



District 16-31

Baseball and Softball Tournament Packet



District 16-31 Administrator
Robert Bertoni

District & Tournament Website
www.padistrict16-31.com



Dear Manager,

Congratulations to you, your players and coaches on being selected to represent your Little League in the District 16-31 Tournament. You will find everything you need on our District website: www.padistrict16-31.com

1. Information Packet
2. Tournament Game Schedule
3. Tournament Brackets and Pool Play Schedule

** We will be adding more information about the tournament each day so please check it a few times every day.

If you have any questions concerning the packet of information or how the tournament will be conducted, please do not hesitate to contact the District Administrator, Tournament Director or the Umpire-In-Chief. (Contact information in the Information Packet)

No team will be permitted to compete without first submitting all documentation (properly completed affidavit, boundary map, residency documentation, and any necessary waivers) for review and approval by the District 16-31 staff. Please see the District Administrator immediately if you are unclear on any matters relating to the required documentation.

District 16/31 believe strongly that all games are to be decided on the field by the players' according to the Little League Official Regulations and Playing Rules. In particular; rule XVI(a)-Field Decorum will be strictly enforced:

(a) The actions of players, managers, coaches, umpires, and league officials must be above reproach. Any player, manager, coach, umpire, or league official who is involved in a verbal or physical altercation, or an incident of unsportsmanlike conduct at the game site or any other Little League activity is subject to disciplinary actions.

Any unsportsmanlike actions by players, manager, coaches, or fans from the opposing team to disrupt the play of any player, will be dealt with immediately. District 16-31 expects the manager and coaches to control their fans.

Thank You- Have Fun- Play Hard----District 16-31 Staff



GENERAL INFORMATION

1. *Tournament Teams Announced and Practice Start Date:*

All leagues in District 16/31 can begin Tournament Team Practice on June 1, 2024. Failure to comply with this order will result in immediate suspension from tournament play. Names of Tournament Teams shall not be released until June 1, 2024.

2. *Game Times:*

Weekdays: 6:00pm for softball and baseball single games, and 5:30 and 7:30 for Baseball Doubleheaders (Unless the District Administrator agrees to some other time for a particular game).

Weekend games: will be held at 2 and 4 for baseball and 6 for softball unless otherwise noted on the bracket.

3. *Pre-Game Practice:*

Team on whose field the game is played may practice from 5:00- to 5:20pm. The other team may practice from 5:20pm to 5:40pm. From 5:40 to 5:55 pm the field must be free for pre-game care. At 6:00 pm, introduction of teams will take place and remain there for the National Anthem and Little League Pledge. Follow same criteria for games beginning at 5:30pm during the week and 2:00pm on the weekend.

:20 minutes for Home Team on field practice

:20 minutes for Away Team on field practice

:15 minutes for pre-game field care

:10 for team introduction, National Anthem and Little League Pledge.



4. ***Pre- Game Field Care and Concessions:*** Pre-game field care and any cost thereof is the responsibility of the league owning the field. Concession stand receipts belong to the League owning the field.
5. ***Fan collections:*** *All collections from fans will be divided equally by participating teams, after agreed umpire travel expenses are paid.*

6. ***Umpires Travel Expenses:*** \$45 per umpires for 2-4 man crews and \$60 for one umpire for all levels majors and below. Jr./Sr. Girls are now \$55 per umpire for two-man crew. Jr/Sr Boys are now \$65 per umpire for two-man crew.

