Little League Child Protection Program



History

- Program has been in place since 1997
- In 2001, Little League provided information on background checks as well as links to searchable sex offender databases. Compliance was voluntary.
- Goal of educating children and volunteers in ways to prevent child abusers from becoming involved in the program
- In the 2002 ASAP program, volunteer applications became mandatory
- In 2003, background checks using state SOR became mandatory by Little League Regulations
- In 2007, background checks using national SOR became mandatory by Little League Regulations.
- In 2017, Little League International requires its member leagues to search the Department of Justice National Sex Offender Registry and conduct a national criminal background check for each volunteer with regular service to the league or repetitive access to children.



Background Check Information

- Little League pays for the first 125 background checks (reset yearly in Oct.) through JDP Background Screening.
- The JDP National Criminal File database that contains hundreds of millions of records, including criminal and sex offender registry records covering 50 states and the District of Columbia, meets the current regulation requirement.
- Leagues are encouraged to use the JDP website, but may also use alternate resources. However, the alternate resources must equal or exceed the services provided by JDP.



The Next Phase

- The local league must conduct a <u>nationwide search</u> that contains the applicable government sex offense registry data and criminal background of all coaches, managers, board members and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, that provide a regular service and/or has repetitive access to, or contact with players and teams.
- Each year Little League International provides 125 free background checks (reset yearly in Oct.). Information on how to utilize this benefit, as well as how to conduct background checks, can be found on the Little League Website at:

http://www.littleleague.org/learn/programs/childprotection.htm



The Next Phase

- A province or country outside the United States the local little league must conduct the more extensive of a county, province or city-wide criminal background check through the appropriate governmental agency unless prohibited by law
- For more information please visit, <u>www.LittleLeague.org</u> or your respective Regional Website



Regulation 1 (b)

 As a condition of service to the league, all managers, coaches, Board of Directors members and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to, or contact with players or teams, must complete and submit an official "Little League Volunteer Application" or use the JDP Quickapp which is stored on the JDP Database, to the local league president.



Regulations 1 (B) cont.

 Annual background screenings must be completed prior to the applicant assuming his/her duties for the current season. Refusal to annually submit a fully completed "Little League Volunteer Application" must result in the immediate dismissal of the individual from the local league.



Regulation 1 (c) 8

1 (c) Each league shall:

 8. Require that all of the following personnel have annually submitted a fully completed official "Little League Volunteer Application" to the local league president or use the JDP Quickapp which is stored on the JDP Database, to the local league president, prior to the applicant assuming his/her duties for the current season: Managers, Coaches, Board of Directors members and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to, or contact with, players or teams.

Regulation 1 (c) 8 cont.

The "Little League Volunteer Application" must be maintained by the president of the local league's board of directors for all personnel named above, for a minimum of the duration of the applicant's service to the league for the year. We recommend that the league keep the application for 2 years after they leave service. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in the suspension or revocation of tournament privileges and/or the local league's charter by the action of the Charter or Tournament Committee in Williamsport.



Regulation 1 (c) 9

1(c) Each league shall:

• Conduct an annual background check on all personnel that are required to complete a "Little League Volunteer Application" prior to the applicant assuming his/her duties for the current season. No local league shall permit any person to participate in any manner, whose background check reveals a conviction for any crime involving or against a minor. A local league may prohibit any individual from participating as a volunteer or hired worker, if the league deems the individual unfit to work with minors.



Regulation 1 (c) 9 cont.

• If a local league becomes aware of information by any means whatsoever, that an individual, including, but not limited to volunteers, players, and hired workers, has been convicted or pled guilty to any crime involving or against a minor, the local league must contact the applicable government agency to confirm the accuracy of the information. Upon confirmation of a conviction for, or a guilty plea, to a crime against or involving a minor, the local league shall not permit the individual to participate in any manner.



Their Protection ... And Yours

These requirements are being implemented by Little League and your local league to:

- Protect our children and maintain Little League as a hostile environment for those who would seek to do them harm.
- Protect individuals and leagues from possible loss of personal or league assets because of litigation
- Take advantage of current technology and laws that have made background check information accessible to your league.



What do we, as a league, have to do to comply so that we can be chartered for the next season?

- 1. Required to sign an agreement on the Charter Application and Insurance Enrollment Form agreeing to comply with Regulations 1 (b) (c) 8-9.
 - Failure to sign Charter will result in league not being charter
- 2. Required to sign the Tournament Enrollment Form verifying background check process was completed and implemented
 - <u>Failure to sign verification will result in possible</u>
 <u>revocation of Tournament and / or Charter privileges</u>



What type of background check is required by the regulations?

 Local Leagues are required to conduct a search that contains the nationwide sex offender registry and conduct a national criminal background check for each volunteer with regular service to the league or repetitive access to children.

