



Welcome to the 2019 Junior Saltdogs League baseball program.

Our Lincoln Youth Baseball Organization is associated with our hometown Lincoln Saltdogs, and we use the name “**Junior Saltdogs League**”.

All program services and daily League administration are provided by our Organization. All inquiries should be directed to the Junior Saltdogs League Board of Directors.

For more information, please see our website at www.jrsaltdogs.com.

DIVISIONS AND PROJECTED NUMBER OF GAMES:

- U6 t-ball for 5-6 yr olds [**must be at least 5 yrs old as of 4.30.19**]: 13 games plus JSL tournament
- U8 machine pitch for 7-8 yr olds: 13 games plus JSL tournament
- U10 for 9-10 yr olds: 16 games plus JSL tournament
- U12 for 11-12 yr olds: 18 games plus JSL tournament
- U14 for 13-14 yr olds: 20 games plus JSL tournament
- U16 for 15-16 yr olds: 14 games plus JSL tournament

NOTE: The number of players, number of teams, and field availability may affect the total number of games for each division

REGISTRATION: Bring in the registration form yourself or have a coach or a friend bring it in for you. Payment is due at sign-up; a registration will not be accepted without payment.

1. Parents are highly encouraged to come to one of the following in-person registration dates (cash and checks payable to Junior Saltdogs preferred, 1 credit card line will be available with a \$7 processing fee per registration added – allow extra time):
 - Sat, Jan 26 from 1pm-3pm at Auld Pavilion Rec Center, 1650 Memorial Dr
 - Thu, Jan 31 from 6pm-8pm at Belmont Rec Center, 1234 Judson St
 - Sat, Feb 9 from 1pm-3pm at Auld Pavilion Rec Center, 1650 Memorial Dr
 - Sat, Feb 16 from 1pm-3pm at FUNDamental Athletics Academy, 8400 Cody Drive, Suite K (near 14th & Yankee Hill)
2. Online registrations will be accepted at www.jrsaltdogs.com from January 9 until midnight on February 16. A processing fee of approximately 8% from the online agent will be assessed to all online registrations.
3. The late registration period will be from February 17 until midnight on March 2 by online registration only. In addition to the online agent’s processing fee, a \$25 late fee will also be assessed. **There will be no U6-U14 registrations accepted after March 2 – NO EXCEPTIONS. U16 division, see special section below.**
4. In addition to the player fee, all U6-U16 registrants are required to choose one fundraiser option, either (A) buying a Saltdogs 12-ticket booklet and reselling each ticket to recoup your fundraiser fee; or (B) choosing the “buy-out” option which means you prefer to pay the in lieu of fee and not receive/sell the Saltdogs tickets.
5. If you plan to list a coach request, check with that coach **before** you register to make sure he/she plans to volunteer to coach and for what division. Please be sure to list his/her correct first and last name. Note that no changes can be made after teams are organized.
6. Your registration form must be filled out completely and accurately and signed by a parent/guardian at the bottom. If you need to make a change after you have registered, you can email you change to Deb at jslregistrations@jrsaltdogs.com by March 2. She will respond back to you to confirm she received your change.
7. We do not accept registration forms that are mailed in – NO EXCEPTIONS.
8. There are no registration refunds.

U16 DIVISION: Registration refunds are not given; therefore, if you anticipate trying out for a summer legion baseball team, do not sign-up with Junior Saltdogs League until after Legion tryouts are done. U16 registration will have a second registration period in April which will stay open until later in May (check the U16 page of the website for additional details and the final registration deadline). Games for the U16 division will start in mid-June and run through July. A mandatory U16 head coach meeting will be held in early June. The U16 commissioner will contact all U16 head coaches when they are finalized with the meeting details.

AGE VERIFICATION: For the U16 division only, the player’s birth certificate, learner’s permit, or driver’s license must be shown for age verification. For other divisions, the parent/guardian signature at the bottom of the form will certify that all information is honest and accurate. A player’s age as of April 30, 2019 determines the youngest age division that he/she can play in. We recommend that all players play in their appropriate age division; however, players can play up one age division. **To play in the U6 t-ball division, players must be at least 5 years old as of April 30, 2019.**

What’s New for 2019

SHIRTS: A new brand of dri-fit shirt will be used so sizing may be different. Samples will be available at the 4 in-person registration dates so you can be sure to order the correct size. Re-ordered shirts are \$20.

BALLS: For U6, we will continue to use a softer safety ball. All other divisions will use a regular baseball.

