

Lake Zurich Travel Softball Options

FULL-TIME TRAVEL | LIGHTNING

PART-TIME TRAVEL | STORM



Lightning Full-Time Travel



Lightning Youth teams compete at the 10U, 12U, and 14U levels in spring/summer/fall league and tournament play. Lightning players do not participate in the Lake Zurich House Leagues. Each team has a volunteer Head Coach, selected by the Lake Zurich Baseball & Softball Association. The goal is to create a high-quality, competitive full-time travel program that is community-based for the Lake Zurich area with a focus on increased player developer and team success by competition against highly skilled opponents.

League Games

The Lightning typically participate in the North Suburban Fast Pitch League (NSFPL) League, which is made up of the A/B/C Level programs in the surrounding areas. Each Lightning Team will compete around the Lake and Cook Counties and will play approximately 10-15 league games (half home, half away)

Schedule

Tryouts take place in late July/early August, typically at the end of the house league season. Practices and fall games/tournaments begin in late August and run until end of October. Winter indoor practices resume in mid-December and the outdoor season runs April – mid-July

Tournaments

In addition to league play, each Lightning team will participate in 3-5 tournaments. Teams will be placed in tournaments based on the individual team's skill level. For questions about what tournaments you can expect, please reach out to the Manager for your age division on that team's home page or the Lightning President.

Storm Part-Time Travel



Storm Youth teams compete at the 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U levels in spring/summer tournaments and select “friendly” game play. Storm players must play in the Lake Zurich Softball House League. Each team is made up of volunteer coaches, selected by the Lake Zurich Baseball & Softball Association.

League Games

The Storm teams do not play in a formal league. “Friendly” games against nearby part-time travel teams are scheduled throughout the spring season (typically Friday nights) and overlap slightly with the LZBSA House Leagues. Each Storm Team will play approx. 4-8 “friendly” games (half home, half away).

Schedule

Tryouts typically took place toward the end of the house league, but were recently shifted to late July/early August to allow for increased development. Fall practices run from early September thru October and resume again in January. Tournament season is typically in July after house league has completed.

Tournaments

In addition to league play, each Storm team will participate in 2-4 local tournaments, depending on age. Tournaments will be limited to competition against comparable part-time teams. For questions about what tournaments you can expect, please reach out to the Storm President for more information.



Travel Softball Options

	Lightning	Storm	House league
Program Goals	Provide competitive softball and player development experiences through year-round practices, games, and tournaments, with the goal of preparation for high school competition.	Focus on player development by providing additional games (after LZ House League) at a higher level of competition, including opportunities for off-season training.	Provide a fun and safe recreational league for players of all ages with the focus on player development at a reasonable cost and time commitment (Spring & Fall)
Games Played	Approx. 30-45 games 5-10 "Friendlies" 10-15 League 15-20 Tournament	Approx. 25-35 games 12 LZBSA House 4-8 "Friendlies" 9-15 Tournament	Approx. 12-18 games 12 League 1-6 Post-Season
Estimated Cost	\$1,000-\$1,500 Fundraising required	\$150-\$210 - in addition to the LZ House league fees	\$200-\$300 Depending on age level
Time Commitment	Year Round Practices: 2x per wk Jan-March Games: 2-5x per wk April-July Volunteer: Fundraising, team activities, coaching	6+ Months Winter: 1-2x per wk Jan-March Practices: 1-2x per wk May-June Games: 1-2x per wk May-July Volunteer: Coaching	3-5 Months Practices: 1-2x per wk Apr-June Games: 2x per wk May-June (Rookie – June-July) Volunteer: Coaching
Age Eligibility	9U-14U Age based on birth year	8U-14U House League Rules	Pre K-14U House League Rules

Travel Softball Contacts



EG Hessenthaler

Travel Softball President

eg@LZBSA.org



Joe Fiorita

Vice Commissioner, Softball

joe@LZBSA.org