The logo is a circular emblem with a dark background. The word "ZEELAND" is written in a light-colored, sans-serif font along the top inner edge of the circle. The words "LITTLE LEAGUE" are written along the bottom inner edge. In the center of the circle, there is a stylized baseball bat and a baseball. The text "Zeeland Little League Parent Meeting" is overlaid on the logo in a large, bold, yellow font with a black outline.

# Zeeland Little League Parent Meeting

February 20, 2024

YOUTH SPORTS ARE NOT  
A ZERO-SUM GAME

PROCESS > Results

# STATS

1,020 players

95 teams + Rookie Ball

Over 200 coaches

Over 60 umpires



# ZLL Structure

- ZLL is chartered under Little League International
  - Little League District 9
- Program is part of Zeeland Recreation
- Various partnerships for use of facilities
  - ZPS
  - Holland Charter Township – Kaat Park
  - Drenthe
  - City of Zeeland – Huizenga Park



# ZLL AGE

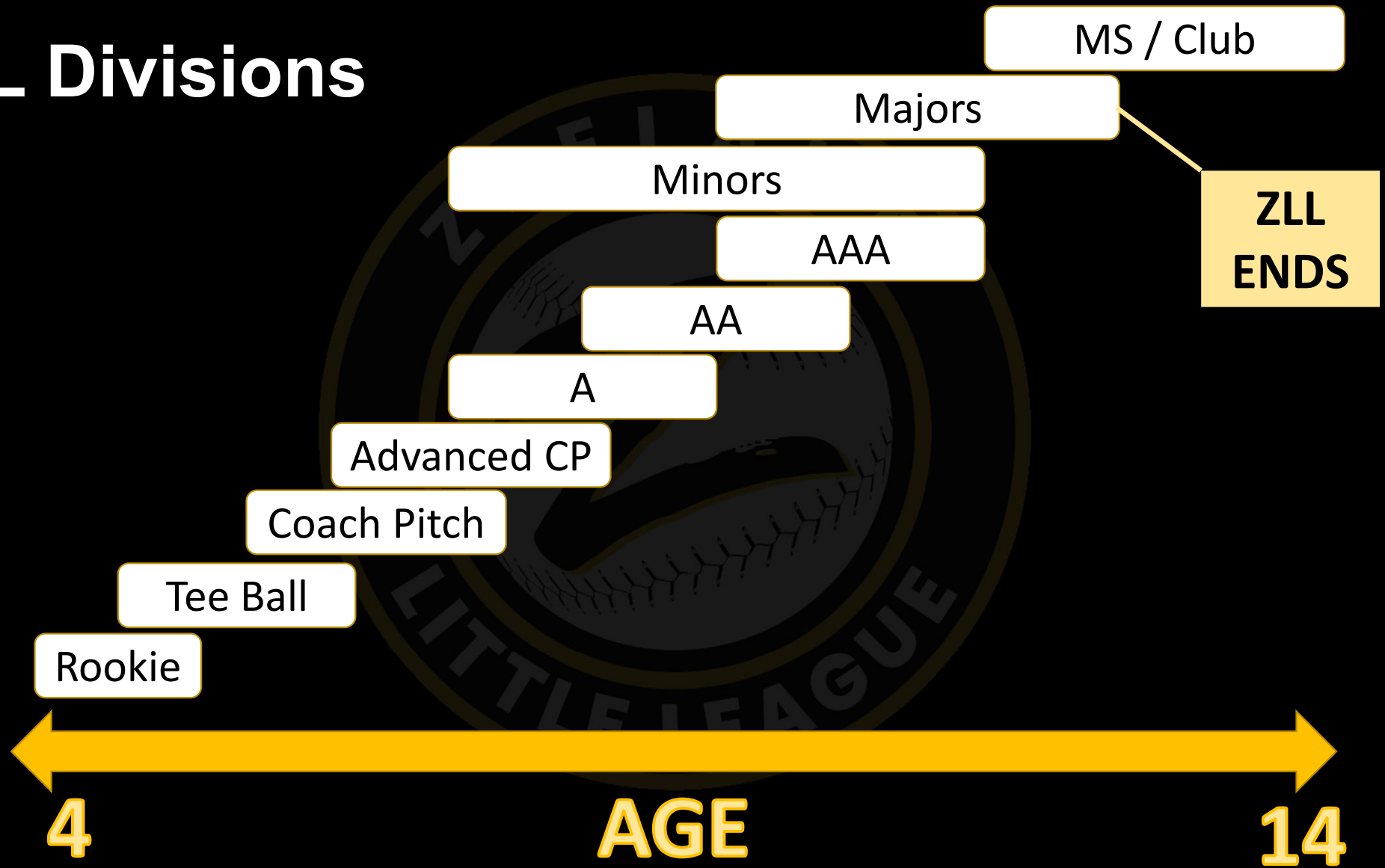
- Baseball = How Old on September 1 of year
- Softball = How Old on January 1 of year

