



# **NEWARK AMERICAN LITTLE LEAGUE**

## **SPRING 2022 SEASON PARENTS' MEETING**



# **AGENDA**

- Board of Directors
- Lines of Communication
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Spring Season Calendar
- Parking
- Code of Conduct
- League Branding
- Questions



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President: Brant Hauser
- Vice President: Mark Lutes
- Treasure: Michael Mood
- Secretary: Tory McHugh
- Safety Officer: Alan Young
- VP of Juniors and Seniors: Bill Moore
- VP of Majors: Dave Milsom
- VP of Minors AAA and Teeball: Dan Logan
- VP of Minors AA and A: Christian Grill
- Coaching Coordinator: Gene Beitman
- Player Agent: Mark Lutes
- Player Agent: Chuck Bonadio
- Information Officer: George Irvine
- Facilities Maintenance Coordinator: Darryl Dorr
- Sponsorship Coordinator: Chuck Bonadio
- Concessions Director: Megan Pray
- Equipment Manager: Brian Garber
- Umpire in Chief: Don Robart
- Scheduler: Andrea Brotman



# **LINES OF COMMUNICATION**

- Email – make sure your email address is updated in your SportsConnect account
- Website: [newarkamericanlittleleague.com](http://newarkamericanlittleleague.com)
- Facebook: @NewarkAmericanLittleLeagueDe
- Instagram: [newarkamericanll](https://www.instagram.com/newarkamericanll)
- Phone: 302-368-8026



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## Team

- Coaching – we still need at least one teeball head coach; always room for more assistants
- “Team Parent” – scheduling concession & announcing duty, snacks, etc.

## Game Day

- Concession Duties
- Announcing
- Field Work

## Various

- Work Days: next one on March 27
- Umpiring – greater incentive for youth umpires this year!
- Board of Directors



# SPRING PRE-SEASON CALENDAR

Sat, Mar 5, 3-7pm:	Final try-out for 7-12 year olds @ All Seasons Sports Academy
Sun, Mar 6:	Draft for Majors and Minors AAA
Sun, Mar 6, 6pm:	BOD meeting
Mar 11-14:	Dick's Sporting Goods NALL 20% Off Sale
Sat, Mar 12:	Umpire Clinic
Sat, Mar 12:	Fields open to practice
Sun, Mar 13:	Umpire Clinic and Coaches Meeting
Sun, Mar 13:	Teeball, Juniors and Seniors registration closes
Sat, Mar 19:	Coaches Meeting
Sun, Mar 27, 10am:	Work Day @ VFW
Sat, Apr 2, 9am:	Concession Cleanup @ both Brookside & VFW
Sat, Apr 2, 11am:	Concession Training @ VFW
Sun, Apr 3, 6pm:	BOD meeting
Fri, Apr 8:	Picture Day
Sat, Apr 9, 9am:	OPENING DAY!!!



# PARKING

- VFW: Please park in the City of Newark lot. Do not park in the VFW Post 475 lot. We don't want you getting towed!
- Brookside: Please park in the gravel lot next to the field or the overflow lot behind the concession stand. Do not park on Mallboro Road. We don't want to be fined by the community!



# CODE OF CONDUCT

Some of the first lines our league constitution state that our goal is to teach “the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority in order to so that they may be stronger and happier children and will grow to be good, decent, healthy and trustworthy citizens.” We need the right atmosphere in which to teach those values, and that requires the help of the volunteers and spectators.

## Youth Sports Parent Code of Conduct



### *Preamble*

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these “six pillars of character.”

### *I therefore agree:*

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports.
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
3. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
4. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
5. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or sporting event.
6. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures.
7. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.
8. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
9. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
10. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
11. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
12. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
13. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
14. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
15. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
16. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.
17. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.



