



Little League International

PATRICK W. WILSON

Williamsport, Pennsylvania

Little League International Debut: February 1993

Favorite Value:



With more than 30 years of experience, Pat Wilson is an accomplished leader in youth sports, tournament and event operations and media, non-profit management, volunteer organization, and business development.

Little League Journey

A native of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Pat grew up playing sports, including Little League, which led him on the path of giving back to the community. When it came time for him to pursue a career, he enrolled at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania to pursue an economics degree (Class of 1991), while also returning to his hometown to work for the recreation department for the City of Williamsport. Then in 1993, he joined the staff at Little League International as an assistant to then Little League Vice President of Operations, Joe Losch. Pat continued to prove himself as a leader within the organization, holding the roles of Director of Regional Operations (1995-2006), Vice President of Operations (2006-2011), Senior Vice President and Chief Program Operations Officer (2011-2020), and Chief Operating Officer (2020-2024). In May 2024, the Little League International Board of Directors appointed Pat as the fourth President and Chief Executive Officer, effective as of January 1, 2025.

Key Achievements

In his more than 30 years at Little League, Pat has been instrumental in the success and growth of the organization.

- **Organizational Leadership:** He has led the day-to-day business functions of the organization, bringing the organization's identity to life through collaborative efforts of Little League International's operations, finances, marketing and communications, strategy, and people and culture functions. Pat has led the creation and implementation of Little League's current strategic plan to improve access, experience, and retention across the organization.
- **Tournament Direction:** Serving as the Little League International Tournament Director, Pat has shepherded the expansion and growth of the tournament, including the expansion of the Little League Baseball World Series from 16 teams to 20 and the Little League Softball World Series, providing more opportunities for more kids to participate. As Tournament Director, Pat was responsible for the operation of the entire Little League International Tournament from its first stages at the District level to the conclusion at all of our World Series events [Little League Baseball, Little League Softball, Little League Intermediate (50/70) Baseball (established in 2013), Junior League Baseball, Junior League Softball, Senior League Baseball, Senior League Softball, Big League Baseball (discontinued after 2016), and Big League Softball (discontinued after 2016)]. He has worked directly with community volunteers at all World Series events to ensure all participants and a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Pat led the relocation of the Little League Softball World Series to its current location in Greenville, North Carolina, where the event continues to see advanced enhancements, excitement, and growth. Pat has played a key role in these enhanced experiences including the MLB Little League Classic in Williamsport and the AU Pro Games at the Little League Softball World Series in Greenville.
- **Broadcast Evolution:** Pat has been instrumental in the execution and implementation of Little League's broadcast partnership with ESPN, expanding the reach of the program with enhanced coverage of Little League International



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Tournament games on ESPN platforms. This includes additional coverage of the entire Little League Softball U.S. Region tournaments and World Series events. ESPN currently broadcasts more than 340 Little League games annually.

- **Opportunity and Access:** Pat has been instrumental to the success of the Little League Urban Initiative program since its inception in 1999, helping bring more opportunities through the creation of playing facilities, grant programming, and volunteer efforts supporting leagues based in communities in need.
- **International Growth and Expansion:** Over Pat's tenure, Little League's international presence has grown immensely, forging key relationships with USA Baseball, World Baseball Softball Confederation, Baseball Australia, Cuban Baseball Federation, and many others. This has led to the multicultural growth of the Little League program in more than 80 countries across six continents. Pat has steered Little League's regional leadership, providing support and direction across Little League's Canada, Latin America, Europe and Africa, and Asia-Pacific Regions.
- **Player Safety and Experience:** Under Pat's leadership, Little League pioneered the use of pitch counts and days rest for baseball pitchers. Working with Dr. James Andrews, Little League introduced pitch counts in 2007 and has continued to champion the importance of protecting young arms with Little League as a leading Fully Compliant Pitch Smart Organization and in additional supporting research. In addition to arm safety, Pat has been instrumental in the adoption of the USA Bat standard for Little League Baseball, the implementation of the Little League Child Protection Program, the creation of the Little League Baseball Intermediate (50/70) Division, the development of the Tee Ball curriculum, and more.

In addition to his position with Little League, Mr. Wilson is an active member of the greater Williamsport community. He currently serves on the UPMC in North Central Pa.'s Board of Directors and is the past Chair of the Council of Trustees for Bloomsburg University. He currently resides in Williamsport, with his wife, Jennifer, and daughter, Ella.