



## **Welcome to the 2021 Spring Season for Sammamish Little League**

Hello!

This is the first edition of the Sammamish Little League *News & Notes* newsletter for the 2021 season. It has been an unprecedented year and I know we are all looking for a return to a more normal life. Part of this will be returning our children to the playing fields! Please read more below on our plans to make this happen. This newsletter is one of our primary ways for communicating directly with the members and families of Sammamish Little League throughout the year, one to two times per month. In each newsletter you will find information about current events, key dates to be aware of, training opportunities, and volunteer opportunities - and we will periodically highlight one or more Sammamish Little League programs.

You're receiving this newsletter because you have had a player registered for a Sammamish Little League program - or you were registered as a volunteer last season. If you would like to

take yourself off the newsletter email list because these communications are no longer relevant to you, feel free to unsubscribe by clicking the link at the bottom of this email.

If you have any questions about the newsletter, or if you have an idea for content you would like to see in a future newsletter, email the editor at [president@sammamishlittleleague.org](mailto:president@sammamishlittleleague.org) and we'll take your feedback into consideration.

Thanks, and we hope you have a great holiday season! See you in 2021!

Sammamish Little League

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## **Can We Play? Return to Play Update**

As you may have heard Governor Inslee signed a modified Phase 2 which allows for the return of youth sports subject to COVID levels and safety protocols. The Sammamish Little League will follow the guidelines laid out by the state and can be found [here](#). We have also put together a detailed *Return to Play* which you should review and can be found [here](#).

The volunteers for the Sammamish Little League are working hard in preparation for a season in the Spring of 2021. We will have a plan that meets the state requirements, and we will be ready to play. Whether or not we will be able to play will be determined by the COVID levels and field availability in the Spring. In the State of Washington baseball and softball are considered moderate risk sports. For games to be played COVID levels cannot exceed 75 individuals per 100,000 people. You can track current COVID levels for the state and King County at <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/what-you-need-know/covid-19-risk-assessment-dashboard>.

A critical part of our planning for the upcoming season is planning for how many teams and players want to play in the Spring. For this reason we are excited to have opened registration for the 2021 season.

## Registration

**Registration open for 2021 – REGISTER NOW AND PAY LATER. EARLY BIRD \$25 DISCOUNT is available through 12/31/2020**

Since there is some uncertainty on our ability to play this Spring we are opening registration without payment or commitment. Register for the 2021 season at our website ([www.sammamishlittleleague.org](http://www.sammamishlittleleague.org)) and you will not be asked for payment. If we do proceed with a season we will simply send you an invoice via email. If you're planning on having your child play baseball or softball this spring, there's no reason NOT to register now as there is no financial commitment at this point. If you register by December 31<sup>st</sup> and we are going to have a season your discount will be applied to your invoice

What level should you register your child to play? Players are assigned to a level of play based on their league-age as defined by Little League, Inc. In each of the last two years, Little League, Inc. made changes to the League Age rules, so to avoid confusion, please refer to the Little League age guidelines here: [Baseball](#) | [Softball](#).

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## Key Dates & Upcoming Events

Spring is fast approaching, and planning for the 2021 season is in full swing. Many of the new season key dates have already been set, so now's a good time to mark your calendar. Here are a few of your favorites:

- December 31: Early bird registration ends
- January 30: Majors, Coast & AAA **Baseball & Softball** (ages 9-12) skills evaluation
- March 2: Coaches Safety Meeting (mandatory for all SLL coaches)
- March 6: Meet the Coach Day & Uniform pickup at Dick's for Majors Baseball & Softball
- March 8: First day of practice for AAA, Coast, & Majors Baseball & Softball

- March 20: Meet the Coach Day & Uniform pickup at Dick's for Minors Baseball & Softball
  - March 22: First day of practice for Minors Baseball & Softball
  - March 28: SLL field & facilities work day
  - April 3: SLL Opening Day at Beaver Lake Park!
  - June 11: SLL Championship Saturday!
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## **2021 SLL Junior Umpire Program – SLL is looking for Junior Umpires for the upcoming season!**

Will you be a teenager (13-19) in the spring of 2021? Are you a former Little Leaguer, knowledgeable about baseball and/or softball and looking to earn some cash? If so, then the Sammamish Little League Junior Umpire Program might be for you! We are looking for teens who know baseball/softball and who want to umpire games for 9-12 year olds on weeknights after school and on weekends during the day. We will train you and provide the equipment you need. We pay \$20 to \$30 a game, depending on level of play and what position you umpire. You need to commit to attend the training and have the time to work at least one game a week. If interested, please contact Shawn Winchester at [shawnwinchester@comcast.net](mailto:shawnwinchester@comcast.net).

## **2021 SLL Adult Umpire Program – SLL is also in strong need Adult Umpire Volunteers for the upcoming season!**

Are you looking for a way to help out SLL and interested in learning about umpiring? Looking for a fun father/mother/son/daughter activity? We are looking for adult volunteers to be umpires for SLL games. We provide the training and equipment. Schedules are flexible and you can work as few or as many games as is convenient. If interested, please contact Shawn Winchester at [shawnwinchester@comcast.net](mailto:shawnwinchester@comcast.net).

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## **Training & Skill Development Opportunities**

Don't miss out on any of the training and skills development opportunities offered by SLL and our trusted partners! Please check out our recently updated offerings across both baseball and softball on our website [HERE](#).

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## **Volunteers & Call for Volunteer Matching**

Sammamish Little League is always looking for new volunteers to join the board. We have several positions open at the current moment for this upcoming season including: Safety Officer, Special Events Leads, Minors Division Lead, and many others. This is a great way to be involved in our community. If interested, please contact the [SLL President](#).

Also, as we approach year end, SLL would like to send one last reminder to get your volunteer hours from the spring and summer 2020 seasons logged and matched if your company matches those. We have been very fortunate over the years to have companies like Microsoft and Boeing become a substantial donor to SLL as a direct result of the hours you volunteered. Do not let those funds lapse if you have time that can still be matched. Remember, all hours you spent helping the league count - everything from coaching to score keeping to being the dugout parent.

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## **Interest in Sponsoring SLL?**

Know someone with a business that would be interested in a sponsoring Sammamish Little League? Own a small business and want more exposure to our members? Sammamish Little League is always looking for new sponsors. We are happy to speak with anyone interested. There is also lots of information on our sponsorship form [HERE](#). For further questions, please reach out to our sponsorship lead - [Kirsten Pickering](#).