



LETHBRIDGE LITTLE LEAGUE

Parent Handbook

2024 Edition

****Updates to the Parent Handbook happen annually. Updated information may be available on our website.**

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Introduction

Welcome to Lethbridge Little League Baseball. It is our goal to provide the very best baseball experience for your child. Below is a list of our board members and their assigned roles for the 2020 season.

Lethbridge Little League Board and Contact Information

Name	Position	Email Address
Travis Oberg	President	president@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Myles Fletcher	Vice President	vp@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Andrew Hiscox	Treasurer	Coachingdirector3@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Chase Oberg	Director of Treasury	treasurer@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Nicole Brinsmead	Safety Director	safety@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Clovis Chasse	Summer Ball/Tournament Director	tourneyseason@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Cam Stromsmoe	Complaints Director	Complaints_resolutions@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Kale Norsworthy	Equipment /Uniform Director	equipment@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Ryan Boschman	Equipment /Uniform Director	uniforms@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Rad Takahashi	Coaching Director	coachingdirector2@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Darcy Ash	Coaching Director	Coachingdirector5@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Mitch Carpentar	Coaching Director	Coachingdirector1@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Cameron Mills	Tournament Support	support@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Chris Lange	Fall Ball Director	chris@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Duane Kambeitz	Maintenance Director	maintenance@lethbridgelittleleague.com
Craig DeJong	Program Facilitator	info@lethbridgelittleleague.com

LLLBA appreciates your support and help as we all work together towards a positive baseball experience for each and every baseball player within the league.

Mailing address: Box 1687, Lethbridge, AB T1J 0L3

General inquiries: info@lethbridgelittleleague.com

Website: www.lethbridgelittleleague.com

Facebook: @Lethbridgelittleleague

2024 PRESIDENT'S Message

Eligibility rules

Boundaries

To play with LLLBA, you must either:

- a) Live within the LLLBA boundaries - that is to have an address in the South, North or West of Lethbridge, or;
- b) Attend a Public/Separate/Private school that falls within the City of Lethbridge.

If you live outside these boundaries, there is great baseball to play with the other District One leagues:

Norcrest: Players who live or attend school north and east of Lethbridge. This includes the communities of Coaldale, Taber, Vauxhall, Foremost, Picture Butte, Coalhurst. Please note that the east boundary for the 2 Lethbridge leagues is 43rd Street. Anyone east of 43rd Street falls within Norcrest boundaries.

South Chief: Players who live to attend school south of Lethbridge. This includes the communities of Raymond, Magrath, and Cardston.

Chinook West: Players who live or attend school west of Lethbridge. This includes the communities of Claresholm, Granum, Ft. Macleod, Standoff, and Pincher Creek.

Age cutoffs

Effective 2024, Little League International has changed the age cutoff for Little League Players. All registrations going forward are based on the following new age charts:

2024 Little League® Age Chart



Match month (top line) and box with year of birth. League age indicated at right.

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AGE
2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2019	2019	2019	2019	4
2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2018	2018	2018	2018	5
2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2017	2017	2017	2017	6
2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2016	2016	2016	2016	7
2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2015	2015	2015	2015	8
2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2014	2014	2014	2014	9
2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2013	2013	2013	2013	10
2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2012	2012	2012	2012	11
2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011	2011	2011	2011	12
2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2010	2010	2010	2010	13
2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2009	2009	2009	2009	14
2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2008	2008	2008	2008	15
2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2007	2007	2007	2007	16

NOTE: This age chart is for BASEBALL DIVISIONS ONLY, and only for 2024.

House Leagues

T-ball

The T-Ball division is designed for 4-to-5-year old's (league age) who are playing baseball for the first time and/or who would benefit from a further year playing T-Ball. This is a fast and fun game that introduces some basic concepts of baseball.

The primary goal of T-Ball is to get children interested in the game of baseball while teaching them the fundamentals of baseball - hitting, throwing, catching, running and fielding. There is also a focus on experiencing the value of teamwork. The Rally Cap Program is followed for this age group.

