

**Special Requests should be submitted on the registration form. To help improve the likelihood that a special request will be honored, register before January 31, 2014.**

### **Challenger Division**

This league is specifically designed for boys and girls ages 4-18. The Challenger Division of Little League is a program for mentally and physically disabled youth to enjoy the full benefits of Little League participation in an athletic environment structured to their abilities. However, whenever possible and with reasonable accommodations, disabled youngsters should participate in unrestricted league play provided their participation is possible and fair within the standard rules and regulations of Little League. More than the skills of baseball learned through the experience, the value of the Little League Challenger Division is found in the proven therapeutic and socialization benefits of participating in sports, the strengthening of the participants' self-esteem, the opportunities to mainstream into other divisions of play, and the disciplines of teamwork, citizenship and fair play which are hallmarks of the Little League program.

### **Tee Ball Division**

This league is specifically designed for boys and girls ages 4-5. The Tee Ball division is specifically designed primarily for young boys and girls to provide players a foundation and introduction to baseball that is grounded in fundamentals, fitness and having fun in a non-competitive environment. Rather than using the pitched ball, Tee Ball will utilize an adjustable batting stand or "tee" from which the ball is hit. The Tee Ball division is a ten week co-ed program that is resourceful and features structured learning, highlighted by one to two practices and games per week. Over the course of the season, players will engage in a series of lessons utilizing multiple skills, drills and plenty of physical activity that is fun and rewarding for all participants that allows them to experience the value of teamwork. This division follows the conventional Little League rules. Players will be placed geographically based on request and/or nearest Goodyear public school. All players must reside within Goodyear Little League boundaries.

### **Farm – Coach Pitch Division**

This league is specifically designed for boys and girls ages 6-7. Players who are league age 6 who have had one year of Little League experience at the Tee Ball level that are experienced and who are looking for a new challenge are encouraged to play coach pitch. The Farm division is an instructional league that introduces many children to the basics of baseball, such as throwing, catching, hitting, and field positions. The coach pitches to their own batters using a softer baseball. We do not keep score or team records in this league. Teams are formed based on geography, schools, and special requests. A higher priority is placed on playing with friends, neighbors and school associations. Games are intended to be fun for all players, no matter what their talent level, and should build a foundation for all kids moving up to the Cactus division with the ability to understand the basics of baseball. This division follows the conventional Little League rules. Players will be placed geographically based on request and/or

nearest Goodyear public school. All players must reside within Goodyear Little League boundaries.

### **Cactus – Machine Pitch Division**

This league is specifically designed for boys and girls ages 7-8 that are ready for a more advanced level to the pitching machine in a non competitive environment. This is truly a unique baseball experience in the Goodyear Little League baseball program. We believe the very next best experience after coach pitch is machine pitch. Pitching is done with a pitching machine, and is designed to further develop player's basic skills and offer more competition. This division is always the most exciting division to watch as the players get consistent pitches from the machine and it's a hitting and fielding fast moving experience like no other baseball division. Teams are formed based on geography, schools, and special requests. If an 8 year old wishes to "play up" in Minors baseball there are some requirements: 1) they must attend evaluations. 2) the player must be drafted. If they are not drafted in that window they will be placed on a team in the Cactus baseball machine pitch division. This is entirely the discretion of the local Goodyear Little League board of directors based on player evaluations. This division follows the conventional Little League rules. Players will be placed geographically based on request and/or nearest Goodyear public school. All players must reside within Goodyear Little League boundaries.

### **Minors – Player Pitch Division**

This league is specifically designed for boys and girls ages 9-10 who become eligible to play in the Minors division only if they have attended the mandatory skill evaluation session and will be placed on a Minors team roster subject to the discretion of the Goodyear Little League Player Agent. If a 10 year old wishes to "play up" in Majors baseball there are some requirements: 1) they must attend evaluations. 2) the player must be drafted. If they are not drafted in that window they will be made available to the Minors division coaches for drafting in that league. This is entirely the discretion of the local Goodyear Little League board of directors based on player evaluations. In the Minors division players are exposed to live player pitching. This division allows for younger and less experienced players to develop their skills or is their first introduction to player pitch that may need more work on fundamentals that are less developed than expected at the Major League level. Teams are organized by a coach's draft of all available players. The level of competition increases with emphasis on basic skills, playmaking decisions, teamwork and respect for umpires and coaches. Balanced teams are formed as Managers draft players to be on their team using results from the mandatory skills evaluation. Scorekeeping, pitch counts, game scores, standings, end of season Tournament are all aspects of the Minors division. This division follows the conventional Little League rules. All players must reside within Goodyear Little League boundaries and be drafted through an evaluation.

### **Majors – Player Pitch Division**

This is the highest level of play for this age level on the Little League size diamond. This division is specifically designed for boys and girls ages 11-12 who are desirable candidates that already possess or have been assessed to have the potential to achieve a more advanced level of baseball skill. Candidates

become eligible to play in the Majors division only if they have attended the mandatory skill evaluation session and will be placed on a Majors team roster subject to the discretion of the Goodyear Little League Player Agent. Twelve (12) year olds that have a desire to play at the Majors level and attended the required skill evaluation session are guaranteed placement on a Majors team. Players are drafted by individual team managers rather than being assigned to a team by the Goodyear Little League Player Agent. If a 10 year old wishes to "play up" in Majors baseball there are some requirements: 1) they must attend evaluations. 2) the player must be drafted. If they are not drafted in that window they will be made available to the Minors division coaches for drafting in that league. Teams are organized by a coach's draft of all available players. The level of competition is advanced, competitive play with emphasis on refining of all skills, playmaking decisions, teamwork and respect for umpires and coaches that were learned at previous levels. Balanced teams are formed as Managers draft players to be on their team using results from the mandatory skills evaluation. Scorekeeping, pitch counts, game scores, standings, end of season Tournament are all aspects of the Majors division. This division follows the conventional Little League rules. All players must reside within Goodyear Little League boundaries and be drafted through an evaluation.

### **Juniors – Player Pitch Division**

This advanced division is competitive and specifically designed for boys and girls ages 13-14 that reside in Goodyear, Litchfield Park and/or Avondale (Non-resident fees apply). Candidates become eligible to play in the Juniors division only if they have attended the mandatory skill evaluation session and will be placed on a Juniors team roster subject to the discretion of the Goodyear Little League Player Agent. This combo league is for players that must be ready to add more skill and strategy to their game. Defensive awareness along with knowing where to make the play and how to run the bases becomes a more critical part of the game. Diamond size is 90 foot base path with a 60 foot pitching distance. Games will be played at the Goodyear Ballpark. Teams are organized by a coach's draft of all available players. The level of competition is advanced, competitive play with emphasis on refining of all skills, playmaking decisions, teamwork and respect for umpires and coaches that were learned at previous levels. Balanced teams are formed as Managers draft players to be on their team using results from the mandatory skills evaluation. Scorekeeping, pitch counts, game scores, standings, Post-season District and State All-Star Tournaments, Regional tournament and the Junior Little League Baseball World Series are all aspects of the Juniors division. This division follows the conventional Little League rules.