## AGE CHARTS

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AGE
2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2018	2018	2018	2018	4
2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2017	2017	2017	2017	5
2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2016	2016	2016	2016	6
2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2015	2015	2015	2015	7
2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2014	2014	2014	2014	8
2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2013	2013	2013	2013	9
2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2012	2012	2012	2012	10
2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011	2011	2011	2011	11
2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2010	2010	2010	2010	12
2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2009	2009	2009	2009	13
2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2008	2008	2008	2008	14
2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2007	2007	2007	2007	15
2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2006	2006	2006	2006	16



# ZLL Divisions



# Rookie Ball

- One 1-hour session per week
- 4 weeks
- Not traditional “games”
- Players go through drills and mini-games to learn basics
- Builds foundation
- Associate baseball/softball = FUN



# ZLL Softball

Division	# Teams	Home Field	Practices	Regular Season Games	Postseason Games
Tee Ball	6	New Groningen	8	6	0
Coach Pitch	8	Drenthe	8	8	0
Minors	5	Huizenga	10	10	2-3
Majors	4	Huizenga	9	12	2



# Softball Teams



# ZLL Baseball

Division	# Teams	Home Field	Practices	Regular Season Games	Postseason Games
Tee Ball	10	Woodbridge	8	6	0
Coach Pitch	14	Main Ave, Lincoln, Lawrence	8	8	0
Advanced CP	12	Adams, Quincy	8	8	0
A	8	Roosevelt	10	10	0
AA	7	Kaat	9	10	2-3
AAA	8	Kaat	9	10	2-3
Majors	8	Kaat	9	12	2-3
Middle School	5	ZC / Legends	6*	12	???



# Equipment – ZLL Provides

- Baseball
  - Hat and ZLL Jersey
  - Catcher's gear, glove, batting helmets
  - Practice and game balls
  - USA Bats
- Softball
  - ZLL Jersey and Softball socks/hats
  - Catcher's gear, glove, and batting helmets
  - Practice and game balls
  - USA Bats
  - Fielder Mask



# Equipment

Players need:

- Pants
  - Softball – Black
  - Baseball – Grey
- Belt
- Socks (baseball only)
- Glove
- Cleats (Rubber)
- Ball bag
- Athletic cup
- Water/Drink
- Anything else you want for your child!



# Equipment Events

- Dick's Sporting Goods
  - Spring Shop Event 20% Off
  - Date February 23-25
  - In-store only
    - If you can't find it at the store, order online through store kiosk



# ZLL Coaches

- Coaches may ask parents to help at practices
- If you did NOT sign up to coach
  - Not allowed in dugouts during games
  - Not allowed on field during games
- If you want to do these things, please sign up

# ZLL Coaches

- Our coaches will...
  - Make kids love the game
- Our coaches will not...
  - Make your kid the next Pro Superstar
- ZLL Coaches Guide
  - Includes video from Coaches Clinic
  - Practice plans/templates
  - Organizational tools for games
  - Guidelines to keep you comfortable





# Team Formation Practice

- For all players EXCEPT Rookie, Tee Ball, Coach Pitch
- ~~TRYOUT~~
- Practice = throwing, fielding, hitting, pitching
- Coaches and Board Members evaluate skill
- Data Driven Team Formation
- Goal = Evenly skilled teams

**EVERY PLAYER IS PUT ON A TEAM**

# Team Formation Practice

- At SportsQuest (3325 100<sup>th</sup> Ave)
- NO cleats, food, drink in field/cage
- Wear baseball/softball attire
- Bring all your gear!
  - ZLL provides bats and helmets as well
- Parents may watch from around field
- Please do not enter area at back cages
- Parking is LIMITED



<b>Division</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Check-In Time</b>	<b>Practice Start Time</b>	<b>Practice End Time</b>
A – Baseball	March 2	8:30 AM	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
AA – Baseball	March 2	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
AAA – Baseball	March 2	1:00 PM	1:30 PM	3:00 PM
Majors Baseball	March 2	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
Minors Softball	March 9	8:00 AM	8:30 AM	10:00 AM
Majors Softball	March 9	9:30 AM	10:00 AM	11:30 AM
Middle School Baseball	March 9	11:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM

# Team Formation Practice

WE NEED YOU!



