

SUBJECT: 2016 Little League International Rules Changes Announcement

You may or may not have heard of a recent rule change in the date determining the appropriate age group for Little League baseball. The information that follows will help you to understand what the rule change is and how it will affect Brownsburg Little League Baseball.

WHAT IS THE CHANGE?

Previous rule: Placement in an age group is determined by the age of the child as of December 31st of the year playing.

New rule: Placement in an age group is determined by the age of the child as of August 31st of the year playing.

WHO IS IMPACTED BY THIS CHANGE?

It depends upon the birthday of your child. However, anyone who is 10 years of age or older prior to May 1, 2015 will not be impacted.

Anyone who will not be 10 years of age by May 1, 2015 will fall under the new rule. What this effectively means is that anyone with a birthday from September-December will now be in a new division than was previously expected. To be clear, the following chart outlines the changes:

| Birthday Month/Year | Previously Expected Division for 2016 | Actual Division for 2016 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| May 2006-August 2006 | Minor-10/11 | Minor-10/11* |
| September 2006 – December 2006 | Minor-10/11 | Minor-9 |
| January 2007 – August 2007 | Minor-9 | Minor-9* |
| September 2007 – December 2007 | Minor-9 | Minor-8 |
| January 2008 – August 2008 | Minor-8 | Minor-8* |
| September 2008-December 2008 | Minor-8 | Minor-7 |
| January 2009- August 2009 | Minor-7 | Minor-7* |
| September 2009-December 2009 | Minor-7 | Minor-6 |
| January 2010- August 2010 | Minor-6 | Minor-6* |
| September 2010-December 2010 | Minor-6 | Minor-5 |
| January 2011- August 2011 | Minor-5 | Minor-5* |
| September 2011-December 2011 | Minor-5 | Not eligible to play in BLLB |

**No change from expected to actual*

HOW WILL THIS ALL WORK? IT SEEMS LIKE SOME CHILDREN WILL BE PLAYING IN THE SAME AGE GROUP AS LAST YEAR.

Those children that were born in September-December and are under the age of 10 as of August 31, 2016 will be considered to have the same Little League age as last year. However, this group of children also skipped an age group last year (based on the 2015 rule change). Ultimately, the rule is designed to prevent any child from missing a year of eligibility in the Little League sanctioned tournament years (age 9+).

IS THIS A ONE-YEAR CHANGE? WILL IT REVERT BACK AFTER THIS YEAR?

This change will be ongoing. The main goal of implementing this rule from the Little League International Committee's perspective was to no longer have 13 year olds in the Little League World Series. When they made the change last year, it had the same goal; however, the inadvertently eliminated a group of children's eligibility in Little League sanctioned tournament years (age 9+). This change was made to rectify that situation. This rule change will accomplish that goal of removing 13 year olds from the tourney in 4 years. Therefore, we do not anticipate any changes to revert back after this year.

If you would like any additional information regarding the actual rule change, please see the Little League International website:

http://www.littleleague.org/Little_League_Online.htm

or, the link below will take you to the actual rule change wording

<http://www.littleleague.org/media/llnewsarchive/2015/September-December/llb-age-determination-date.htm>

If you have any specific BLLB division questions, please contact the appropriate director(s) of the division. For a list of the directors, please go to the [Brownsburg Little League website](#).