

2023 Softball Tournament of Champions

TOC Website

[Tournament of Champions \(northshorell.com\)](http://northshorell.com)

Includes links to schedules, manager contact info and game report templates

Contacts

Score Reporting Coordinator - Chris Jozwiak (woodinvillelittleleague@gmail.com) - WLL

Website/Webmaster - John Harrison (admin@northshorell.com) - NSLL

Rules Coordinator – Tim Viers (uic@northshorell.com) - NSLL

Umpire Scheduling Coordinator - Michael Amirault (msamirault@icloud.com) - WLL

Scheduler - Susan Tait (northbothellll@gmail.com) - NBLL

With questions, please first contact your league scheduler:

- NBLL - Loreen Hamilton mrs.loreenhamilton@gmail.com
- NLLL - Zach Zoopmans scheduler@northlakell.org
- NSLL - Erin Peistrup (baseball) president@northshorell.com | Tony Powder (softball) vpsoftball@northshorell.com
- WLL - Malia Markey scheduler@woodinvillelittleleague.org

Trophies Coordinator - Mandie Neher (president@northlakell.org) - NLLL

Fields

Bastyr (BAS)	14500 Juanita Dr NE Kenmore, WA 98028-4966
Moorlands Park	15221 84th Ave NE Kenmore, WA 98028
North Creek#1	19016 North Creek Parkway South Bothell, WA 98011
North Creek#2	11902 North Creek Parkway South Bothell, WA 98011
North Creek#4	19113 120 th Avenue NE Bothell, WA 98011
Northshore Athletic Fields (NAF)	14600 NE 145 th St Woodinville, WA 98072
Tambark Creek Park	17217 35th Ave SE Bothell, WA 98012
Woodinville Sports Fields (WSF)	13209 NE 175 th Street Woodinville, WA 98072

Both teams are responsible for setting up the fields, clean up of litter after the game, raking in holes and putting away the fields (When no game follows).

Preparation depends on game location per the following instructions:

At Bastyr – Code for shed behind dugouts is 4438:

- Remove base plugs and install break-away bases.
- Use template to chalk batter boxes.
- Chalk base lines through first and third bases to the outfield grass.
- Chalk two coach boxes.

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At Northshore Athletic Fields (NAF):

- First games of the day should be prepped by NAF maintenance.
- For follow-on games:
 - Refresh break-away bases.
 - Use template to chalk batter boxes.
 - Chalk base lines through first and third bases to the outfield grass.
 - Chalk two coach boxes.
 - Chalk first base running lane

At Tambark Creek Park – Code for the container is 6030.

- Remove base plugs and install break-away bases.
- Use portable mound from container

At Woodinville Sports Fields (WSF) – Code for lockbox and portable mound located in third base dugout (Brown box on WSF-2E/-1W, orange box on WSF-2W/-1E) is 0711

- Remove base plugs and mount break-away bases.
- Place cones at 200 feet for Majors; 180 for Minors
- Place portable mound located in dugout on field to 46 feet from home plate.
- Gatorade, food, gum and sunflower seeds are **STRICTLY FORBIDDEN** at WSF. Use of these items could result in cancellation of NBLL and WLL's field permit. Please do your part to keep these fields clean.

Rain Line Information

Bastyr (BAS)	Game time decision by managers
Moorlands Park	Game time decision by managers
North Creek #1, #2 and #4	Game time decision by managers
Northshore Athletic Fields (NAF)	(425) 486-7333
Tambark Creek Park	Game time decision by managers
Woodinville Sports Fields (WSF)	Game time decision by managers

Tournament Format

Round robin pool play followed by a single elimination championship round. Teams are seeded into two Majors and three Minors pools for round robin pool play, with each pool consisting of four or five teams. All teams are guaranteed to play at least three games.

At Majors, the first and second place finishers in each pool, as well as two next best 'wild card' teams as determined but the Tie-Breaker Algorithm, will advance to the single elimination championship round to be held Monday, June 5th through Thursday, June 8th.

At Minors, the first and second place finishers in each pool will advance to the championship round to be held Monday, June 5th through Thursday, June 8th.

Once teams for the championship round have been determined, they will be seeded using the Tie-Breaker Algorithm, first by wins, and then using the lowest run ratio (Runs Allowed / Innings Defended). Seed positions may be adjusted up or down where feasible to avoid two teams from the same league playing each other in the first round.

