions
 - 5 Administrative
 - 5 Operational
 - 6 Divisional Commissioners



Volunteer Opportunities



Volunteer Opportunities



We need numerous additional volunteers to run a successful season

- Managers aka Head Coaches (40-50)
- Assistant Coaches (100+)
- Opening Day Parade and Pictures
- Concession Operations (mostly AAA and Majors parents)
- Fields/Facilities Operations
- AA Division Umpire Coordinators

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
 - Team point-of-contact for Divisional Commissioner
- Assistant Coaches
 - 2-3 Assistant Coaches per team depending on division
 - Help run practices and games
 - Stand in for Manager at games if Manager is not available



Concessions



- Coordinator: Jennifer Walsh
- Need several volunteers
- Responsible for Rosedale Field snack bar
- Operations on weeknights and Saturdays
- 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 field prep: surface repair and grooming (divots, raking, etc.)
 - NOT responsible for field prep for weeknight games
 - May be responsible for field prep for weekend games



AA Division Umpires



- Need 1 or 2 Coordinators
- Responsible for organizing players aged 12+ to umpire AA Division games (approx. 50 games)
- MLL provides scheduling tools
- MLL provides training to the volunteer umpires



Playing in Madison LL



Playing in Madison LL



- Spring Divisions of Play
- Summer & Fall Options
- Commitment to Play
- Registration
- Assessments
- Team Formation
- Important Dates



Spring 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	9-11	Player	Competitive	2-3x per week
Majors	10-12	Player	Competitive	3x per week
Juniors	13-15	Player	Competitive	3x per week

- 6-year-olds with one year of Tee Ball (or other baseball) can play Farm
- All 9-year-olds are automatically in the AAA draft - if not drafted, they play in AA
- 10-year-olds can declare for the Majors draft - if not drafted, they play in AAA
- All 11-year-olds are automatically in the Majors draft - if not drafted, they play in AAA
- 15-year-olds are eligible only if they are in 8th grade or below

Madison Travel Baseball

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



- Madison Travel Baseball is a separate organization for higher-skilled players looking for additional play at a higher level of competition
- MTB offers a Sunday-only travel league option in the Spring plus Summer and Fall teams
- MTB does not conflict with the Madison LL baseball season
- Teams play in the USABL; games are in Madison and area towns
- Available for players aged 8-12 (actual teams will depend on interest)
 - Note that 11-12 year-olds play on the Intermediate (50/70) field

Summer and Fall Options



Summer

- Madison LL selects All-Star teams for the LL World Series qualifying tournament (aka Williamsport Tourney)
- Madison Travel Baseball organizes summer travel teams
- Madison High School runs a summer program for incoming players

Fall

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



Winter Workouts

<https://madisonll.teamsnapsites.com/registration/winter-workouts/>



- Optional winter training clinics organized by Madison Travel Baseball and Madison Little League
- Available for players aged 8-14
- Typically meet once per week in evenings
- Early Jan to early-Mid Mar (8-10 weeks)
- Centercourt in Morristown with professional coaching staff
- Registration will open soon
- Additional fees apply



Commitment to Play



- Madison LL takes pride in our baseball history and tradition
- Although we are a recreational league, we are not a casual league
 - Practices begin in March, and the season runs from early April to mid-June
 - AA-Juniors (ages 8-15) have games 2-3 times per week, plus playoffs
 - All teams at all age levels play every Saturday during the spring season
- Registering for Madison LL creates a two-way commitment between the player and the League
 - MLL will roster every player who signs up and provide a robust 12-16 game season
 - In return, we expect players to attend all practices and games

*Our expectation of full participation is no different
than any other organized youth sports club or league*



Commitment to Play



- Lack of participation = lack of games = no fun!
 - With rosters of 12 players, it only takes a few unavailable players for a team to be unable to play
 - A team short just 4 players can end up disappointing 20 other kids – the rest of the players on the team, plus all the players on the opposing team
 - Good News: More than 70% of MLL players are committed to MLL in the spring, but...
 - *The 25-30% of players who prioritize other spring activities over MLL can derail an entire division*
 - Not to mention the strain on players and families trying to manage overlapping and conflicting schedules



Commitment to Play



We love multi-sport athletes, but experience has shown that certain springtime activities overlap with Little League baseball so much that it is impractical to try to do both, especially...

Club Baseball	Club/Travel Soccer	Lacrosse
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Players who intend to prioritize other spring activities that overlap with the Madison LL season should strongly consider whether playing Madison LL is the right choice.



MLL Registration

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



- Registration is done online through TeamSnap
 - There are two forms: one for Tee Ball-Farm, one for AA-Juniors
- Spring season registration open from Nov 27 to Jan 7
 - Tee Ball and Farm registration stays open until March 15
- Waitlist is open Jan 8 to Jan 21
 - Placement from the waitlist is not guaranteed
 - An additional fee of \$50 applies in addition to the regular registration fee
- Registration fees
 - Tee Ball, Farm: \$120
 - AA, AAA, Majors: \$150
 - Juniors: \$175
 - Family maximum: \$375

MLL Registration

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



- Divisional eligibility is based on [League Age](#)
- League Age 6 and League Age 10 players have choices
 - LA 6: Tee Ball or Farm
 - LA 10: Declare for Majors draft
- Some players will need to attend Assessments - you will be advised if this is the case for you at registration checkout
- There is a separate online registration form for Assessments



Assessments

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



- These players must attend Assessments:
 - League Age 11 or 12 who have not previously played Majors
 - League Age 10 who declare for the Majors draft
 - League Age 8 or older 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 spring registration
- Only need to attend one of the scheduled dates at Madison HS
 - Sat Jan 27 - or - Sun Feb 4 / both dates 4:30-6:30 pm

Team Formation

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



- Tee Ball and Farm (League 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, Juniors (League Ages 8-15)
 - Players are selected to teams based on a draft
 - Helps to promote an equitable distribution of talent across all teams
 - Roster sizes are typically 12-14 players
 - Team rosters in AA and above are final after drafts are complete



Important Dates

<https://madisonll.teamsnapsites.com>

- Nov 27-Jan 7: registration
- Jan 8-Jan 21: waitlist (AA-JRS)
- Jan 27 and Feb 4: assessments
- Jan-Mar: Winter Workouts
- Feb 15: Mgrs certification due
- Feb 24: Grand Slam Fundraiser
- End Feb: teams formed
- Mar 2: earliest practice date
- Mar 15: Tee Ball/Farm reg closes
- Mar 29-Apr 5: MPS spring break
- Apr 8: games begin
- Apr 13: Opening Day parade
- May TBA: summer All-Star tryouts
- May 25-28: Memorial Day Holiday
- Jun 1: playoffs start (approx.)
- Jun 15: season ends (approx.)
- Jun 20: last day of school



Questions