What type of offenses are we screening for when conducting a background check?

- Search for sexual offenses involving minors
- Anyone, including a minor, convicted or who pled guilty to charges involving a minor, no matter what the offense, must not be permitted to work with children.

Should I check our local state laws about background checks?

 Local leagues are required by LLB Regulations to determine the applicability of, and comply with, all federal, state, local and municipal laws and ordinances, and administrative rules and regulations regarding background checks including, but not limited to, requirements regarding sex offender registry checks, criminal history records or reports, fingerprinting, certifications, or other requirements associated with volunteers, coaches, participants and/or employees.



Who in the local league should be responsible to process the background check information?

 Recommend the Board of Directors appoints the local league president and two other individuals to handle the background checks (law enforcement/ legal background is helpful). Make sure someone else checks the people running the background checks. No one should check their own background check.

What if an individual has previously had a background check?

 Background checks on appropriate individuals must be done annually

If our volunteer base comes from multiple states, in what states do we do the background checks?

- The JDP National Criminal File database that contains hundreds of millions of records, including criminal and sex offender registry records covering 50 states and the District of Columbia, meets the current regulation requirement.
- Copy of Government issued photo id must accompany the application to verify information provide by the applicant.



What will result in termination of a volunteer under the regulations?

- Any background check that reveals a conviction of any crime involving or against a minor must result in immediate termination
- Volunteers who refuse to submit a fully completed "Little League Volunteer Application" must be immediately terminated or eliminated from consideration for any position, including long time volunteers and minors



What if offenses involving or against minors are pending prior to or after appointment to a position in the local league?

 Suggest the individual not be appointed or should be suspended from his/her current position pending the outcome of the charges

What if there are convictions or other offenses NOT involving or against minors?

 Local League may prohibit any individual from participating as a volunteer or hired worker, if the local league board of directors deems the individual unfit to work with minors.



Who is to be made aware of the information found on the background check?

- President shall only share personal information contained in the volunteer application, background check or other information obtained through the screening process with other members of the board of directors in order to make personnel decisions.
- If the information obtained through the background check is public record and contains crimes against a minor which causes an individual to not be appointed or to be terminated, Little League Baseball recommends this information be shared with the parents/guardians of the children who have had contact with the individual previously.

Where should these records be maintained and for how long?

- The local league president shall retain for each volunteer, his or her volunteer application, background check information, and any other documents pertaining to that individual for two years after the duration of the volunteers' service to the league or use the JDP Quickapp which is stored on the JDP Database.
- Two years after the person leaves the leagues services, the league president shall dispose of the records pertaining to that individual unless the league has taken action or made a decision based upon the information contained in those records subject to local and state laws.

What is the timetable for completing the screening of each individual?

 League must complete the annual screening process which includes application and background check prior to the individual assuming his/her duties for the current season.

When should local leagues begin the implementation process of this initiative?

 Immediately, so volunteer applications and background checks are completed prior to individuals assuming their duties for their current season.



Does this initiative also apply to those individuals that assist the manager and coaches at practices or games?

 Yes. Any individual who provides regular service to the league and/or who has repetitive access to or contact with players or teams must fill out the "Little League Volunteer Application" and go through the background check process.

What will it cost my league to implement this initiative?

 Little League International currently provides each league with access to 125 free criminal background checks per year.
 Recommend passing this cost onto the applicant as a condition of volunteering or league may seek other funding sources like civic organizations, businesses, sponsors or service clubs.



Who is going to coach the team if a screened manager or coach is no longer able to fulfill his/her duties?

 Any permanent replacement cannot assume their duties until the volunteer application and background check has been completed. The league may temporarily assign a board member or another screened individual to fill the vacancy until the proper process and appointment has been made.



Should our league wait until the entire screening process has been completed to submit our Charter Application and Insurance Enrollment Form?

 No. The appropriate league officers must sign the statement of the form agreeing to adhere to the regulations requiring the use of the official "Little League Volunteer Application" and national background screen process as outlined in Regulations 1(b) and 1(c) 8&9. Once this section is completed the balance of the charter application can be completed and submitted to Little League International.



Resources

 Please utilize the Little League website on how to conduct background checks.

http://www.littleleague.org/learn/programs/childprotection.htm



Little League International will not accept any request for charter affiliation/re-affiliation or any request for insurance coverage until the following verification is signed by both the league President and either the league Vice President, Treasurer or Secretary. All unsigned forms will not be processed.





All local Little League programs will also be required to sign a statement on the tournament enrollment application that verifies that the process stated below has been implemented in compliance with the Regulations. Failure to comply may result in the loss of tournament privileges and possible charter suspension by the Charter Committee.





Regulations 1(b) and 1(c) 8 mandate the use of the official "Little League Volunteer Application" for all managers, coaches, board members and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to, or contact with players or teams. This form shall only be modified in order to comply with local, state, provincial or national laws.





