**Traverse City Little League FAQs**

**Question:** Why should I choose to have my child participate in Traverse City Little League?

**Answer:** Little League Baseball is a non-profit organization founded in 1939. Little League is a well-organized league that offers T-Ball, Coach Pitch, and traditional baseball and softball through local leagues. Traverse City Little League was organized in 1990 and is run by a local volunteer Board of Directors. We strive to offer competitive yet fun leagues for our local children to participate in.

**Question:** Does Traverse City Little League offer softball?

**Answer:** Currently, we do not offer softball leagues. However, both boys and girls are permitted to register and play for Traverse City Little League baseball. If you are interested in playing softball, we encourage you inquire with TAGS (Traverse Area Girls Softball).

**Question:** When does registration start?

**Answer:** Registration for Traverse City Little League typically opens in January and runs through the end of February. Late registration may be possible. Reach out to us at littleleaguetraversecity@gmail.com with questions.

**Question:** When does the season start?

**Answer:** Practices typically start in early to mid-April, depending on weather. We aim to have games begin at the beginning of May through the end of June.

**Question:** How do I register?

**Answer:** If you are a returning player, you may register by logging into the same account you used in the past. If you are new to Traverse City Little League, you will need to create an account at [traversecitylittleleague.com](http://www.traversecitylittleleague.com/). You will then be able to see what programs are open for registration.

**Question:** What equipment will my player need?

**Answer:** Basic equipment needed is a glove. You may also purchase a bat and a helmet for your player’s use. Each team will have a supply of league helmets and bats for team use. Additional specialized equipment will be supplied by the league (Ex. Catcher’s gear) if you do not have it. It is also recommended, but not required, that your child have baseball pants and cleats. An athletic supporter is recommended for male players, especially in the Majors and Minors divisions. Jerseys and hats will be supplied by the league for regular season games.

**Question:** What type of bat should I buy?

**Answer:** Metal bats must be stamped “USA Baseball”. Metal bats stamped any other way may not be used in Little League (Ex. USSSA). Any wooden bat may be used and does not need to be stamped “USA Baseball”.

**Queston:** What type of cleats should a buy?

**Answer:** Baseball cleats are preferred, but not required. Metal cleats are not permitted. Please purchase rubber souled cleats only.

**Question:** When are games and practices?

**Answer:** We aim to keep practices and games between Mondays and Thursdays. For the most part, expect your child to have 2 games each week during the season. Your child’s coach will be in charge of scheduling practices and may schedule other days as needed.
 **Question:** Are there tryouts?

**Answer:** No, not for the regular season. All children registered will be placed on a team. We do require that all players registered for the Majors and Minors divisions attend an evaluation. This will help determine each player’s level of skill which helps us create even teams.

**Question:** What are the age ranges for each division?

**Answer:**
T-Ball - 4 to 7 years
Coach Pitch - 5 to 8 years\*Players aged 5-6 must have played T-Ball for one season\*
Minors - 8 to 10 years
Majors - 11 to 12 years

Parents may request their child to play up or down a level based on skill. Please reach out to us at littleleaguetraversecity@gmail.com with questions.

Please consult the current Little League Age Chart to find your child’s league age.

**Question:** When will I be contacted by the coach?

**Answer:** We strive to create times and assign coaches as quickly as possible. Many factors impact when teams are created, and coaches assigned. Our goal is to have everything in place by the end of March. Expect some communication by that time.

**Question:** What method will my coach use to communicate?

**Answer:**  Each coach will have their own method of communication that works best for them. We encouragement communication via phone, text, email or on our interactive website.

**Question:** Are there tryouts for All-Stars?

**Answer:** Yes, we will be holding try-outs for our All-Star program. The All-Stars are selected based on their age, skill, attitude, and willingness to be part of an extended season. The All-Star program does require some weekday and weekend travel from mid-June through possibly the end of July. Commitment is needed by not only the players, but also the parents as out of town travel during the work week can be difficult for many families.

**Question:** Are the coaches paid or are they volunteer?

**Answer:** The coaches and board members are all volunteers. We need all the help we can get! If you are interested in volunteering for any position, please contact us at littleleaguetraversecity@gmail.com

All of our league volunteers (board members, coaches, and umpires) are screened annually through JDP Background Checks.