**SIGN UP HERE**

## **Team Selections (March 11-24)**

- Coach Pitch and Tee Ball – ZLL Board
  - Use parent rating, prior year rating, and school
- A-Baseball, Minors/Majors Softball – ZLL Board
  - TFP, prior year data, coach input
- AA, AAA, Majors – Coaches Draft
  - TFP, prior year data, system to balance teams
- Middle School – Combination of ZLL and Coaches
  - TFP, common school

**MARCH 25 = Know Your Team**

# Practices

- About ½ teams' practices before games start
  - 1-2 per week
- Minors, Majors, MS start March 25
- Coach Pitch and Tee Ball start April 8
- Coaches may add additional practices where available



# Games

- 1-3 “Events” per week
- MS – 4/15
- Majors – 4/20
- Minors – 4/22
- Tee/CP – 4/27



# Games – Equal Playing Time

- All players are in the lineup and hit in every game
- The lineup should be different each game such that players are in a different spots in the lineup throughout the season
  - Coach Pitch and Tee Ball teams change their lineup each inning
- Each player must play a minimum of one inning in an infield position each game
- Each player must play a minimum of one inning in an outfield position each game
- All players should be on the bench for an inning before any player is on the bench for a second inning



# Games – Equal Playing Time

- Pitching time  $\neq$  Playing Time and will not be equal
- Pitcher dictates pace and quality of game
- Coaches may, and are encouraged to, give more pitching opportunities to players that show more consistency in throwing strikes
- If a pitcher is struggling to throw strikes, coaches may replace the pitcher at their own discretion.
  - We recommend coaches make a change at pitcher after 4 walks in an inning especially for an inexperienced pitcher
- Pitchers that perform better in games will pitch more often than pitchers who are less consistent.

# Rules

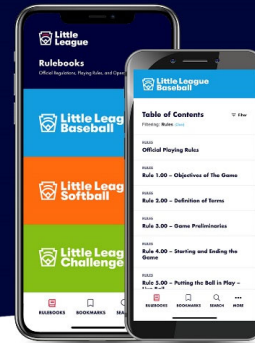
- Little League Rulebook
- Each Division/League has “House Rules”
  - House rules are designed to develop fundamental skills at appropriate levels
- Rules for each division are on website in full

## RULEBOOK APP

IS NOW **FREE**

INCLUDES 2023  
SEASON UPDATES

FREE DOWNLOAD ON



# ZLL Player Expectations

- Come to Team Formation Practice
- Attend Practices
- Attend Games
- Bring a positive attitude and willingness to listen

**The best ability is availability**

# Kaat Games & Gentex Games

- Minors – Majors
- Players vote for teammates to represent team
- Voted players play exhibition game with other teams
- Baseball – June 1
- Softball – June 8



