



# Palm Harbor Little League (PHLL)

Skills Assessment

January 2019

## Introduction/Scope

Palm Harbor Little league (PHLL) uses a skills assessment process to determine eligibility and skill level for AAA through Major divisions for spring seasons only.

Use of this skills assessment process is subject to change by the league's Player Agent and Board of Director Officers as outlined in the PHLL Constitution.

**This skill assessment process is primarily for baseball.** However, this process is subject to softball as determined by the league's Player Agent and Board of Director Officers as outlined in the PHLL Constitution.

## Objective

The objective of the PHLL skill assessment is to help:

- Ensure skill levels of players are assessed and equitable to the expectations of the related PHLL divisions.
- Ensure skill levels of players are equitably distributed within PHLL interleague teams for balanced performance of league teams.
- Ensure players are placed in divisions where reasonable expectations of safety for all players is maintained.
- Provide consensus assessment player rating for team managers to use in player drafting of teams.

## Eligibility and Requirements

All registered players who are Little League age 9 through 12 years old are required to attend a skills assessment session. The skill assessment is one of the elements used to form AAA and Major teams.

Parents of players league age 8 who wish to try out for AAA level of play must request in writing to the PHLL Players Agent. Such requests will be reviewed by PHLL board of directors for approval. Making a request does not guarantee approval.

All payments for the season must be paid in full in order to be eligible for the Skill Assessment Process.

If registered player can't participate in the skills demonstrations, The Player Agent will forward information to PHLL board for determination of next steps.



# Palm Harbor Little League (PHLL)

## Skills Assessment

January 2019

### Skills Assessment Process

1. **Notification:** Once registration closes for a spring season the player agent will notify AAA and Major player parents of the date and schedule time of the PHLL Skill assessment via email. The scheduled date (and rain date if needed) will also be posted on the PHLL website calendar.
2. **Player Preparation:** Players should bring:
  - a. Baseball/softball glove/non-metal cleat shoes/protective cup-males only
  - b. Batting helmet with face guard
  - c. Bats -- Players are welcome to bring their own Little League approved bat if they would like.
  - d. Players should wear generic baseball pants/shirt/hats suitable for the weather. No team travel/all-star uniforms and/or gear with players name should be worn.
3. **Skill Assessment Check In:**
  - a. Upon arrival to the field, the Player and Guardian are required to check in at the registration table. A player "Check In" sheet will need to be completed with signature.
  - b. All players will be given an identification number to attach to their shirt and then directed to the warm-up area.
  - c. In the warm-up area, the players should stretch and loosen their arms. When the managers and league staff are ready, they will be instructed on where to wait for their session.
4. **Skill Assessment Session Overview**
  - a. Each session is scheduled for approximately 25-45 minutes.
  - b. Each session group is made up of 10 players relatively the same age
  - c. Each player will be evaluated on the following:
    1. **Running-** Timed (Home to 2<sup>nd</sup> base)
    2. **Fielding Outfield-** receive 5 batted balls in outfield and throw to target
    3. **Fielding Infield-** receive 5 batted balls at Shortstop position and throw to 1<sup>st</sup> base.
    4. **Hitting-** batting 5 coach pitched balls.
    5. **Pitching-** Throw 5 Pitches from mound to live catcher
5. **Evaluators:** Evaluators are required to be PHLL registered volunteers. At minimum, all volunteers requesting to be a manager for the AAA and Major Division team are required to evaluate all players at the assessment date(s). Team managers and coaches will be selected by the PHLL board after the skill assessment. Other qualified evaluators will be assigned by PHLL Player Agent with approval of the PHLL President.