There are approximately 6 -10 players per team and there are approximately 12 games/practices per season running from the beginning of May to the middle of June.

2 teams play at a time, 45 minutes of practice followed by 45 minutes of a game.

There is also a Fun Day wrap up tournament in the middle of June.

Parent involvement is key at this age. To run a Rally Cap practice effectively and efficiently, coaches need parent help. Areas that help is needed may include running a drill at practice, keeping players in line for batting during a game, outfield assistance during a game (keeping kids in the right positions), or even running a player to the bathroom. Various coaches will approach this differently; however, you should expect to be asked to help out at some point.

Coach Pitch

The Coach Pitch Division is designed for 6- to 7-year-olds (league age). Coach Pitch builds on the skills learned in the T-Ball division and is designed to help players get ready for Rookie league. At this level of play the coaches will be encouraged to begin overhand pitching to players from approximately 25'.

There are approximately 6 -10 players per team and there are approximately 12 games/practices per season running from the beginning of May to the middle of June.

2 teams play at a time, 45 minutes of practice followed by 45 minutes of a game.

There is also a Fun Day wrap up tournament in the middle of June.

Parent involvement is key at this age. To run a developmental practice effectively and efficiently, coaches need parent help. Areas that help is needed may include running a drill at practice, keeping players in line for batting during a game, outfield assistance during a game (keeping kids in the right positions), or even running a player to the bathroom. Various coaches will approach this differently; however, you should expect to be asked to help out at some point.

Rookie

The Rookie Ball Division is for 8-year-olds (league age).

The Rookie Ball Division is an instructional division developed as a transition league between Coach Pitch and Minor League. Players are taught the fundamentals of baseball including playing positions, throwing, catching, fielding, batting, defensive ready position and running the bases. Most importantly, players will be introduced to the concept of pitching. As the season progresses, players will take a more and more active role in the position of pitcher.

There are 10 – 12 players per team that are selected onto teams after an evaluation process before the start of the season. There are approximately 12 games per season running from the end of April to the end of June. There is also a Fun Day wrap up tournament at the end of June.

Parent involvement is key at this age. Coaches still may require help in the dugout during games, help running drills during practice, or otherwise as requested. As this is the real beginning of "real baseball", parents also play an important role in setting the stage for positive fan involvement. Be ready to cheer your young players on!

At the Fun Day wrap up tournament, each Rookie team is assigned a concession shift. The coach will allocate this time out among the team to work.

Minor

The Minor division is for 9-to-11-year old's. Minor division is the transition of Baseball from Rookie Ball to real baseball where pitching becomes a large part of the game for your child. The focus in this Division is on teaching the players the fundamentals of baseball in a true little league baseball environment. Your child's coaches will be teaching and working with your child to learn the basic pitching fundamentals for them to achieve a level of success when they are on the pitching mound.

The game follows most of the rules in the Little League Rulebook; however, we also employ "House Rules" which we have found appropriate for better play at this level.

A maximum of nine players are on the field defensively for each inning. Players are rotated through the infield and outfield positions and may sit for one or two innings at the discretion of the coaches. All players bat through the order. Minor is the first Division where an All-Star team will continue with Little League Tournament play after the regular season into the summer.

Minor is still a development division for our young players, and the focus remains on teaching the fundamentals of batting, throwing, fielding, and pitching. The goal is for players to learn how to pitch in game situations and for them to continue to develop their hitting, throwing, and fielding skills in a fun and safe environment. **Coaches will follow the league guidelines to ensure players get equal opportunity at each position. Be advised that if safety becomes an issue some players will not play certain positions.**

There are 12 -13 players per team, and they are selected onto teams after an evaluation process before the start of the season. The season runs from the middle of April to the middle of June.

Parent involvement is key at this age. Coaches still may require help in the dugout during games, help running drills during practice, or otherwise as requested. Some coaches like having a team manager to be the main communication link for the team. Parents also become great fans at this age. Be ready to cheer your young players on!

