

## **2017 BASEBALL SEASON IMPORTANT INFORMATION SHEET**

**Welcome to your Bondurant Little League. Little League is a Member Run organization with elected officers. Little League is headquartered in Williamsport, PA. Bondurant's Little League falls under District 3 in Iowa; which has it's own website [www.iowadistrict3.org](http://www.iowadistrict3.org). Bondurant's Little League website is [www.bondurantlittleleague.org](http://www.bondurantlittleleague.org). You can also interact with us on Facebook through Bondurant Little League and the Bondurant Recreational Sports Complex pages.**

### **CHANGES FOR 2017:**

Bondurant LL Baseball will see several changes which we hope will improve the overall experience for our members.

### **BRSC Management**

In December of 2016, the LL signed a Lease Agreement with the city to administer and manage all operations of the BRSC where members practice and play. This new agreement allows us to expand into weekends and control who has access to the facility and when. Due to our community's growth, Bondurant is one of the fastest growing Little Leagues in Iowa and the Midwest. With numbers growing 20% annually, we have added new fields and rearranged when teams practice and play. Having control of the facility helps us manage that growth as best we can.

### **Schedules:**

Schedules will look different this year. We anticipate playing nearly 90% of all games as Bondurant vs. Bondurant teams. In years past, Bondurant teams traveled to towns of Pleasant Hill, Runnells, Highland Park, Saydel, and Colfax. Teams weren't guaranteed to play each other even once, let alone as home and away. This year we hope our numbers justify playing as an internal league. This should allow us to have a consistent understanding of rules, objectively reward season champions, allow our kids to play against all of their friends and schoolmates, and hopefully improve the overall experience and competitiveness of our league. Change like this is never easy, so we ask for your patience as we work through possible challenges.

*Pee Wee will play games on Friday evenings and Sunday Afternoons*

*Tee Wee will play all games on Sunday Afternoons*

*Minors & Majors will play on any possible evening of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday*

There may be a few games in each division of Pee Wee, Minors, and Majors where two games are played on the same field on a single night. In this situation, the first games start will move up ½ an hour to 5:30. In Minors and Majors players are NOT ALLOWED to play in 2 games on a single day, but that may occur for Pee Wee teams as a true double header.

**Division Assignments:**

Players have the option to play up or down with a baseball committee approval. All requests must be made to [baseballdirector@bondurantlittleleague.org](mailto:baseballdirector@bondurantlittleleague.org) for consideration. Any player who plays below their respective age division is not allowed to play the position of pitcher.

**All Stars:**

Little League offers an All Star tournament program at the end of the season.

All Stars has a Majors Division for 12 year olds, 11/12 Division, 9/10 Division, and a 9 Division.

In year's past, we allowed kids to play up an age level, which resulted in diluting the skill level on younger aged divisions; therefore, a major change for All Stars is that players will be required to play only in their respective age group.

Parents will have an opportunity to request consideration of All Stars prior to the start of the season. There will be a refundable fee (refundable if not selected to a team) which will help offset the cost of the uniform, umpires, and tournament costs.

The Baseball Committee will track some basic statistics in the Majors division on pre-registered All Stars which will be one tool used for evaluation. In addition, we anticipate holding 2 evaluation days/nights for those committed to playing All Stars. For more information on All Stars and what is involved we will post all dates, costs, and additional information prior to the start of our regular season.

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE 2017 SEASON:**

January 7th	Last day for early registration
January 31	Last day for regular registration
Feb. 26	Minor & Major Draft Night
March 1	Official Date for LL practice to begin
March 4	Mandatory Coach/Safety Meeting 9AM @ Federated Church
March 20	Scheduled Team Practices Begin
April 8	Baseball Pictures 8AM-4PM @ Federated Church
April 9	Optional Tournament for Little League Teams (Fee per team)
April 17	Baseball Opening Day & Week 1
May 20/21	All Star Player Evaluations to Determine how many teams we will field
June 2nd	All Star Coach Selection
June 7	All Star Player Evaluations (Mandatory Attendance to be Considered)
June 19-23	Bondurant Rally Days Tournament
June 25	Anticipated Closing Ceremonies (TBD)
June 26	All Star Team Practice Begins
July 5	Anticipated All Star Games Begin (Could be changed with District info)

### TEAM ASSIGNMENTS:

Your child's coach will contact you with information regarding your team. Baseball has a draft for Minors and Majors on Feb 26 and Auto Drafts (Random Assignment to Teams) for Pee Wee and Tee Wee. If you have not heard from your coach by March 15th, please contact the Baseball Director Todd Wilson @ [baseballdirector@bondurantlittleleague.org](mailto:baseballdirector@bondurantlittleleague.org) or your Division's Player Rep. which can be found on our website.

### UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT:

- Bondurant Little League WILL SUPPLY A JERSEY AND HAT with registration.
- **ANY REGISTRATION RECEIVED AFTER MARCH 10 WILL REQUIRE THE PARENT TO PURCHASE AND ARRANGE THEIR UNIFORM SPECIFIC TO THE PLAYER'S TEAM FROM DECKER SPORTS. REGISTRATION FEE WILL NOT INCLUDE THE COST OF THE JERSEY AND HAT AFTER MARCH 10.**
- Little League is not responsible for replacing lost uniform items.
- **Pants should be color GRAY. Majors and Minors should be an OPEN BOTTOM leg.**
- Rubber or molded cleats, a baseball glove, and an officially approved batting helmet are the responsibility of the player.
- Bats, balls, & catchers gear will be provided to the team coach.
- If you chose to purchase your own bat, please read Little League's Bat Rule Restrictions before doing so. No composite bats are allowed for any division Majors and below. All bats must be less than 33 inches in length and the barrel may be no more than 2 ¼" in diameter. Non-Wood bats shall be labeled with a BPF (Bat Performance Factor) of 1.15 or less.
- **IMPORTANT TO NOTE: IN 2018 LITTLE LEAGUE WILL REQUIRE ALL BATS TO HAVE THE NEW USA BASEBALL MARK....MEANING NO-ONES CURRENT BAT WILL BE LEGAL IN 2018.**

### VOLUNTEERING:

Little League is based on volunteering. Parents, Grandparents, Friends, and others enjoy huge benefits to volunteering within our league. Opportunities include coaching, organizing fund raisers, serving on our various committees, attending members meetings, and helping teams organize schedules such as treats, practices, and games. ***The Bondurant Little League requires all volunteers to complete a Volunteer Application and agree to a NATIONAL background check. No persons found guilty of any of the following are allowed to volunteer:***

- ***Felony involving the use of any weapon***
- ***Crimes against a Minor, including but not limited to physical or sexual abuse.***