



**2019 Virginia State
Junior League
Softball Tournament**



**Hosted by
Virginia District 15 and Caroline County
Little Leagues
5 - 10 July 2019**

Congratulations!

Virginia District 15 and Caroline County Little Leagues welcome the Virginia Junior League Softball District Champions to our home. We congratulate you on reaching this level of the Little League® International Tournament and are excited to introduce you to historic Caroline County. Caroline County is in the North Central part of Virginia, approximately 30 miles north of the state capital. It is the birthplace of the renowned racehorse Secretariat, winner of the 1973 Triple Crown, and the site of many key historical events. We are certain you will be able to find something to do and learn something new away from the ballpark while you are visiting our area. The County was named for Queen Caroline of Ansbach, wife of King George II of Great Britain. Established in 1728, it occupies 549 square miles and has a population of 29,778 (2014 census). The County Seat is Bowling Green, home to Caroline County Little League and our tournament. For more information, please visit the Bowling Green Website, www.visitcaroline.com or view and download the Visitor Guide from the State Tournament link on the Virginia District 15 website, <https://www.vadistrict15.org/>

Good luck to all of the teams and let's make this your best All Star Tournament ever!

District 15 District Administrator

Jim Roberts – Tournament Director
Cell (best): (540) 660-4487
Home: (540) 775-1156
Work: (540) 653-2695
Office: (540) 644-9044
Virginia15DA@va.metrocast.net

District 15 Umpire Consultant

Brian Wolfe
(540) 903-0596
scllinfo@comcast.net

Tournament Chairman

David Fletcher, CCLL President
Cell: (540) 847-0863
carolinelittleleaguepresident@gmail.com

Assistant Tournament Chairman

Ben Carter
Cell: (540) 809-1664
bencarter77@yahoo.com

KCLL Umpire in Chief

Kent Flippen
804-633-9004
kpflippen@gmail.com

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the above individuals with any questions or concerns. Please check our website, www.VADistrict15.org for additional information and tournament updates.

Schedule of Events

Team Registration	Fri., July 5	12 noon – 4:00 pm	Caroline County LL Park
Field Inspection	Fri., July 5	4:00 pm	Caroline County LL Park
Opening Ceremonies and Picnic	Fri., July 5	5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Caroline County LL Park
Tournament Meeting	Fri., July 5	7:30 pm	Caroline County LL Park
Games Begin	Sat., July 6	10:00 am	Caroline County LL Park
Championship Game	TBD	TBD	Caroline County LL Park

Sites

Registration, Opening Ceremony, picnic, and the Pre-Tournament Meeting will be held at the Caroline County Little League Complex

Caroline County Little League Complex

15496 Paige Road
Bowling Green, VA 22427
(804) 633-4332

All games will be played at the Caroline County Little League Field. The Concession Stand will be open and there is ample parking. Bleacher seating is available and lawn chairs are welcome.

Caroline County Little League Complex

15496 Paige Road
Bowling Green, VA 22427
(804) 633-4332

Caroline County Little League Website: <http://www.carolinecountylittleleague.com/>

Practice fields and batting cages are available at the tournament site. You will be able to reserve a practice field when you register your team.

No smoking or tobacco use is permitted at the field, which includes vaping and chewing. No alcohol or illicit drugs shall be brought to the tournament site. Pets are not allowed at the field. We strongly recommend you leave your pets at home.

Websites and Social Media

We will do our best to update websites and social media with tournament news and updates. Please visit our website or follow us on Facebook and/or Twitter. Please note Little League's policy regarding use of photographs of ball players in the media and social websites.

Virginia District 15 Website: <http://www.vadistrict15.org>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/vadistrict15> or @vadistrict15

Twitter: @Virginia15LL

Caroline County Little League Website: <http://www.carolinecountylittleleague.com/>

Virginia State Little League Website: <http://vastatell.teampages.com/>

Team Registration

All teams must register with the Tournament Officials at the Caroline County Little League Complex between noon and 4:00 pm on Friday, July 5, 2019. Please contact the District 15 DA, Jim Roberts, if you cannot register during this time.

