



Welcome to the 2021 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. For more information and if any questions, please contact the Junior Saltdogs League Board of Directors using the email links on 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 4.30.21**]: 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
- U17 for 15-16-17 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: To keep everyone safe due to Covid, no in-person registrations will be held. All registrations will be via our online system. Accepted payments are credit cards or electronic checks from a checking or savings account.

1. The regular registration period will be from January 11 – February 20, 2021 with JSL covering the online processing fee.
2. The late registration period will be from February 21 until midnight on March 6. A \$25 late fee will be added as well as the online processing fee for each player. **There will be no U6-U14 registrations accepted after March 6 – NO EXCEPTIONS. U17 division, see special section below.**
3. We will have one all-inclusive player fee (there will no longer be a separate fundraiser fee).
4. JSL commissioners form teams based on the requests listed on each player’s registration for (1) coach request, (2) friend request, (3) school and (4) home zip code. If you plan to list a coach or friend request, check with that coach/friend **before** you register to make sure he/she plans to volunteer to coach/play and for what division. Please be sure to list his/her correct first and last name.
5. To make a change before March 7, email Deb at jslregistrations@jrsaltdogs.com with your change. She will respond back to you to confirm she received your change. After March 6, no changes can be made.
6. We do not accept registration forms that are mailed in – NO EXCEPTIONS.
7. There are no registration refunds.

U17 HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION: For 2021, our high school division will include 15, 16 and 17 yr olds (as of 4.30.21). Adding 17 year olds for the 2021 season will give those who would have aged out after our 2020 season was cancelled, the opportunity to play one last season if they’d like. Since registration refunds are not given, if you anticipate trying out for a summer legion baseball team, please do not sign-up with Junior Saltdogs League until after Legion tryouts are done. For U17, we will open a second registration period in late April which will stay open until later in May (check the U17 page of the website for additional details and the final registration deadline). Games for the U17 division will start in mid-June and run through July. A mandatory U17 head coach meeting will be held in early June. The U17 commissioner will contact all U17 head coaches when they are finalized with the meeting details. U17 coaches will then reach out to all their players.

AGE VERIFICATION: Submitting your online registration certifies that all information is accurate. JSL reserves the right to require a birth certificate to be shown upon request by a JSL board member. For the U17 division only, the player’s birth certificate, learner’s permit, or driver’s license must be shown following registration for age verification. If you’ve played in our high school division in past years and you have already provided the age verification document, we have that noted in our system so you will not need to provide it again. If you are new to our high school division, Deb will reach out after receiving the registration so that you can forward her the age verification document. A player’s age as of April 30, 2021 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, 2021.**

What’s New for 2021

FEES: Our registration fee and fundraiser fee have been combined into one all-inclusive player fee. The fee will include registration, a shirt and cap. There will be no fundraiser.

REGISTRATION: To keep everyone safe, all registration for 2021 will be via our online system - no in-person registrations will be held. The online system will accept credit cards and electronic checks from a checking or savings account. JSL will cover the online processing fee during the regular registration period. During late registration, a \$25 late fee will be added as well as the online processing fees.

HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION: In 2021 only, this division has changed from U16 to U17 and we have increased our age cap to 17 yrs (as of 4.30.21). With the cancellation of our 2020 season, this will provide one additional year of baseball to those who weren’t able to play in 2020.

ROSTERS: Players will be assigned to a team based on their requests for division, coach, friend, and school. 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.

HEAD COACHING: Everyone should answer the question about the willingness to head coach which is part of the player registration. 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 mid-May (for U17 see the special paragraph on page 1). Please plan accordingly as 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

RAINOUTS: 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 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 may not be rescheduled if rained out.

MOBILE TEXT ALERTS: For 2021, all parents will need to re-register to receive text alerts. Directions will be emailed out and added to the website Rainout Info page closer to the start of the season.

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.

PRACTICES: Where, when, and how often to practice is left completely up to the head coach of each team.

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

BAT RULES/INSPECTIONS: Bats rules for 2021 will be the same as we had in 2019 and 2020 - see the website for more details.

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 the company on the team shirts as well as on our website and in our Season Highlights 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 . . .

2021 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.