

Chapter 1 Before You Get Started...

Being a manager will require a few things to get you started and official. **First, you MUST complete the volunteer form for East Orange Little League as soon as possible.** This form is available online, as well as at the in-person registration days. It will require a copy of your driver's license be submitted along with it. The form, once completed in the spring, is good through the fall season as well.

Secondly, all managers are required to join as a Little League member – a nominal membership fee of \$1 is necessary, but this membership gives you opportunity to be a voting member of the league. Again, this membership is good from spring to spring.

Most importantly, you will have 12 pairs of eyes on you at all times, and watching every move you make. Your attitude toward Little League -- winning, losing, umpires, parents, etc. is contagious, so be a good advocate for youth sports and set a good example at all times for your players.

What's In It For You?

Managing a team can be a life changing experience for you AND for your players. Watching children grow and develop self esteem is extremely motivating. Using the "vehicle" of youth sports to teach determination, athletic involvement, perseverance, self control, preparation and a sense of community awareness are valuable tools that will build fine young men and women of the future. **You will have a direct influence on children and their development as human beings.**

Your own child will gain a new perspective of the depth of your commitments and be able to recall these most cherished times together for future use with their own children.

Winning and losing are very much a part of the game that you manage; however, they are a fraction of the "little picture" many people seem to find so attractive. When you embrace the challenge of developing young people (the "Big Picture"), you will find a feeling of accomplishment so deep and empowering that it stays with you forever. In a world of misplaced values and character, YOU will be making a real difference.

Please use the proceeding pages as a guidepost to team management. **Each manager is unique in style, priorities, strategies and temperament.** Be sure to consider the following information as you develop your identity as a youth advocate.