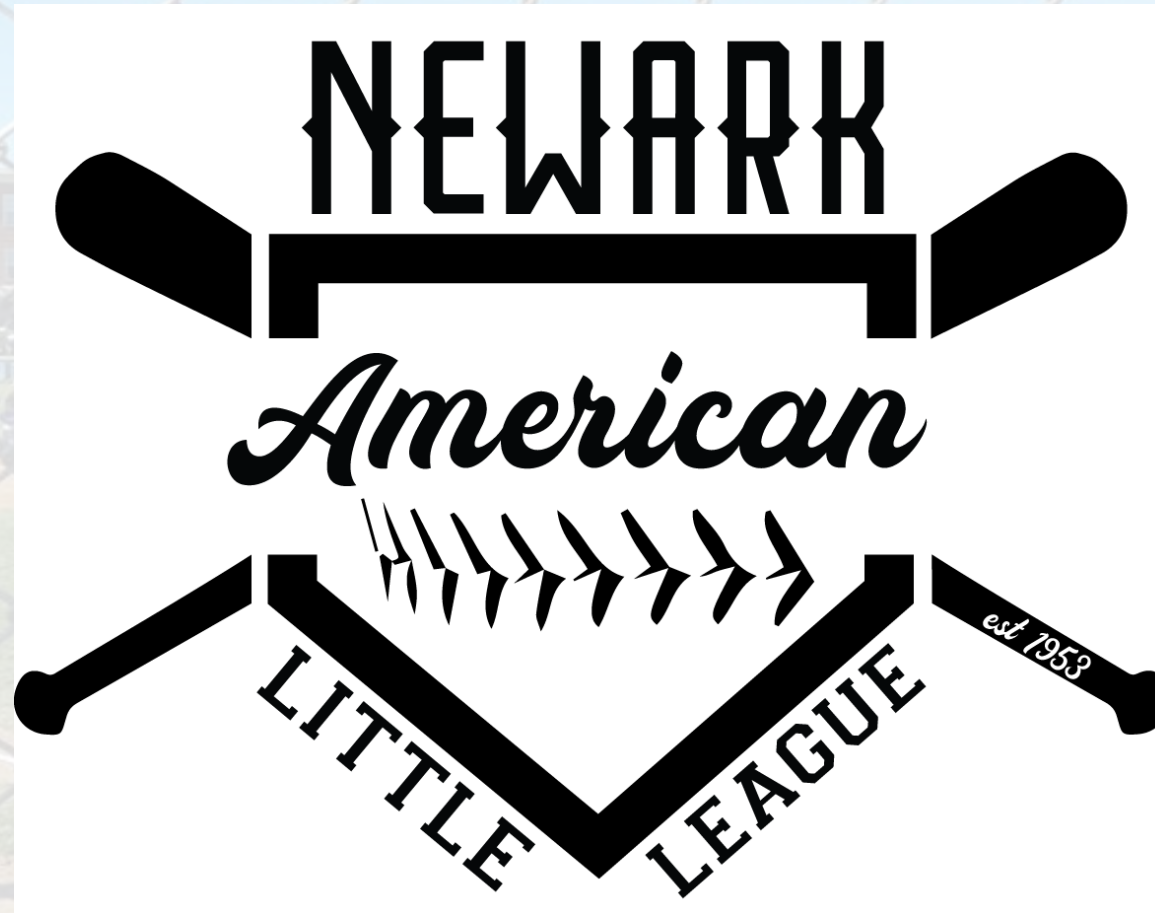
# LEAGUE BRANDING

- Little over a year ago, we started a rebranding effort
- Our existing “brand” was hard to identify
- Logo was difficult to replicate in various media
- Colors weren’t uniform





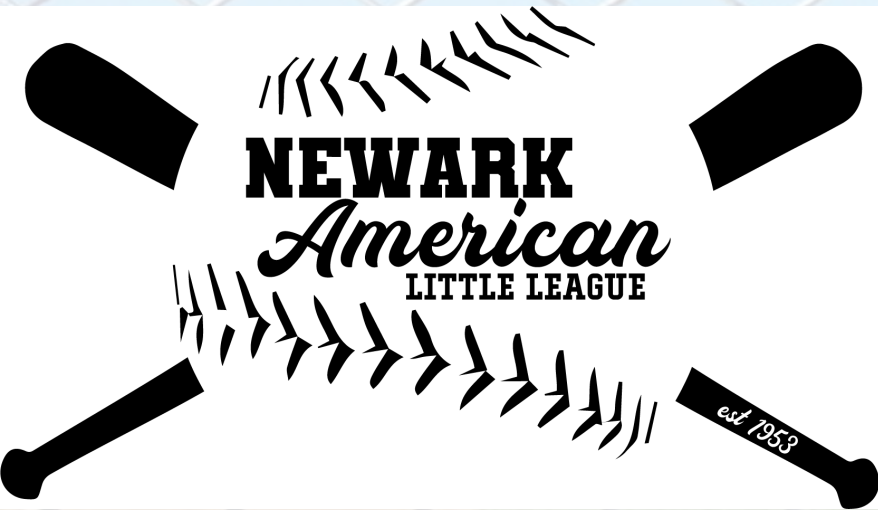
# LEAGUE BRANDING – OUR NEW LOGO!



