



## **2010 International Congress Questions and Answers**

### **Q: What is the International Congress?**

**A:** Little League has pioneered a unique forum of field leaders to give voice and authoritative sanction to representation. This forum is the Little League International Congress, first launched in 1956. The purpose of the International Congress is to chart the course of the world's largest organized youth baseball and softball program. More than a thousand Little League volunteers from around the globe attend the Little League International Congress, held once every three years.

Nearly 450 of those attending are volunteer District Administrators, or delegates, who serve as liaisons between the local leagues and Little League International. District Administrators are elected by their constituent leagues to provide support, and to represent their interests as delegates to the International Congress. The primary purpose of the Congress is to amend rules and regulations.

The delegates, and their assistant district administrators, meet in round table discussions, making any necessary changes in the proposed amendments, then vote on the changes on the final day of the Congress. A two-thirds vote is required for passage. Those amendments receiving the necessary vote are then presented to the International Board of Directors for final approval.

### **Q: What are the dates of the Congress?**

The Congress will begin on Friday, March 12, 2010 and conclude on Monday, March 15, 2010. The first official Congress event will be the Opening Ceremonies scheduled for the evening of March 12. The Congress is set to conclude with a banquet event the evening of March 15.

### **Q: Who is recognized as a Delegate?**

**A:** The District Administrator, or his/her *AUTHORIZED* alternate if the District Administrator cannot attend, is recognized as the Delegate for his/her respective district. Only one individual is recognized as the delegate from each district.

**Q: If I can't go, can I send an alternate to represent the District?**

**A:** You can designate an alternate, FROM YOUR DISTRICT, as your District's Delegate, upon approval by Little League International. The District Administrator must forward a written request to Little League asking to have the respective individual recognized as the designated alternate. Once approved as an alternate, the individual will receive the same benefits to attend the International Congress, as the District Administrator would have received. However, the alternate delegate is not authorized to vote with regards to election of the Field Director to the International Board of Directors.

**Q: Can guests and other members of my District Staff attend the Congress?**

**A:** Definitely. However, a subsidy for Congress expenses including travel, meals, hotel and incidentals is not provided to guests or District Staff Members attending the Congress. All guests are permitted to attend the various activities, meetings and training sessions. Guests may attend the meal functions provided the respective tickets have been purchased.

**Q: How is the Congress financed?**

**A:** The Little League International Congress is funded through the District Administrator Escrow fund. Three dollars from each Little League charter fee is deposited into this fund. The fund accumulates over the 3-year period between Congresses and then the money in the fund is distributed to Delegates to pay for travel, hotel and per diem expenses. As the District Administrator Escrow Fund does not cover all Delegates expenses related to the Delegates attending the Congress, Little League must use general operating revenues in a Congress year to fund these expenses. Little League subsidizes transportation to and from the Congress for all delegates, as well as half of each delegate's room rate, for the nights of March 12- March 15, and a per diem.

**Q: How do I get there?**

**A:** Call the AAA of South Williamsport toll-free number, 1-800-377-4222 or 570-323-8431, and make your reservations by phone Monday, 8:30 a.m.-8 p.m. and Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. (Eastern Time.) Your ticket will be issued by AAA, and paid for by Little League International. AAA will coordinate airline transportation from the closest major airport to the respective delegate. You may purchase additional tickets for guests through AAA but will need to provide AAA a credit card for the cost of the additional tickets. Little League will not reimburse baggage fees assessed by the airlines.

Delegates flying to the Congress, but not booking through AAA of South Williamsport must submit an airline ticket receipt for reimbursement. The amount of reimbursement will not exceed the equivalent of the most economical airfare, from the closest major airport, available as of January 15, 2010. Delegates driving to the Congress will be reimbursed .55 cents per mile with a maximum amount not to exceed the equivalent of the most economical airfare, from the closest major airport, as of January 15, 2010.

Delegates will be reimbursed for travel expenses to an airport if the distance to the airport is in excess of 100 miles one way. Mileage will be reimbursed at .55 cents per mile for each mile traveled over 100 miles each way. Delegates will be reimbursed for the expense of long-term parking at designated airports. Documentation supporting miles traveled and receipts for parking will need to be submitted to Little League for reimbursement. Little League will not reimburse any hotel related charges prior to March 12 or after March 15.

