



Naperville Little League Baseball

www.NLLB.org

2017/18 General Information Guide (Last updated 08/16/2017)

Table of Contents

- 1. The State of Naperville Little League**
- 2. Overview of NLLB's 2018 offerings**
- 3. 2017 NLL BOD**
- 4. Age Determination**
- 5. Which League am I in?**
- 6. Major and Supreme Divisions**
- 7. Twelve Year olds**
- 8. Rookies, Supreme A, and Major A Divisions**
- 9. Sunday League**
- 10. All Star Tournament**
- 11. Summer Tournament**
- 12. Fall Ball**
- 13. Challenger Division**
- 14. Opening Day Dates**
- 15. Registration Dates, Payment, Fees**
- 16. Managers, Coaches, and other Volunteers**
- 17. Coaches Clinics**
- 18. Scholarship Opportunities**
- 19. Sponsors**
- 20. Umpires**
- 21. What's next?**



Naperville Little League Baseball

www.NLLB.org

1. The State of the Naperville Little League Baseball (NLLB)

Our goal - Through proper guidance and leadership, NLLB assists children in developing the qualities of citizenship, discipline, teamwork, physical well-being, while improving individual baseball skills and having a good time.

Statistics for the 2017 season:

- 1,556 players played on 120 teams during the regular season (up 15% from 2016).
- 280 played in the Summer Tournament (12% up from 2016).
- 387 played in Fall Ball (registration currently open).
- 22 played are playing in the Challenger program (up 40% from 2016).

In 2017 NLLB provided:

- The Positive Coaching Alliance training series for all coaches.
- On-field training sessions for all players and a series of coaching clinics for new and experienced coaches; both presented by professionals from the Bulls Sox Academy.
- A umpire rules clinic for all select team managers
- Opportunities for Naper youth to learn responsibility and earn compensation as umpires.

To gain feedback from our families and measure our strengths and weaknesses, we are conducting a survey to measure our strengths and areas for improvement.

We are often asked if we are part of the Naperville Park District, and we are not. While we are grateful for our close relationship with the NPD, we do pay annual fees for the parks use. Further, we think that the NPD parks are as fine as you will see in any suburb.

Regarding 2018:

- We have restructured from 4 leagues to 3, which will more equitably balance our select leagues, and will in many cases increase the number of games closer to home.
- There was no change in the registration fees for the spring season.
- We are excited about our 2018 offerings which are outlined on the following pages.
- We are pleased the Chicago White Sox have renewed their jersey program with NLLB, for the 2018 season.

In 2017 we had over 500 volunteers who contribute their time and talents unselfishly, and we couldn't survive without them. We are thankful for their efforts.

Larry Lucas
President, Naperville Little League Baseball



Naperville Little League Baseball

www.NLLB.org

2. Overview of our 2018 Program offerings:

The 3 levels of play below (a, b, and c) will usually play two games a week, one during the week and one on Saturday. Depending on the standings in each Division, some teams in all levels except the 7 YO Rookies play in post season play. See section 14 for opening dates, and #15 for fees.

- a. **Rookies** – there are two levels of play,
 - i. **7 year olds (must be at least in 1st grade) - Rookies A Division (RA)**. This is machine-pitch for the entire season. (Please see section 8 for further details)
 - ii. **8 year olds (and some 7 year olds with permission) – Rookies AA Division (RAA)**. This is machine-pitch the first half of the season, and kid-pitch for the second half of the season. (Section 8)
- b. **9 and 10 year olds** - there are two levels of play, (Section 6)
 - i. The **Supreme A Division (SA)** is for players not drafted into the Supreme AA Division, or who choose to not tryout. (Section 8)
 - ii. The **Supreme AA Division (SAA)**, is for players who tryout and are drafted onto a team. (Section 6)
- c. **11 and 12 year olds** - there are two levels of play for each,
 - i. The **Major League A Division (MA)** is for players not drafted for the Major Division AA team, or who choose to not tryout. (Section 8)
 - ii. The **Major League AA Division (MAA)** is for players that tryout and are drafted to a team. (Section 6)
- d. **The Sunday League** is additional baseball during the regular season, depending on the player/parent interest. (Section 9).
- e. **All-Star Tournament**, (Section 10).
- f. **Summer Tournament**, (Section 11).
- g. **Fall Ball**, (Section 12).
- h. **Challenger Program**, for players that are mentally or physically challenged. (Section 13).

