



# ALAMO LITTLE LEAGUE

BASEBALL & SOFTBALL FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 - 14

Website - [www.alamolittleleague.com](http://www.alamolittleleague.com)

The weather is still blustery but before you know it the weather will be in the 60's and 70's, the grass will turn green, and your happy kids will be tired of video games and will be outside playing baseball and softball.

There are a few things that need to happen before these pleasant thoughts become a reality on opening day, April 25, 2020. Registration, uniforms, player evaluations, selection of coaches, coaches' training and field preparations are just a few. The "fuel" of the league is its volunteers; our league is only as good as its volunteers. When you register your kids for the 2020 season please take a minute and sign up as a volunteer in order to help us maintain and improve the quality of the league for the kids.

**Spring Clean-up** - 4/11 & 4/18 – 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Please come out and help get the fields in shape – give whatever time you have available even if just an hour or two.

We are looking for help with:

- Coaching
- Uniforms
- Team Parents
- Opening Day
- Construction and painting
- Sponsors
- Concessions
- Field Maintenance/Mowing
- Umpires (Training Available)
- Board Members

Please sign up to volunteer on the registration form. Thanks for your help – past and future. We can't do it without you!

**Questions?** - Contact Mike Lampen  
director@alamolittleleague.com – 269-744-2668

**Registration** - There are three ways to register for the 2020 season. 1) Visit a registration event in person 2) On-line at [www.alamolittleleague.com](http://www.alamolittleleague.com) and 3) Snail-mail registration.

**Registration Forms** - There are three forms required to sign up your child for the 2020 season 1) registration form, 2) medical release form and 3) concussion acknowledgement form. Forms may be downloaded from our web site.

**Alamo Little League Boundaries** - You must live within League boundaries to play at Alamo OR your child must attend a school within League boundaries. These boundaries are 100% of Otsego and Gobles School Districts, plus that portion of Martin School District that is West of US 131, plus the SE 50% of Allegan School District.

### **In Person Registration Event Dates** **Washington Elementary Gym**

- February 1 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

**Otsego Middle School Gym** – (Gym entrance is at the back of school via South Grant Street)

- February 15 8:30 am to 12:00 pm
- February 22 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

**Dix Elementary Gym** – (Gym entrance at back of school via Hammond Street)

- February 8 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

**Alamo Township Hall** – 7901 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Kalamazoo, 49009

- February 29 – Saturday 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

<b>Registration Fees:</b>	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Tee Ball/T2</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Child	\$100	\$85
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child	\$80	\$80
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child+	\$60	\$60

There is NO FUNDRAISER or CONCESSION BUYOUT this year. These are included in the registration fees. If a parent wishes to work in the concession stand they may be reimbursed for the concession buyout in the amount of \$10 per 1.5 hour shift – maximum reimbursement \$20. Be aware that there is a website fee of \$3.

**Snail-Mail Registration** - If you choose to mail in the registration forms please fully complete and sign a registration form, a concussion acknowledgement form and a medical release form for each child. Please be sure to send payment with the forms. Make your check payable to **Alamo Little League** and mail to the following address: **Mike Lampen 5300 Miller Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49048.**

**4 Year Old Registration** - We welcome 4 year old players, but because of their young age and short attention spans we ask that a parent be available to help with their child as an assistant coach. The player must be age 4 no later than 8/31/2020 in order to be eligible.

**Umpires** - The League provides umpires for games at the Little Major level (age 9-10) and older. The League pays older teen umpires. – contact Mike Lampen for details. We also welcome parent/adult volunteers (unpaid) who are willing to umpire their kid's games. We will give you the training you will need to be a good umpire. Please volunteer! In the event the League is unable to secure an umpire for a game, parents will be asked to pitch in. The game will not start until a parent is found to umpire.

**Volunteers** - Volunteers are the heart and soul of Alamo Little League and without our volunteers we would not have a league. We have several volunteer opportunities available, Board positions, coaching opportunities, concessions, and opening day committee. You will have opportunity to indicate your preference when you register, or contact our volunteer coordinator Heather Slater (269-680-5514 [sashaxwp5@hotmail.com](mailto:sashaxwp5@hotmail.com)).

**Background Checks** – Background checks are a critical part of Little League. We require our volunteers that have direct contact with the players to complete a background check prior to any interaction with players. Contact Heather Slater (269-680-5514 [sashaxwp5@hotmail.com](mailto:sashaxwp5@hotmail.com)) in order to complete your background check.

This is a requirement of Little League International and we will take all steps necessary and required to keep all players and volunteers and spectators safe.

