

# Little League Opening Day Ceremonies Outline

Each year, local leagues throughout the world host some type of season-opening event. The common opening day ceremonies may usher in the start of the season, or take place soon after the first games have been played.

To provide direction and examples of what to include when planning an opening day ceremony's "run of show" Little League® International offers this template.

Any local league is welcome to use these suggestions as an outline for planning purposes, but it's important to make this special event your own. Make your league's opening day ceremonies both a celebration of the new season and a proud reflection of its recent and historical past.

## Parade Assembly

Meet at designated location to line up for Parade of teams

- The order of procession will be decided by the Parade Committee and provided to the Committee members responsible for pre-parade organization.

## Begin Parade

- Lay out the complete Parade route identified by street name, and designate the Parade's end point and expected time of arrival.

## Opening Ceremonies

**Team Introductions:** regular-season teams enter the playing field on third-base side going to right field area and filling in accordingly. Names of teams with manager, coaches, and team moms announced as teams walk out onto the field.

- Recognize previous season's All-Star team(s) by announcing names and coaches names
- Invocation Prayer (optional)
- Play National Anthem
- Little League Pledge – single reading; or performed jointly by a representative from Major division
- Volunteer Pledge – read by current official team mom or dad; or league's Player Agent
- Awards Presentation/Recognition (optional)
- League President's Address/Remarks
  - "Thank You!" message to league sponsors

- Fundraising announcements/drawings/contests/awarding of prizes
- Throwing of the Ceremonial First Pitches – Representative from Baseball and Softball (any division)

### **Post-Opening Ceremonies**

- Activities (On-Field: I.E. - Tee ball game(s); Homerun Derby, Skills competition, etc. for older players; Announcement of scheduled games to be played for the day, where and what time for each. Off-Field: 50/50 raffle, silent auction, carnival-style games, etc.).
- Concession stand - Announce Opening Day food specials.
- Sale of League-branded merchandise (I.E. - pins, tee shirts, lanyards, hats, etc.).