3. **Board of Directors:** Board members are elected by Regular Members in Good Standing and serve for a one year term, starting in November. For the names of the Directors and contact information, please see www.NLLB.org and click "[Board of Directors & Contact Information](#)".

4. Age Determination for the 2018 season.

Naperville Little League is open to boys and girls ages 7 to 12 depending on their birthdate. The below chart reflects the little league age for the youngsters for the 2018 season. Match the month and the



Naperville Little League Baseball

www.NLLB.org

box with the year of birth, and the youngsters league age is indicated at the right. Birthdates that fall outside of the chart are not eligible for NLLB play.

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AGE
2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2010	2010	2010	2010	7
2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2009	2009	2009	2009	8
2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2008	2008	2008	2008	9
2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2007	2007	2007	2007	10
2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2006	2006	2006	2006	11
2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2005	2005	2005	2005	12
				2005	2005	2005	2005					12

Players will be playing or competing in tryouts in the following Divisions based on their age and/or ability.

Division	Age	
Rookies A (RA)	7	Must be at least in first grade
Rookies AA (RAA)	Mostly 8's	Generally 2nd grade
Supreme A (SA)	9 & 10	Neighborhood league
Supreme AA (SAA)	9 & 10	Player Select league
Majors A (MA)	11 & 12	Neighborhood league
Majors AA (MAA)	11 & 12	Player Select league

5. Which League am I in?

NLLB has three separate Leagues, arranged by elementary school borders which feed into District 203, 204, and private High Schools. The elementary school boundary in which your player resides determines which league you are in:

Continental League:

Elementary School borders: Elmwood, Kingsley, Maplebrook, Meadow Glens (NCHS), Ranchview, Riverwoods and Scott

National League:

Elementary School borders: Beebe, Brookdale, Brooks, Ellsworth, Highlands, Longwood, McCarty, Mill St., Naper, Prairie, Steck, Steeple Run and Young

Republic League:

Elementary School borders: Builta, Clow, Cowlshaw, Fry, Georgetown, Gombert, Graham, Kendal,



Naperville Little League Baseball

www.NLLB.org

May Watts, Owen, Patterson, Peterson, Springbrook, Welch and White Eagle

The following private schools are located in NLLB boundaries:

Saints Peter & Paul School (National League), St. Raphael School (Continental League), All Saints Catholic Academy (Continental League), Bethany Lutheran School (Continental League), DuPage Montessori School (National League)

Other areas served:

Naperville residents located in school district 200 are in the National League and Naperville residents located in school district 202 are in the Republic League.

Important Notes:

- a) Naperville residents located in school district 200 are in the National League and Naperville residents located in school district 202 are in the Republic League.
- b) In addition to using your child's primary address to establish residency, he/she may also use an address of a parent not living with them. They also have the option of playing in the league where the school they attend is physically located.
- c) Naperville residents located in Wheaton CUSD 200 are in the National League and Naperville residents located in Plainfield CUSD 202 are in the Republic League.
- d) Players registering that are not otherwise covered above, are accepted for play in the NLLB, and can participate in all post season play, except LLI sanctioned tournaments.

6. Supreme & Major Divisions.

For the Majors (MAA) and the Supreme Divisions (SAA), the tryouts were in August, and the teams were filled to capacity. If your player tried out in August and was not selected, they will be assigned to a MLA or SLA team late March.

- While for 2018 the players drafted on the S
- AA teams will if possible return to the same team for 2019, new players in 2019 will have to try out annually for the Supreme level.

Players wishing to be considered for the Major League Majors A (now the MLA, previously AAA) or the Supreme League A (now the SLA, previously AA) must register by March 15, 2018, to be guaranteed a team spot. The decision on whether to have player tryouts will be made prior to March 15.

7. Twelve Year Olds:

All 12 YO's will play in the majors, either at the MA or MAA level.