Pursuant to Regulations 1(c) 8 and 9, a background check of a national SOR and a national criminal check must be conducted on every individual that is required to complete a volunteer application. As duly elected President and V.P/Treas./Sec., we agree on behalf of the organization that we will comply with the use of the official "Little League Volunteer Application" and conduct all of the required background checks.

	Livilia .	boundaries is	REQUIRED
DUOTE #:	LEAGUE		
HOME PHONE	BENTIFICA		
	SUMIN		
IUS. PHONE:			
-MAIL ADDRESS:	PLEASE UNE	CRI	
AX NUMBER:	ALL CORRESPO	NIBENCE	
EAGUE LOCATION:			
Vice-President, Treasurer or Socretary. All unsigned form	VOLUNTEER SCREENING AGE charter affiliation/te-offiliation or any request for insurance coverage is will be returned, without being processed. All local Little League p tied in compliance with the Regulations. Failure to comply may result	until the following verification is signed by bor negrans will also be required to sign a statement	on the tournament enrollment application that
to the league and/or have repetitive access to, or conta 9, background checks must be conducted on every in	"Little League Volunteer Application" for all managers, coaches, boa ict with, players or teams. This from shall only be modified in orde advidual that is required to complete a volunteer application. As dat plication" and conduct all of the required background checks.	r to comply with local, state, provincial or natio	rol laws. Pursuant to Regulations I (c) 8 and
proted. If second I philips moved and no experience or anter compleme with eligibed particular. I forthy agent the Little Langua in the role and exclusive over distribution may price to accomman with the change based applied for it gover-	LEAGUE CHARTER AGREE	" for the year indicated on this form. The application is uncorporated by expertation with year institutions against any persons on, the basis of she is fine all of these Veries and property Hell for divisional inside and analysis. Whitever, commercial formation among that the disclaim to receiving with Whitever commercial formation among that the disclaim to receiving with	differ our, and with appeal eight gots, and political of a Life larger's payers. It he even the up adversary of
We acknowledge that we have read and will co Application will not be processed if both	emply with the Volunteer Screening and League Charter signatures are not present.	Agreements	
President's signature	/DateV.P./Treas./Sec	c.'s signature	/Date





Little League Volunteer Application - 2018

Do not use forms from past years. Use extra paper to complete if additional space is required.

Name			Date	
Name	Middle	Lest		
Address				
City	State		Zip	
Social Security # (mandatory)				
Cell Phone	Busine	ss Phone		
Home Phone:	E-mail	Address:		
Date of Birth				
Occupation				
Employer				
Address				
Special professional training, skills				
Community affiliations (Clubs, Service Organ	nizations, etc.):			
Previous volunteer experience (including be	seball/softball and year)	:		
Do you have children in the pro If yes, list full name and who				Yes 🗆 No 🗆
2. Special Certification (CPR, Medi				
Do you have a valid driver's lice Driver's License#:			State	Yes □ No □
4. Have you ever been convicted of	of or plead no conte	st or euilty to a	any crime(s) i	nvolvine or
against a minor? If yes, describe each in full:				-
Have you ever been convicted of If yes, describe each in full:				Yes 🗆 No 🗆
(Answering yes to question 5, does r	not automatically disqual	y you as a voluntee	ir.)	
 Do you have any criminal charges If yes, describe each in full: 				Yes □ No □
(Answering yes to question 6, does r	not autometically disqual	y you as a voluntee	it.)	
7. Have you ever been refused par				Yes 🗆 No 🗆
If yes, explain:				
In which of the following wo	ould you like to part	icinate? (Check o	ne ar more.)	
☐ League Official ☐ Umpi		Manager		ssion Stand
□ Coach □ □ □ □				

volunteer in a youth progra	im:	
Name/Phone		
	IRES A SEPARATE BACKGROUND C	CHECK BY LAW, PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF THAT ST VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
ttps://www.littleleague.or	rg/player-safety/state-laws	-background-checks-leagues/
ow and as long as I continue to be hich contain name only searches iminal history records. I understa formation on my background seeball, incorporated, the officen sch information. I also understan a volunteer position. If appoints	active with the organization, which which may result in a report being and that, if appointed, my position i ereby release and agree to hold he is, employees and volunteers there id that, regardless of previous app	ague organization to conduct background checks) on himsy include a review of sec offender registrates or gamented that may or may not be may, child abus is conditional upon the league receiving no heappro permises from liability the local Little League, Little Lo cf, or any other persons or organization that may pro- trioritiments, Little League is not obligated to suspension 1s telegue policies or principles.
pplicant Signature		Date
		Date
pplicant Name(please pri	nt or type)	
		orporated will not discriminate against any pers ender, sexual orientation or disability.
	LOCAL LEAGUE	USE ONLY:
Background check cor	npleted by league officer_	
System(s) used for bar	ckground check (minimum ates all checks include crimina	of one must be checked): al records and sex offender registry records
* JDP 🗆		gistry Data and National Criminal mandated in the current season's official regulations
searches can be performed JDP in compliance with the	you should notify volunteers that	satch in the few states where only name match they will receive a letter or email directly from glinformation regarding all the criminal records segue voluntees:
Only attach to this application	on copies of background check rep	orts that reveal convictions of this application.

