



Delray Beach National Little League Frequently Asked Questions SPRING 2015

1. What is DBNLL's mission statement?

We are committed to providing a family/fun environment where we can teach the game of baseball, work ethic, sportsmanship, and responsibility to our young players.

2. What is new for the Spring 2015 Season?

We will be trying to implement new Coach's training tools and team practices from professional baseball players so that we can help to further the Coach's, Players, and Parent's knowledge of the game. In 2015 we will also focus on safety and security, as all Coaches will be required to take a mandatory concussion certification class, and will be required to attend a mandatory Coaching Clinic.

As far as games are concerned, we are going to expand our game times to Friday night for the Minors and Majors Division. We think that Friday Night at the park is a great family event and we want to continue to build upon the family atmosphere that we have created with DBNLL.

3. As a parent, what is expected of me?

We would expect you to help us carry forth our mission, as stated above. Be a supportive, encouraging, and positive reinforcement of our mission. We understand that everyone has a different opinion and we are here to try and provide the best service that we can for the price of your registration. Please remember that coaches are volunteers; umpires are human; the ball players are just kids; with that in mind, let's all just have fun.

4. How can I find out more information about DBNLL?

We have a league website. It is www.DBNLL.org. All the information about the league can be found here. In addition, if you have any questions for DBNLL, you can email them to info@dbnll.org. We will try to respond as quickly as possible.

5. What does my registration fee cover?

DBNLL is a non-profit organization. 100% of your registration dollars go back into the program. Each season your child will get a hat, jersey, belt, and sox. In addition, the league fees go toward covering the new equipment purchases, umpires, field maintenance, Little League International dues, tournament fees, insurance, medical kits, baseballs, and trophies.

6. I have an issue.....who should I contact?

Generally speaking, your child's coach should be your primary contact with the league. If your child's coach is not able to resolve the issue, each Division has a VP that is responsible for handling all issues related to that Division (TBall, Coach Pitch, Minors, etc). The Division VPs are Board members, and if they are not able to resolve the issue, they will bring it to the attention of the Board for immediate resolution.

7. How do you determine which child plays on which teams?

That depends on what Division you are playing in. For TBall, we do NOT conduct player evaluations and parents are able to request that their child play with their friends and certain coaches. We feel that it is important to allow the younger players to have fun with their friends.

However, once your child reaches the Coach Pitch Division, we do conduct player evaluations for all Divisions. The player evaluation is performed by a third party "baseball expert" and not by anyone from the league. Every player is subject to the draft to ensure that the teams are equally paired and no one team has any advantage over another team. NO PLAYERS ARE PROTECTED IN THE DRAFT (not even Coach's sons). TEAMS ARE NOT STACKED WITH ALL-STARS. DBNLL has taken great steps to ensure that every team is equally matched. During the draft the Coach is the ONLY decision maker when it comes to team selection. The rules of the draft do not allow coaches to cherry-pick or protect players. All draft selections are equal as determined by the scoring during the player evaluation process.

8. How are the Coaches selected?

Remember that everyone is a volunteer. The Board of Directors will select the team Manager for every team. The team Manager will then select his/her Assistant Coaches. In the evaluation process, the Board considers the Coach's baseball experience, coaching resume, past performance with the league, overall professionalism and sportsmanship. DBNLL does provide training to the Coaches before every season starts, but the Coaches are expected to have some working knowledge of the game, good communication skills, good organization skills, and the ability train/lead their players.

9. How many games and practices should we expect to have?

At DBNLL we try to schedule 2 games per week and the Coaches are encouraged to have at least 1 practice per week. In general, you should expect to be at the fields 3 times per week. Each season, we will try to fit in 15 - 20+ games (depending on holidays and weather). EVERYONE GENERALLY PLAYS ON FIRDAY/SATURDAY.

10. What equipment does my child need to play?

Generally speaking, your child will need cleats, grey pants, batting helmet, a bat, and a glove. The league has relationships with retail sporting equipment stores in which members of DBNLL can get discounts on equipment. Please email info@dbnll.org for the most recent sports equipment deals. In general, our league sponsor Hit-A-Double provides great discounts to DBNLL. In addition, Dick's Sporting Goods and Sports Authority run promotions from time to time.

11. What is the difference between the Spring and the Fall Season?

Generally, there is nothing different between the 2 seasons. The Spring season ends with an All-Star tournament, were children from DBNLL will play other cities and states to try and make it to

the Little League World Series. Generally, there are more kids that play in the Spring than in the Fall. That makes the Fall season a great time to focus on developing skills for the Spring Season.

12. What about the weather and rainouts?

The weather is always a concern in Florida. There are many times during the season where it may be raining at your house and not raining at the fields. Due to the field's proximity to the ocean, we often benefit from an ocean breeze that can hold off the rain storms from the west. As soon as we know that the fields are closed due to conditions, we will notify you. You should always assume that we are playing ball unless you have heard from your coach or the league about the field conditions.

The field is equipped with a lightening monitor. It is imperative for the safety of the kids that we follow the warnings from the lightening monitor. 1 long horn means "Get off the field and under cover". 3 short horns means "It is safe to play". The yellow light on top of the concession building will be flashing if there is an active warning. Due to city regulation and Little League insurance reasons, we take lightening warnings very seriously. We ask that you help us in following the warnings so that everyone is safe.

13. My son is only XX years-old, can he play in a Division that is outside his age group?

In general, we do not encourage children to play outside their age group. There are circumstances in which that may make sense, and is subject to evaluation by the previously mentioned "baseball expert". Our objective is to challenge the kids, but also allow them an opportunity to succeed at a certain level. If the Player Agent feels that either one of those objectives are in danger, he will recommend to the Board and the parent that a switch is made.

14. Who can play at Delray National?

Delray National Little League is a division of District 7 of the Southeastern Region of Little League International. The Little League rules mandate that you must:

- a. Live in the boundaries of DBNLL, OR
- b. Attend a school that is in the DBNLL boundaries.

If you do not live within the boundaries, there are a number of reasons why you may be eligible to play at DBNLL. Please email info@dbnll.org to discuss your specific situations. Approval of out-of-boundary players may require approval from your home league and may disqualify your child from tournament play. Please speak to a league official as soon as you can. In addition, the league monitors out-of-boundary registrations, and will call you to discuss upon notification of your registration.

15. How do I become a sponsor at DBNLL?

That is EASY!!!! We would love to have you as a sponsor. Just find a Board member or email us at info@dbnll.org. Your contributions will greatly help our cause, and we would love to market your company's products to our membership base.

16. Can you tell me what I don't know?

Sorry, we are not mind readers, but if you have any questions please contact us at info@dbnll.org. We will answer any questions that you have.