



Attention:

Please note the following important information regarding the 2018 Season at West Madison Little League

Early Payment Discount

Save \$25 if you register & pay your registration fee by Feb 4 (Super Bowl Sunday) (all registrations must be completed ONLINE at www.wmll.org)

Registration Deadline – February 28

All players must be registered online by Feb 28 to be guaranteed a spot on a team. Late registrants may sign up for the official WMLL waiting list if leagues are full.

Note: a \$5 non-refundable fee will be charged to be placed on the official waiting list

"Buy a Brick" in time for Opening Day!!

If you haven't done so already, why not consider cementing your family's legacy at WMLL by purchasing a commemorative, personalized, engraved brick for our picnic porch pavilion wall at the fields. Over 230 families have done so already. This is a great way to make your time at WMLL never end and help support the league to continue making facility improvements at the same time.

Bricks are available in 3 sizes for \$100, \$200 and \$500. Check out the details on our WMLL website (www.wmll.org) and "Click on the Brick" to place your order online. Our goal is to have all orders rec'd by **Feb 28** mounted on the wall by opening day in April. Thanks for your support!!



2018

Dear West Madison Little League Families:

Greetings and welcome to the 60th season of Baseball and the 18th season of Girls' Softball at West Madison Little League. We are all looking forward to another great season in 2018 and we thank Gray Television and their local affiliate, WMTV-Channel 15, for making the land available for our main complex since 1964...54 years!!

This is your 2018 registration packet. Please read through all pages very carefully and be sure to **register your player via our ONLINE REGISTRATION system no later than Feb 28, 2018. *Please note the "early payment discount" period...register and pay by Feb 4 and save \$25!*** All registrations received by February 28 will be guaranteed a spot on a team. Late registrations may sign up to be placed on an official waiting list and are not guaranteed placement on a team if rosters are already full. Also in 2018, after a very successful trial run the past 4 seasons, your board has decided to incorporate the post-game player snack fee into the registration fee (\$2 per player per game, including playoffs!). This will lighten the burden normally placed on our parent volunteer Team Reps by not having to collect this fee separately.

A Reminder About Your Child's Little League Age: Please be careful to enter your child's correct birthdate so he or she is placed in the correct league per Little League rules. Refer to the BASEBALL FAQ's page or the SOFTBALL FAQ's page on the WMLL website for more info about determining your child's correct age.

Our online registration system is designed to accommodate multiple registrations from one family. Just follow the prompts after you register the first child on our official website (www.wml.org). **Remember, all registrations must be submitted online by the due date of Feb 28 to be guaranteed a spot on a team...and don't miss the "early pay" discount deadline of Feb 4 to save \$25!!** Scholarships (*player must pay a minimum of \$75*) may be applied for by players who qualify for free or reduced cost lunch program at school...follow the prompts within the online system for scholarships and answer all the questions. Three payment options are offered online...Credit Card, Debit Card and eCheck. Cash payments are no longer accepted and all registrations must be completed online. If you have any problems registering, email questions to "registrar@wml.org."

Your volunteer Board of Directors has once again been very busy with various projects. These improvements are all part of our long range plan that was developed a number of years ago and is continually being updated. The generosity of our sponsors, both corporate and individual, has made all this possible and we thank each and every one of them for their support. We hope you and your Little Leaguer enjoy the new enhancements and we promise to do everything possible to make the 2018 season a positive, fun, safe and rewarding experience for all.

Play Ball !!!

Tom Heneghan

Tom Heneghan, President
WMLL Board of Directors

Interested in helping West Madison Little League with a donation or sponsorship?

