



# APPEARANCE OF LITTLE LEAGUERS®

## Guidelines for showing Little League® players, volunteers, and facilities in photo and video

Any use of the Little League® trademarks (including the words "Little League®," "Little Leaguer®," "Little League Baseball®," "Little League Softball®," and other variations, logos, marks, and phrases) must be approved in writing by Little League International.

Children identified as Little Leaguers, either verbally or by inference, **MUST NOT** appear in any creative, non-news story form of media, television, print, social, or otherwise, in videos (other than home videos for personal use, and not to be sold), in motion pictures, or in any advertisement whatsoever, without the expressed written consent of Little League International. The broadcasting or live-streaming of any local Little League program's regular or tournament season games must adhere to the policies outlined in the current year's rulebook. ([LittleLeague.org/RulebookApp](http://LittleLeague.org/RulebookApp))

Credentialed news agencies may record or photograph Little League activities for the sole purpose of creating and distributing news stories pertaining to the local league. No news agency may sell any photos or videos without written consent of Little League International.

Here are specific examples of how various Little League players, volunteers, and facilities should appear in images or videos in all cases in which approval has been given, which may not be released or published until final written approval is provided by Little League International. These guidelines are also explained in the Little League Official Regulations, Playing Rules, and Operating Policies. Local leagues may use this as a resource for their league promotional materials, website, and social media efforts. Please note that only programs officially affiliated with Little League Baseball and Softball are permitted to use the phrase "Little League" and its official marks to promote their league's activities. No local league may grant permission to any third party to use Little League or any of its official marks without written consent from Little League International. Local leagues are encouraged to review the Operating Policies section of the current year's rulebook for complete information.

**For any additional requirements not listed below and permission prior to any creative work taking place, please contact Little League's Media Relations Department at [Media@LittleLeague.org](mailto:Media@LittleLeague.org).**

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## Guidelines for Appearance of Little Leaguers®

*See Page 5 for information on the various Little League divisions*

- **EVERY PLAYER AND UMPIRE** depicted during **ANY** game **MUST** be wearing a Little League Shoulder Patch on the upper left sleeve of the uniform blouse, or left breast if sleeveless.
- No games or practice should be held when weather or field conditions are poor, especially when lighting is inadequate.
- Play area should be inspected frequently for holes, damage, glass, and other foreign objects.
- Dugouts and bat racks must be positioned behind screens.
- Only players, managers, coaches, and umpires are permitted on the playing field during play and practice sessions.
- A regular player must be responsible for keeping bats and loose equipment off the field of play.
- Procedure should be established for retrieving foul balls batted out of the playing area.
- During practice sessions and games, all players should be alert and watching the batter on each pitch.
- During warm-up drills, players should be spaced so that nobody is endangered by errant balls.
- Equipment should be inspected regularly. Make sure it fits properly.
- Pitching machines, if used, must be in good working order (including extension cords, outlets, etc.) and must be operated by adult managers and coaches only.
- Batters and base runners must wear protective National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE)-approved helmets during practice, as well as during games.

- Catchers must wear a catcher’s helmet (with face mask and dangling throat protector; **skull caps not permitted**), chest protector (long-model or short-model), and shin guards. Male catchers must wear a protective supporter and cup at all times. Except when the runner is returning to a base, head first slides are not permitted (Major division and below).
- During sliding practice, bases should not be tied or strapped down.
- At no time should “horse play” be permitted on the playing field.
- Players who wear glasses should be encouraged to use “Safety Glasses.”
- Players must not wear watches, rings, pins, jewelry, or other metallic items, unless permitted by Rule 1.11 (j).
- Batting/catcher’s helmets must not be painted unless applied or approved by the manufacturer.
- Regulations prohibit on-deck batters in Major division and below. This means no player should handle a bat, even while in an enclosure, until it is his/her time at bat.
- Shoes with metal spikes must **NOT** be worn by any player (Major division or below) nor by any adult volunteer.
- **EQUIPMENT DEPICTED MUST MEET LITTLE LEAGUE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE DIVISION.**

## Catchers

All Divisions of Little League Baseball® and Little League Softball®: In all cases, any player depicted as a catcher, whether in a game or a practice, **MUST** be wearing a full catcher’s helmet that covers both ears, a catcher’s mask WITH a dangling throat protector (even if the mask includes a wire extension), a chest protector (short or long form), shin guards, and a catcher’s mitt. (Fielder’s mitt acceptable in softball.)

