

About the Concord National Major and Minor Leagues

If you have a child that is league age 10 through league age 12, this handout will help you to decide whether or not to have him or her tryout for the major league. *In accordance with new Little League Rules for 2008 all players league age 12 will be placed on a major league team unless a petition is made and an exemption granted.* All 12 year olds are expected to be at tryouts.

Only players league age 10 through 12 may tryout for the major league, while all players league age 9 through 12 may participate in the minor league program. Players not selected for the major league will automatically be assigned to a minor league team. "League age" is the age of your child on April 30 of the upcoming season.

Note: As of the 2007 season, league age nine-year-olds are excluded from the major league and may only participate in the minor league program.

Difference between the Majors and Minors

The major league has an overall higher skill level; they play by the Little League Rule Book. The minor league has certain house rules determined by the minor league managers and league coordinator.

More of a commitment is expected of a major leaguer. Major league teams will usually play or practice up to six times a week. Minor leagues may only meet three to five times a week, although sometimes they do meet six. Since there are players cut, major league managers expect players to be on time and available for all games and practices unless otherwise excused.

Major league games always play six innings weather and light permitting; minor league games may last four to six innings.

Playing time and positions are more difficult to earn in majors than in minors with first year major leaguers generally not playing more than three innings per game.

Players assigned to a major league team remain assigned to that team for the duration of their tenure in the league barring any extenuating circumstances.

Frequently Asked Questions

Should/can my child tryout?

All children who are eligible for the major league can tryout and only players who tryout will be considered. In addition to major league managers and coaches there will also be some minor league managers and coaches who observe the tryout. The tryouts can be good experience for any participant. If your player is interested in learning about tryouts but hesitant about trying out they are invited to observe from the stands.

Will there be a cut?

Yes. There are many players eligible and often times there are few openings.

How are players selected?

The players are selected through a draft and chosen by the major league managers. Players will be evaluated on hitting, fielding, throwing and running. Each manager will have different opinions on how important each skill is and they also may evaluate based on other criteria.

How can I make sure my child has a good tryout?

- Come prepared to play. Be warmed up and ready to play at the start of the session.
- Dress in gym type clothes or baseball clothes including a hat. Wear gym shoes not boots or shoes.
- Pay attention at all times. Do not horse around during down times or when you are not actively participating. There are many coaches and managers watching at all times.
- Hustle on all plays; treat all plays as if a game situation, if you make an error keep after it.
- Try to practice before tryouts. Try not to make tryouts your first time picking up a ball or bat.

These questions and answers are not fully comprehensive. Each manager is able to set his own rules and criteria in accordance with Little League and Concord National rules.