**Overview:** Few baseball and softball experiences rival little league All-Stars. From daily practices, yard signs and fun team outings, ceremonial pre-game rituals, to the big moments taking the field to play other district (and possibly state!) teams, All-Stars is a truly awesome baseball and softball experience. It is a solid month+ on the baseball/softball field, kicking off June 1 and lasting through the tournament. While it is an incredible commitment that the whole family makes during the summer, it is fun, and the memories made will last forever. In 2024 Alexandria Little League (ALL) will have seven District All-Stars teams, including five in baseball (8-10s, 9-11s, Majors, Intermediates, Juniors) and two in softball (8-10s, Majors). Teams go by players’ [Little League age](https://www.littleleague.org/play-little-league/determine-league-age/) (baseball age is their age on August 31, 2024; softball is their age on December 31, 2024). Teams are announced June 1 and begin their practice schedule. This year the tournaments are scheduled to begin mid-June for all divisions with the exception of Majors, which typically begins at the beginning of July. This year, Alexandria is the host to the Intermediate State Tournament beginning July 5.

**General Commitment:** Selection for an All-Star team is a great accomplishment--an honor, but also a commitment. There is a mandatory attendance policy for practices and games. Players should not be absent (exception for illness/injury), and lack of commitment can result in a player being removed from the team. A small fee is billed to families through the Alexandria Little League registration system to help defray the cost of the uniforms, tournament fees, cage rentals, insurance, and equipment. Scholarships are available. In addition, there is a volunteer commitment made by families of players.ALL will be playing home games at our fields. We will need scorekeepers, scoreboard operators, field preparation help, concessions, and other volunteers for various roles. We will need volunteers to staff these roles during the entire tournament, every game, as a courtesy to all, but especially for visiting teams and their families. Each family is required to fill a minimum of 3 volunteer roles during the All-Stars season.

**Manager and Player Selection Process:**

1. **Manager Selection:**

* In April, the All-Stars committee puts out a call for managers. Managers are interviewed by the committee to ensure they align with our goals of providing a positive experience, ensuring everyone plays, and maintaining a strong commitment.
* Selected managers are then presented to the board's voting members for approval. Once approved, the roster of managers is announced publicly.

1. **Player Selection:**

* Managers are briefed on the selection process, which emphasizes current season performance, attitude, and team dynamics.
* Players are considered based on league age (10s play with 10s, 11s with 11s, etc.). To aid this process, we send out a nomination form to all coaches across divisions to suggest players they consider deserving.
* Managers reach out to families of potential candidates discreetly to check availability for the All-Star period. Players are not made aware of these inquiries.
* Managers typically consider 18-20 players but can only select 12. The selection can be challenging as many players are closely matched in skill and contribution.

1. **Review and Approval:**

* Proposed rosters are submitted to the committee for review and questions.
* Final rosters and assistant coaches are then sent to the voting board members for approval.

1. **Announcement and Tournament:**

* Teams are announced on June 1.
* The district tournament usually starts around mid-June, except for the Majors, who start on July 5.

**Local Little League Tournament Teams:** In addition to the district All-Stars teams, Alexandria Little League forms additional local tournament baseball teams of players who are not selected or are unable to commit to the district All-Stars schedule. These tournament teams (managers, assistant coaches, and players) are organized at the discretion of the All-Stars committee.