



Central Vermont Little League Annual Report 2020 - 10/11/20

In December 2015, a group of volunteers got together with the idea of keeping Little League a high quality and positive experience for youth in the Central Valley and Montpelier communities. The product of that effort was the Central Vermont Little League, a merger of two leagues from nine towns: Berlin, Cabot, Calais, East Montpelier, Marshfield, Middlesex, Montpelier, Plainfield, and Worcester. The merger had several goals:

Goal	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
A larger pool of players, ages 5-12, to balance year-to-year variations in traditionally town-based baseball and softball rosters	378	373	375	389	124
A larger pool of teams to make scheduling regular-season games easier.	31	34	32	32	9
More fields available, and improved field utilization.	9	9	9	9	4
A deeper pool of volunteers.	75+	85+	125+	110	88
Support for the post-season (“All-Star”) Little League tournament.	2	2	2	3	2



Map courtesy of the Little League Data Center

This year the COVID-19 related shutdowns occurred as on-time registration was coming to a close which brought a great deal of uncertainty and confusion to the season. Due to the challenges imposed by the pandemic the league made the choice to cancel the season for all non-player pitch levels. Despite the challenges and delays the league was able to offer a season from mid-July through August.

2020 Accomplishments

- Participated in Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development meetings to contribute to the Vermont State restart guidelines for recreational sport programs and leagues.
- Created and maintained Return to Play protocols as guidance and circumstances changed.
- Maintained communication with sponsors and families
- Operated the 2020 season on donations only.
- Offered a season for 124 baseball and softball players when many other leagues canceled.
- The Minors All-Star team won the state championship.

Baseball Update

This season we were able to field three majors level teams and four minors teams for a season that ran from July 13-August 12 and featured a total of 53 games with an additional five games by a travel team, composed of players from several league teams, against teams from Lyndon Little League and Connecticut Valley North Little League.

The league fielded both 8-10 and 11-12 all-star teams to provide a tournament experience for 27 of our players.

Softball Update

Due to season cancellation by many other local softball programs the Minors and Majors softball teams focused on skill-building and scrimmaging. Overall, the players showed significant improvement in their fundamental skills, as well as their understanding of the rules, and general knowledge of the game of softball.

2020 Goals | update

- Increase awareness of scholarship opportunities during the registration process.
A scholarship request option was added to the signup questions
- Explore adding an “umpire assigner” role, similar to Babe Ruth
Not developed in 2020
- Explore paid “junior umpire” program **Started relationship with the MHS varsity team to umpire games in exchange for a donation to their (canceled) Spring Training Florida fundraiser.**
- Require head coaches at the Coach-Pitch and higher divisions to complete ASEP/PCA training, as required for Babe Ruth.
Not developed in 2020
- Incorporate Little League patch on uniforms (~20 hours of labor required + \$1@)
No regular season uniforms issued in 2020
- Develop social media policy, toward the goal of incorporating social media into the League in the future
Not developed in 2020
- Continue to strengthen the relationship with the Vermont Mountaineers to include host family recruiting
Added an option to the signup questions to receive more information about hosting a Mountaineer.
- Develop three-year succession plan
Not developed in 2020
- Improve facilities in coordination with towns
Volunteers assisted with field preparations in Montpelier, East Montpelier, and Calais
- Equipment / gear swap open to volunteers
Not developed in 2020
- Strengthen communication with other area baseball and softball programs.
Not developed in 2020

2021 Goals for Future Discussion

- Increase awareness of scholarship opportunities
- Explore adding an “umpire assigner” role, similar to Babe Ruth
- Explore “junior umpire” program
- Require head coaches at the Coach-Pitch and higher divisions to complete ASEP/PCA training, as required for Babe Ruth.
- Incorporate Little League patch on uniforms (~20 hours of labor required + \$1@)
- Develop social media policy, toward the goal of incorporating social media into the League in the future
- Update the website to include more resources for volunteers, players, and families.
- Refine registration and refund policies and procedures.
- Continue to strengthen the relationship with the Vermont Mountaineers
- Continue to build relationships with the local high school baseball/softball programs
- Develop three-year succession plan
- Improve facilities in coordination with towns
- Strengthen communication with other area baseball and softball programs