Major

The Major Division is for 10- to 12-year-olds. The game is essentially the same as is played in Minor Division but is played with strict adherence to the Little League Rulebook.

There is a maximum of nine players in the field defensively for each inning. Players are rotated through the infield and outfield positions and may sit for one or two innings at the discretion of the coaches. This Division has All Star team play available after the regular season. **Coaches will follow the league guidelines to ensure players get equal opportunity at each position. Be advised that if safety becomes an issue some players will not play certain positions.**

In the Major Division, there are usually 10 to 12 players per team, and they are selected onto teams after an evaluation process before the start of the season. The season runs from the middle of April to the middle of June.

The regular season for major is a tiered program with 4-6 teams in tier 1 and 4-6 teams in tier 2.

There may be the possibility of out of town travel in this league (see Diamonds section for more details).

Parent involvement is key at this age. Coaches still may require help in the dugout during games, help running drills during practice, or otherwise as requested. Some coaches like having a team manager to be the main communication link for the team. Parents also become great fans at this age. Be ready to cheer your young players on!

Intermediate / Junior / Teenage

LLLBA is partnered with the Jr. Academy enhance the level of play for players of this age group.

- 1) Players selected to the Bantam AAA team will not participate in Little League and will play through the Academy program in Alberta Baseball.
- 2) Players selected to the Bantam AA team will be required to roster and play Little League games. Players will play in Alberta Baseball in addition to a Little League elite league. \
- 3) All remaining players will roster with Little League and will play based on age in either the Intermediate or Teenage Division. These players will also be eligible to tryout for summer ball teams during the summer tournament season.

Why is this happening?

The Intermediate/Junior/Senior divisions have always had some unique challenges at the house league level; most notably, non-competitive play and a lack of development of players due to the disparity in abilities.

As we continue to manage the registration numbers for Little League we are working on the best model to help support the players in which would like to continue their baseball careers at an elite level or at a community level. In partnership with Little League District 1, Lethbridge District International Baseball Foundation and Little League Alberta slight modifications are made each year to help enhance baseball at these levels.

The new structure will allow all players to develop within one of the divisions that offers good competition for their team's ability. Games will be more competitive, plus players who were affected by the age change will still get an opportunity to play highly competitive ball, if they choose to.

Costs for each team will be dependent on each team's budget, including where they travel for tournaments, and their fundraising completed as a team.

All Little League players will have the option of continuing to play into the summer with Little League's Alberta's Summer Ball program.

Lethbridge will once again host the Junior Canadian Tournament in August. There will be a separate tryout for the host team. Players who qualify through ANY of the divisions are eligible to try out for this team provided they meet the Junior Little League age eligibility.

It is expected that "AAA" players not eligible for the Junior Canadian Tournament will compete in Provincials for an Alberta Championship.

ALL PLAYERS MUST REGISTER WITH THEIR LOCAL LITTLE LEAGUE TO PLAY IN THE TEENAGE DIVISION.

Players who are not registered and paid in full will not be allowed on the diamond.

Base Registration Fee for all levels: \$265

	AAA	AA	A
Number of Teams	1	1-2	4-8
Tryouts/Mass Practice	Starting in February	Week of March 5th	Mass Practice Evaluation
League	Dual registered with Baseball Alberta	Dual registered with Baseball Alberta	Little League
League Season	April – Mid July	April – Mid July	May – End of June, Summer Ball till early August
Where Do They Play?	Across Alberta	Across Alberta	Locally
Competitors	Baseball Alberta Teams/Select Tournaments	Baseball Alberta Teams/Select Tournaments	Other Local Little League or A Level Teams
Schedule	Weekend doubleheaders/ tournaments plus a few weekday games	Weekend doubleheaders/ tournaments plus a few weekday games	Weekday games with some weekend games/tournaments
Tournaments	3-4	3-4	1-2
Bats	Wood	Aluminum (Baseball Canada Rules)	Aluminum (Little League Baseball Rules)
Cost (Approximate)	\$2500	\$2000	\$ 265