- **Player Scholarship Fund** – this fund is used to assist families for whom the WMLL player fee would be a financial hardship. Families must meet certain criteria to be eligible for scholarship consideration and pay a minimum of \$75. Please consider a contribution and add it to your registration fee total when you check out on the online registration system.
- **Sponsorship Options** – each year, WMLL relies heavily on the generosity and support of area businesses and individuals who provide sponsorship dollars to help operate the league for over 700 children in our baseball and girl's softball programs. Sponsorships are available on many different levels, including team names and field signs, to name a few. We are also seeking donations for our WMLL Capital Campaign, currently underway. Check the WMLL home page for more details on this fund raising effort. If you or your business is interested in helping WMLL with one or more of these options, please contact Annette Fox, our sponsorship chair, at "sponsor@wml.org" for more details.
- **Mallards Night and Brewers Night** – watch league announcements related to these fun fund raisers. Discounted tickets will be available to both events during June. Check with your team rep for details in mid-May.
- **Commemorative Brick Tiles on WMLL Picnic Porch** -- remember your WMLL player's Little League career with a personalized, engraved commemorative brick tile inside the "Stop-N-Go" Picnic Porch at WMLL! This porch area is located on the front of the new multipurpose building and overlooks left field on the Major diamond and home plate of the Senior diamond. Orders can be placed via the WMLL website (www.wml.org). Brick tiles are available in three sizes and are tax deductible donations. Your purchase will assist WMLL to continue making facility improvements. Place your order by Feb 28 and your brick will be mounted on the wall by opening day in late April.
- **General Donations** – are always needed, welcomed and most appreciated. Thanks for your consideration and support.



WMLL Description of Leagues and Age Alignments for Baseball and Softball --- 2018

All leagues have participation rules to insure playing time for all players. See website for details.

Baseball: (see Baseball FAQ's on website for age determination rules)

- **Atlantic League** – 7 and 8 year olds. Pitching machine league, which helps players develop basic skills.
- **Pacific League** - 9 & 10 year olds. Live pitching.
- **Major League** – 11 & 12 year olds. More competitive.
- **Badger League** – 13 and most 14 year olds. Played on full-size baseball field (90' bases) with some rule modifications to facilitate the transition from the smaller Little League diamond (14's in high school, see Sr. Lg.)
- **Senior League** - 15 and 16 year olds, plus 14 year olds who are already in high school. This league operates basically under the same rules as high school baseball, except for rules to insure playing time.

Girls' Softball: (see Softball FAQ's on website for age determination rules)

Rookie League** -- 7-8 yr olds. Coach-Pitch league to help develop hitting and fielding skills.

Fewer games ****Note: if Rookie Lg is not offered, 7-8-9's will form the Minor Lg & 10-11-12's will form the Major Lg.**

- **Minor League** – 9 -10 year olds. No walks through a combination of player and coach pitch. **See note above.**
- **Major League** - 11 and 12 year olds. All player pitch with some rule modification to encourage development.
- **Junior League** – mostly 13 and 14 year olds. Operates basically under the same rules as high school softball.

WMLL 2018 Calendar --- Click on the EVENTS tab on the WMLL website (www.wmll.org)

March 17 Skills Session Schedule (at Memorial High School Field House): **TENTATIVE (check website in late Feb.)**

Baseball:

- 3:45 pm – 8 year olds (last name A-L)
- 4:15 pm — 8 year olds (last name M-Z)
- 4:45pm — 7 year olds (A THRU Z)
- 5:15 pm – 10 year olds (last name A-L)
- 5:30 pm – 11 year olds (last name A-L)
- 5:45 pm — 10 year olds (last name M-Z)
- 6:05 pm – 11 year olds (last name M-Z)
- 6:30 pm — 9 year olds (last name A-L)
- 6:45 pm – 12 year olds (last name A-L)
- 7:15 pm – 9 year olds (last name M-Z)
- 7:30 pm — 12 year olds (last name M-Z)

Softball:

- 3:45 pm — 7-8 year olds
- 4:05 pm — 9-10 year olds
- 4:30 pm — 11-12 year olds

Please be on time to check in. Actual Skill Session drills for the players will begin approximately 15 minutes after check-in is complete. Bring your glove and wear gym shoes (no cleats or hard-soled shoes)! Once a player completes their drills, they are free to go. The coach who selects your player in the draft the following week will contact you regarding team meetings and practices.

