**ROCKFORD LITTLE LEAGUE ALL-STAR MANAGER/COACH APPLICATION 2024**

**ROCKFORD LITTLE LEAGUE ALL-STAR MANAGER/COACH PROCESS 2024**

RLL is rolling out this new process to ensure a fair and equitable selection process for both coaches and team members of the Rockford Little League All-Stars.

**Manager Selection Process**

The RLL board of directors will consider the following criteria to select the All-Star coaches:

1. In season record.
2. League volunteering and engagement.
3. Coached in the regular season.
4. Be in good standing with the league.
5. Has coached for a minimum of 2 consecutive years in RLL.
6. Must exhibit a demeanor that creates a bond with players and their families based on fun and respect for everyone on and off the field.
7. The applicant must be equal parts parent, teacher and traffic cop. You must be able to coordinate, teach and communicate effectively.

**Selection Process**

1. **RLL All-Star Committee:** This committee is made up of the president of the league, the vice president, the player agent, coaching coordinator and the umpire in chief as a tiebreaker if needed.  The Committee will make recommendations for managers and coaches to the Board of Directors. Criteria is outlined as above.
2. **Candidate Evaluation:** The Committee will evaluate candidates based on the evaluation criteria adopted by the Board, the performance of the candidate as a manager or coach during the current as well as past RLL seasons, and the overall qualification and the characteristics of the applicant.
3. **Board Approval:** All-Star managers and coaches must be approved by the RLL Board upon the recommendation of The Committee. There will be one manager appointed by the RLL Board to each team and the appointed manager will select two coaches from the candidates approved by the Board.

I wish to be considered to manage/coach the following All-Star Team *(Check all that apply)*:

(  ) 10U BB (  ) 10U SB (  ) 11U BB (  ) 11U SB

(  ) 12U BB (  ) 12U SB

(  ) Juniors BB (  ) Juniors SB (  ) Seniors BB

**COMMITMENT IF SELECTED TO MANAGE OR COACH AN ALL-STAR TEAM**

I hereby agree to the following as a manager or a coach for an All-Star team and confirm and commit as follows:

1. I will be available for all practices and games.  I have no scheduled vacations or other conflicts that will interfere with my attendance at practices and games.
2. If appointed, I understand I am a representative of RLL and will represent RLL well.
3. My players and their families will walk away from every practice, game, and season having had a fun, enjoyable experience. The record doesn’t matter.

RLL requires all managers and coaches must have previously submitted a volunteer application for the season.  I understand this evaluation is conducted solely to assure the safety of children participating in the RLL program and that all information obtained will be held in strict confidence in accordance with applicable law.

**If appointed as an All-Star manager or coach, I agree to abide by the goals and objectives of RLL, Little League Rule Book, RLL Safety Rules, RLL Local Rules and RLL Board.  I will be positive, respectful, and supportive of all players, coaches, umpires, League and District representatives.  I will be a good representative of RLL in all my dealings.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Submit completed application to:** **rockfordllbaseballcoaching@gmail.com** **no later than May 9, 2024.**

**All-Star Parent Welcome Letter and How Things Work**

Welcome, Rockford Little League Families. The intent of this email is to divulge to you everything you need to know about the Rockford Little League All-Stars Program and the process that gets us from A to Williamsport! Specific dates cannot be posted until Little League International announces their dates, so most All-Star dates that RLL has posted on the calendar are currently tentative dates and are subject to change. The All-Star selection process begins at the start of the Little League regular season. From day one, each child in AA Minors Baseball or Minors Softball Divisions and higher will be observed for a potential position on an All-Star team. Practices, games, player conduct on and off the field, and in the dugout is being observed and noted in our search for kids that would represent RLL well.

We’ll start the process by emailing all families that we’re beginning the All-Star process. Any families wanting to be omitted from All-Stars will need to respond with a quick email simply stating they do not wish to participate.

Within two weeks of All-Star tryouts, we will accept nominations for coaches and players to nominate their top three player picks OF THEIR OWN TEAM. The top three nominees from each team will be invited to the All-Star tryouts. Other notable players may be invited by the All-Star Committee. Tryouts are by invitation only. Once managers have been named by the All-Star Committee, All-Star tryouts can begin.

**All-Star Tryouts:**

1 hour before tryouts begin, registration will open. Each player will need to be registered before they will be allowed to attend their tryout. A parent or guardian for each player will need to provide hard copies of the REQUIRED FORMS to establish their player’s eligibility to participate in RLL All-Stars (All-Star Commitment Policy, birth certificate, school enrollment form, completed LL Medical Release Waiver). Please see the REQUIRED FORMS section for more information on what you need to bring! Failure to provide proper forms at registration will deem a player ineligible for All-Stars. We will post a few dates that the league can preview your documents to ensure you have exactly what you need!