Please list three references, at least one of which has knowledge of your participation as a



A COPY OF VALID GOVERNMEN COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION.	IT ISSUED P	ното	IDENTIFICA	ATION MUST BE	ATTACHED TO
Name				Date	
First	Middle		Last		
Address					
City		State		Zip	
Social Security # (mandatory)					
Cell Phone		Busine	ss Phone _		
Home Phone:		E-mail	Address:		
Date of Birth					
Occupation					
Employer					
Address					
Special professional training, skills	s, hobbies:				
-,,	_				
Community affiliations (Clubs, Service Orga	nizations, etc.):				
Previous volunteer experience (including b	acehall/coffhall	and year			
Terrow to arrect experience processing of	and an extension	una year,			
1. Do you have children in the pro	gram?				Yes No
If yes, list full name and wh	at level?				
2. Special Certification (CPR, Med	ical, etc.)? (i	ist) Yes	No		
3. Do you have a valid driver's lice	ense?				Yes No No
Driver's License#:				State	
Have you ever been convicted of against a minor?	of or plead r	no conte	est or guilty	to any crime(s) i	nvolving or
If yes, describe each in full:					Yes 🗆 No 🗆
5. Have you ever been convicted If yes, describe each in full:					Yes No
(Answering yes to question 3, does 6. Do you have any criminal charge	s pending ag				Yes No
If yes, describe each in full: (Answering yes to question 6, does		ly disquali	fy you as a vol	unteer.)	



7. Have you ever been re	efused participation in ar	ny other youth progra	ams? Yes No
If yes, explain:			
In which of the fo	lowing would you like to	participate? (check or	ne or more.)
 League Official 	Umpire	Manager	 Concession Stand
Coach	Field Maintenance	Scorekeeper	Other



Please list three references, at least one of which has knowledge of you volunteer in a youth program:	our par	ticipation as a
Name/Phone		
IF YOU LIVE IN A STATE THAT REQUIRES A SEPARATE BACKGROUND CHECK BY LAW, PLEAS BACKGROUND CHECK, FOR MORE INFORMATION ON STATE LAWS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE	and the second	H A COPY OF THAT STATE'S
https://www.littleleague.org/player-safety/state-laws-background-ch	ecks-le	agues/
AS A CONDITION OF VOLUNTEERING, I give permission for the Little League organization to nowand as long as I continue to be active with the organization, which may include a reviewhich contain name only searches which may result in a report being generated that may criminal history records. I understand that, if appointed, my position is conditional upon the information on my background. I hereby release and agree to hold harmless from liability Baseball, Incorporated, the officers, employees and volunteers thereof, or any other persuch information. I also understand that, regardless of previous appointments, Little Leat to a volunteer position. If appointed, I understand that, prior to the expiration of my term President and removal by the Board of Directors for violation of Little League policies or previous appointment.	w of sex of or may not be leagued the local on or org ague is no n, I am su	offender registries (some of not be me), child abuse and receiving no inappropriate Little League, Little League panization that may provide of obligated to appoint me ubject to suspension by the
Applicant Signature	Date	
If Minor/Parent Signature	Date	
Applicant Name(please print or type)		
NOTE: The local Little League and Little League Baseball, Incorporated will not di the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, marital status, gender, sexual orien		



2	N				
	LOCAL LEAGUE USE ONLY:				
	Background check completed by league officer				
	on				
	System(s) used for background check (minimum of one must be checked): Regulation I(c)(9) Mandates all checks include criminal records and sex offender registry records				
	* JDP Sex Offender Registry Data and National Criminal Records check, as mandated in the current season's official regulations				
	*Please be advised that if you use JDP and there is a name match in the few states where only name match searches can be performed you should notify volunteers that they will receive a letter or email directly from JDP in compliance with the Fair Credit Reporting Act containing information regarding all the criminal records associated with the name, which may not necessarily be the league volunteer.				
.	Only attach to this application copies of background check reports that reveal convictions of this application.				



5 Steps to Compliance

- 1. Sign and return Charter Application
- 2. Collect Volunteer Applications
- 3. Create 3-member Screening Committee
- 4. Screen Managers, Coaches, Board Members and other with repetitive access using interviews, online resources and/or government agencies
- Sign the Tournament Enrollment verifying process was completed and implemented