

# LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL® EUROPE



## EUROPEAN SOFTBALL



## FEDERATION

### WHY LITTLE LEAGUE®?

Little League Softball® in Europe helps strengthen the self-esteem of its participants and promotes teamwork and sportsmanship in addition to developing on-field fundamentals and providing a competitive outlet for girls.

Founded in 1974, the program has more than 25,000 softball teams and 360,000 participants worldwide. Working to grow the game of softball at the grassroots, Little League® has collaborated with over 25 countries to create a foundation for success. Little League Softball includes divisions of play for girls ages 4 to 16, which culminates at three Softball World Series tournaments for international competition and friendship.

Little League in Europe is proud to offer a number of different initiatives to support local leagues including Little League University, education and training clinics for coaches, and opportunities for financial and equipment assistance. Aside from teaching the sport of softball, Little League brings communities together and offers a premier softball experience to families across Europe.

LEARN MORE AT  
[LittleLeague.org/SBEurope](http://LittleLeague.org/SBEurope)

# LITTLE LEAGUE® EUROPE

# SOFTBALL BENEFITS

## THE PROGRAM

**Softball World Series Tournaments** – Girls from around the world come not only to compete against one another, but create life-long friendships and lasting memories.

**Regional Tournaments** - The best clubs earn the opportunity to represent their country at a Region Tournament to determine who advances to a World Series and represents the Europe & Africa region. The 10- to 12- Division Regional offers teams housing and meals while they compete.

**Television Coverage** - ESPN, the international leader in sports programming, televises every Softball World Series Championship, as well as the semi-final games of the Little League and Senior League Softball World Series.

**Global Softball Promotion & Participation** – Little League is one of the only organizations to promote and charter youth softball worldwide. We have created partnerships with national federations, including the European Softball Federation, to assist with the education, instruction, and expansion of softball.

**Little League University** – A FREE, online portal offering instruction for coaches, managers, umpires, parents, and league officials. This newly released resource provides softball-specific videos, skills, and drills for Little League coaches and managers as well as tips and advice for parents. Umpires can receive basic training, video clips, and rule interpretations. League officials will benefit from helpful tips and guidance on how to maximize marketing, league operations, and resources to the fullest. Learn more at [LittleLeagueU.org](http://LittleLeagueU.org).

**Tee Ball Educational Program** – A printable booklet to help your league teach the fundamentals of softball to its youngest members while focusing on fun and fitness. This 10-week program guides your league through a Tee Ball season, hosting one practice and one game per week.

**Rule Alignment** – Throughout our age divisions, we coordinate rules and regulations to help build your players. In the Little League teenage divisions, our rules align with most International Softball Federation rules and allow your country to help develop your national team.

**Competition at All Age Divisions (4-16)** - A community-based youth softball organization that provides a place for every child at every age level to play and learn life lessons.



## THE PARTNERSHIPS

**European Softball Federation** – ESF and Little League proudly partnered to improve awareness of the game, increase educational opportunities, and enhance player experiences.

**Little League Softball Coach & Player Training and Education** – Coordinated with U.S. collegiate coaches to help educate and instruct coaches, managers, and players through classroom training tips, skills, drills, and on-field demonstration and application. Coaches and players receive instruction on all aspect of the game.

**Grow the Game Grants** – Offers assistance to chartered Little League programs working to start or further their clubs - education and training, equipment, marketing, facility upgrades, and more. Learn more at [LittleLeague.org/GrowtheGame](http://LittleLeague.org/GrowtheGame).

**Positive Coaching Alliance®** – Provides additional educational resources and material for coaches, managers, and parents to teach players life lessons through softball and to help players' have a positive, well-rounded experience.

## THE PRICING

**Tournament Travel** – Little League International provides travel to and from the different Little League Softball World Series tournaments for all international regional championship teams.

**Charter Fees** – Clubs can easily affiliate with Little League for only \$10 per team. For steps on how you can join, visit [LittleLeague.org/SBEurope](http://LittleLeague.org/SBEurope).



For more information about establishing a Little League Softball program, contact:

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