PLAYER INFORMATION

1. Affidavits:

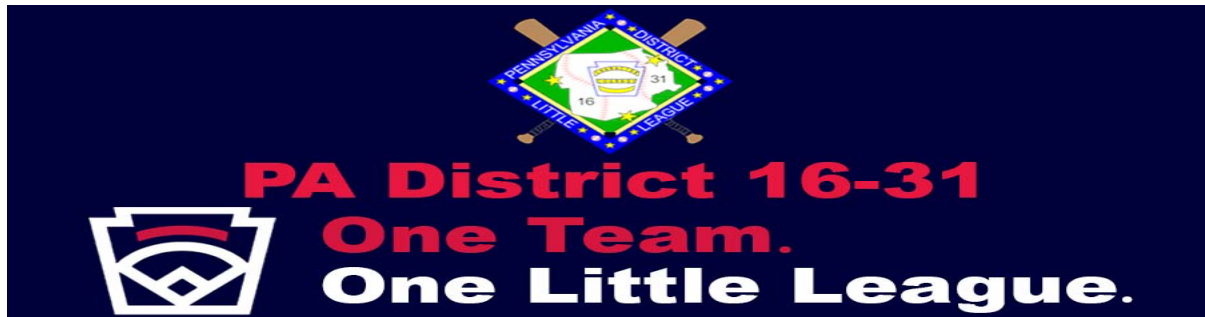
Each League will present its Eligibility Affidavits and supporting birth/residency records to the District Administrator for certification during the week of June 17^h. The District will announce dates and sites for certification for your league. Leagues must meet the schedule and must go to the site they are assigned. No Exceptions. (Check the District 16-31 website for the Affidavits Signing Schedule)

2. Certificates:

Original Baptismal Certificates needed for first time All-Star Players. Photocopies of the Original Birth Certificates or any other type of Birth Record will be acceptable for all returning players. All IID waivers must be accompanied by (3) proofs of prior and (3) proofs of current residency.

3. Player Boundaries:

All players must reside within their league boundaries or be properly qualified under Regulation 2D or 4H. Use of ineligible players shall result in forfeiture. All rosters will be checked by district Officials.



THE TOURNAMENT GAME

1. Dugout and Playing Field:

Only Managers, Coaches, and Players listed on the official

tournament eligibility affidavit are permitted in the dugout or playing field. Under no circumstances will coaching (or assistance to coaches) be permitted from anyone outside of the dugout area during the games. Official Scorer, in absence of a press box, must NOT occupy a position on the field.

2. Affidavit Inspection:

Thirty (30) minutes before game time, each manger presents his League's Eligibility Affidavit to the Opposing Team Manager for inspection.

3. Coin Toss:

Umpire-in-Chief tosses a coin to determine "Home Team". All fields are neutral. The winner of the coin toss selects HOME/AWAY; the loser of the coin toss selects the choice of dugout.

4. Sign Affidavit After Game:

League on whose field the game is played or League which has choice of field supplies a capable OFFICAL SCORER who shall, immediately after the end of the game, enter on the reverse side of each Team's Eligibility Affidavit, IN INK, the following information: Date of Game, Name of each pitcher and number of innings pitched (softball) or number of pitches thrown (baseball), his (the Official Scorer's) signature where required. SIGNS THE WINNING TEAM'S AFFIDAVIT BEFORE LEAVING THE BALLPARK. (Duty of League President)

5. Game Balls:

Each team supplies the home plate umpire with two (2) new baseballs/softball to begin the game and any additional ball requirements shall be divided between the teams playing. RS-T BALLS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR DISTRICT TOURNAMENT PLAY.



6. ***Weather:*** *The tournament director and staff reserve the right to change game dates and starting times due to inclement weather.*

The umpires are the solo judge of the fitness of the field to start the game or resume the game after interruption because of weather. etc.

7. ***Uniforms and Equipment:***

The team manager is responsible for uniforms and equipment and all players must be in uniform with the Little League approved patch.