The participating leagues and number of teams are as follows:

North Bothell (NB)	2 MJ	4 MN
Northlake (NL)	2 MJ	3 MN

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Northshore (NS)	3 MJ	2 MN
Woodinville (W)	4 MJ	4 MN

Home team is the second team listed in pool play round. Home team in championship round will be decided by a coin toss:

Pool Play:

Thursday, May 18th through Thursday, June 1st

June 2nd Held for Rain Makeups

Championship Series:

Majors/Minors Quarter-Finals – Monday, June 5th (Winners move on)

Majors/Minors Semi-Finals – Tuesday, June 6th (Winners and losers move on)

Majors/Minors Finals/Consolation – Thursday, June 8th

(2 games for Majors and Minors for 1st/2nd place and 3rd/4th place)

Majors Pool

- Two pools (Danielle Lawrie, Jennie Finch).
- Each league shall rank (Seed) its teams with #1 being the highest ranked (Best team).
- As much as possible, each pool will be equal in weight in terms of seeding. This means that if you average the rankings of each team in each pool (Average of Seeds), all of the pools should be close to equivalent:

Pool	1	2	3	4	Average of Seeds
Danielle Lawrie	2	2	2	0	2.0
Jennie Finch	2	2	0	1	2.0

- The first, second and third place finishers in each pool will advance to the championship round.
- Championship round will consist of six teams playing a single elimination playoff with a championship and third place game.

Minors Pool

- Three pools (Kikia Williams, Dot Richardson, Kristen Rivera).
- Each league shall rank (Seed) its teams with #1 being the highest ranked (Best team).
- As much as possible, each pool will be equal in weight in terms of seeding with the 5-team pool receiving the 5 seeded team.

Pool	1	2	3	4	Average of Seeds
Kikia Williams	1	1	1	1	2.5
Dot Richardson	1	2	1		2.0
Kristen Rivera	2	1	1	1	2.2

- The first and second place finishers in each pool will advance to the championship round.

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- Championship round will consist of six teams playing a single-elimination tournament with a championship and third place game.

Time Limits and Tie Games

During pool play, no new inning can be started after 2 hours and 15 minutes; no new batter after 2 hours and 30 minutes. Games not completed after the 2 hour and 30-minute time limit will revert to the last completed inning. Ties are allowed and are counted as .5 win and .5 loss.

During championship round play, a game still tied at the end of regulation play and continued play (game halted due to darkness, bad weather conditions, etc), can be continued from the point it stopped on field or on the following day as long as it does not impact the next scheduled tournament games for the teams involved. Scheduling of continued games will be the subject to the judgment of the 4 presidents and Rules Coordinator.

If a championship round game cannot be resolved due to a tie score after both regulation play and continuation play and a winner must be chosen in order to play the next game in the bracket, then the home plate umpire shall flip a coin to determine the game winner. The team that did not call the coin toss to determine home/visitor to start the game shall call the coin toss.

Rescheduling Games due to Rain, School Activities, etc.

During pool play, a scheduled game that is rained out and that cannot be made up will be scored as a tie. No runs allowed or innings defended will be charged to either team and it will be accepted as a days rest. During the championship round, rain outs that cannot be made up will be decided by a coin flip. Do everything possible, keeping safety as your number one priority, to avoid a rain out in the championship round (i.e. move to a school field, do your best to get four innings in, etc.).

Due to the number of games to play and the limited field availability, your ability to reschedule a game for any reason may be very limited. For the TOC, the minimum number of players necessary to start a game is nine. So, if you can field nine players, your team can play the game.

Dugouts

Home teams will occupy the 3rd base dugout. In pool play, the home team is the second team listed on the schedule. In the championship round, the home team will be decided by a coin flip.

It is the responsibility of both teams to clean the dugouts and make sure the spectator area is cleared of trash after their game.

Tie-Breaker Algorithm

For 2-way ties to determine Pool winners and Pool advancement, ties will be broken first by head-to-head record and then by "RAID" but if a 3-way tie exists in a Pool, we will use "RAID" criteria first to determine Pool winners and pool advancement. All single elimination bracket seeding ties will be broken using "RAID" criteria first. A short summary is as follows:

- (1) If two teams are tied for Pool Play:
 - a. Head-to-Head Record.
 - b. Lowest overall Run Ratio (Runs Allowed / Innings Defended).
 - c. Total Runs Scored.
 - d. Coin Flip.
- (2) If three or more teams are tied for Pool Play or for Bracket Seeding:

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- a. Lowest overall Run Ratio (Runs Allowed / Innings Defended).
- b. Head-to-Head Record.
- c. Total Runs Scored.
- d. Coin Flip.

