

## **Gilman Park and Rec Association – Little and Middle League Slow-Pitch Softball Information**

- Little League is for kids currently in/just completed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade; Middle League is for kids currently in/just completed 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade (Summer 2026 would be the grade for the 2025-2026 school year).
- Registration window closes on April 1, 2026. Registration requests received after April 1 will be added to our waiting list in the order they are received and granted if there are spots available based on the number of registrations received by the deadline, number of teams we are able to have based on the number of volunteer coaches, and if team assignments have not been finalized. We do our best to not turn anyone away, but we must draw a line in the sand once the teams have been formed/team uniform shirts have been ordered.
- No Dogs allowed at the ballfield/park.
- The leagues are organized and run by volunteers from Gilman Park & Rec Association.
- The leagues depend on volunteer coaches (typically parents, but not required to be). Without these volunteer coaches, we cannot have this league for the kids. Please see Coaches Information for additional information on various needs and roles.
- Registration costs go towards paying for umpires, year-end medals and purchasing equipment and materials for the league including, but not limited to: Balls (game & practice), Bats, Catcher's Masks, Pitcher's Masks, Misc Equipment, Scorebooks, and minor field maintenance.
- League provided bats are required to be used in all games and practice. Little league includes 26"/16 oz, 27"/17 oz, 28"/18 oz, 29"/19 oz, 30"/20 oz and 31"/21 oz bats. Middle league includes 30"/20 oz – 34"/24 oz bats.
- The only equipment that is required for each kid is their own glove.
- Games are played on Wednesday evenings, starting in the second half of May (weather dependent) through the end of July. Some teams will play final playoff games the Friday night of Gilman Days (Last full weekend of July). Weather is out of our control, and the Summer is busy for all. The first week cancelled due to weather will not be made up. If additional weeks are cancelled, we will attempt to schedule at the league director's discretion.
- Practices are held once a week, usually on either Sunday or Monday evenings. If practices are cancelled due to weather, coaches are not expected to re-schedule or make up.
- Teams are assigned by the league coordinators, using the following general logic.
  - Family members identified on the registration form will be on the same team unless requested otherwise.
  - We try to keep teams together from year to year unless requested otherwise or if moving from little league to middle league.
  - We try to keep the teams as fair/even as possible by dividing teams up by age, gender and basic ability level identified on the registration form.
  - We do our best to accommodate additional requests for team assignments while still following the parameters above. Due to all the various factors, we cannot guarantee any additional requests at the time of registration.
- Each team is sponsored by a local business. The sponsor purchases team shirts/jersey for each kid. If you have a business that is interested in sponsoring your child's team, please let Andy/Tara Schommer know, and he will help coordinate with the team's coach if a sponsor is needed.
- Most importantly, this league is meant to be fun for all kids. The league is organized, run and coached by volunteers. This is not a developmental league to become a professional softball/baseball player.
- Any registration cancellations after teams have been assigned/finalized will not be refunded.