8. ***Team Introduction, National Anthem and Pledge:***

All game should start with the All-Star teams introduction on

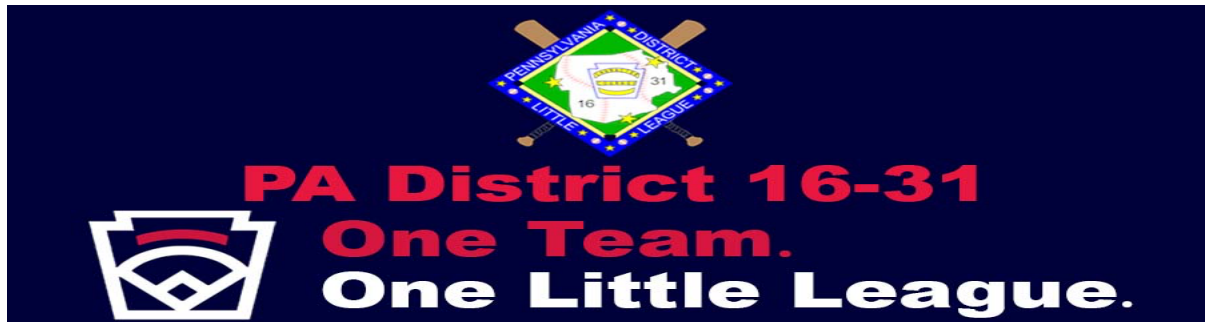
the PA then National Anthem and Little League Pledge for each game played

in the tournament.

9. ***Between Inning Music:***

If you have the ability, please play APPROPRIATE MUSIC during in- between inning warm-ups.

10. ***End of Game Hand Shake:*** Both teams will meet at the home plate area immediately at the conclusion of the game and shake hands.



PLAYING RULES/UMPIRE'S

1. When a Manager claims that an Umpire's decision is in violation of the Playing Rules, he shall make formal protest to the Umpire-in-Chief at one (BEFORE THE NEXT BALL IS PITCHED IS CONSIDERED "AT ONCE"). The Umpire-in-Chief shall call immediately a conference of all umpires and decision shall be reached. All protests must be settled immediately. THE DECISION IS FINAL. THERE IS NO APPEAL. PROTEST NOT MADE "AT ONCE" (BEFORE NEXT BALL IS PITCHED) SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BY UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF. A conference of Umpires cannot be requested to review or discuss a Judgment call.
2. When an umpire goes to the mound to correct a violation in the pitcher's delivery, he must be accompanied by the pitcher's Manager.
3. Handouts were distributed to league presidents detailing tournament rules changes. We ask that all league officials, managers, coaches, etc. to please take time to review this material.
4. A Tournament Rules Interpretation Meeting will be held on June 5th at 2pm at Wilkes-Barre Area High School. All Managers and Coaches should attend this meeting.
5. Players, managers and coaches that become involved in any misconduct, on or off the field may be dismissed from the tournament. The activity and person will be reported to the District Administrator and Tournament Director.
6. • Only 1 Manager and 2 Coaches allowed in dugout.
7. • 2 inch lines for 1st and 3rd base lines
8. • Approved USA baseball bats only
9. • Mandatory dangling throat protector for catchers
10. • Courtesy runner for pitcher/catcher is not considered a pinch runner and the last batted out should be the courtesy runner. This rule is used to speed up the game.
11. • If there are 2 outs and a man on first then the batter can run to first on a third strike/passed ball.
12. • IF there is less than 2 outs than batter CANNOT run to first on third strike/passed ball with a runner on first base.
13. • One visit to pitcher's mound per inning – on the second visit in inning you have to remove pitcher.
14. • On the third visit per game you also have to remove pitcher.
15. • If a pitcher throws 40 pitches in a game he CANNOT catch.



17. • A catcher cannot pitch if he catches 4 innings. One pitch into the 4th inning is considered a full inning.

16. • You can have an Intentional walk and the pitcher doesn't have to throw a pitch. It does however count as 4 pitches to the pitch count.

17. • You can steal when the ball crosses home plate.

18. • If playing with Double first base then the batter has to touch Orange bag. If he misses orange bag then he is considered out.

19. • You can only slide headfirst if you are going back to a base.

20. • You should slide if it means avoiding contact.