Please be prepared to present the following items:

- Your team's up-to-date tournament eligibility affidavit signed and approved by your League President and District Administrator. The affidavits will be collected and held by the Tournament Director until your team plays their last game in the tournament. All managers and coaches must have proof of current Concussion Training Certification in the Notebook.
- Two (2) copies of the medical release form for each player on your roster. We will retain one set and the other will remain with you along with the affidavit notebook.
- District 15 and the host league will make arrangements for team lodging. Participating leagues/teams are responsible for making hotel reservations and for any damage that occurs to rooms or other hotel property. If damage occurs to a room during the teams' stay, the league/team/individual party is responsible for making restitution with the hotel.
- Team roster form (included below) with names of all players and **official** coaching staff (Manager and up to two (2) coaches) as they would like to be announced. Please include player jersey numbers and double check the spelling of all players' names. The roster information will be used to customize the souvenir tee shirts.
- Your District Championship Banner.
- Payment for additional dinner tickets for family members and fans; tickets for the Opening Picnic will be \$12 per person. Please use the pre-order form provided in this packet to reserve dinner tickets for families and fans. The picnic will be complimentary for rostered players, managers and coaches, courtesy of Virginia District 15 Little League. Tickets will be provided at registration. Tickets will be reserved for teams that pre-order meal tickets. Additional meal tickets **may** be available for purchase at the time of registration based on availability on a first come, first served basis. Teams are encouraged to complete and submit the enclosed Opening Ceremony and Picnic Order Form as soon as possible after earning your District Championship.
- A welcome packet/goody bag will be provided for each player.

Note: Each team MUST have their approved tournament eligibility affidavit to participate in the tournament. Please take the time to review it before traveling to the tournament site and ensure all necessary documentation is included. This includes Concussion Awareness Training Certification for the Manager and Coaches.

Your team will not be permitted to register, practice or participate in the tournament without a valid, signed, and approved affidavit. No Exceptions.

Field Inspection

All **rostered** managers and coaches should arrive at (or return to) the designated fields by 4:00 pm on Friday, 5 July to inspect the fields. Only **rostered** managers and coaches will have the opportunity to walk the fields prior to games being played. The Tournament staff will be on hand to answer questions about the fields, ground rules, facilities, and any other questions you may have about the tournament. Managers and coaches should plan to join their players and fans at the designated site by 5:00 pm for opening ceremonies.

Opening Ceremony and Picnic

Opening ceremonies and dinner will be held at the Caroline County Little League Complex. In case of inclement weather, an alternate site will be used. The Opening Ceremony is scheduled to begin promptly at 5:30 pm with team introductions. Please have your team in jerseys, shorts or slacks, and tennis shoes, lined up and ready to be introduced by 5:15 pm. Team uniforms are not required nor expected. Please ensure you have your District Championship Banner to display as your team is introduced. Team pictures may be taken.

The Opening Picnic/Dinner will begin immediately following the Opening Ceremony. Dinner will be provided for **rostered** players, managers, and coaches on Thursday evening following the opening ceremony. Dinner tickets for family members and fans are \$12.00 each; dinner tickets for children 10 and under are \$8.00. Your team is strongly encouraged to pre-order tickets for the Opening Picnic. Please complete and return the pre-order form provided in this packet ahead of time. Additional tickets **may** be offered at registration, depending on availability.

Tournament Meeting

A mandatory meeting for all managers, coaches, tournament officials, and umpires will be held at **7:30 pm** at the designated tournament site following the opening ceremony and picnic. Time will be allotted for players to meet other teams and players and exchange commemorative pins.

We will review the tournament rules as well as the expectations and logistics of play: warm-up schedule, pre-game announcements, substitution process, etc.

All 2019 Junior League Softball Tournament rules will be enforced and adhered to **without** exception. Please ensure all equipment brought to the tournament site meets Little League regulations and specifications. **Any equipment removed from the tournament will not be returned to the respective team until after their last game in the tournament.** Neither the Tournament Director nor Umpires in Chief have the authority to waive any rule without the express permission and approval of the Tournament Committee in Williamsport. All managers, coaches, players, and fans are encouraged to review the Tournament playing rules and Little League safety rules before they arrive to help us prevent any surprises or misunderstandings. All managers and coaches are reminded to ensure they have completed an appropriate Concussion Awareness Training within the last year and the certificate is included in the Affidavit Notebook.

Hotel Accommodations

Rooms have been blocked at several local hotels for teams at an expected occupancy rate of 9 rooms per team. Teams are responsible for contacting the hotels directly and mentioning "VA District 15" to obtain the preferred rate for the blocked rooms. **This should be done within one business day of your District Championship. Lodging expenses are the responsibility of the individual teams and fans.**

Teams must make reservations not later than noon on Thursday, June 27, 2019 to take advantage of the block. After this date, the rooms may be made available to others on a first come, first served basis.

We have blocked rooms for the anticipated rostered players, coaches, and managers. All players from each team will be able to be accommodated at the same hotel but all teams will not be able to be in the same hotel. Additional local lodging information is provided for your information and use. Other lodging options are available within a reasonable drive but are not listed.