**Player Evaluations** – We will be conducting player evaluations for certain age groups for the purpose of determining skill levels in order to enable the coaches to draft teams of equal talent. The date will be Saturday March 21st at the Otsego High School Auxiliary gym. Parents will be contacted regarding time and other details. Age groups that do not conduct skill evaluations will draft teams based on the coaches' prior knowledge of the players. No player evaluations for Tee Ball and Coach Pitch (T2) or minor/machine pitch.

**Baseball Bats Standards** – *For baseball only* - Beginning with the 2018 season baseball bats shall bear the USA Baseball logo signifying that the bat meets the USA Baseball Performance Standard. All bats from previous years may no longer be used in little league play – practice or games. Go to: [www.littleleague.org/learn/equipment/baseballbatinfo.htm](http://www.littleleague.org/learn/equipment/baseballbatinfo.htm) for more information.

**All Stars** – Each year Alamo Little League plans to send Minor (age 7-8), Little Major (age 9-10) and Major (age 11-12) baseball and softball teams to play in the Little League District 2 and District 15 All-Star tournaments, provided there are enough players available to field a team. All players are eligible to attend the tryout. We ask that you commit to the following:

- \$35 fee
- Available for weekday and/or weekend practices and games throughout June, July and possibly August.
- 9-10 and 11-12 boys and girls tryouts will be held during the first week of June
- 7-8 boys and girls tryouts will be held during the last week of May

**Scholarships** - The Board wants every child to have an opportunity to play ball, even if the family cannot afford to pay. You may confidentially contact Mike at [director@alamolittleleague.com](mailto:director@alamolittleleague.com).

**Alamo Day with the Growlers** – Saturday, June 13. Tailgate 5:00 to 6:30 pm and game at 6:35 pm. Watch for details on website & Facebook.

## FAQ'S

### **What are the divisions of play and what are normal game days?**

Tee Ball – age 4-5 – Coed - M, W and F if necessary  
Coach Pitch – age 5-6 – Coed - M,W&F if necessary  
Pitching machine baseball – age 7-8 – boys - M, Th  
Pitching machine softball – age 7-8 – girls – M, W  
Little Major baseball – age 9-10 – boys – Tu, F  
Little Major softball – age 9-10 – girls – Tu, Th  
Major baseball – age 11-12 – boys – M, Tu  
Major softball – age 11-12 – girls – M, W  
Intermediate baseball – age 12-13 – boys – Tu, Th  
Junior baseball – age 13-14 – M, W, F  
Junior softball – age 13-14 – Tu, Th

### **How is League Age determined?**

Tee Ball and Coach Pitch – age on 8/31

Pitching machine and above:

Boys – age on 8/31

Girls – age on 12/31

### **When do practice and games begin?**

Games will begin on Opening Day, Saturday, April 25. Thereafter teams will play twice per week through mid-June.

Practice will begin when the weather permits, hopefully by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Teams mostly practice on the same day as game days; but due to limited fields some practices are on non-game days.

### **When will I know what team my child is on?**

For pitching machine division and younger, teams are drafted at the coaches meeting in mid-March and you will be contacted soon thereafter.

For Little Major and above teams will be drafted on March 21<sup>st</sup> the same day as Player Evaluations and you will be contacted soon thereafter.

### **Are siblings placed on the same team?**

Yes – for Tee Ball and Coach Pitch siblings are placed on the same team. For pitching machine and above brothers are placed together on baseball teams and sisters are placed together on softball teams.

### **If my child cannot make Player Evaluations can they still play?**

Yes the coaches will place as they deem appropriate.

### **What do I do if I have not heard from my child's coach?**

E mail [director@alamolittleleague.com](mailto:director@alamolittleleague.com)

### **Can my child play above or below the age appropriate division?**

Players are occasionally placed above or below the normal division for their age based on their ability or other factors. Due to safety concerns and the need to have appropriate numbers on each team this will need to be approved by the coaches involved and the division director.

### **What does the league provide for uniform and equipment and what do the parents need to provide?**

The league provides balls, bats and catching gear and the parent will provide the mitt.

The league provides the uniform hat and shirt and the parents will provide the pants and shoes.

It is a good idea to wait to buy pants till your first contact with the coach as there may be a certain team pants color the coach will decide on.

### **When are game schedules available?**

Mid to late April.

### **Is there travel to other leagues to play games?**

For Tee Ball and Coach Pitch there is no travel. For pitching machine and above there will most likely be travel to other teams in the Kalamazoo area unless Alamo has enough teams to just play at home.

Alamo is part of Michigan District 2. There are 12 leagues in D2:

Alamo, Delton, Eastwood, Gull Lake, Lakeview, Millwood, Northwood, Parchment, Quad Cities, South Portage, West Portage and Westwood

### **How will I know when games are cancelled for inclement weather?**

You coach will let you know. We try to cancel games by 4:30 pm.

### **What time do games begin?**

Other than opening day and weekend tournaments all games begin at 6:00 pm.