21. • Obstruction. First baseman CANNOT stand on bag when ball is hit to outfield and obstruct the base runner.

22. • APPEAL – Pitcher must step off rubber. The Manager must clarify the appeal after the pitcher steps off.

23. • 15 run rule after 3 innings and 10 run rule after 4 innings.

24. • Extra innings. Starting in the 8th inning the last batter out will start at 2nd base to speed up the game.

25. • NO JEWELRY.

26. • ZERO TOLERANCE for Managers/Coaches and Parents who are unruly.



MEDIA PUBLICITY

1. Newspapers:

The Citizens Voice and Times Leader will give the kids great coverage but they need your help! Below is a list of a few things you and your managers can do to help the newspapers make the kids the stars of the tournament.

2. CALLING IN GAME RESULTS:

The Winning team managers will be responsible for calling/emailing the newspapers.

*Give score, pitchers names, big hits, highlights etc

*Please have first and last names of the kids

*Give losing team some credit

*Kids playing baseball and softball---Keep it all very positive! *Please call in the first 15 minutes after your game.

*Times Leader is on a 10pm deadline, if your game goes passed 10pm still call the Times Leader they can get it in the next day or on the web.

Phone Numbers and Email:

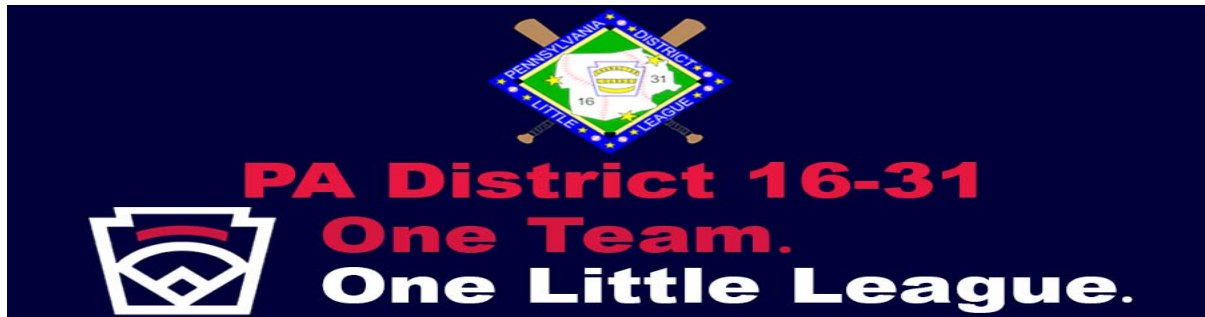
Times Leader Sports : 570-829-7143

Sports@timesleader.com

Citizens Voice Sports: 570-821-2060

Sports@ citizensvoice.com (CV would prefer email)

Due- By 15 minutes after your game



3. ALL-Star Rosters:

Email your All-Star Rosters with first and last names and jersey numbers, manager and coaches names. Make sure to mark at the top of the roster what league you are from also if it's Major Baseball, 10-11 Softball, 9-10 Baseball etc. *EXAMPLE:*

West Pittston Little League

Major Baseball

#1 Mark Smith

#2 Tom White

#3 Bob Bee

#5

Manager- Tim Roberts

Coaches- Mike Rodgers, Tom Blue -----

Email this information to the following:

John Erzar Times Leader Sports-
jerzar@timesleader.com

Steve Bennett Citizens Voice Sports-

sbennett@citizensvoice.com

DUE- June 13th



5. TEAM PICTURES:

The Citizens Voice is doing a special District 16-31 Little League Tab. They need pictures of your teams. You can send a picture of your teams to **Steve Bennett** sbennett@citizensvoice.com

Send the pictures has a jpeg Identify the players in the picture from left to right with first and last names.