**Please note: More information will continue to come forward as available.

Division Summary

League	Ages	Tournaments	Draft	All Stars	Season	# games
T-ball	4-5	✓			May - end of June	12
Coach Pitch	6-7	✓			May - end of June	12
Rookie	7-9	✓	✓		End April – Mid June	12
Minor	9-11	✓	✓	✓	Mid-April – Mid June	12-14
Major	10-12	✓	✓	✓	Mid-April – Mid June	12-14
Intermediate	13	✓	✓	✓	Mid-April – Mid June	12-14
Teenage	14 -16	✓	✓	✓	Mid-April - Mid June	12-14

Technical Practices

In an attempt to avoid the unpredictable spring weather, plus to help prepare coaches for a new season, LLLBA holds an indoor technical practice if availability is permitted for T-ball and Coach Pitch leagues. The locations of these practices will be communicated to all participants and parents.

Regular Practices/Games

Each league approaches practices a little differently:

T-ball – Each play day has 2 teams per diamond. Running on a 45-minute practice and a 45-minute game. Coaches are given a guidebook which outlines the play times plus the practice plans from the Rally Cap Program for the practice portion.

Coach Pitch – Each play day has 2 teams per diamond. Running on a 45-minute practice and a 45-minute game. Coaches are given a guidebook which outlines the play times plus the practice plans from the Rally Cap Program for the practice portion.

Rookie – Each play day is broken into practice and game time. The first 45 minutes is to be used to develop skills and practice techniques. The final 1.5 hours is a game situation. The game portion changes as the season progresses. See online for the Rookie League rule outline. Coaches are given outlines of how this time should be run at the coach's meeting at the beginning of the year.

Minor/Major/Intermediate/Teenage – Practices may be scheduled by LLLBA during regular play dates/times however you should also expect additional practices outside these dates/times to be scheduled by your coaches. These extra practices are not mandatory however practice times are

when true development and improvement happen, so you are encouraged to attend whenever possible.

Fair Play Policy

All players must play a minimum of one defensive inning in both the infield AND outfield by the end of the fourth inning of every game – assuming rosters of 12 or less players. Teams with 13 or more players must meet this standard by the end of the fifth inning. An exception to this policy are games that are shortened due to inclement weather or the mercy rules.

To help enhance the Little League baseball experience, LLLBA feels strongly that all players, regardless of ability, be given the opportunity to play infield positions. At the same time, coaches must ensure the safety of all players. For example, safety considerations may prevent certain players from playing the position of catcher or first base, however any player should be able to play either second base or short stop. If a request is made by a parent to have their child only play in the outfield, LLLBA should be informed as soon as possible.

Picking Teams

T-ball and Coach Pitch

T-ball and Coach Pitch teams are randomly picked, taking the following into consideration:

- Siblings - siblings are always put on the same team unless requested otherwise by the parents.
- Age - each team has a variety of ages.
- Gender - attempts are made to mix the genders up - LLLBA attempts to ensure there are always at least 2 of a gender together (ie: not having 11 boys and 1 girl)
- LLLBA does NOT consider the school attended in making team selections.

LLLBA tends to get a lot of last-minute registrations at these divisional levels and as such, later registrations fall wherever there is room.

The Draft Process

Players in the Rookie, Minor, Major, Intermediate and Teenage divisions must attend a Mass Practice for the draft process. Early in the spring, Mass Practice dates and times will be emailed to all players. This practice is a 1.0-to-1.5-hour session with 30-40 players on the field, rotating through a variety of stations/drills. Skills are assessed by the coaches, plus sometimes third-party evaluators. Skills assessed include basic throwing and catching, fielding, long toss, hitting, and at some levels, pitching/accuracy throwing.

At the end of the Mass Practice, the coaches collectively rate each player on a based on the Little League recommended criteria. The goal is to create balanced teams with each team getting a diverse group of players with all ability levels on each team.

