



All Star Selection Policy and Basic Overview - SPRING 2023

As a league, Midlothian Amateur Baseball Little League strives to make sure that the regular season offers as much opportunity to play and experience baseball and softball as possible. The League implements numerous local rules to make for a more enjoyable playing experience for ALL players. Our League has many different playing levels, each geared to accommodate players based on their age and ability of play.

The All-Star Season is a completely separate season from the regular season. It is an opportunity for a significantly higher level of play within the regional Little League system. Players will have a significantly higher level of commitment, and will receive a higher level instruction, and will compete against other All-Star teams.

When it comes to All-Star teams, it is the intent of the Midlothian Amateur Baseball Little League Board to field a team that will best represent our league in competition and character. Several characteristics permeate the nomination and selection process for players and managers for the All-Star team. These include: skill-level and ability to compete, attitude, hustle, team spirit, team leadership, and overall character, integrity, and sportsmanship. Winning is fun, but it is very important that we remember that Little League is a Child Development Program and that we are about teaching life lessons, building and demonstrating positive ideals, and characteristics that we hope for all our children.

General Selection Process and Procedure Timing:

The All-Star team selection process will begin no sooner than three weeks prior to the first tournament game as scheduled by Little League. Practices begin immediately upon team selection and usually run 1.5 - 2 hours per day and can be (this is at the discretion of the manager) up to 7 days a week, however, this volume of practices will be highly unlikely due to field and space availability. The District 7 Summer Kick-Off Tournament will begin June 1st and would include District All-Star Teams and Local All-Star Teams. The official Little League District All-Star Tournaments typically begin the weekend of June 23. If a team were to win the District All-Star Tournament, the team would then move on to the Sectional Tournament, then

the State Tournament. The older teams also have a regional tournament and the Little League World Series (Williamsport, PA) that will take place in early to late August. An additional Local All-Star tournament will be held

Player and Parent Commitments:

Each interested player will submit their name for consideration by completing the All-Star Commitment Form. This document explains the commitment necessary to be a part of the All-Star Program. MABA is striving to field the most competitive All-Star team possible and assure that it is composed of players and managers/coaches that represent the attitude and character we desire. With this in mind, MABA wishes to involve only parents and players who are committed to the hard work and practice time that is required to participate at this level of competition. The player and parent commitment to All-Stars must be a solid commitment. Tournament Players must bear in mind that their first commitment is to the MABA team before any other non-Little League team or to any other sports events during the All-Star Season.

Price and Financial Commitment:

Committing to the All-Star season will come with some additional costs to cover the cost of uniforms, game balls, and tournament registrations. For each player that commits to this all-star experience, an additional \$125 will need to be charged through a separate registration. This cost will be non-refundable once the registration has been completed. For those requiring financial assistance if chosen to an all-star team, please reach out to president@midlothianbaseball.org for next steps as a formal request. Each All-Star team will have the opportunity to compete in two tournaments with the District All-Star team competing in the Summer Kick-Off and the District Tournament (if you win District you will continue on), while the Local All-Star teams will compete in the Summer Kick-Off and one additional tournament to follow.

Number of Players:

Each All-Star team representing the MABA will consist of a minimum of 12 to a maximum of 14 players. In MABA, the All-Star Manager has the discretion of choosing a 13th or 14th player which is eligible for the team. It is strongly recommended that the All-Star Manager pick a 13th player for the roster. Additionally, the All-Star Manager shall appoint a new player should the team need to replace a player due to injury, lack of commitment, ineligibility, or other unforeseen circumstance. Per Little League rules, some players may be eligible for multiple teams, however, an individual may only be selected or allowed to practice with one All Star team.

Teams and age groups:

District All-Star Teams:

- **Intermediate (13 year old) Team:** The Intermediate All-Star Team will be made up of players who are league age 13 and who played in the MABA Juniors or Intermediate Division. This team plays 50/70.