Managers will be at the tryouts observing and volunteering. Prospective coaches are required to be at tryouts as well, observing and volunteering. The week following tryouts will be a rest period for Managers and coaches to observe prospective players. Shortly after this week, managers will meet with the RLL All-Star committee to agree on players to the All-Star team for 2023. At this time, managers will also select 2 coaches to his/her team from the list approved by the All-Star Committee.

The All-Star Team manager, in conjunction with the Player Agent of RLL, will begin to notify all selected team members on June 1st.  Players must accept their offer by their team’s deadline as specified in the offer email. Any player that declines their offer will not be eligible for any other All-Star roster. Any player that neither accepts nor declines their offer by the deadline will be marked as a declined offer and will not be eligible for any other All-Star roster. A roster of All-Star teams shall be made available to the entire RLL by June 6th via email. This will also serve the purpose of informing families of players that did not make an All-Star team.

\*\*\*ALL dates are subject to change according to the current year’s Little League Tournament Dates. LLI dictates when Leagues can publish dates.

**All Star Selection Process and Basic Overview 2023**

Rockford Little League will ensure that the regular season offers the opportunity to play and learn baseball and softball for all participants. The League implements numerous local rules to make a more enjoyable playing experience for ALL players. Our League has many different playing levels, each geared to accommodate players based on their age and ability of play. The All-Star Season is a separate season from the regular season. It is an opportunity for higher level play and competition within the Regional Little League system. Players will have a significantly higher level of commitment and will compete against other All-Star teams.

The Rockford Little League Board will field All-Star teams that best represent the league in competition and character. Rockford Little League will enact a process that is transparent and fair to all players. All baseball and softball players will have an opportunity to make the team regardless of popularity, school affiliation, parental influence or manager prejudice. For players not selected, the details regarding their candidacy will be held in confidence and remain private. All selection decisions regarding All-Star teams will be made with these Board ideals in mind. RLL believes the following characteristics are critical: skill-level and ability to compete, attitude, team spirit and team leadership.  Overall character, integrity and sportsmanship are required. Winning is fun, but it is important that we remember that Little League is a Child Development Program and that we are about teaching life lessons, building the characteristics that we hope for all our children, and having FUN!!

**General Selection Process and Procedure Timing:**

The All-Star team selection process will begin no later than three weeks prior to the first tournament game as scheduled by Little League. The All-Star team CANNOT be announced at any earlier date than is prescribed by Little League Rules each year. The All-Star practices typically begin around the first week in June. Practices begin immediately upon team selection and usually run 2 hours per day and can be up to 6 days a week. The All-Star Tournaments typically begin mid-June. A win of the District All-Star Tournament promotes the team to the State Tournament (typically late July). The older teams also have a regional tournament and the Little League World Series (Williamsport, PA) that will take place in early to late August.

**Player and Parent Commitments:**

Each player will submit their name for consideration by completing the All-Star Commitment Form. This document explains the commitment necessary to be a part of the All-Star Program. RLL strives to field the most competitive All-Star teams possible and assure that it is composed of players and managers/coaches that represent the attitude and character we desire. RLL wishes to involve only parents and players who are committed to the hard work and practice time that is required to participate at this level of competition. Player and parent commitment to All-Stars is a solid commitment. Tournament Players must understand that their first commitment is to the RLL All-Star team before any other non-Little League team or other sports events during the All-Star Season. Including family vacations!

**Teams and age groups:**

**Baseball:**

**Seniors:** This All-Star team will be made up of boys ages 15-16 that played in the Seniors division during the regular season.

**Juniors:** This All-Star team will be made up of players who are league age 12-14 and played in the Majors or Juniors division during the regular season.

**12U Team:** This All-Star team will be made up of players who are league age 12 and played in the Majors division during the regular season. Spots may be offered to Majors players that are league age 11.

**11U Team:** This All-Star team will be made up of players who are league age 11 and played in the Majors or Minors division during the regular season. Spots may be offered to Minors AAA players that are league age 10.

**10U Team:** This All-Star team will be made up of players who are league age 10 and played in the Minors AAA or AA division during the regular season. Spots may be offered to Minors players that are league age 9 or 8.

**Softball:**

**Seniors:** This All-Star team will be made up of girls ages 15-16 that played in the Seniors division during the regular season.

**Juniors:** This All-Star team will be made up of players who are league age 13-14 and played in the Juniors division during the regular season.

**12U Team:** This All-Star team will be made up of players who are league age 11 to 12 and played in the Majors division during the regular season.

**11U Team:** This All-Star team will be made up of players who are league age 10 or 11 and played in the Majors **OR** Minors division during the regular season.

