



# Big Leagues

## Fall 2022



### Dilworth Big League Mission:

Welcome to the Big Leagues at Dilworth, which provide youth between the ages of 13 and 18 an opportunity to continue playing baseball on larger and full-sized fields with their friends in a fun, competitive, and structured environment.

### Big Leagues Overview:

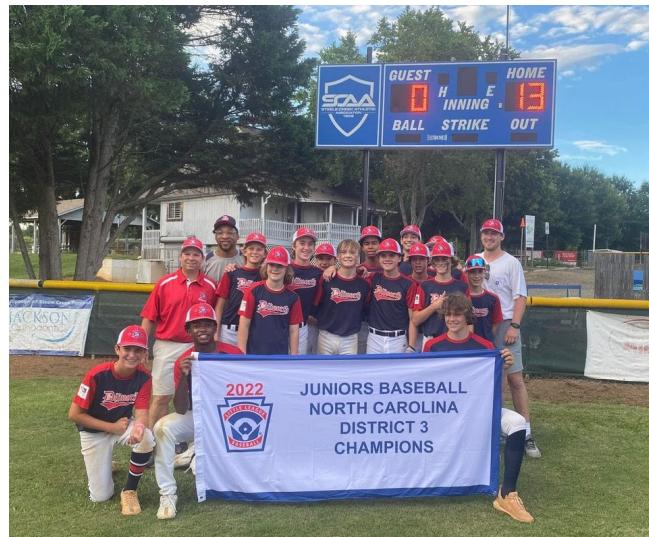
Dilworth will be offering three divisions for players 13 through 18 years old. In all divisions we will play teams from across the district (e.g., CoulOak, MARA, Steele Creek, etc.) and will need to travel to these locations for our away games. At the end of the fall season there is a tournament with many of the teams in our District to give the players a chance to get some tournament experience. At the end of spring season, Dilworth coaches will select an All Stars team for each division to compete in a District 3 tournament (and hopefully the states/regional tournaments). The fall season is a great opportunity for the players moving up from the small, little league fields to get used to playing on a regulation sized field. Here is an overview of the divisions.

### Juniors/Seniors Divisions

Dilworth's Junior and Senior divisions are for players that are serious about baseball and team sports and want to continue to play baseball without the commitment/costs of travel baseball.

For the players in the Juniors division, this will be their first opportunity to play on a regulation size baseball field. As they learn to adjust, the game speeds up; however, this division is really about transitioning to the big field. This past spring our Juniors All-Stars team won the District 3 title and competed in state juniors tournament in Marion, NC.

The players in the Seniors division typically come up through the Juniors program. Some players will be playing for their high school team, and the baseball at this level is much more competitive. The expectation is that players in this division have been playing baseball for a long time.



### Babe Ruth – 18u

This fall we will be offering players 18 and under the opportunity to play Babe Ruth baseball through Dilworth. This past two spring/summer seasons, Dilworth had two 18u teams and our 18u All Stars team competed in the Southeast Regional tournament in Virginia. I am continuing to work with the leaders of Babe Ruth baseball to tweak the structure for this division within our normal district. The details of which organizations will be participating this fall season are still in process, but I suspect that Lake Norman, Dilworth, MARA, Pineville, Weddington, and Steele Creek will have teams. CoulOak may have a team as well. Babe Ruth is planning an 18u season very similar to the other division described above.



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### Juniors Challenge Opportunity

This is exciting news! Leagues from across our District are looking to expand the “Challenge-like” division this fall to give selected players the opportunity to play additional games across the District. The Juniors commissioner for MPTLL (Bo Coggins) is organizing this division, and more information will be provided once it becomes available. During the season, games for the Challenge teams will likely be on Sundays – possibly double-headers. The games will be played at regular Juniors fields, including Sedgefield. The rules will be the same as regular Junior Little League rules. This is an exciting opportunity to elevate the level of competition for Juniors-aged players.