The following hotels are providing a special rate for tournament participants and guests. Please contact them directly as soon as you can to make reservations for your team. Please note that this is the height of the tourist season and rooms are at a premium, especially these that are located conveniently to Paramount Kings Dominion theme park.



A list of other conveniently located hotels is included below. Since the tournament site is relatively close to the I-95 corridor and the Kings Dominion Theme Park, there are many lodging options available. District Administrators or other District or Virginia State Little League Staff planning to attend the tournament should contact Jim Roberts at 540-660-4487 for room reservation information.

Other Lodging Accommodations

A list of other lodging accommodations is included below. As a reminder, teams not planning to use the hotels listed above must contact the District Administrator, Jim Roberts, not later than noon on Thursday, 28 June so the rooms can be released.

Knights Inn

23786 Rogers Clark Blvd.
Ruther Glen VA 22546
Phone: (804) 448-2499

Super 8 Motel

24011 Ruther Glen Rd.,
Ruther Glen, VA 22546
Phone: (804) 375-2912

Nearby Campgrounds

Kings Dominion KOA

10061 Kings Dominion Blvd.
Doswell, VA 23047
Phone: 804.876.3006
<https://koa.com/campgrounds/richmond-north/>

Kings Dominion Camp Wilderness

10061 Kings Dominion Blvd.
Doswell, VA 23047
Phone: 804.876.3006
<https://www.kingsdominion.com/stay>

Americamps RV Resort

11322 Air Park Road
Ashland, VA 23005
Phone: 804.798.5298
<https://americamps.com/>

Dining, Shopping, & Recreation Information

Many of the merchants in Bowling Green, Ruther Glen, and Carmel Church are offering special discounts to welcome Tournament participants. Each player will receive this information in their welcome packet/goody bag.

For additional information, please contact or visit the Caroline County Visitors Center. It is located one-half mile from I-95 Exit 104, on Rt. 207 east, and lies close to the hotels and tournament site. The facility offers rest stop comforts, including restrooms, and snack and drink vending. It has travel and weather information as well as state & local maps and menus from local restaurants. It also offers the unique experience of a 28-ft. prehistoric whale skeleton found in Carmel Church. The informational railing details the process of the whale discovery and excavation as well as the formation of Virginia's Fall Line. People can also examine other fossils such as whale bones, shark's teeth, and a horse's jaw, all found at the nearby quarry. It also has a gift shop that spotlights local talent and offers county and Secretariat memorabilia.

Caroline County Visitor Center

23724 Rogers Clark Blvd.
Ruther Glen, VA 22546
804-633-3490
804-633-3491 (Visitor Center retail shop)

Kings Dominion Amusement Park

16000 Theme Park Way
Doswell, VA 23047
(804) 876-5000

Mementos

Each rostered player and coach will be provided a commemorative pin. Teams are encouraged to bring trading pins from their home District or League for trading. Custom Virginia Junior League Softball Tournament Tee shirts, pins, and other items will be available for purchase at the tournament site. Teams are encouraged to preorder the Tee Shirts in order to ensure the correct size and quantity.

Pictures

A local professional photographer will be on site to take official team pictures and action photos during the games. **No** unofficial team representatives will be allowed in the dugouts or on the fields during games. Photography or filming is allowed through/over the fence **only**.

Teams will be able to schedule team pictures during registration. Parents, family members, and fans will have an opportunity to take pictures at that time.

Food

With the exception of the Opening Picnic, each team is expected to provide food for their players, managers, and coaches throughout the tournament. Coolers may be brought to the tournament site but grilling or open fires are not permitted at any time. There is a concession stand at the ballpark and there are ample restaurants in the area. Most of the hotels provide some type of breakfast and offer other refreshments. Tournament participants and guests are encouraged to patronize the host league's Concession Stand and local restaurants.

Medical Facilities

If any medical emergency should arise, please call 911. Please report any incident involving a player or coach to Jim Roberts, David Fletcher, or Brian Wolfe as soon as possible. Players receiving medical attention for a softball-related injury **must** have written approval from a doctor to return to play. There are **no** exceptions. Click on the medical facility name for a link to the website.