BATS: 2018 bat rules will continue for 2019. U6-U8 can use any baseball bat with no inspection or sticker required. U10-U16 bats must be inspected by us. If they already have our approved sticker on it (orange for U10-U14 and green for U16) then it is good to go for 2019. If it doesn’t, inspections will be done at the in-person registrations and at a few days in early May (to be posted on the website later). After that time, bat inspections will be VERY limited and will not be done on a regular basis at game fields so we highly recommend that you have it done at in-person registration or at one of the early May.

ROSTERS: Players will be assigned to a team based on requests for division, coach, friend, school, and zip code. Requests are not guaranteed but we do our best to honor them when we are able to.

COMMUNICATION: If you have questions, please check the FAQ page of our website at www.jrsaltdogs.com. If your question is not answered there, email the board member/commissioner that you need using the email addresses listed on our website.

COACHES: If you are willing to be a head coach, please check the box on the coach section of the player registration form and provide the requested information. Background checks will be conducted on all individuals indicating a willingness to be a head coach. We do allow and encourage anyone wanting to head coach to attach a list of the players you anticipate being on your team to your child's registration form. **It will be used as a guide only.** Commissioners will refer to the individual player registration forms as their primary source, but having a coach list is helpful when they begin the team sort process. Note that JSL reserves the right to add or remove players. Roster sizes will vary by team and division. Commissioners will make the final decisions on individuals selected to head coach a team and will contact them directly with the date of the mandatory head coaches meeting.

GAME SCHEDULES: U6-U14 games will most likely begin in early to mid-May which may cause conflicts with year-end school activities, so please be advised and plan accordingly since games will not be rescheduled. Each year, the number of teams and available fields vary. Schedules are not finalized until late April and until that time, we cannot commit to certain days for any division. Possible game days are:

- Week day evenings
- Saturday morning, afternoon and evening
- Sunday afternoon/evening. Sunday games would not begin before 1pm

RAINOOTS: The playing fields are checked by JSL, city park officials, and field owners before a determination for safety and playability is made. Game cancellations are forwarded via mobile text alert (see next section) and also posted on the phone rainout lines and "rainout info" page of our website by 5 pm. Please note that JSL does not own any fields so we must wait for representatives from each of the fields to contact us as to whether games can be played. Field and weather conditions may improve or deteriorate after the fields are checked and may be different in other areas of town. The rainout decisions are final, and teams should not play the game on their own.

- The first two rainouts will not be rescheduled; after that we will attempt to reschedule rainout games, **but no guarantees can be made.** Head coaches should notify their commissioner as soon as they have their 3rd rainout. All tournament games are an added bonus and cannot be rescheduled if rained out.

MOBILE TEXT ALERTS: We will use the same text alert service that we have used in past years so if you are a returning player and signed up for the text alerts at that time, your number is still be registered. To verify if you are registered (or to register a new phone to receive our alerts), text JRSALTDogs to shortcode 84483 from the phone(s) you want to receive the alerts. Within 30 seconds, you should receive a welcome message to let you know your phone was registered successfully. If you don't receive it, see the "rainout info" page of our website for troubleshooting directions.

GAME FIELDS: Each year, we work closely with the City and other privately-owned organizations to secure playing fields. Many fields across Lincoln are used in order to complete the schedule.

PRACTICE FIELDS: Practices are left completely up to the head coach of each team as far as how many, where, and when they are held.

NO SMOKING: Smoking is not allowed at any fields that we rent.

BAT RULES/INSPECTIONS: Bats rules for 2019 will be the same as we had in 2018 - see the box on the reverse side.

SPONSORSHIPS: Team sponsorships are a great way of supporting youth baseball in Lincoln. Businesses can choose to sponsor a specific team, player, or coach. Team sponsors are given prominent recognition with the name and/or logo of your company or organization on the shirts of the team players/coaches as well as on our website and in the *Lincoln Journal Star* in August. For more information, see the "Sponsors" page on our website at www.jrsaltdogs.com. If you know of a business that might be interested, please let them know about this opportunity or contact a JSL board member at jslsponsors@jrsaltdogs.com.

Our Junior Saltdogs "Know Your Role" philosophy: Players will play, coaches will coach, umpires will umpire, and parents will parent.

Play ball . . .

2019 Junior Saltdogs League Board of Directors
www.jrsaltdogs.com

Concussion information for coaches, parents and players is posted on the "Concussions" page of our website.