

**Subject** – Could your ballplayer be an All-Star?

Hi Little League Parents,

We're planning for the All-Star season and are selecting teams soon! **All players** interested should consider trying out. The program is a lot of fun and creates lasting friendships for kids and parents. Please let us know **by [DATE]** if your child will come give it a shot. First evaluations are on **June 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

**If your child wants to try out, [you'll want to know](#):** *[this would click to a webpage—content below on page two]*

*How much baseball can you look forward to?*

*Is the play different than house league?*

*What teams are there and how are they formed?*

*What does the schedule look like?*

*How much travelling should you expect?*

*What are the costs?*

I really enjoyed coaching last year despite some long hot days on the diamond and moving some summer vacation days into August. But it's worth it!

If you have any questions, please let us know.



## What does it mean to be a BBL All-Star?

All-Star season is coming up! Here's what you need to know.

### How much baseball can you look forward to?

Little League has created a lot of opportunities to play over the five weeks from **June 24th through August 6th**. While it's ideal for players to be available for the whole season, we understand families plan vacation in the summer months, so the teams are flexible. [Ask us](#) if you're interested but unsure about timing, especially for the AA and A teams. Some teams also have one weekend off in July.

### Is the play different than house league?

The level of play and commitment for All-Star is a big step up from house league. Games generally follow the [Little League Rulebook](#) instead of house league rules.

### What teams are there and how are they formed?

- Your child will try out for [Majors](#) or [Minors](#) according to their age division.
- We then classify those teams as AAA, AA, or A (AAA is the strongest).
- This classification depends on the players' skill level, and we decide the number of teams by how many managers, assistant coaches, and players we have.
- We hope to field three teams of 12 in each division, but may field two or even one.
- Not all players who try out will make a team.
- We determine the team rosters by manager preference and All-Star executive committee approval.
- Ten-year-old players not selected to the Majors AAA team may play on a Minors team.

### What does the schedule look like?

Some of the dates and locations still need to be determined and depend on the coaches and the leagues—see [the calendar](#) below. We'll keep everyone posted as these things firm up.

#### *Evaluations*

- Evaluations are **June 3<sup>rd</sup>** at [Southwood Diamond](#) and then the **5<sup>th</sup>** or **6<sup>th</sup>** at the Baseball Diamond.
- There is a **mandatory parent meeting** in the first 30 minutes of the June 3<sup>rd</sup> evaluations.
- We should have teams finalized by **June 8th**.

#### *Practices*

- Practices **will begin on or after June 24<sup>th</sup>**. AAA teams may be able to practice earlier depending on the regular season playoff schedule.
- Coaches usually run one to three practices a week depending on the game schedule.

#### *Tournaments and games*

- There are two types of competition: weekend tournaments with other regions, and weekday games with teams in your district. BBL is District 1.
- In 2017, most teams played between 22 and 30 games from late June to early August.
- **Mandatory seeding tournaments** are **June 29th - July 2nd** and **July 6th - 8th**. These could be in Timbuktu, Pandora, Endor, Romulus, Tatoonie, or somewhere else.
- Teams must play on at least two of the following three weekends: **July 13-15, 20-22, and 27-29** and may play all three.
- The Majors AAA Provincial Tournament is likely **July 20-27 in Endor**.

- If we have enough volunteers and umpires, BBLL is willing to host tournaments at Cracker Jack Field and other diamonds every weekend. We'll let you know about division and levels for specific weekends.

#### *Playoffs*

- **Championship Weekend** for all teams (except Majors AAA) is **August 3rd through 6<sup>th</sup>**.
- **City Championships** or **District 1 Playoffs** may take place on weeknights (usually T/W/Th evenings) for two to four weeks in July. We're still finalizing this, but it's been like this for the past two years.

#### **How much travelling should you expect?**

The amount of travel depends on the division, level of play, and the coach. It's likely that [Minors/Majors will/will not...]. Some teams may choose to travel to Ivory Coast, Antarctica, Nepal, and throughout Siberia for various tournaments, while others may play mostly in and around Patagonia.

#### **What are the costs?**

- Fees are \$300 per player. All-Star managers and assistant coaches get a \$100 discount for their children.
- Fees cover tournament entry, umpires, Little League fees, uniforms, diamond supplies, porta-potties, insurance, and other operational costs.
- Hotel stays average between [\$120.00 to \$150.00] per room per night, plus meals.