Requests for Coaches or Other Players

As of the 2024 season, player/coach requests are no longer considered. LLLBA prides itself on its experienced and supportive coaching staff. Regardless of where your player falls, we will strive for him/her to meet new friends, develop new skills, and enjoy their baseball experience.

Diamonds

LLLBA works with the City of Lethbridge to maintain and book diamonds for our teams to play on. Teams may play on all sides of the city depending on the division.

T-ball, Coach Pitch & Rookie Diamonds

T-ball, Coach Pitch and Rookie divisions play at various school diamonds across the city. Location assignments are completely random. **Please do not expect to play near where you live.**

Minor Diamonds

Minor divisions play games/practice at fenced diamonds at either Lakeview, Dave Elton, ATSO or Canola. Location assignments are completely random, however LLLBA attempts to have all teams play at least once at Canola if possible.

Major Diamonds

Major division plays at the same diamonds as Minor, however there may also be interlocking league play, meaning games against teams outside of LLLBA. This could include South Chief (Raymond, Magrath and Cardston) or Norcrest (Picture Butte, Coaldale, Taber, Vauxhall and Foremost). This is a decision made each year depending on registration numbers at the Major level. If interlocking play does occur, LLLBA teams are expected to travel to these other towns a couple times during the season.

Intermediate Diamonds

Intermediate division plays at Dave Elton and ATSO, however this league is and interlocking league with District 1, so additional locations could be South Chief, (Raymond, Magrath and Cardston) or Norcrest (Picture Butte, Coaldale, Taber, Vauxhall and Foremost).

Teenage Diamonds

Teenage division plays at ATSO and Dave Elton. This league inter-locks with the other leagues in District One - South Chief (Raymond, Magrath, Cardston), Norcrest (Coaldale, Taber/Vauxhall, Foremost), and Chinook West (Claresholm, Ft. Macleod, Pincher Creek, Fernie). Due to distance, double headers may be booked on a Friday or weekend to accommodate these games.

Equipment

LLLBA provides the following equipment for each team:

Bats

Tees (T-ball only)

Bases (T-ball, Coach Pitch and Rookie only)

Catcher's equipment

Balls (appropriate for the level - T-balls, game balls)

Supportive equipment, dependent upon level (ie: tennis rackets, whiffle balls, etc) LLLBA

provides the following attire for each player:

T-shirt (for the player to keep) – T-ball, Coach Pitch and Rookie only

Jersey (must be returned at end of season)

Hat (for the player to keep)

Players must provide the following equipment:

Glove

Batting helmet

Groin protector.

Running shoes (cleats not required)

Pants (do not need to be baseball pants but do need to be athletic pants of some sort.

Shorts are NOT acceptable, and players will not be allowed on the field in shorts.)

Some players have or will wish to purchase their own bats. There are very strict rules about the dimensions and compositions of bats allowed for Little League play. For further information on bats please visit: <https://www.littleleague.org/playing-rules/bat-rules/>

Who's responsible?

Parent's responsibility

A player's ability to play honest, well and hard is heavily dependent on their parents (See [Parent Code of Conduct](#)). As a parent, LLLBA expects parents to:

Ensure your player arrives on time and is ready to play ball - "On time" may vary from team to team, however it is NOT at the beginning of game time. Please have your player at the diamond early to allow for warm up, set up and settling time.

Commit to your player's team. If your player is not there, the team misses him/her. Please be sure to commit to your team and be there whenever you can.

Help when necessary - this is especially important at the younger divisions. The more help coaches have, the better skill development that will happen. Please step forward and help - ask your coach how to make this happen.

Still be parents. This is two-fold:

1. LLLBA and its coaches are not a babysitting service and should not be treated as such. If you see your child behaving in an inappropriate manner, please support your coach and help out.
2. Support your coach and let them coach your child. On the field, the coach is the one in charge and parents need to respect that. If you feel your child is not being treated in an appropriate manner, please contact LLLBA.