Ladysmith Medical Center
18020 Jefferson Davis Hwy
Ruther Glen, VA 22546
(804) 448-2550 (Office)

Ladysmith Urgent Care
17428 Center Drive, Suite E,
Ruther Glen, VA 22546
(804) 448-4885

Virginia Primary Care Associates
121 Courthouse Lane
Bowling Green, VA 22427
804.633.5840

Spotsylvania Regional Medical Center
4600 Spotsylvania Pkwy, Fredericksburg, VA 22408
spotsrhc.com
(540) 498-4000

Sportsmanship

Good sportsmanship is often associated with taking a loss gracefully, but winning gracefully is just as important. The exposure of children to negative behavior by adults creates a challenge for coaches in stressing the difference between being passionate about a sport and demonstrating extreme negative or hurtful attitudes. Please remind your team's parents and fans of the Parent Code of Conduct and how important it is for the adults to set a good example for the ball players. While the Little League® International Tournament focuses on winning to advance in tournament play, it is also important to recognize that all teams earned the privilege to represent their league and their District in the State Tournament and to enjoy the experience. **Stress the importance of playing with respect, honor and skill, regardless of the outcome of the game.**

Umpires

Approved Volunteer Umpires will be used in all games. If any substitute umpires are required, approval must be obtained from the Tournament Director with recommendation from the Virginia District 15 Umpire Consultant and Virginia State Tournament Umpire Association. The Virginia District 15 Umpire Association and Caroline County Little League will provide a hospitality room for the umpires. Umpires are requested to contact the Virginia District 15 DA, Jim Roberts, at (540) 660-4487 or by email at Virginia15DA@va.metrocast.net to confirm assignment and participation.

Equipment

Each team must provide their own equipment. District 15 will provide assistance in case of emergency.

Please inspect your equipment before traveling. In accordance with Little League Softball® rules, umpires and tournament officials will inspect equipment prior to each game before it will be allowed in the dugout to make sure it is authorized and in good repair. Some of the things that will be inspected include, but are not limited to:

- Helmets must be NOCSAE-approved and cannot be modified. Helmets cannot be repainted nor have added decals or stickers, including name or number stickers, or else they must have a certification letter from the manufacturer for each helmet.
 - As recently reported by Little League® International, it has begun to receive inquiries regarding helmet attachments (C-flap, etc.) as to whether or not they're permitted in Little League play.
 - Altering a helmet in anyway (drilling holes, removing padding, etc.) may cause a manufacturer to void the NOCSAE certification of that helmet, making it illegal to use in Little League play. If you have altered your helmet or intend to, please contact the helmet manufacturer to determine if altering the helmet will void the NOCSAE certification.
 - Little League International issued a letter to all youth batting helmet manufacturers for clarification on whether or not adding C-flaps to their helmets voids their NOCSAE certification. Manufacturer responses are posted on Little League International's website, www.LittleLeague.org/HelmetAdditions, where you can find more information about helmet attachments as it becomes available.
 - Tournament officials will be checking helmets to ensure they have not been altered in any way and to ensure the manufacturer's warranty has not been voided.
- Catcher's masks must be NOCSAE-approved and must have a dangling throat protector. This includes hockey-style masks. If the throat protector does not dangle when the mask is turned to face the ground, it is not a dangling throat protector.
- Bats must be softball bats which meet Little League specifications and standards. Bats shall be no more than 34 inches in length and no more than two and one quarter (2 ¼) inches in diameter, and if wood, not less than fifteen sixteenth (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30 inches) at its smallest part. Non-wood bats shall be printed with a BPF (bat performance factor) of 1.20. Please refer to Rule 1.10 for additional details.
- Managers and coaches (and parents) may not warm up pitchers at the tournament site at any time. Any player may warm up a pitcher so long as they are wearing a catcher's mask with a dangling throat protector. This includes pre-game as well as during games between innings.

Equipment that is damaged or not permitted will be removed from the dugout and will be held by the District 15 Staff until your team departs from the State Tournament. Please leave non-Little League conforming equipment at home.

After Winning your District Tournament

1. Celebrate!!!

2. Contact Jim Roberts, Virginia District 15 Administrator, at 540-660-4487 or 540-775-1156 or at virginia15da@va.metrocast.net.
3. Email a full-size, color team photo (preferably in team uniform holding your District Champions banner) to virginia15da@va.metrocast.net. List the players and coaches as they appear in the photo for identification, e.g. Front Row: Susie Brown, Patty White, etc.
4. Email the team roster, including players' first and last names (not necessarily their legal name, but the name they go by) and jersey number to virginia15da@va.metrocast.net to be added to the program and custom souvenir tee shirts. Please ensure you provide the correct spelling and jersey number for the team manager, coaches, and all team players for the program and tournament tee shirts.
5. Contact one of the aforementioned hotels to reserve rooms for your team. Reminder, the rooms will remain blocked until noon on Thursday, June 27, 2019. After this date the rooms may be released to the public. Please contact Jim Roberts at 540-660-4487 if you cannot make reservations by this date.
6. Please ensure you bring the following: **District/State Tournament Official Affidavit**, with the **Tournament Player Verification Forms**, correct amount and type of **proofs of residency, waivers, medical releases and Tournament Pitching record** or a letter from Southeastern Region with permission to advance without tournament play. You must provide any Charter Committee waivers that the team has received from Little League Baseball and Softball® International Headquarters or Southeastern Region. **All uniforms must have a Little League Softball patch correctly affixed to the jersey.**
7. Please make sure all team equipment is legal and in good repair. Helmets with stickers, paint, or any other additions not provided by the manufacturer at the time of purchase **must** have a certification letter from the manufacturer for each helmet. Bats **must not** have any flat spots and must be a Little League authorized bat. **All unauthorized or damaged equipment will be removed and held by District 15 staff until the team departs the State Tournament. No exceptions!** Catching this at home will save a lot of heartache at the State Tournament.

