

2022 North Canton Little League Post-Season

Dear Parents,

Each year the NCLL offers two opportunities for post-season play, also known as all-stars. This letter explains NCLL involvement in all-stars, how we go about selecting post-season teams and solicits whether your family wants to be part of that experience.

NCLL participates in two post-season all-star programs – **Williamsport** and **Hometown**.

Williamsport competition is the highest level of play. We try to select our top dozen players and field the best team possible. Teams play a flight tournament against other area Little League all-star teams, beginning as early as June 28. The teams with the top records in each flight face off for the right to represent our district in the Ohio state tournament, held this year in Maumee, beginning 7/16. Continued success could lead to Regional play in Indianapolis, and possibly, Williamsport, PA for the 2022 Little League World Series in August.

There's also an 11-yr old state tournament. Our best 11-yr olds get to compete at district and possibly state levels. This year's state tournament will be held at Loveland, starting July 23. District play, if there is any, begins the week after July 4.

Hometown is a program intended to give more players a chance to participate in the excitement of post-season. Hometown All-Star teams spend two weeks traveling to nearby towns playing higher-level baseball than they would see in regular season NCLL play. A district championship is played, but the winning team does not advance to state play. NCLL expects to enter a team in this tournament. Any NCLL player in the majors is eligible to play in this tournament.

If your family is just interested in Hometown play, indicate that and return the form below. Nothing else needs to happen until we assemble teams. However, if you think your player might be selected to a Williamsport team, there is a proofing process that we must go through to satisfy LL. And we need to get started on that right now!

Included on our website is a School-Enrollment-Form. If your player attends a school that's within the North Canton city limits, completing this form is by far the easiest way to provide LL with your eligibility proof. Just have the principal at your player's school sign the form, indicating that your son has been enrolled for the entire school year. If/When your child is selected to a Williamsport team, we still will need a copy of his birth certificate, but that's not until mid-June. You need to get this School-Enrollment-Form completed now while school is still in session.

If you don't attend a North Canton school, but live within the city limits, you can still prove residency by providing LL with 3 documents that show your street address. These documents must be dated prior to February 1, 2022. Often, it takes some work to compile these, so I would encourage you to start the process. One document must be provided from each of these three groups:

Group 1: Driver's License; School Records; Vehicle Records; Employment Records; Insurance Documents;
Group 2: Welfare/Child Care Records; Federal Records (tax, SS, etc.); State Records; Local Records; Support Payment Records; Homeowner or Tenant Records; Military Records;
Group 3: Voter Registration; Utility Bill; Financial Record; Medical Record; Internet or Cable Record;
As you can see, getting the School-Enrollment-Form completed is much simpler than collecting 3 documents (dated before February 1, 2022.)

NCLL expects all-stars and their families to make a commitment to their team and be available throughout the all-star period. Williamsport players **must** be available from 6/15 until the end of their tournament run. If personal vacation plans call for you to miss **any** games, or more than 1 or 2 practices during that time, you will not be placed on the team. It is not uncommon for teams to practice in both the morning and evening, so your schedule must be open. The requirements for Hometown teams are not nearly as restrictive. We understand that this may be a difficult decision for your family, but missing practices and games and then expecting playing time is just not fair to your teammates.

Players vote for their peers to be on the Williamsport team. The player vote this year will be on Saturday, June 11 before the games. If you are missing that day and would still like to vote, see one of us about getting an early ballot. The top vote getters automatically qualify for the team. 4 to 6 additional players will be selected by the team manager to round out the squad. The 11-yr old team is assembled based on both

a player and manager vote. Once the Williamsport teams have been selected, the Hometown manager(s) meet and draft teams from the remaining players. There is no definitive selection criteria for Hometown all-stars. If your son is a good player, and can be an asset to an all-star team, it is likely that he will be chosen for a team.

Both all-star levels emphasize winning much more so than during the regular season. Minimum playing requirements are reduced (Williamsport requires only 1 at bat each game.) Managers maximize playing time for the combination of players they feel present the best chance of winning. Some years there are parents that are unhappy with this concept. Please understand that unlike NCLL regular season play, winning is the priority throughout all-stars. If playing time is important for your family, perhaps the Hometown All-star level is a better choice for you.

All-star play is expensive. There will be an additional charge to participate in post-season play. Baseballs, umpires and field expenses for post-season match those of the rest of the program. Last year's cost was \$65. NCLL will provide all-star caps and jerseys for Hometown players. Williamsport players will have to purchase their uniforms. Families be forewarned -- should a team be fortunate enough to qualify for state or regional play, it will require an extended out of town hotel stay.

The boxes below allow you to indicate a preference for the level of play you would like your child to be considered for. ***It does not guarantee that he will be placed on a team***, only that he is eligible to participate and that you are willing to make the time and financial commitment required.

If you have any questions, please talk with Dr. Giammarco, any board member, or me. It is unfortunate that every child can't have the chance to participate in all-stars, but we are limited in the number of teams we can support. It is also a matter of hometown pride to be able to field competitive teams against rival opponents.

Thank you for your cooperation all through the season. If your child doesn't win their remaining games, may they at least be blessed with positive memories that they can carry forward.

Respectfully,

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----- Separate Here -----

Check only 1 box:

Please consider my child for placement on **any** all-star team. He meets the eligibility requirements presented above and we are able to deal with the time requirements necessitated for all-star play.

Please consider my child for placement **ONLY** on a Hometown team.

We do not wish to be included in the all-star process.

Player's name (print): _____

Dates between 6/15 & 7/30 that player will be unavailable:

We must be aware of your intentions by Wednesday, June 9th in order to get your name on the ballot. Failure to inform us will be interpreted as a decision to not be included in all-star play. Please do not delay and cost your child a chance to participate in the post-season.