Information regarding "Runs Allowed / Innings Defended (RAID)" obtained from the Little League website:

If there are two or more teams, and no clear victor can be determined through head-to-head competition, then the total number of defensive runs given up in all games, divided by the number of innings played on defense, is computed for each team involved in the tie. The team with the lowest "RAID" will advance.

NOTE: If a team only plays part of a half-inning on defense before the game is ended, that partial inning will count as a full half-inning for the purpose of computing run differential.

Awards, Ceremonies, & Decorations

Northshore Athletic Fields (NAF) should be decorated for the championship games as time and budget allows. There will be award ceremonies after each championship and consolation game:

Trophies will be awarded to players for 1st and 2nd place for both Majors and Minors divisions. Medals will be awarded to players for 3rd and 4th place for both Majors and Minors divisions. Pins will be given to every player that participates in the tournament. The total cost of pins, printing and trophies will be split between all leagues participating in the TOC.

Game Score & Pitching Reports

1. Game reports must include game number, date, field, team names, score and innings defended for both teams. Format for the game results will be emailed to all managers prior to the start of the tournament.
2. Visiting and home team managers must agree on **ALL OF THE ABOVE BEFORE LEAVING THE FIELD.**
3. During pool play and championship play, the WINNING team manager is responsible for emailing complete game reports for both teams to the Score Reporting Coordinator (Chris Jozwiak - woodinvillelittleleague@gmail.com) by 10:00PM the night of the game. Failure to do so could result in the winning team having to forfeit 6-0 with 6 innings defended to the losing team.
4. Missing game reports will be submitted to the Score Reporting Coordinator as soon as possible.
5. Game results will be posted to the tournament web page nightly. Every manager is responsible for checking the TOC website to ensure their game information is correct. Game report discrepancies need to be discussed with the winning team. If necessary, the winning team will send a game report clearly indicating **REVISED** with an explanation to the TOC information coordinator. Pool play and championship round play summary discrepancies need to be reported immediately to the TOC information coordinator.
- 6.

Sportsmanship, Ejections and Penalty Arbitration:

The TOC represents the pinnacle of competitive baseball for most of our players and their families. As such, we should strive to showcase the value of sportsmanship while competing fairly and respectfully to win each game. Managers, coaches, players, parents, and spectators, are expected to act in a manner consistent with Little League values.

As a reminder of these values, before each game, the managers of both teams will face the spectators and the home manager will read the following statement:

Welcome to District 8 North-end Tournament of Champions!

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Little League® International and all of its local leagues promote and expect good sportsmanship by its players, coaches, volunteers, and spectators. We request your cooperation by supporting the participants and officials in a positive manner.

Profanity, racial or ethnic comments, or other intimidating or disrespectful actions taken by spectators, players, coaches, or volunteers will not be tolerated and are grounds for removal from the complex.

Please remember, Little League is about creating the best experience for the kids, and it's on all of us to make that happen.

Thank you, and enjoy the game!

Anyone ejected from the park will be asked to leave the playfield and go to the parking lot and will be banned from the park for the remainder of the day. Ejected managers or coaches will also be suspended one (1) game. Ejections will be reported to each league President to handle per their league rules. Ejected participants may return to the park the next day to continue watching their team assuming they can do so consistent with Little League values.

Finally, all suspensions, disciplinary actions, and ejections may be appealed to the Rules Coordinator, who, working with the league Presidents will make a final decision and determination. The league Presidents and the Rules Coordinator will serve as the Protest Committee for TOC games as outlined in Rule 4.16.

Gameplay Rules

The tournament will be played under regular season rules set forth in the *Little League Official Regulations, Playing Rules and Operating Policies*, unless explicitly modified below.