# Palm Harbor Little League (PHLL)

## Skills Assessment

January 2019

### Evaluation Data

**Evaluation Form:** The evaluation form consists of multiple data points with an evaluation grade of 1-5 and an Evaluator Positioning rating for Pitcher, Catching, Infield, and Outfield Positions. Numbers are required to be entered for each parameter. See example below:

<b>Evaluator Name:</b> _____		A rating of "1" - has little skill in this area. (Has limited to no Reaction to protect themselves)																			
<b>Date:</b> _____		A rating of "2" - has some skill that can be developed with time. (Has Reaction to protect themselves)																			
<b>Session Time:</b> _____		A rating of "3" - has an average ability with this skill. (Has ability to react, protect themselves, and make some plays)																			
		A rating of "4" - has above average ability on a consistent basis. (Has ability to make most plays)																			
		A rating of "5" - has mastered this skill and is a stand out. (Surprised if play is not made)																			
#	Run H to 2b	HITTING			FIELDING INFIELD			FIELDING OUTFIELD			THROWING			PITCHING			EVALUATOR POSITIONING				
		FORM (1-5)	POWER (1-5)	CONTACT (1-5)	FORM (1-5)	GLOVE (1-5)	REACTION (1-5)	FORM (1-5)	GLOVE (1-5)	REACTION (1-5)	FORM (1-5)	SPEED (1-5)	ACCURACY (1-5)	FORM (1-5)	SPEED (1-5)	ACCURACY (1-5)	Pitch (1-5)	Catcher (1-5)	Infield (1-5)	Outfield (1-5)	
Comments:																					

**Scoring Parameters:** Basic scoring parameters below are intended as base standards for completing form and are not all inclusive. Value of 1 is the worst/little skill and value of 5 is the best/mastered element. Evaluator judgement is required with score averaged for each skill assessed.

1. **"#":** Enter the number assigned to the player at assessment check in.
2. **"Run H to 2b":** Home to 2<sup>nd</sup> base run. Timed by league officials. Enter number announced by timer.
3. **Hitting:** 3 fundamental areas should be reviewed:
  - a. **Form:** Evaluation of in box presence; proper feet positioning; swing mechanics, 2 hands on bat for full swing, head/eye on ball,
  - b. **Power:** Evaluate how far the ball is hit. Level of distance when ball is hit. 1-2 for miss/to pitcher mound; 2-3 for infield 3-4 for outfield; 5 for outfield fence
  - c. **Contact:** Measures how square the ball is struck majority of the time. 1-2 for strike/foul ball; 2-3 pop ups; 4-5 for line drive/solid contact
4. **Fielding Infield/Outfield:** Parameters are similar for both infield and outfield
  - a. **Form:** Evaluate the form of player getting ready to receive ball; receiving the ball; and then transitioning to throwing the ball to target. 1 poor; 5 mastered



## Palm Harbor Little League (PHLL)

### Skills Assessment

January 2019

- b. **Glove:** Evaluate glove position when ball is received. Glove palm up or down when appropriate; Left/Right side appropriate; head in right position to catch ball
  - c. **Reaction:** Evaluate player movement at crack of bat. 1- no movement; 2- 3 slow response; 4-5- immediate movement to correct spot to receive ball.
5. **Throwing:** Evaluation of throwing when fielding ball.
- a. **Form:** Evaluate proper throwing mechanics. 1- limited body mechanics used all arm no body; 2-3 mostly arm with limited stride and body turn; 4- full body mechanics used but not in sequence; 5- full body mechanics used with proper sequence
  - b. **Speed:** Evaluate speed/strength of throws; 1-2 cannot throw ball on a line more than 46 feet on a line; 2-3 can throw ball on line at 46-60 feet; 4-5 can throw ball in line more than 60 feet
  - c. **Accuracy:** Evaluate alignment of throw to target; 1- more than 4 steps alignment from target; 2- No more than 3 steps alignment from target; 3- No more than 2 steps alignments from target; 4- No more than 1 step alignment from target; 5- No steps throw at target
6. **Pitching:** Evaluate players ability to deliver the ball from the pitching mound
- a. **Form:** Evaluate proper throwing mechanics. 1- limited body mechanics used all arm no body; 2-3 mostly arm with limited stride and body turn; 4- full body mechanics used but not in sequence; 5- full body mechanics used with proper sequence
  - b. **Speed:** Evaluate speed/strength of throws; 1- cannot throw ball to catcher on fly; 2 cannot throw ball on a line to catcher; 3-4 can throw ball on line to catcher no "pop" to mitt; 5 can throw ball in line with "pop" to catcher's mitt.
  - c. **Accuracy:** Evaluate ability to throw strikes to catcher in 5 pitches. 1- 1 or less strikes; 2- at least 2 strikes; 3-at least 3 strikes; 4- at least 4 strikes; 5- at least 5 strikes.
7. **Evaluator Positioning Rating:** Evaluator positioning is used to help determine where the evaluator feels the player could play on their team looking only at the fundamental's skills and not the level of play AAA vs Majors. Enter a value for each of the 4 positions on the form (Pitcher/Catcher/Infield/Outfield). **Scale:**
- "1"- Would not play at position. Safety Issue
  - "2"- Would play at position after working with player in practice
  - "3-4"- Would play at position with moderate practice work
  - "5"- Would play at position with little to no practice work

