

## GIRLS SOFTBALL UMPIRING

Finding volunteers in the league community who are inclined to accept the responsibility of umpiring is not easily accomplished. Contrarily, there are adults in every community who will come forward to help if they are invited to do so and their status as volunteer workers with a volunteer program is accepted.

To assist in this area, Little League Baseball conducts clinics at the Little League Centers, and other selected sites, throughout the country. These clinics are generally held in the early spring and feature sessions on umpiring -- assisting those who have a desire to contribute to the softball program while lacking the knowledge to assume the responsibility of the umpire.

Little League maintains an Umpire Consultant throughout the year to answer questions of softball concern and also publishes manuals and other literature to assist in the training of qualified umpires.

### Little League Pledge

I TRUST IN GOD  
I LOVE MY COUNTRY  
AND WILL RESPECT ITS LAWS  
I WILL PLAY FAIR  
AND STRIVE TO WIN  
BUT WIN OR LOSE  
I WILL ALWAYS  
DO MY BEST

For further information and details, write Little League Headquarters, P.O. Box 3485, Williamsport, PA 17701, or your nearest Little League Regional Office.

Access Little League Baseball on the Internet at [www.littleleague.org](http://www.littleleague.org).

Little League Baseball does not limit participation in its activities on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, national origin, gender, sexual preference, or religious preference.

# GIRLS SOFTBALL

Little League®

Junior League®

Senior League®

Big League®

The most rapidly expanding division of  
the Little League program



MEETING THE NEEDS OF  
TODAY'S YOUTH



[www.littleleague.org](http://www.littleleague.org)

Designed to meet the needs of four age levels, Girls Little League Softball includes four divisions of play - in age brackets of 5-12, 13-14, 13-16 and 14-18.

Initially approved as pilot program by more than 450 District Administrators attending the 1973 International Congress of Little League Baseball at Tampa, Florida, the Girls Softball program was introduced in the spring of 1974. Today, more than 5,200 charters and more than 350,000 youngsters are participating in this phase of the Little League program.

The growth of Girls Little League Softball beyond the early conventional dimensions has been, and will continue to be, dedicated by a surge of new interest in softball among children and the capability of the parent local league to accept and fulfill additional community responsibilities. Indications are that future years will see a tremendous growth in this area of Little League.

Essentially, the regulations and playing rules for the Girls Softball program follow as closely as possible those under which the local Little League operation, including safety guidelines, league structure, boundaries, etc., With regard to players, Little League age rules apply, as do regulations relative to participation in other programs.

Regulations for Girls Little League Softball now permit two adjacent chartered Little Leagues to combine their Girls Little League Softball programs, similar to provisions established in the Senior Baseball and Softball programs. When combining, all leagues involved in the combination must apply for charter indicating the number of teams and/or players each will field.

Each program is governed by the Board of Directors of the local Little League, which shall elect a vice president and a player agent to be in charge of softball. The appointment of managers is subject to approval of the Board.

It is important that league officials make every effort to select outstanding leadership consistent with that found in all other areas of the Little League program. Early experience indicates that the Girls Little League Softball program has an unlimited potential for growth and success.

### WHAT IS GIRLS LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL?

1. Program - Girls Little League softball (ages 5\*-12), a 9-player game with sliding permitted and no arc requirement on the pitch. Girls Junior League, Girls Senior League and Girls Big League Softball (ages 13-14, 13-16, and 14-18), a 9-player game with sliding, stealing and bunting permitted.
2. Utilized existing Little League field dimensions with a 40' pitching distance.
3. Operates under the constitution and bylaws of the local Little League and governed by the Board of Directors of the local Little League.
4. Boundaries for selection of players shall conform to those of the local Little League.
5. The charter fee is \$13.00 per team.
6. Insurance is available through Little League Headquarters, Williamsport, Pa., at the same low cost as Little League Baseball.
7. A full range of tournament play is available with a championship series at a site selected annually.
8. Formalized rule books, organizational materials and guidance is available from Headquarters and all Little League Regional Centers.

\*Five-, six- seven- and eight-year-olds are only eligible for enrollment in a Minor League and/or Tee Ball program, which should be designed to ensure proper training in fundamentals and where they can begin the development of playing skills.

NOTE: A Girls Little League Softball charter can be issued where a Little League Baseball program does not exist, provided the girls softball charter boundaries do not overlap those of an existing Little League Baseball Charter.