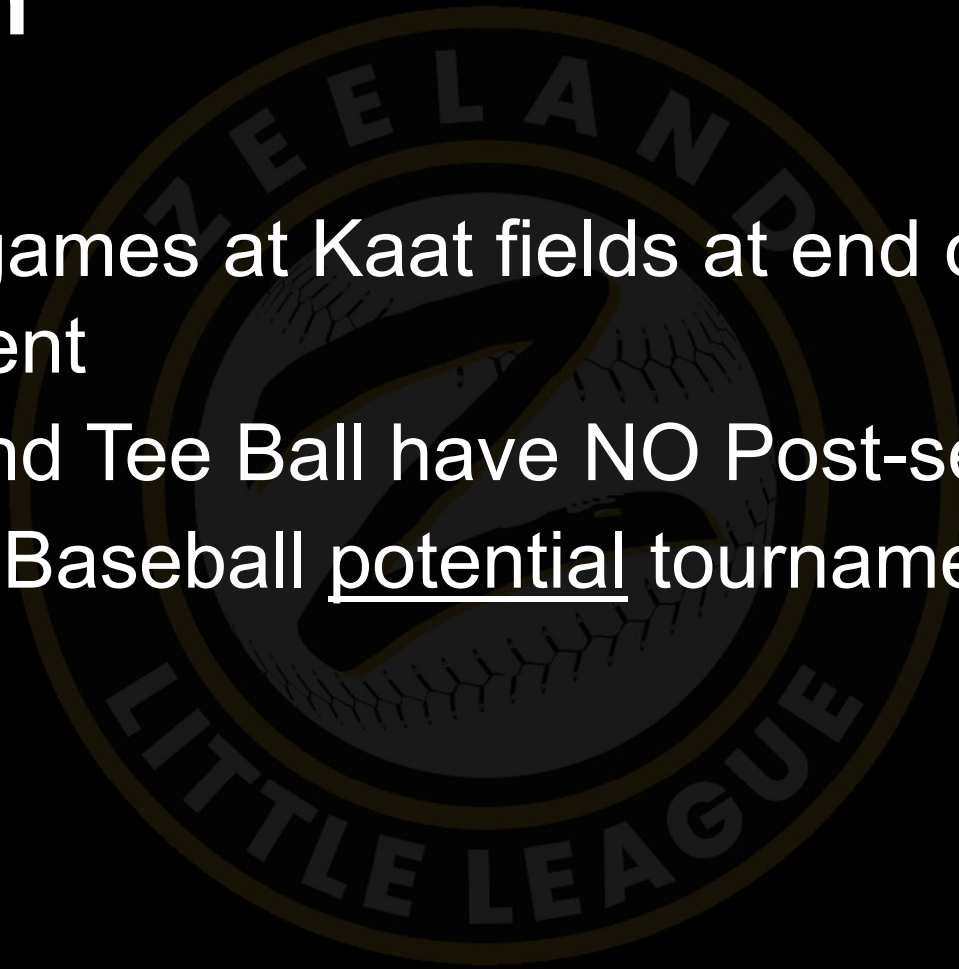
# Post-Season Tournaments

- Baseball: AA, AAA, Majors
- Softball: Minors and Majors
- Tournament the week of June 17
- No longer playing in D9



# Post-Season

- A Baseball
  - Play 1 or 2 games at Kaat fields at end of season
  - No tournament
- Coach Pitch and Tee Ball have NO Post-season
- Middle School Baseball potential tournament in early June



# “All-Star”

- Little League International Tournament Teams
  - 12U can play in LLWS, 11U and 10U end at State Championship
- ZLL enters one team into the tournament at each level possible
- More demanding schedule, more competitive
- \$79 if selected
  - Covers uniform, equipment charter fees, umpires



# “All-Star”

- Interested? – Player Commitment Form
  - Proof of residency/school
  - Regular season game attendance (60%)
  - Attend try-out May 15
  - Expectations of attendance for team
  - Understand time commitment
  - Understand mandatory play rules
  - Parent Responsibilities
- Online signup by May 12





# **“All-Star” Selection Process**

- All Star Manager is selected May 1
  - Must be a registered coach during season
- Try-Out on May 15
- Combination of All-Star Coach, ZLL Board, and regular season coaches will vote to select the team
- Assistant coaches are named after team selection
- Total rosters will be 12-15 players
- All decisions will be communicated and confirmed along the way between parents and ZLL Board

# Umpires

- Have the right expectation!
- Zero tolerance on umpire abuse
- Most of our umpires are 18 and younger
- No Show versus No One Signed Up
- Umpires are paid
- Please Help!
  - Training provided – April 13



# Parent Discussions

- Calm, cool, respectful conversation with coach
  - 24 Hour Rule
- Reach out to me
- The Ride Home





# We Need You!

- Team Formation Practice
- Umpire
- Coach
- Board



# Fundraising

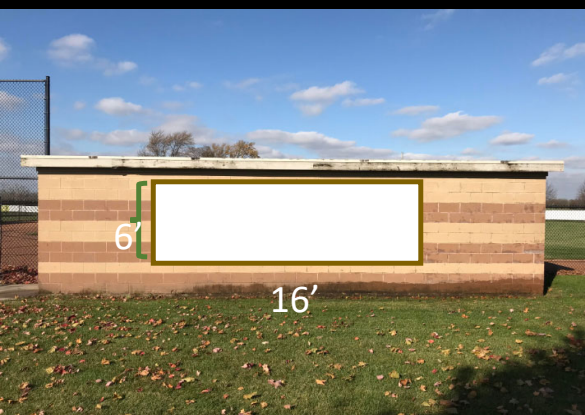
## UNIFORM SPONSOR

Varies by Division



## Outfield Signs

\$1,500 for 3 year guarantee



## Dugout Signs

\$3,000

3 year guarantee

# Website

Brandon L

[Home](#)

[Registration](#)

[Little League](#) ▾

[Coaches](#) ▾

[Officials](#) ▾

[Game Schedules](#)

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[Calendar](#)

[Downloads](#)

[Locations](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[About Us](#) ▾



**Zeeland Recreation Sports**  
Check Back for Important Updates!

**WEDNESDAY 2/21**

6:00 PM

Bison vs 6

Request

**MONDAY 2/19**

6:00 PM

5 vs 2

Request

**Keep the ride home positive**

**Thank You!**

**Questions?**

**E-Mail: [ZLLPresident@gmail.com](mailto:ZLLPresident@gmail.com)**