Skill assessment results will not be published or shared with non-assigned team managers of PHLL.



# Palm Harbor Little League (PHLL)

Skills Assessment

January 2019

## Check-In Sheet

Player Name:

Assigned Skill Assessment Player Number:

Height:

Weight:

Number of seasons played of organized baseball/softball:

**Please circle the 2 positions you have played the most:**

Pitcher   Catcher   1<sup>st</sup> Base   2<sup>nd</sup> Base   Shortstop   3<sup>rd</sup> base   Outfield

**Please circle the 2 positions you want to play the most:**

Pitcher   Catcher   1<sup>st</sup> Base   2<sup>nd</sup> Base   Shortstop   3<sup>rd</sup> base   Outfield

**Please list other organized activities/sports you participate in below:**



# Palm Harbor Little League (PHLL)

Skills Assessment

January 2019

## Letter to Participants

Dear Spring, *(Enter year/Season)* PHLL Player Parent,

Your child has been invited to the Palm Harbor Little League Skills Assessment to be completed on *(Enter Date)* at Sunderman Field #2.

Please be at the field by *(enter time 30 minutes prior to session start time)* to check in and warm up. The skill assessment is approximately 1 hour and will end at *(Enter Time)*

Palm Harbor Little league (PHLL) uses a skills assessment process to determine eligibility and skill level for AAA through Major divisions.

The objective of the PHLL skill assessment is to help:

- Ensure skill levels of players are assessed and equitable to the expectations of the related PHLL divisions.
- Ensure skill levels of players are equitably distributed within PHLL interleague teams for balanced performance of league teams.
- Ensure players are placed in divisions where reasonable expectations of safety for all players is maintained.
- Provide consensus assessment player rating for team managers to use in player drafting of teams.

Players should wear and/or bring:

- Baseball/softball glove/non-metal cleat shoes/protective cup-males only
- Batting helmet with face guard
- Bats -- Little League approved bat.
- Players should wear generic baseball pants/shirt/hats suitable for the weather. No team travel/all-star uniforms and/or gear with players name should be worn.

### Skill Assessment Check In:

- Upon arrival to the field, the Player and Guardian are required to check in at the registration table. A player "Check In" sheet will need to be completed with signature.
- All players will be given an identification number to attach to their shirt and then directed to the warm-up area.
- In the warm-up area, the players should stretch and loosen their arms. When the managers and league staff are ready, they will be instructed on where to wait for their session.



# Palm Harbor Little League (PHLL)

## Skills Assessment

January 2019

### Skill Assessment Session Overview

- Each session is scheduled for approximately 60 minutes.
- Each session group is made up of 10 players relatively the same age
- Each player will be evaluated on the following:
  - **Running**- Timed (Home to 2<sup>nd</sup> base)
  - **Fielding Outfield**- receive 5 batted balls in outfield and throw to target
  - **Fielding Infield**- receive 5 batted balls at Shortstop position and throw to 1<sup>st</sup> base.
  - **Hitting**- batting 5 coach pitched balls.
  - **Pitching**- Throw 5 Pitches from mound to live catcher

Please encourage your child to try his or her best at the skills assessment. Parents/Guardians are welcome to observe the assessment from the spectator areas of the field only.

If for some reason your child cannot make the scheduled assessment time, please contact PHLL Player Agent Dimitr Porter at 727-309-8105.

Kind Regards,

PHLL Board of Directors