Be aware of important dates and events. Information regarding games, pictures and tournaments is available online. Please keep up on these events.

Check the website for important information - this includes rainout information. With approximately 700 players, LLLBA cannot contact each player individually regarding important game/practice information. Game rainouts, delays and so on are always posted on the website for parent information.

Support your coach in whatever means necessary. There are various team related tasks that the coach may need help with.

Player's responsibility

LLLBA recognized that players come in all shapes, sizes and ability ranges. All that anyone can ask is that players give 100%. This means players are expected to:

Be respectful of their coaches, teammates, opponents, officials, and spectators.

Give maximum effort and do their best.

Be responsible for their actions. This includes self-discipline and dependability.

Play by the rules.

Coach's responsibility

Coaches are the backbone of the LLLBA organization. LLLBA strives to support and encourage all coaches... new and old.

Coaches are responsible for the following:

Attending the applicable coaches meeting to obtain vital league and team information, including rules of play

Completing a criminal record check completely (LLLBA does this with the coaches)

Attending clinics to improve coaching abilities

Contacting their team

- The coach is the first line of communication between LLLBA and parents/players
- Coaches are expected to forward on relevant information provided by LLLBA including information regarding schedules, uniform pickup, team picture times, tournaments, game related information (ie: rain outs) and other information as deemed necessary by LLLBA

Establishing any connections required between their team and LLLBA

Teaching good sportsmanship, team play and teach tactics that are intended to respect an opponent and conduct him/herself in a manner that is respectful to the ball players and League officials. The emphasis of house league play shall be on fair play and skill development of all players.

Maintaining their equipment and bag. Equipment is signed in and out each season with the expectation that everything will be returned.

LLLBA enforces a zero-tolerance policy regarding inappropriate behaviors towards league officials, other coaches, players and spectators.

Fees

LLLBA operates as a not-for-profit society and as such, operates on a cost recovery basis. Annual registration fees include the following:

- Little League Canada charter fees
- District fees
- Diamond rental fees (LLLBA rents all of the school diamonds from the city)
- Diamond maintenance costs
- Equipment and Uniform replacement costs
- Equipment rental costs
- Tournament fees
- Umpire fees
- Clinic (coaching and umpire) costs
- Website costs
- Other administrative costs

Registration and payment are all completed online.

League communication

The main communication line between LLLBA and players/families is through the coaches. LLLBA has approximately 700 players with approximately 80 teams. Coaches are the most effective and efficient method of dispersing information.

The LLLBA website (www.lethbridgelittleleague.com) also has a wealth of information on it as well. Things like rain outs and diamond availability are updated daily on the website.

If you are unable to find the information you need from either the website or your coach, please contact the Program Facilitator at info@lethbridgelittleleague.com

Important Dates

League Start dates

Start dates for each division will be posted to our website under the calendar tab. Please note that inclement weather may potentially impact the start date of each season. The days and times of each division will be available at the time of registration.

Uniform Distribution

Uniform distribution will occur through the coaches at the first practice/game for each team. Your coach may request your team to come early on the first day to get this task completed prior to playing. To ensure all players get a fair chance at sizing, it is EXTREMELY important to attend this first session. Once uniforms have been distributed, it's very difficult to swap around after the fact.

Equipment Pick Up

Equipment pick up for coaches will be done in conjunction with the coach's meetings.

Coaches, you will be expected to sign out the equipment, acknowledging the equipment you are receiving. The expectation is that you will return all the equipment at the end of the season that you signed out. LLLBA does expect some wear and tear on the equipment, plus a few balls to go missing. Anything else will be your responsibility to ensure it gets returned.

Rookie, Minor, Major, Intermediate and Teenage coaches will also be issued a diamond key. This also needs to be signed back in at the end of the season.

Picture Day

Please refer to the calendar tab for picture dates in April. A comprehensive schedule will be available and sent to coaches well in advance of the scheduled date.