In case you win the State Tournament

As you probably already know and have briefed your team, the winner of the Virginia State Junior League Softball Tournament will earn the privilege of representing the Commonwealth in the Southeastern Region Tournament to determine who gets to play in the Junior League Softball World Series. The SE Region Tournament is scheduled to begin on 18 July in Salisbury, NC. Good luck.

Tournament Format and Guidelines

Tournament Format will be determined prior to tournament start depending on the number of teams entered and will follow the Little League approved format for the number of teams entered in the tournament. The daily game results and tournament bracket will be posted at the tournament site and will be available on the District 15 website, www.VADistrict15.org. All games shall be conducted in accordance with the 2019 Little League Softball® Tournament Rules and Guidelines.

Teams should arrive at the field at least 75 minutes prior to game time and should report immediately to the Tournament Director. If not already done, a coin toss will decide the home and visiting teams. The team that has traveled the farthest will call the toss. The winner will choose home or visitor. The Home team will occupy the first base dugout; visitors will occupy the third base dugout. No exceptions.

Teams will have 25 minutes of time in the batting cage (if desired), followed by 10 minutes of infield practice (as time permits). A **rostered** coach or manager must be present before any player can take batting practice, infield practice, or can occupy the dugout. Batting helmets must be worn when conducting batting practice. Non-rostered adults or children may **not** enter the dugout, the batting cage, **or** the playing field at any time before or during games.

When time allows, each team will be announced 10 minutes prior to every game, visiting team first. Announcements will be followed by the National Anthem or the Little League Pledge. The plate conference with managers, umpires, and the Tournament Director will follow.

Every substitution, position change, etc., **must** be made from inside the field by the manager to the official scorer while accompanied by the umpire-in-chief. Once a change is announced, it is official. The manager is **always** 100% responsible for ensuring the change is proper and legal.

After the game is over, be sure the pitchers' innings are properly recorded in your affidavit (which will be kept by the Tournament Director throughout the tournament). Once you leave the field, the affidavits may not be changed.

After you check out of your hotel and it is noted that no damage has occurred, your league's damage deposit will be mailed to your league.

Thank You

Thank you for participating in the 2019 Virginia State Junior League Softball Tournament hosted by Virginia District 15 and Caroline County Little League. We hope it was a memorable experience for the players, coaches, and families regardless of the outcome of the games. We also hope you enjoyed your visit to Caroline County and the surrounding area and wish you a safe journey home. Once you arrive home, please visit the Virginia State Little League website and complete a tournament survey. Details are on the following page; the survey is intended for all tournament managers, coaches, and parents. The information gathered will help the local league, District, and State Little League organizations improve the All Star experience for all ball players, managers, coaches, families, and fans. Thanks.

Virginia Little League



Jimmie Straley
State Chairman
17 Diamond Road
Troy, Virginia 22974
Va14da@aol.com

<http://vastatell.teampages.com/>



TO ALL MANAGERS, COACHES AND PARENTS:

Congratulations on winning your District and moving on to the Virginia State Tournament.

As we work very hard to make sure that your experience at the State Tournament is enjoyable, we are also striving to make our tournaments better.

Your Virginia State District Administrators are looking at ways to improve Tournament team experiences and your honest feedback on your State Tournament experience.

We ask that you please complete a survey after your State Tournament.

The link for the survey is: <http://VaLittleLeague.org>

Thank You in advance for your help with this survey.

Respectfully,

Jimmie Straley

State Chairman

Team Roster Form

Please email the following information to virginia15da@va.metrocast.net as soon as your district champion has been determined. Please list names as they would like to be announced. **Please verify spelling!**

District: _____

League: _____

Manager Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ *(cell phone preferred)*

Coach Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ *(cell phone preferred)*

Coach Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ *(cell phone preferred)*

Player Name (first and last)

Jersey #

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____