- **Majors (12 year old) Team:** The Major's All-Star Team will be made up of players who are league age 10 to 12 and who played in the MABA Intermediate or Majors division during the regular season.
- **Minors (11 year-old) Team:** The 11 year-old All-Star team will be made up of players who are league age 9 to 11 and played in either Minors or Majors during the regular season.
- **Minors (10 year-old) :** The 10 year-old All-Star team will be made up of players who are league age 8 to 10 and who played in MABA Minors.

Local All-Star Teams:

Should a player not be selected for a district all-star team, there will still be the ability to construct additional local all-star teams to compete in a couple local tournaments during the early summer months. These all-star opportunities will be at the following levels and are dependent on an adequate numbers of players and coaches. We are not limited to one team, so if there are enough, we can charter multiple teams at each age level.

- **Intermediate (11-13) Teams:** The Intermediate All-Star Team will be made up of players who are league age 11-13 and who played in the MABA Intermediate Division. This team plays 50/70.
- **Majors (12 year old) Teams:** The Major's All-Star Team will be made up of players who are league age 10-12 and who played in the MABA Intermediate or Majors division during the regular season.
- **Minors (11 year old) Teams:** The 11 year-old All-Star team will be made up of players who are league age 9-11 and played in either Minors or Majors during the regular season.
- **Minors (10 year old) Teams:** The 10 year-old All-Star team will be made up of players who are league age 8 to 10 and who played in MABA Minors.
- **Minors (9 year-old) Teams:** The 9 year-old All-Star team will be made up of players who are league age 7-9 and who played in MABA Minors.
- **Coach Pitch 2 (7 and 8 year old Teams):** The Coach Pitch 2 all star teams will be made up of players who are league age 6-8 and played in an MABA Coach Pitch Division.

All-Star Player Selection Process

Balloting:

Any players who have indicated interest in being considered for All-Star voting shall be placed on a list of prospective players. This will involve submitting a signed eligibility /release /commitment form, typically sent out as a digital form mid-season of the Spring season. Every

manager will solicit all of the players on their team to identify those that are interested in having their name considered for the All-Star process. Every player that completes a commitment/eligibility form will have their name placed on the list as being eligible for the All Star Team(s).

Coach Nominations and Player Selection:

Teams will be built by a nomination process: Managers in each division will nominate players from their team based on performance and alignment with Little League ideals of character, courage, loyalty, and sportsmanship. After player nominations have been compiled, managers must attend the manager's All-Star meeting for discussion and final placement of players to teams where the list of eligible and committed players is discussed between the selected All-Star Manager and the age division coaches. The league Managers will meet together to review and confirm the eligible and nominated players to determine the final roster of players.

Players are evaluated on multiple criteria including the player's performance, attitude, sportsmanship and teamwork. The team is completed on the basis of these criteria and on the needs of the All-Star Team (i.e. will there be an adequate number of catchers and pitchers as well as other key positions). Once the managers have completed their deliberations, the final recommended slate of players for each team is submitted to the Board and President for final approval. The MABA President (or Board Representative) shall be involved in the manager deliberations and shall make the final decision to accept the manager recommended roster on behalf of the MABA Board, unless the President feels that there is sufficient enough reason to call for a Board meeting to resolve an issue.

Try Outs:

When deemed necessary, the Board of Directors may call for Try Outs to manage issues surrounding fielding the most competitive team or to avoid dispute.

Confidentiality and Oversight:

The process and meetings are facilitated by the League President and assisted by the Player Agent and Tournament Coordinator. The selection results and Manager Deliberations about the prospective players are strictly confidential.

Player notification:

The All-Star Team manager is asked to notify all team members as promptly as possible upon selection.. Managers of players not chosen will notify those players as soon as possible following the announcement of the roster.

Manager selection criteria and eligibility, per little league rules:

- All-Star Managers shall be a Manager or Coach during the regular season for the level they wish to manage.

- Any regular season Manager or Coach may “manage down” and manage an All Star team at a lower level but managers may not “manage up” into a higher division or age group.

- The manager is allowed to choose the 2 coaches after the players have been selected, provided that each person is a rostered manager or coach during the regular season for the selected level (or above) and meets all other eligibility requirements.