Common Rules for Majors and Minors

1. If playing on a non-fenced field, the home run line will be marked by cones (If available) a distance of 200 feet (180 feet for Minors) from home plate. A batted ball that passes over the coned home run line on the fly shall be a home run. A batted ball that touches a fielder's glove, or any other part of said fielder, and passes over the coned home run line on the fly, without ever touching the ground prior to passing the cones, shall be a home run. A batted ball that passes the coned home run line after first touching the ground shall be a ground rule double, regardless of whether a fielder touched it or not.
2. A safety base (the use of a Safety base is recommended if available and can be secured to the ground) will be placed next to first base to reduce collisions and to give batters a better chance of running through first base on a ground ball to the infield. In general, the defense is entitled to the inside base, while the batter / runner is entitled to the outside flat, rubber base. Coaches should instruct their players to make plays to the inside base while playing defense, and to run through the outside base while running to first.
3. Each team must provide a scorekeeper who is not a manager or coach. The home team is considered the official scorekeeper. If the home team is unable to provide a scorekeeper who is not a manager or coach, then the visiting team can provide the official scorekeeper.
4. The game will be played using a 12" softball (11" for Minors). The home team is responsible for providing two softballs to the umpire at the plate meeting.
5. The modified mandatory play rule is nine defensive outs, with at least three defensive outs being in an infield position is required for each player. Managers are encouraged to give all players their minimum playing time as soon as possible to ensure compliance in the event the game cannot be completed (Darkness, weather, time limit, etc). It is expected that managers will offer fair playing time to everyone.

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6. If a Manager feels there is a serious concern for safety with a player in the infield then they need to address this before the game with the other manager and the umpire to request an exception for that one player. Managers are still encouraged to play in all positions as long as it can be done safely.
7. Managers and coaches should make every attempt to keep the game moving along at a good pace. Catchers should be identified in advance of their assigned inning, get geared up and be ready to play when their team takes the field (It should be noted that any player wearing a catcher's mask can warm-up a pitcher). The umpire will remind managers of this requirement as needed. With two outs, a courtesy runner will be allowed to run the bases for a player assigned to pitch or catch in their next defensive inning. This courtesy runner shall be the last player put out by the opposing team.
8. For safety reasons, players are not allowed to hold a bat in the dugout / bench area, or swing a bat outside of the batter's box. Practice swings will be allowed in the batter's box only under the coach's direction.
9. After entering the batter's box, the batter must remain in the box with at least one foot throughout the at bat. Exceptions are as follows:
 - On a swing, slap, or check swing
 - When forced out of the box by a pitch
 - When the batter attempts a drag bunt
 - When the catcher does not catch the pitched ball
 - When a play has been attempted
 - When time has been called
 - When the pitcher leaves the dirt area of the pitching mound, or takes a position more than five feet from the pitcher's plate after receiving the ball, or the catcher leaves the catcher's box
 - On a three ball count pitch that is a strike that the batter thinks is a ball

Penalty: If the batter leaves the batter's box or delays play and none of the exceptions apply, the umpire shall warn the batter. After one warning on a batter, the umpire shall call a strike. Any number of strikes can be called on each batter. No pitch has to be thrown, the ball is dead, and no runners may advance.
10. Reminder: per 2023 Little League Rule 7.08(a)(5)(a-b), if a runner leaves the base early, "no pitch" is declared and that runner is out.

Tournament Rules for Majors Only

The "run rule" (i.e. mercy rule) 4.10(e) will be in effect during the tournament. 15 runs after 3 innings (2.5 innings if the home team is ahead), 10 runs after 4 innings (3.5 innings if the home team is ahead), 8 runs after 5 innings (4.5 innings if the home team is ahead).

Tournament Rules for Minors Only

1. The side retires when there are three (3) outs, when five (5) runs score (EXCEPTION: If a batter hits a home run over the fence or outfield boundary line, or a ground rule double, all runs driven in by that play will score), or when the entire batting order has batted, whichever comes first. During the sixth inning, and every inning thereafter, there is no five run limit, but the number of runs is limited to one rotation through the batting order. For purposes of this rule, the batting order for BOTH teams is defined to be the number represented by the team with the most players participating in the game (For example, Team A has 12 players, Team B has 9 players The batting order for both teams is defined to be 12 players).
2. Continuation by a runner specifically awarded a base-on-balls IS NOT allowed.
Note – Continuation is defined as a runner moving from home to second base after a

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walk and while the pitcher has the ball in the circle (A runner advancing from home to second base on a wild pitch for ball four is not considered to be continuation).

Umpire Assignments

If neutral District 8 umpires are not available, the home team is responsible for supplying the home plate umpire for the game. The visiting team is responsible for providing the field umpire for the game. Roles can be exchanged by mutual agreement of the umpires.

During the championship round, the league UIC's working with the Umpire Scheduling Coordinator will attempt to schedule unaffiliated umpires for each game.