**10U Team:** This All-Star team will be made up of players who are 9 or 10 years of age who played in the Minors division during the regular season.

**All-Star Eligibility:**

Players are eligible for participation on a RLL All-Star team provided they meet all criteria established in the following:

1. Any player League age 8-13, with proper documentation (must provide birth certificate).
2. The individual has participated as an eligible player in 75% (9) of the regular season games. This rule may be waived by the RLL board permitting a player to be eligible for selection provided a physician’s note documenting an injury or illness prior to or during the season prohibiting his/her participation.
3. Meets Little League residency or school eligibility requirements (must be able to provide documentation).
4. Any player who does not reside in or the school they attend is not WITHIN RLL boundaries must have an approved waiver issued by the Charter Committee at Little League International.
5. Must agree to the commitment policy of RLL All-Star Play.

**Score Keeping:**

1. RLL will provide score books for each game.
2. Coaches will provide the following for each game:
3. Home Team:  Score Bookkeeper
4. Visitor Team:  Scoreboard Keeper
5. Player lineup with numbers and names of all players in the game (one copy to bookkeeper, one copy to head umpire and one copy to opposing team)
6. Both keepers will sit together.
7. Any questions or challenges to the score, batters count will be agreed upon by the umpire and the score bookkeeper.
8. Pitchers will need to be documented for each game.

**Data Management:**

1. Player attendance will be documented for each game.
2. Player hitting stats will be documented for each game.

**All-Star Player Selection:**

Coaches will recommend their top players from their team that are eligible to try out for a 2023 All-Star Team.

**Tryouts:**

All-Star tryouts will be *by invitation only* based on coach votes and RLL All-Star Committee recommendation.  A date will be given for tryouts. Players are evaluated on multiple criteria including the players in season performance, attitude, sportsmanship and teamwork.

1. Tryouts will be conducted by independent volunteers for each station.
2. The station will be staffed by the same volunteers for the entire tryout of each age group.
3. At least two volunteers for each station.
4. Scores will be documented for each player for each station.
5. All players must have a try out.

**Selection Process:**

The team manager (along with his/her coaches) will meet with the RLL All-Star Committee for selection of players to each team. The team roster is completed on the basis of player’s tryout scores, in season performance and attendance, attitude, sportsmanship, teamwork and the needs of the All-Star Team (i.e. ensuring there is an adequate number of catchers and pitchers as well as other key positions).

Teams will be placed in the following order:

1. 12U
2. 11U
3. 10U
4. 9U

**Player notification:**

The All-Star Team manager, in conjunction with the Player Agent of RLL, will notify all selected team members as promptly as possible. Players will have 12 hours to accept their All-Star offer before their spot is given to another player. A roster of All-Star teams shall be made available to the entire RLL by June 6th via email. This will also serve the purpose of informing families of players that did not make an All-Star team.

\*\*\*ALL dates are subject to change according to the current year’s Little League Tournament Dates. LLI dictates when Leagues can publish dates.

**Rockford Little League All-Star**

**Player/Parent Commitment**

* Both parent(s) and players realize that they are representatives of Rockford Little League (RLL) and will honor and exemplify the principles of Little League at all times. This includes playing ability, sportsmanship and respect for other players, coaches, and umpires.
* I/we will be prepared and available for all practices. Practices will start around **June 6** and could be as frequent as 6 days a week. I/we realize that my/my child’s presence is crucial to the success and morale of the team. Unexcused absences from team practices or failure to appear at scheduled tournament games due to reasons other than illness, injury or family emergency may result in a player’s release from the team by the All-Star Committee and could affect consideration of that player for future RLL All-Star teams. Vacations are not considered excused absences. In fairness to his/her teammates and the league, I/we give our assurance that I/we will be available to attend practices and games.
* I/we understand that it is expected to be available for the entire tournament schedule.
* I/we realize that the stages of some tournaments are district, state, and national. We pledge continued commitment through ensuing rounds of the tournament until tournament play concludes or the team is eliminated.
* I/we realize that the commitment to the RLL All-star team comes before any other non-Little League team or to any other sports camps or sports teams during the All-Star season.
* I/we understand that the player may be asked to play in different positions than played during the regular season.
* I/we understand that minimum playing time is one at-bat.
* As parents, we understand that we must provide the Player Agent of RLL with a copy of the birth certificate, proof of residency (hard copies of 3 approved documents) or a school enrollment form, and the LL medical release form as per Little League International Baseball rules at All-Star tryouts or my child will not be eligible to participate. Returning 2023 All-Star Players will only need to submit an updated medical release form unless their school enrollment has changed.
* As parents, we understand that we will provide only positive reinforcement for players and to not “coach” my son/daughter during a game or practice.
* As parents, we understand that we are responsible for our attitudes and behavior toward coaches, players, other parents, spectators and umpires. Unruly and disruptive parents are the single greatest contributor to a negative All-Star experience for coaches, players and parents. RLL expects parents to be supportive and encouraging throughout the All-Star season and during all practices and games.

