

LITTLE LEAGUE ALBERTA

2005 Summer Baseball Programs

Little League Alberta has endorsed and has implemented two (2) Summer Baseball Program initiatives for the 2005 season. These programs enrich and extend the baseball season for all interested and devoted players and coaches of the game. Each initiative provides a venue to which Little League Baseball players have more opportunity to play organized baseball throughout the summer months of July and August. By offering a combination of District level or Inter-League play, and weekend tournament-style regional play, culminating in Championship Playdowns in August, a truly rewarding and challenging experience can be enjoyed by players and coaches of all calibers.

These two (2) Summer Baseball Programs are designed for players in the Minor (9 & 10 year old), Major (11 & 12 year old), and Junior (13 & 14 year old) Divisions of Little League Baseball.

- **These two initiatives will not change or alter the existing regular season of Little League Baseball at the Local League and District level.**
- **Nor, will it affect the Little League International All-Star Baseball program to which players participate in the World Series program.**
- **Nor, does any initiative affect the Little Leagues, July long-weekend tournaments.**

SUMMER BASEBALL STRUCTURE 2005

ALL-STAR SHOWCASE BASEBALL LEAGUE:

The first Program is the “**All-Star Showcase Baseball League**”. It serves to offer an extension to the traditional Little League International All-Star Baseball Program. The Little League All-Star program has Local Leagues formulate their divisional All-Star teams at the end of the regular season of play by late June. These teams vie for their respective District, Prairie, Canadian, and Little League World Series Championships. However, organized Little League Baseball is fundamentally over for most players, not advancing out of their District or Prairie Playdowns, by the second or third weekend of July. To enhance the Little League All-Star Program, Little League Alberta introduces the **All-Star Showcase Baseball League**, running through July and August.

For the 2005 Little League Baseball year the **All-Star Showcase Baseball League** is open to chartered Little League players of the Minor Division All-Stars (Triple A 9 & 10 year olds) and the Major Division All-Stars (11 & 12 year olds).

All teams that did not advance out of their respective All-Star District Divisional Playdowns are eligible and will continue to play in the **All-Star Showcase Baseball League**, under the direction of the Local League’s District Administrator. All teams that did not advance out of the Prairie Divisional Playdowns will be allowed a late entry into the **All-Star Showcase Baseball League** under a special provision from Little League Alberta.

Allowance will be made by, and at the discretion of, the respective District Administrator for an All-Star Showcase Baseball team to draft up to a maximum of two (2) chartered Little League players, who have qualified for an All-Star team as any other player must, through regular season play, and initially not on the All-Star team for Playdowns. This facilitates a full 12-player team line-up, compensating for conflicts with potential summer vacations.

The All-Star Showcase 16-game schedule commences the Wednesday, July 20, 2005 through to Wednesday August 17, 2005. Little League Alberta and Districts will put together a District Inter-League play schedule of eight (8) games and Regional Tournament-style schedule of eight (8) games played over two designated weekends. The Regions are divided into North (Districts 2, 6, and 7) and South (Districts 1, 3, 4, 8 and Saskatchewan District 1). No games will be scheduled on Mondays, except for August 8, 2004 to allow teams to rest after weekend travel.

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All-Star Showcase Baseball League:

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District Level Play begins Wednesday, July 20, 2005 and is played on Tuesday through Friday evenings through to Friday, August 12, 2005. The weekend of August 6 and 7, 2005 is also available for District Level Play. Tuesday, August 16 and Wednesday, August 17, 2005 will be held in reserve for possible make-up and District tie breaker games. All District level make-up and rain-out games must be rescheduled.

Regional Play occurs on the weekends of July 23 and 24, 2005 and August 13 and 14, 2005. All-Star Showcase teams play tournament style baseball on these weekends. Each team is expected to play two (2) double-header games each (4-games total per weekend) on Saturday and Sunday. No games will be scheduled for the August long-weekend of July 30th, 31st, and August 1st. However, this weekend will be held in reserve for a possible Regional Play make-up round. All scheduled League play finishes Wednesday, August 17, 2005.

Eight (8) District teams will advance and play in the pinnacle “**All-Star Showcase of Baseball Prairie Championship**”, held the weekend of August 19, 20, and 21, 2005. The **All-Star Showcase of Baseball Prairie Championship** for the Minors (9 & 10 year olds) will be in Airdrie. The **All-Star Showcase of Baseball Prairie Championship** for the Majors (11 & 12 year olds) will be in Lethbridge.