Frequently asked Questions about WMLL – 2018 Season

Who is eligible to play? Children who reside (or attend any school) in the Madison West, Madison Memorial or Middleton-Cross Plains high school attendance areas **and**, for Baseball, who are between the ages of 7 and 16, **or**, for Girls' Softball, are between the ages of 7 and 18

NOTE: check the WMLL website for specific "age determination rules" for baseball and softball.

What do I have to do to get on a team?

- Everyone must register via the WMLL Online Registration system by the **deadline, which is Feb 28, 2018 (www.wml.org)**. **Note the early payment discount deadline of Feb 4 (Super Bowl Sunday) and save \$25 by registering early.**
- All baseball players intending to play in the Major League and below (12 & under) and all softball players age 12 and under **must attend the skills evaluation session Saturday, May 17**, at the Memorial H.S. Field House. If you have a conflict, call the appropriate league coordinator listed below. See the enclosed WMLL calendar for the tentative skills session schedule by age group. The Field House is located on the north side of Memorial H. S., off Gammon Rd. **Please arrive on time to register.**
- **7 year olds and all other players new to WMLL must show an official birth certificate (or copy) at the skills session.**
- **Refund Requests** may be made up through March 18 (April 29 for Senior Baseball). No refunds after these deadlines, except for injuries and families moving out of the area.

Where are games played? WMLL baseball fields are located on Forward Dr. adjacent to Channel 15 and are some of the best playing surfaces in the state. Most WMLL softball games will be played at the Forward Drive complex beginning in spring 2018 (a few games may be played at Jefferson Middle School).

When do we play? Teams are selected by draft and may begin practicing in early April. League games begin April 21-22 for baseball (except Sr Lg, which begins May 25) and for softball (except Jr Lg) – see league calendar. League games conclude by the end of July for all leagues. WMLL also operates a separate Fall Ball season, which begins Aug 27 (online registration for Fall Ball begins June 9).

What if my registration is late? Don't miss the application deadline!! **Registrations received by Feb 28 guarantee your child a place on a team.** WMLL will attempt to accommodate everyone, but player applications received after the deadline are considered on a "space available," first come, first served basis. **Fees are discounted \$25 if you pay by Feb 4!!!**

Can I be placed on a team with my siblings or friends? Player applicants from the same family will be placed on the same team if the individuals are in the same age league. Except for Rookie & Minor League girls' softball (limited to one friend mutually noted on each other's registration form), no requests to place friends and/or neighbors on the same team will be honored. All teams are formed via drafts by the coaches after the skills evaluation session on March 17 to balance the skill level of players on teams as much as possible.

Are players cut after registration? No. Once a registration is accepted, there are no cuts. The skills session, important for many players (see above for ages), promotes team parity by allowing coaches to evaluate players before the league drafts.

Will I get a registration confirmation or a reminder about the skills session? You should receive a confirmation email from the online registration system within a day or two of registering. If you do not, or if you have other questions, contact our Registration Coordinator, Bob Collins, at 445-9216 or registrar@wml.org. ***Note: parents of new 7 & 8 year old players should go to the WMLL website registration page and download an introductory packet of information following receipt of their registration confirmation email.***

Who can I call with Questions about WMLL? If you have questions, call the individual below who is responsible for the league in which your child will play. If you cannot reach that person, call WMLL Board President, Tom Heneghan, 698-1995

--Baseball Leagues:

Atlantic League – Kyle Friedow, 212-2337

Pacific League – Harry Miller, 233-0866 and
– Mark Schauder, 497-0121

Major League – Frank Lenocho, 233-1483 and
– Mark Newburg, 831-0334

Badger League – Tom Rhatican, 338-2803

Senior League – Jerry Schmitt 575-3988

Minor Lg Girls' Softball – Brian Beutter, 535-0001

Major Lg Girls' Softball – Barry Vredenbregt, 575-6204

Junior Lg Girls' Softball – Barry Vredenbregt, 575-6204

Registration – Bob Collins, 445-9216

Sponsorships – Annette Fox, 516-1352

Scholarships & Other – Tom Heneghan, 698-1995

How can I keep up to date about WMLL during the season? Visit our website at www.wml.org often for the latest updates.