



Majors and Minors Try-Outs

The following FAQ's address questions we commonly receive about our Try-Out event. Please review these FAQ's and contact us via e-mail at info@dml.org if you have any questions. Note: Some of these questions refer to "League Age", which is the age of your player on April 30 of the upcoming season. See the last FAQ for more on League Age.

Question 1: What are Try-Outs?

Answer: "Try-outs" is an event that the League holds in which a player's current baseball skills are evaluated and assessed by Little League division managers.

Question 2: Who has to try-out?

Answer: All players who are League age 9 through 12, except for those players who played Majors in the previous spring season.

Question 3: Where are the try-outs?

Answer: Try-outs are held at Ashley Falls field.

Question 4: What happens at the try-out?

Answer: Players will be rated on the following skills:

- (1) Fielding Fly balls (about 3)
- (2) Fielding Ground balls (about 3),
- (3) Throwing (from outfield and infield positions),
- (4) Batting (about 3 pitches each)
- (5) Running (home to second base)

Question 5: How long does the try-out last?

Answer: It will vary depending on the number of players, but somewhere between 90 minutes and 2 hours. Please see the schedule on our website.

Question 6: What do I need to bring?

Answer: A glove, cap and cleats. Your player may also bring his own batting helmet. Players should not bring their own baseball bats. For safety reasons, **NO PLAYER BATS ARE ALLOWED AT THE TRY-OUT!** Please make sure all of your player's gear has a name and phone number on it and that it is kept together, preferably in a player bag. Also, please bring water and food, as needed.

Question 7: If my player has a bad try-out, will he get "cut" or dropped?

Answer: No. All registered players that attend a try-out will be drafted onto a Majors or Minors team.

Question 8: If all players get assigned to teams, then why does my player need to try-out?

Answer: So that your player can be drafted into a division that is appropriate for his skill and so that teams can be constructed of equal talent. Little League International requires Leagues to evaluate and assess a player's skills. The try-out is the most effective way to do this.

Question 9: **Why are there two different try-outs?**
Answer: Because 9 year old players are not eligible for Majors, and because of the age breaks within our four divisions. Majors Managers will only attend the first session and Double-A Managers need to only attend the second.

Question 10: **Which try-out should I attend?**
Answer: League Age 9 year olds: Must attend the Minors try-out.
League Age 10 year olds: Must attend either the Majors try-out or the Minors try-out.
League Age 11 and 12 year olds: Must attend the Majors try-out to be included in the Majors or Minors Draft.

Question 11: **If it rains before the try-out, will the event still be held?**
Answer: Yes, but only if the fields are safe. If a rainout is called, it will be posted on the website along with the reschedule information. Please check our website if you are unsure on the day of the try-out.

Question 12: **What happens if my player misses the try-out?**
Answer: All players **MUST** attend a try-out according to their league age schedule (see Question 10 above). Try-outs are required to ensure that all managers have an equal opportunity to evaluate all eligible players prior to the draft. When a player misses the try-out, this is not possible.

Players who do not try out may be declared ineligible. Ineligible players will not be drafted onto a team and may be replaced in the draft by a player who is on the waitlist. Accordingly, it is critical that your player attend either one of the scheduled try-out or make-up sessions for their age group.

Question 13: **Is there a make up date?**
Answer: Yes. The make-up try-out is usually during a weekday afternoon in the week following the try-out. Please see our website for specific dates.

Question 14: **My player is League Age 8. Can he/she try-out?**
Answer: No. League age 8 year olds will automatically be assigned to the Single-A division.

Question 15: **My player is League Age 9. Can he/she try out for Majors?**
Answer: No. League age 9 year olds are NOT eligible for Majors.

Question 16: **My player is League Age 10. Can he/she try out for Majors?**
Answer: Yes. Please send an e-mail to playeragent@dml.org to let the league know that you are planning on attending the Majors try-out. League Age 9, 11 and 12 year olds do not need to e-mail the player agent.

Question 17: **My player is League Age 10. Can he/she try out for Minors?**
Answer: Yes.

Question 17A: **My player is League Age 10. Which try-out (Major or Minors) should he/she attend?**
Answer: League age 10 year olds may attend either the Majors or the Minors try-out. To be considered for the Majors division, they must attend the Majors draft. After the try-out, if they are drafted onto a Majors team they must play for the Majors team. If they are not drafted onto a Majors team, they will be drafted onto a Minors team.

Question 17B: **My player is League Age 10. Is one try-out harder than the other?**
Answer: Both try-outs are the same, but the Majors try-out will include all 11 and 12 year olds. Most of these players have one or two more additional years of experience than most 10 year olds.

- Question 17C: **My player is League Age 10. Should he/she attend both try-outs?**
Answer: No. Your 10 year old player should only attend one try-out. However, as explained in 17A, if your child wants to be considered for the Majors Division, then he/she must attend the Majors try-out. If your League Age 10 year old does not want to be considered for the Majors Division, then he/she must attend the Minors try-out.
- Question 18: **My League Age 10 year old will attend the Minors try-out. Can he/she participate in Majors later this year?**
Answer: No. To participate in Majors, players **MUST** attend the Majors try-out.
- Question 19: **My player is League Age 11. Can he attend the Minors try out?**
Answer: No. League Age 11 year olds must attend the Majors try-out. Only about half of the players that are Little League 11 play in Majors. The try-out is for the Majors Managers and the Triple-A Managers. The Triple-A Managers use the evaluations done by the Majors Managers for their draft. Your player needs to attend the Majors draft to be included in the pool of players available for the Triple-A Managers.
- If you have questions about where your child will likely play or do not wish to have your child be included in the pool for Majors players please email the Player Agent at playeragent@dml.net including in your email your specific request. The player agent will contact you **AFTER** the tryout is completed to discuss your options.
- Question 20: **My player was on a Majors team last year. Does he need to attend the try-out?**
Answer: No. Returning "titled" players are the only League Age 11-12 year olds who are not required to try-out. Those players have already been selected to a Majors team.
- Question 21: **My player was on a Minors team last year. Does he need to attend the try-out?**
Answer: Yes.
- Question 22: **My player is League Age 12. Does he have to try-out?**
Answer: Yes, unless he/she was on a Majors team in the League last spring.
- Question 23: **I'm not sure what "League Age" my player is. How can I tell?**
Answer: Your player's "League Age" is their age on April 30th of the upcoming season.

The Little League Age calculator is available at the following link:
http://www.littleleague.org/leagueofficers/Determine_League_Age.htm