8. Rookies, Supreme A, and Major A Divisions.



Naperville Little League Baseball

www.NLLB.org

The Rookies division consists of Rookies A (at least in first grade), and Rookies AA (generally second graders, and some first graders). For players that play in the non-drafted Divisions, there is an effort made to assign players by neighborhood/school, or with friends, but there are no guarantees. It can get complicated and sometimes the numbers and balance of ages don't work out, especially as kids progress to the older Supreme and Major divisions, therefore there can't be any guarantees.

These Division teams will usually have 12 -14 players on a team depending on enrollment. Every effort is made to form teams by April 8.

All except the Rookies A division have an end of the year tournament.

We allow both the Rookie divisions to sign up players together as a group using one of these two options: **(note this is the only level that this option is offered)**

1. Nominate 6+ players to stay together as a group and nominate a Manager for the team. These 6+ players will be combined with other players to form a team.
2. Nominate 12-13 players to form a complete team and nominate a Manager for the team. In this case NLLB will name your team after your designated elementary school's mascot, if desired. The players have to reside within the same league boundaries (Republic, National, etc.), or attend schools within that area.

To access of one of these options contact NLLB for the proper procedure to follow.

9. Sunday League.

Depending on the number of players/parents/coaches interested, there will be tryouts for teams to play an approximate 8 game travel schedule usually on Sundays, and perhaps some Wednesdays. This is for players that want to play more ball, in a travel environment. It is unrelated to the post season all-star teams and the players' regular season team. There are strict pitching limits on such play.

10. All-Star teams.

There is post season All-Star play for 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12's. Teams are selected by each League and age group around June 20, with practices starting later in the month. The competition starts anywhere from the last week in June to early July. A player so chosen will need to be available for play through the end of July. 8 and 9 year olds can still compete in our Summer Tournament and participate in All Stars, however, due to timing issues, 10, 11 and 12 year olds cannot compete in both Summer Tournament and All Stars.

- ## **11. Summer Tournament.**
- There is a Summer Tournament where players are assigned and play approximately 6 games in a round robin format, ending with a championship game for each division. Play typically starts the second week of July, and finishes by the end of the month. The player is not making a commitment to be at all the games, and there are few if any practices.

12. Fall Ball.



Naperville Little League Baseball

www.NLLB.org

Teams are formed by age groups and play starts about the second week in September, and they play about an 8 game schedule. Like the Summer Tournament, the player is not making a commitment to be at all the games, and there are few if any practices.

13. Challenger Division.

For players that are mentality or physically challenged, NLLB is pleased to offer this program. While the plans for 2018 have yet to be addressed, in 2017 we offered a 6 game season during the months of July/August, at a minimal cost to parents. If interested, please contact the NLLB office.

14. Opening Day Dates

Estimated opening dates for the 2018 season is as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Rookies | Saturday April 21, 2018 |
| • 9 – 10 YO Supreme SLAA | Saturday April 7, 2018 |
| • 9 – 10 YO Supreme SLA | Saturday April 21, 2018 |
| • 11 – 12 YO Majors MLAA | Saturday April 7, 2018 |
| • 11 - 12 YO Majors MLA | Saturday April 21, 2018 |
| • Summer Tournament | Monday July 9, 2018 |
| • Fall Ball | Saturday September 8, 2018 |
| • Challenger Program | To be determined |



Naperville Little League Baseball

www.NLLB.org

15. Registration Dates, Payment, and Fees

Any registrations after March 15 will be accepted on a space availability basis, and pay an additional late registration fee of \$50. For the Rookies, SA and MA, refunds prior to Apr 1, 2018 will be made less a \$50 processing fee; as commitments will have been made for supplies, training, fields, etc., there will be no refunds after Apr 1, 2018.

There are no refunds for SAA or MAA players as team commitments have been made.

For Summer Tournament and Fall Ball, late fees and refund fees will apply. All Summer Tournament and Fall Ball registration fees will be determined prior to those programs commencing.

Little League offers a \$10 discount for each additional family member.

Registration and payment must be completed online; go to www.NLLB.org, and Visa, MasterCard, Amex, Discover, and PayPal are accepted.

Spring Registration Fees:

- RA and RAA Divisions \$140
- SA and MA \$185
- SAA and MAA \$340

All-Star, Sunday League, Challenger League, Summer Tournament and Fall Ball fees will be determined after the first of the year.