DUE- by July 1

6. Game Results TEXTED into. District16-31 Staff:

Winning team manager TEXT District 16-31 Staff. *Give score and innings played
*Please text ASAP after your game

Phone Numbers to Call:

Phil Schoener: 570-905-6902

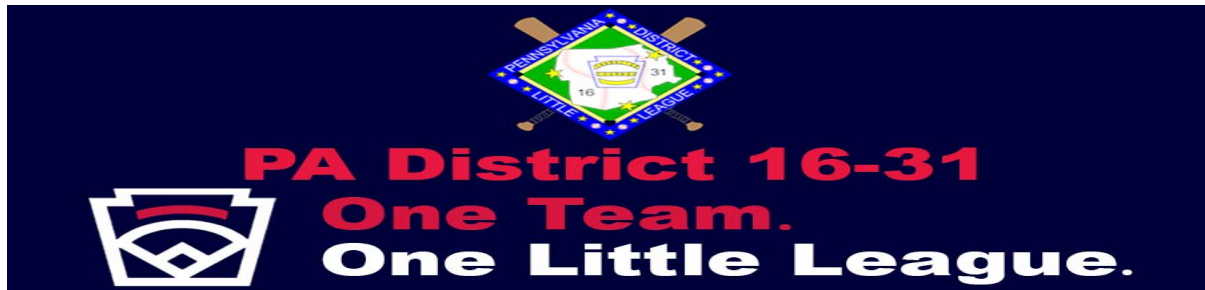
Example of the Text: (District 16 Junior Baseball: Nanticoke 7 Pittston Area 6 9 innings)

Due- ASAP after your game

Following the Tournament

District 16-31 Website (padistrict16-31.com)

Padistrict16-31.com will have Scoring of all tournament games, Daily game schedules, Pool Play and Brackets, Pictures and more.



Tournament Check List

League Presidents-

- ___ - Make sure all Affidavits are completed and signed by DA
- ___ - Make sure team managers have Affidavit book for there team

- ___ - Fully stocked Concession Stand for Tournament Games
- ___ - Plenty of Volunteers to work Concession Stand on Game Nights

- ___ - Playing field is in best condition possible for Games
- ___ - Volunteers for Pre-Game Field Care
- ___ - Volunteers for Press Box- (1) Official Scorer (2) Public Address Announcer (3) Scoreboard operator
- ___ - Appropriate Music to play during pre-game practice and between

- innings (if possible)
- ___ - Make sure National Anthem and Little League Pledge takes place before

- each tournament game.
- ___ - Umpires expenses paid

- ___ - Make sure your Managers/Coaches Attend Rules Interpretation Meeting

- ___ - Make sure your Managers have a copy of the Tournament Info Packet with them for all District tournament games.



Tournament Check List

Managers

- ___ - Attend the District Tournament Rules Interpretation Meeting
- ___ - Have your team affidavit Book make sure it's reviewed before the game

and signed after the game.

- ___ - Have a copy of District Tournament Info Packet with you at all

tournament games

- ___ - Email team roster with name and numbers to media and District
- ___ - Have a copy of 5 typed rosters with name and numbers for Press Box and

Media for each game.

- ___ - Responsible for uniforms and equipment for each of your players

- ___ - Have your team ready to pre-game practice
- ___ - Have your lineup card ready for umpires, press box and covering media.

- ___ - Have two new game balls for umpires to start the game

- ___ - Team ready for pre-game introductions, National Anthem and Little League Pledge

- ___ - Make sure to tell Umpire and Press Box of all player changes during the game.

- ___ - Have your team meet at home plate area immediately at the conclusion of the game and shake hands

- ___ - Report your score to newspaper and District 16-31 Staff



Zero Tolerance Policy

District 16-31 promotes good sportsmanship at all times and at all levels of play. Throughout this tournament any conduct that is meant to demean or incite opposing teams, spectators or officials will not be tolerated. All verbal comments must be positive and encouraging. Any offenders will, if spectators, be removed from the complex for the remainder of the tournament and if coaches or players get ejected from that game and per Little League tournament rules will not be permitted to participate in the next scheduled game.



Contacts

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