PRAIRIE AA SUMMER BASEBALL LEAGUE:

The second Program is the “**Prairie AA Summer Baseball League**”. It serves to offer an enrichment of the traditional Little League Alberta “AA” All-Star Baseball Program. Traditionally, Local Leagues formulate All-Star teams for the Little League World Series Program. Leagues also establish second All-Star teams, commonly referred to as the “AA” All-Stars and vie for their respective District and “AA” Prairie Championships, under the direction of Little League Alberta. Little League Alberta introduces the **Prairie AA Summer Baseball League** to enrich the “AA” All-Star Program and encourage participation from of all players down to the grass-roots level, running through July and August.

For the 2005 Little League Baseball year the **Prairie AA Summer Baseball League** is open to all chartered Little League players or regular season teams of the Minor Division (9 & 10 year olds), the Major Division (11 & 12 year olds), and the Junior Division (13 & 14 year olds). Provision will be made, at the discretion of the respective District Administrator and Little League Alberta, to allow entry into this League from All-Star teams from smaller, rural centres as was previously permitted under the “AA” All-Star Baseball Program.

All Little League players that did not make their respective Local League’s All-Star team or any Local League “regular season” team are eligible to play in the **Prairie AA Summer Baseball League**, under the direction of the Local League’s District Administrator. Any Little League player who appears on the Local League’s All-Star roster is not eligible for this Baseball Program, unless cleared by the District Administrator and Little League Alberta for reasons stated above.

District Administrators will be providing each Local Little League Organization with Official Team Entry Forms, similar to that of the All-Star Program. Upon approval of each Roster from the Local Little League President, and endorsed by the respective District Administrator, any number of Local Little League teams for each Division can enter the Program. Players must be qualified for the **Prairie AA Summer Baseball League** under the same stipulations imposed on All-Star player qualification, through regular season play. Teams are to be comprised of a full 12-player team line-up.

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The **Prairie AA Summer Baseball League** 16-game schedule commences the Tuesday July 5, 2005 through to Wednesday August 3, 2005. Little League Alberta and Districts will put together a District Inter-League play schedule of eight (8) games and Regional Tournament-style schedule of eight (8) games played over two designated weekends. The Regions are divided into North (Districts 2, 6, and 7) and South (Districts 1, 3, 4, 8 and Saskatchewan District 1). No games will be scheduled on Mondays.

District Level Play begins Tuesday, July 5, 2005 and is played on Tuesday through Friday evenings through to Friday, July 29, 2005. The weekend of July 16 and 17, 2005 is also available for District Level Play. Tuesday August 2 and Wednesday August 3, 2005 evenings will be held in reserve for possible make-up and District tie breaker games. All District level make-up and rain-out games must be rescheduled.

Regional Play occurs on the weekends of July 9 and 10, 2005 and July 23 and 24, 2005. Prairie AA teams play tournament style baseball on these weekends. Each team is expected to play two (2) double-header games each (4-games total per weekend) on Saturday and Sunday. No games will be scheduled for the August long-weekend of July 30th, 31st and August 1st. However, this weekend may be held in reserve for a possible Regional Play make-up round. All scheduled League play finishes Wednesday, August 3, 2005.

Prairie AA Regional Playdowns will be held weekend of August 5, 6, and 7, 2005 to determine the **Prairie AA Regional Finalists** in each of the three (3) Divisions. The Regional Finalists advance to pinnacle **Prairie AA Little League Championships** will be held the following weekend of August 12, 13, and 14, 2005.

Forms, Documents and Costs:

The **All-Star Showcase Baseball League** and the **Prairie AA Summer Baseball League** are recent initiatives implemented by Little League Alberta in 2005. All necessary documentation, team rosters, forms and entry fees are forthcoming from Little League Alberta and should be provided to District Administrators in April 2005 prior to the commencement of regular season Little League play. Local League's will be responsible for providing their teams with regulation baseball equipment, baseballs, uniforms, and supplying Umpires for every team home game. Teams and players are responsible for their own costs incurred in participation and travel for the **All-Star Showcase Baseball League** or the **Prairie AA Summer Baseball League**. There will be entry fees for Regional Playdowns and for the Prairie Championships.