Below is a snapshot of each of the Divisions (**note: all dates in the table below are tentative**):

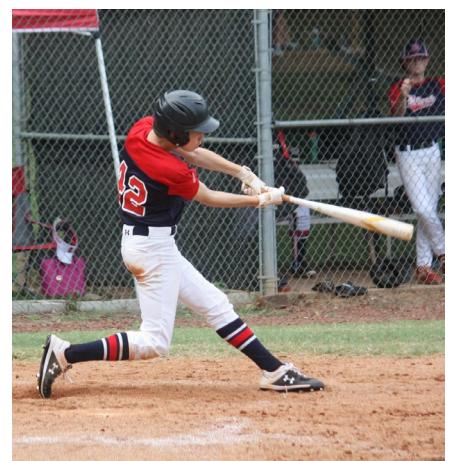
Divisions	Juniors	Seniors	18u
Age (see below)	13-14	15-16	16-18
Player Evaluations and Tryouts	August 27-28	August 27-28	August 27-28
Team Size	12-14 per team	12-14 per team	14-18 per team
Practices Start	Week of Aug. 29	Week of Aug. 29	Week of Aug. 29
Season Start	Sept. 17	Sept. 17	Sept. 17
End of Season Tourney	Nov. 4-6	Nov. 4-6	Nov. 4-6
Home Field	Sedgefield/AGMS	Sedgefield/AGMS	Sedgefield/Southview
Registration Deadline	August 25	August 25	August 25

Typically, all teams will practice 2-3 times per week before the season starts and then 1-2 times per week once the games start.

### **Player Evaluations/Tryouts:**

All players that are Little League ages 13 and 14 (see age chart below) will go through evaluations/tryouts on August 27<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of these evaluations is to allow coaches to draft teams in an effort to balance the Dilworth teams in each division.

Depending on the numbers at each level, there may be players that are asked to consider being “dual-rostered”. For example, if the 18U team is short a few players, a 16-year-old could be rostered on the Seniors team and the 18U team.





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### Uniforms:

In the Big Leagues, we like our players to look good! At this age however, one of the biggest challenges with uniforms is determining the proper pant size, and in the past, many parents were exchanging pants trying to find a pair that fit properly. As a result, we are asking parents to purchase game pants for their players. Please get all white or white with navy blue piping down the side and preferably elastic bottom or knickers style. Dilworth will provide the players with a hat, jersey, belt, and socks.

### Game Details:

In the Big Leagues, we play seven (7) inning games with a mandatory "mercy" rule (15 runs after 4 innings or 10 runs after 5 innings). For the Little League divisions, pitching count rules are applicable. In the spring of 2018, Little League adopted the USA bat standards. The following link will provide you more information on the new standards and which bat is right for your son - <http://www.littleleague.org/learn/equipment/baseballbatinfo.htm>. While not required, we encourage our players to use no more than a drop-5 bat (although larger drops are accepted). We do have a few team bats that are USA Baseball approved and drop-3. BBCOR (drop-3) bats are acceptable in Juniors and are required in Seniors.

### Age Determination:

This fall all Leagues are using the 2023 Little League Age Chart (Juniors and Seniors) – the chart to the right should help you determine your son's Baseball Age. The 18u division will use Babe Ruth's 2023 Age Chart.

To play in the **Junior League** this fall season your son will need to be born between:

**September 1, 2008 and August 31, 2010.**

To play in the **Senior League** this fall season your son will need to be born between:

**September 1, 2006 and August 31, 2008.**

To play on the **Babe Ruth 18U team** this fall season your son will need to be born between:

**January 1, 2004 and April 30, 2007.**

### 2023 Little League® Age Chart



Match month (top line) and box with year of birth. League age indicated at right.