These are team pictures, with the option of individual pictures of your player. Every player receives a team picture. Regardless of if you are interested in an individual picture, please ensure your player is in attendance as he/she is an important part of your team.

FAQ

Below are frequently asked questions of the league and board.

1. Why are the practices so long/short? Why are there so many/few practices per season?
 - LLLBA determines the length of practices in conjunction with recommendations made by Little League Canada. LLLBA continues to work with coaches to ensure that practice time is engaging, educational and fun for players, and continuing to emphasize and make available coaching clinics.
 - Parents of players' Minor league and up should expect extra practices to be scheduled by their coach outside of league scheduled practices. These practices are not mandatory but will add to the player's development.

2. My Coach looks like he needs more help. Why are there not more coaches?
 - All coaches are volunteer. LLLBA depends on its volunteer coaches to run successful programs. As such, LLLBA tries to support the coaches in any way possible. There are various coaching clinics available to not only coaches but interested parents as well. Also, coaches are encouraged to ask for any help they need as LLLBA has many seasoned coaches who are willing to help others develop.
 - the number of coaches each year changes as volunteers come forward. We only have as many coaches as we have volunteers. If you are thinking about volunteering to coach, please contact the Coaching Director to find out what the process is and what supports are available.
 - All coaches / volunteers are required to have a background criminal record check which is paid by the league.

3. My team did not develop their skills as much or as fast as other teams. Why is there a difference?
- Every team has a different coaching staff with different skills and experience. LLLBA attempts to support the coaching staff as much as possible. LLLBA provides the following for coaches to ensure as much equality as possible:
 - District Coaching Clinic - this clinic runs each spring and is free for all to attend; parents are welcome to attend as well if interested. This clinic outlines practice drills and activities for the entire season of baseball.
 - Technical support at Indoor Technical Practices - coaching mentoring system. Emails to coaches with coaching tips, links and videos as other coaches forward them.
 - Meets with coaches at every level to discuss LLLBA's expectations, rules, goals, etc. This ensures all coaches are on the same page heading into each season.
4. How do I find out if a game is “rained out” or cancelled?
- **LLLBA will communicate the process for rainouts to all parents and coaches via the website, social media, or email only.** Ultimately, it will remain the parent/coach's responsibility to check online for cancellations. LLLBA is committed to posting this information by 4:00 each day. Cancellations may take place up until game time, or even during games due to safety precautions.
- It is the parent's responsibility to check online for game cancellation.**
5. Why were cancelled games not rescheduled?
- LLLBA works closely with coaches to schedule make up games. It is the coach's responsibility to reschedule the games, with LLLBA support in gaining access to diamonds and umpires (if necessary).
- These make up games will always be on Friday, Saturday or Sundays and will be scheduled and communicated as necessary.**
6. Why are the fields at Lakeview, Dave Elton, and ATSO locked up? My child would like to be able to play at random times when league is not happening but can't because the diamond is locked.
- LLLBA holds a maintenance agreement/contract with the City of Lethbridge. One of the caveats of this agreement is that the diamonds are locked when not in use. There are a variety of reasons for this, ranging from insurance issues, to vandalism, to pet owners using diamonds as an enclosed off-leash area. We encourage these players to seek out school diamonds that are not fenced to play ball.

Concerns/complaint process

The board of LLLBA is constantly seeking to improve programs for all levels of players. If you have a concern about something that is happening within LLLBA, the board wants to hear about it.

All complaints shall be submitted to the Complaint's Director at complaints_resolutions@lethbridgelittleleague.com

Sometimes things need to be elevated to the next level. To ensure that everyone has a say and that it is dealt with in the proper manner, LLLBA has adopted a [Concerns Resolution Process](#). If you have a concern, you feel has not been dealt with properly, please consult this policy for guidance on further steps to take.

Other questions?

Did we miss something? Do you have other questions? Please do not hesitate to contact the league (See the LLLBA Board and Contact Information at the beginning of this Handbook to connect with the correct person).