PLAYER AGREEMENT As a player, I agree to all the requirements outlined in this form. I also understand that I may be asked to play different positions and I may not get as much “playing time” as during the regular season. I also understand that collectively we will strive for the common goal of our best effort and performance as a team. If selected, I promise to support my team by playing my best at all times and by always being positive and respectful towards my teammates, coaches, umpires, fans and opposing teams at all times.

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 (Player signature) (Date)

PARENT AGREEMENT As a parent of this player, I agree to all conditions of participation as outlined in this form. I understand and agree to support the time commitment and involvement of my child in the RLL All-Star team if my child is selected. I will help support my son/daughter, the team, the League, and the coaches to make the All-Star experience a fun and memorable one. I will keep a positive attitude and will help encourage my child’s attitude, enthusiasm, and effort. I understand that my being disruptive can lead to me and/or my child being asked to leave the team.

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(Parent/guardian signature) (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Parent/guardian signature) (Date)

If my player is not selected to an All-Star team, I would like my documents shredded.

If my player is not selected to an All-Star team, I would like my documents returned to me.

**Required Forms to Play All-Stars**

**Forms**

Required forms to be provided to the Player Agent (hard copies only, emailed documents will not qualify):

1. RLL All-Star Commitment Policy

2. Birth certificate in its entirety. Nothing can be blacked out!

3. School enrollment form. ONLY if the player resides inside of RLL boundaries but attends a school outside RLL boundaries will proof of residency be accepted.

4. Completed LL Medical Release Waiver.

Medical Release: [medical\_release\_form.pdf (dt5602vnjxv0c.cloudfront.net)](https://dt5602vnjxv0c.cloudfront.net/portals/_default/medical_release_form.pdf)

School enrollment form:  <https://www.littleleague.org/downloads/school-enrollment-form/>

Residency checklist: <https://www.littleleague.org/downloads/residency-checklist/>

**Residency and School Attendance Eligibility Requirements**

Players will be eligible for All-Stars with that league only if they reside, or the physical location of the school where they attend classes, is within the boundaries provided to and approved by Little League Baseball, Incorporated. A player will be deemed to reside within the league boundaries if:

* His/her parents are living together and are residing within such league boundaries, OR;
* Either of the player’s parents (or his/her court-appointed legal guardian) reside within such boundaries.

Residence shall be established and supported by documents containing the full residence which includes parent(s) or guardian(s) name, street address, city, state and zip code information, dated or in force between February 1, 2021 and February 1, 2023 from one or more documents from EACH of the three Groups outlined below:

**Group I**

* Driver’s License
* School Records
* Vehicle Records (i.e., Registration, Lease, etc.)
* Employment Records
* Insurance Documents

**Group II**

* Welfare/Child Care Records
* Federal Records (i.e., Federal Tax, Social Security, etc.)
* State Records
* Local (Municipal) Records
* Support Payment Records
* Homeowner or Tenant Records
* Military Records

**Group III**

* Voter’s Registration
* Utility Bills (i.e., Gas, Electric, Water/Sewer, Phone, Heating, Waste Disposal)
* Financial Records
* Medical Records
* Internet, Cable, or Satellite Records

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** – Three documents from the same Group (utility bill, cable bill, and bank statement) constitute only ONE document. Any documents submitted as proof of residence must show customary usage or consumption to demonstrate bonafide continuous habitation as determined by Little League Baseball, Incorporated in its discretion.

* A player will be deemed to attend school in the boundaries if: The physical location of the school where they attend classes is within the boundaries established by the local league. Note: This excludes home schools, cyber schools, sports-related schools, sports academies, or preschool or after school where a student participates outside of the primary school the player is enrolled in.

“School attendance” refers to the (place) physical location the player in question attends school during the traditional academic year. Once established, a location of school attendance shall not be considered changed unless the child is enrolled and attends another school or is no longer enrolled in the previous school, i.e. changing from an elementary school to a middle school.

School attendance shall be established and supported by a document indicating enrollment for the current academic year 2022-2023, dated prior to October 1, 2023, and with the physical location of the school, from ONE of the following categories to determine school attendance by such player:

* Official/Certified School enrollment record
* The Little League-issued school attendance form completed by the principal, assistant principal or administrator

Players and their parents/guardians are advised that a false statement of residence or school attendance may lead to ineligibility to play Little League Baseball or Softball.