16. Managers, Coaches, and Other Volunteers

Little League is a volunteer organization. Your child will enjoy a great experience this spring and summer because volunteers contributed their time. Won't you help too? This is a community service you can participate in and be proud of.

The Manager runs the team and is assisted by coaches. The Manager is the primary contact with Little League and parents. Teaching kids baseball skills is a shared responsibility for the Manager, Coaches, and parents.

In addition to Managers and Coaches, Little League has many volunteer opportunities you can participate in and are vital to the program. Examples are umpire coordinators, clerical, data entry, IT, adult umpires, web design, handyman, field maintenance, marketing/promotion, help with social media, equipment distribution / return, and many other tasks.

All Managers, Coaches, and other adult volunteers are required to sign off on a "Naperville Little League Code of Conduct" and fill out a "Little League Volunteer Application" form which is available on our NLLB.org site. The volunteer form requires a social security number and a photocopy of a government issued identification as background checks are conducted on all volunteers. This form has to be renewed annually.

To register as a Manager, Coach, or another volunteer, go to <http://nllb.org/coaches--volunteers.html>.

The list of Regular Members in Good Standing is available by clicking [here](#).



Naperville Little League Baseball

www.NLLB.org

17. Coaches' Clinics

During the 2017 season, there were several clinics coordinated by the Bulls Sox Academy, for our volunteer coaches and managers. Information on these clinics for 2018 will be released as soon as they are finalized.

18. Scholarship Opportunities

It is Naperville Little League's policy that no child should ever be turned away because of a parent's inability to pay a fee. As such NLLB offers need based scholarships. We may also ask that in lieu of a fee, a parent may be asked to contribute volunteer time.

For more information contact us email@NLLB.org, or call the office.

19. Sponsors

Sponsors are an important element to the success of Little League, and are a key part of keeping our fees as reasonable as possible. Besides providing financial support to the program, sponsorship shows your business's support of our community and youth sports.

What benefits do I receive as a sponsor?

Besides the gratification of knowing you are supported a healthy, character building program for young children, your company's name will be printed on the jerseys of one or more team's uniforms, your company's logo with a link to your website will be displayed prominently on Little League's website (approximately 150,000 "hits" per year), and your business will receive a commemorative plaque with team picture at the end of the season.

Naperville Little League is a 501c(3) non-profit organization and your donation is tax deductible.

You should register as a sponsor no later than March 1, 2018 in order to provide Little League sufficient time to print your company's name on the team's jerseys. We are fortunate to have many such sponsors with many doing so year after year, and some of the sponsor levels fill up quickly.

For more details and to sign up as a sponsor, please go to www.NLLB.org.

20. Umpires

Naperville Little League provides umpires for games at all levels of play. Younger and new umpires are used for the 7 & 8 and AA divisions, and more experienced umpires are used for the AAA, Supreme, and Majors.

Little League compensates our youth umpires on a per game basis.

Our program has adult umpires who volunteer their time as well. Although umpires older than 21 will not be paid for their services, Little League will provide any adult who commits to umpire 10 games with a complete set of umpire gear to keep.



Naperville Little League Baseball

www.NLLB.org

Little League offers 2 umpire clinics through the Park District in the spring that all new umpires are expected to attend and experienced umpires are expected to attend a more advanced training session. Background checks will be performed on all umpires over 18 years old.

If you have a child who is at least 12 years old as of April 30, 2018 and wishes to umpire, monitor our website www.NLLB.org for more information.

21. What's Next?

Here is your checklist for joining Naperville Little League

- Register and pay online at www.NLLB.org.

The Deadlines is:

- Players for the Rookies, SLA, and MLA Divisions- March 15, 2018 for team placement, thereafter the registration fees increase by \$50.

If applicable, attend the appropriate tryouts.

While you are registering your player, please volunteer to Manage, Coach, or help out in another capacity.

- Register to Manage or Coach at <http://nllb.org/coaches--volunteers.html>
- Download, fill out, and deliver your Manager, Coach, and volunteer form to our office.

While registering your player, let us know if your business would be willing to sponsor a team.

- Visit <http://nllb.org/sponsors.html>

Deadline: prior to having any contact with any players in our program.

Enjoy opening day, and the balance of the season!