**Note 1:** Both photos below show typical catcher’s equipment. Both the traditional style mask and helmet (Photo 1) and the “hockey” style (Photo 2) are acceptable, provided they are **NOCSAE**-approved.

**Note 2:** Players’ uniforms should include the proper wear of the Little League Shoulder Patch, which **MUST** be worn on the left sleeve of the uniform or left breast if sleeveless.

**Note 3:** The player’s name (first or last) must **NOT** appear on the uniform.

**Note 4:** Helmets must **NOT** include any words, letters, logos, etc., unless applied or approved by the manufacturer.

**EQUIPMENT DEPICTED MUST MEET LITTLE LEAGUE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE DIVISION.**

**Photo 1**



**Photo 2**



# Batters, Base Runners, and Base Coaches

**Batters:** In all cases, any player holding a bat at any time, whether in a game or a practice, MUST be wearing a batting helmet that covers BOTH ears.

**Base Runners:** In all cases, any player depicted as a base runner at any time, whether in a game or a practice, MUST be wearing a batting helmet that covers BOTH ears.

**Base Coaches:** In all cases, any player depicted as a base coach at any time, whether in a game or a practice, MUST be wearing a batting helmet that covers BOTH ears. Adult base coaches are not required to wear a helmet. In all divisions: if only one adult manager or coach is available, both base coaches must be players. An adult must be in the dugout at all times.

**Note 1:** Both photos below show typical batting helmets. A face mask or face shield is not required, but is acceptable.

**Note 2:** Helmets MUST be NOCSAE-approved (noted on helmet).

**Note 3:** Both players' uniforms include the proper wearing of the Little League Shoulder Patch, which MUST be worn on the left sleeve of the uniform or left breast if sleeveless.

**Note 4:** The player's name (first or last) must NOT appear on the uniform.

**Note 5:** Helmets must NOT include any words, letters, logos, etc., unless applied or approved by the manufacturer.

**EQUIPMENT DEPICTED MUST MEET LITTLE LEAGUE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE DIVISION.**



# UMPIRES

**Plate Umpire:** In all cases, the plate umpire should be depicted wearing gray slacks and, preferably, a light or navy blue shirt. The umpire may wear a protective mask with “dangling” throat protector. He/she must wear a chest protector (preferably inside the shirt), and must wear shin guards (preferably inside the slacks). The Little League Umpire Shoulder Patch must be affixed to the left sleeve. He/she should wear a navy blue “ball bag” attached by a black belt, and should wear black shoes – preferably shoes with reinforced toes (plate shoes). He/she should also have a plate brush and ball/strike/out indicator. He/she should wear a navy blue “combo” umpire’s cap or plate umpire’s cap.

**Base Umpires:** The base umpires’ dress is the same as the plate umpire’s, except that no protective equipment is used, plain black athletic shoes are preferred, and he/she should wear a navy blue cap.

## Plate Umpires



## Base Umpires



# Facilities

**Dugouts, Player Seating Areas:** In all cases, the dugout or player seating areas MUST be protected from the field of play by a screen or fence.

**On-Deck Batters – Little League® divisions and younger:** In all cases, there is NO on-deck batter in these divisions. This means that the next batter due to bat MUST NOT handle a bat until it is his/her turn to advance to the batter's box. There is no on-deck area anywhere.

**On-Deck Batters – Little League® Intermediate (50/70) Baseball/Junior League Softball Divisions and older:** In all cases, the on-deck batter position is permitted. However, it is preferred that the on-deck batter be behind a screen or fence while warming up. Also, no other players must be in close proximity to the on-deck batter, and the on-deck batter must be wearing a proper batting helmet.

There must be no loose equipment lying on the field in fair or foul territory in games or practices.



## Divisions of Play

### Little League Baseball

**Tee Ball:** 4- to 7-year-olds

**Minor League:** 5- to 12-year-olds

**Little League (sometimes known as "Major Division"):** 9- to 12-year-olds

**Little League Intermediate (50/70) Baseball:** 11- to 13-year-olds

**Junior League:** 12- to 14-year-olds

**Senior League:** 13- to 16-year olds

### Little League Softball

**Tee Ball:** 4- to 7-year-olds

**Minor League:** 5- to 12-year-olds

**Little League (sometimes known as "Major Division"):** 9- to 12-year-olds

**Junior League:** 12- to 14-year-olds;

**Senior League:** 13- to 16-year-olds

### Little League Challenger

**Little League Challenger Division:** 4- to 18-year-olds (up to 22 years old if still enrolled in school)

**Senior League Challenger Division:** 15-year-olds and above, no age limit. Players 15 to 18 years old may play in either division