**Q: When is the deadline for registering for the Congress?**

**A:** Your Congress Registration Form must be received at International Headquarters, no later than January 15, 2010. In addition, the rooms blocked for Congress attendees will be released by the hotels on January 15, 2010.

**Q: When will I receive the expense reimbursement check?**

**A:** You must register and have booked your hotel room by January 15, 2010 to have your check mailed to you prior to the Congress. The Delegate will receive the expense reimbursement check from Little League Headquarters in February 2010. In addition to the reimbursement check, each Delegate receives a complimentary ticket to the District Administrator Recognition event and the closing Chairman's Banquet.

**Q: Where do I stay in Lexington?**

**A:** The International Congress will be utilizing three hotels to accommodate delegates, attendees and guests. Little League International has coordinated a block of rooms at each hotel with the rooms being available on a first-come, first-served basis. The room rate, reservation information, contact information, and web site for each of the Congress hotels are listed below.

**Crowne Plaza Hotel (The Campbell House)**

Room rate: \$109 (single), \$119 (double)  
Reservation code: LLB  
Phone number: 1-859-255-4281  
Web site: [www.crowneplaza.com/campbellhouse](http://www.crowneplaza.com/campbellhouse)

**Hyatt Regency**

Room rate: \$139 (single/double)  
Reservation code: G-LITT or Little League International  
Web site: [www.lexington.hyatt.com](http://www.lexington.hyatt.com)

**Lexington Downtown Hotel & Conference Center (Hilton)**

Room rate: \$129 (single/double)  
Reservation code: LLBICO  
Phone number: 1-859-231-9000 or 1-877-539-1648  
Web site: [www.lexingtondowntownhotel.com](http://www.lexingtondowntownhotel.com)

The hotels are centrally located in downtown Lexington and provide easy access to/from the airport and the Lexington Center. Congress room reservations are now being accepted at each of the hotels.

**Q: Where will the Congress meetings and functions take place?**

**A:** The Lexington Center is where all the Congress meetings and functions will take place. The Lexington Center is connected to the Hyatt Regency and located across the street from the Lexington Downtown Hotel and Conference Center. The Crowne Plaza Hotel is located about one mile from the Lexington Center. Visit [www.lexingtoncenter.com](http://www.lexingtoncenter.com) for details and information about the Lexington Center.

**Q: How is the agenda determined?**

**A:** A questionnaire was sent to all District Administrators with potential Round Table agenda topics. Each District Administrator was to have consulted with his/her leagues, and determine items they wanted to be considered. District Administrators can submit addition items to be considered for the agenda. The Congress Steering Committee tabulates the subjects and then prepares the agenda. The agenda is forwarded to the District Administrators, prior to the Congress, so as to allow the District Administrator the opportunity to present the agenda to the Little Leagues in their district, giving every league a democratic voice in the Little League program.

**Q: Who can participate in the Round Table discussions?**

Delegates to the Congress are automatically assigned to a round table. Members of a District Administrators staff, who are listed on the DA profile sheets at Little League International, may be assigned to and participate in Round table discussions. However, only Delegates are eligible to vote on agenda items at the Congress.

**Q: How is the voting conducted?**

**A:** The Congress Delegates vote on the various agenda topics after round table deliberations. The Delegates are only permitted to vote on topics involving their District. For example, if a specific agenda topic pertains to Senior League softball, than only those Delegates that have Senior League softball in their district can vote on the respective topic. The final voting results are referred to the International Board of Directors for approval and date of implementation.

**Q: What about elections of new members to the International Board of Directors?**

**A:** Delegates are elected to the Board of Directors from the respective regions in which current Field Directors are rotating off the Little League International Board of Directors. For the 2010 Congress the regions voting to elect representatives to the Board of Directors are the Central Region and Southwestern Region. The individuals nominated to the Board serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors.

**Q: What else happens at the Congress?**

**A:** Educational opportunities are available for attendees, and there are exhibits of Sponsor related materials, of licensed equipment and of official Little League merchandise. There are various optional “tours” to sample the characteristics of the area, and the Celebrity Banquet is always a highlight.