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AGE
2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2009	2009	2009	2009	13
2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2008	2008	2008	2008	14
2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2007	2007	2007	2007	15
2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2006	2006	2006	2006	16



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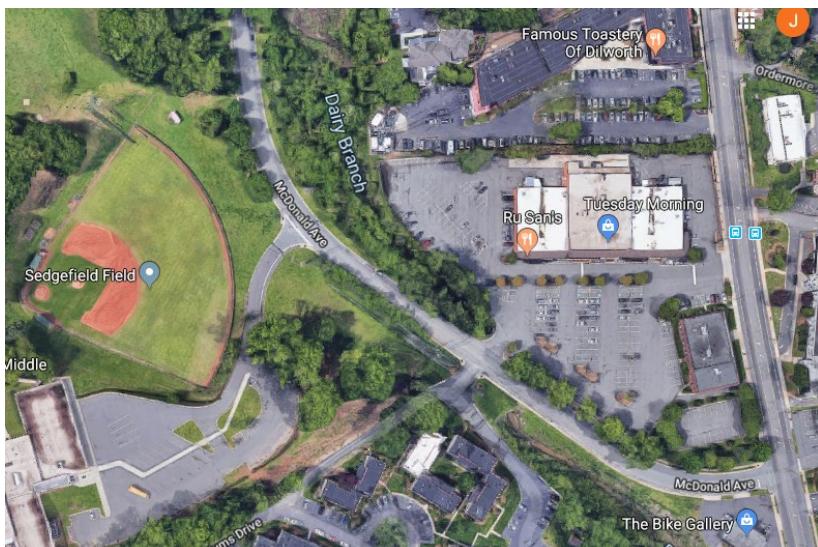


### The Big League Fields:

#### **Sedgefield Middle School (Home of Dilworth's Junior and Senior League):**

Most of you already know where Sedgefield is located. The baseball field, also known as the "Sedge" is accessed from McDonald Ave. Hopefully, the map below helps you find us!

### Overhead of the Sedge



#### **Alexander Graham Middle School – 1800 Runnymede Ln, Charlotte, NC 28211**

This fall we will have access to the baseball field at AG Middle School. We will primarily use this field for practices; however, depending on how many teams we have, we could also use this field for some home games. The map below shows where the school and baseball field are located.



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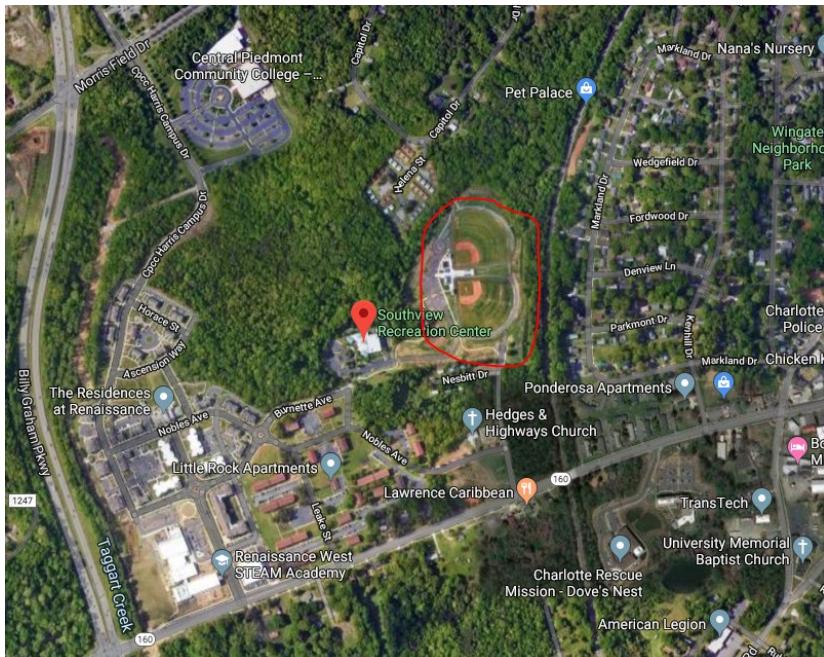
### Overhead of Map of AG Middle School



### Southview (Fields 1 and 2) – 1720 Vilma Street, Charlotte, NC 28208

While these fields are a little further out, they are really nice. These fields will be the home field for our 18U team and will serve as practice fields for all of our Big League teams. The map below shows where these fields are located.

### Overhead of Southview



### Questions:

If you have any questions, please reach out to Dilworth Little League's Big Leagues Commissioner – Jay Brietz at 704-996-4655 (cell) or ([jaybrietz@gmail.com](mailto:jaybrietz@gmail.com)).