*Design by Jill Hall*



# LEAGUE BRANDING - ALTERNATES



*Designs by Jill Hall*



# QUESTIONS?

**Q1:** When will my child know what team they're on?

**A1:** Team managers (aka head coaches) will contact the families between 3/6 and 3/16 depending on the division your child is assigned to. Majors (ages 10-12) and Minors AAA (ages 8-11) are drafted on 3/6. VPs and player agents assemble the teams for the rest of Minors in the following days. Teeball, Juniors and Seniors registration closes 3/13 and those players will be informed of their team assignment by 3/16.

**Q2:** What guidance does the league have for uniforms and gear?

**A2:** Part of your registration fee goes to a team hat and jersey for every player. Families will need to provide a fielding glove, cleats, pants, and a belt. Pant, belt and sock color is at the discretion of the team manager. Generally speaking, most managers do not mind a plain, gray pant, and are not worried about sock color unless they are high socks worn exposed.

Each team will carry a team bat and batting helmet, as well as team catching gear and mitt. This allows players to try different aspects of the game without investing the money initially. Every male player in Little League must wear a protective cup while playing the catcher position.

When purchasing bats, please keep the following Little League rules in mind:

- Teeball bats should be 26" long and shorter, and have the following text on them: "ONLY FOR USE WITH APPROVED TEEBALLS." New teeball bats should also feature the USA logo on them.
- Minors and Majors bats must feature the USA logo on them unless they are solid, one-piece wood bats. No bat may be more than 33" in length.
- Juniors may use USA or BBCOR logoed bats no more than 34" in length. Solid, one-piece wood bats are also permitted.
- Seniors must BBCOR logoed or solid, one-piece wood bats no more than 36" in length.



# QUESTIONS?

**Q3:** My child is between LL ages 7 and 12, and attended the first tryout on 2/26. Do they need to attend the tryout on 3/5?

**A3:** While we encourage attending both tryouts, your player is not required to make it to both tryouts. Per our league rules, players ages 9-12 must participate in at least one tryout to be eligible for Majors or Minors AAA. If they are completely unable to do so, please contact us asap so we can determine how to proceed.

**Q4:** When will the season schedule be posted?

**A4:** Shortly after your team manager contacts you about the team you are on they should be able to relay your practice schedule leading up to Opening Day. We aim to release the game schedule approximately 3 weeks before Opening Day for all divisions except Juniors and Seniors. Juniors and Seniors schedules start later and are released by a Delaware District 2 scheduler.

**Q5:** Are teeball weeknight schedules consistent, or do they change?

**A5:** Generally speaking, the younger the division, the more consistent the schedule is. A few outliers aside, teeball teams will follow the same schedule nearly all season.

**Q6:** My child is trying machine-pitch for the first time. If they really struggle, would reassignment to teeball be an option?

**A6:** Yes. Our first response will always be to assist a child in working through the challenge of trying a new level of baseball. However, particularly at machine-pitch, we are willing to work with the coaches and parents to help a player land where they are not overwhelmed by the speed of the game.



# QUESTIONS?

**Q7:** Does teeball have any activities before Opening Day?

**A7:** Yes. There will be approximately 2-3 weeks of practices leading up to Opening Day. Your team managers will contact you with the practice schedule in the week after teeball registration closes.

**Q8:** How long is the season?

**A8:** The length of spring season is dependent on the division your child is playing in. The older the division, the later the season stretches. Teeball usually wraps up by Memorial Day weekend. Minors A (machine-pitch) finishes the week of Memorial Day. Minors AAA (kid-pitch) playoffs conclude in the first full week of June. Majors playoffs will often stretch into the second full week of June. Juniors and Seniors usually finish around the end of June.

**Q9:** What forms do I need?

**A9:** Little League requires us to gather residency eligibility documentation. The list of required documentation can be found here: <https://www.littleleague.org/university/articles/residency-eligibility-checklist/>. You can upload digital copies of your documentation to your SportsConnect account through our website, or you can arrange to hand copies to our player agents.

# LET'S HAVE A GREAT 2022 SEASON!!!