

# Sunnyvale Little League

## Player Tryout & Evaluations - Guide for Parents

(revised 1/20/17)

Prior to the season, Sunnyvale Little League conducts a series of evaluation and tryout sessions. The purpose of these sessions are to:

- Allow players to get back into the swing of things on the baseball diamond, as many have not touched a baseball in months if at all
- Provides younger players (i.e. Farm level players) to experience the drills typically included in a tryout, so that they are prepared when they age up to Minors or Majors
- Allow league Player Agents and Division Directors to assess the skill level of players
- Allow managers to assess player skills in advance of player drafts (applies to Majors and Minors Players only)

All players are encouraged to arrive early to all sessions. Players are required to check-in for all sessions, and will be issued a number so that coaches may distinguish them. There will be many players, so it will take some time to check players in. It is recommended that you be at the field no less than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of each session.

**ALL PLAYERS MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE LEAGUE IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY SESSION.** No onsite registration will be available, so register no less than 24 hours prior to each session to ensure your child is included in the roster of eligible players.

### Attire & Equipment--

Players should wear comfortable athletic clothing, which will allow them to move freely on the field. While not required, players are encouraged to wear baseball pants. Players should wear baseball cleats (no metal spikes). Players are strongly advised to wear a baseball hat, which shields the sun from the player's eyes. It is also strongly advised that all male players wear a protective sports cup. Any player who elects to demonstrate their skills at the catcher position **MUST** wear a protective cup. While there will be a few loaner helmets at all evaluation and tryout events, it is recommended that all players provide their own batting helmet, as the helmet should be appropriately fitted to the player. Players must bring their own glove. Some bats will be available to use at all tryouts, but it is recommended that players bring a bat that they are familiar with. Bats must be approved for play in Little League Baseball (for information on legal bats, please refer to list of approved bats found here:

[http://www.sunnyvalelittleleague.com/guides/coach\\_index.htm](http://www.sunnyvalelittleleague.com/guides/coach_index.htm))

These are long sessions, so players should bring water and a small snack (fruit or snack bars).

## Parent Participation--

While evaluations and tryouts can be quite stressful (on both players and parents), only players and coaches are allowed within the dugouts and playing field. Parents may stay and observe all sessions, but must remain in designated spectator areas (e.g. the bleachers). No coaching from the stands will be tolerated. No college scholarships will be issued during any of these sessions, so please let the kids enjoy the moment.

## Sessions--

Sunnyvale Little League will conduct the following tryout and evaluations sessions this year:

### 1) Document Verification--

#### Who:

1. All parents of new and returning players must submit a ***Volunteer Application Form***. This form is available on the SVLL website at these locations:
  1. New Volunteers: [http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms\\_pubs/volunteer-app.pdf](http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms_pubs/volunteer-app.pdf)
  2. Returning Volunteers:  
[http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms\\_pubs/returning-volunteer-app.pdf](http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms_pubs/returning-volunteer-app.pdf)
2. All new players to the league must have their ***residency verified***. All returning players are NOT required to go through residency verification.

**When / Where:** This verification process will take place on the following days:

1. Saturday, January 28th from 4th from 8:30-10:30am AND 12:30-2:30pm at Cupertino Middle School in conjunction with the Majors & Minors try-out events.
2. Saturday, February 4th from 8:30-10:30am in conjunction with the farm level evaluations.
3. The Registration Team is looking into possibly holding a verification event mid-week in the evening. More to come on this.

For information on the document verification process (including those docs that you must bring with you), please refer to the section Attend Document Verification Day on the league website at:<http://sunnyvalelittleleague.com/gen/registration.htm>. All returning players are NOT required to go through residency verification.

### 2) Minors Tryouts--

**When:** Saturday, January 28th, 9am to Noon

**Where:** Cupertino Middle School - Field #1

**Who:** Children aged 9 & 10 (8 year olds with advanced skills may be considered). Player MUST be registered in order to participate.

**What:** This session is intended to provide players who are planning on playing at the Minors Level with an opportunity to formally demonstrate their baseball skills to the Minors coaches. Players will be evaluated for foot speed, ability to field ground balls and fly balls, ability to throw from the outfield and infield, and hit against a pitching machine. Those players who wish to demonstrate their pitching and / or catching ability may do so at the end of tryouts (if time permits). This session is mandatory for all Minors Level players.

### 3) Majors Tryouts--

**When:** Saturday, January 28th, 1pm to 4pm

**Where:** Cupertino Middle School - Field #1

**Who:** Children aged 11 & 12 (10 year olds with advanced skills may be considered). Player MUST be registered in order to participate.

**What:** This session is intended to provide players who are planning on playing at the Majors Level with an opportunity to formally demonstrate their baseball skills to the Majors coaches. Players will be evaluated for foot speed, ability to field ground balls and fly balls, ability to throw from the outfield and infield, and hit against a pitching machine. Those players who wish to demonstrate their pitching and / or catching ability may do so at the end of tryouts (if time permits). This session is mandatory for all Majors Level players.

### 4) Farm Evaluation--

**When:** Saturday, February 4th, 9am to Noon

**Where:** Cupertino Middle School - Field #1

**Who:** Children aged 7 & 8 (6 year olds with advanced skills may be considered). Player MUST be registered in order to participate.

**What:** This session is intended to provide players who are planning on playing at the Farm Level with an opportunity to practice their skills prior to the start of the season. Players will be run through a series of baseball drills, intended to showcase the player's skill level. League Player Agents and Farm Coaches will be evaluating player skills, which will factor into team assignment. It is advised that all players who intend to play at the Farm level should attend this session so that the evaluators can appropriately assess the player's skill level.

### **Rain Contingency--**

In the event of rain, there is the possibility that we may move the event to a blacktop location as the City can close the Cupertino Middle School fields if they are saturated. We will send email updates to all registered players if there are any schedule changes..

### **Make-Ups--**

There are no scheduled make-up sessions planned at this time. Your child should make every effort to attend the appropriate mandatory sessions.

### **Questions--**

Still have questions? Send them to:

Farm Questions: Lower Level Player Agent: [playeragent.lower@sunnyvalelittleleague.com](mailto:playeragent.lower@sunnyvalelittleleague.com)

Minors & Majors Questions: Upper Level Player Agent:  
[playeragent.upper@sunnyvalelittleleague.com](mailto:playeragent.upper@sunnyvalelittleleague.com)