

# Jefferson County Little League – Bylaws

## 2026 Season

Note: Bylaws are NOT meant to replace, or override any Little League International regulations, rules, or policies. They are created by the local league's Board of Directors in accordance with the local league's constitution. The vote to adopt any bylaw is the responsibility of the league's General Membership, which is defined in the league constitution.

### I. Article 1 – General League Policy

A. Information on the league's fiscal year and operational year, including begin and end dates

1. The League's Fiscal Year begins on October 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on September 30<sup>th</sup>
2. The League's Operational Year begins on October 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on September 30<sup>th</sup>

B. Explanation of registration process and season schedule structure for each division chartered.

1. Registration takes place online from Middle of December to the Middle of March. Dates to be determined based on year.
2. Each local team plays each other at least twice.
  - a) Depending on Van Buren County Little League and JeWaKe Little League interleague regular season games could be scheduled in to make a more competitive schedule.

C. Marketing, sponsorship, and fundraising – league finance responsibilities

1. League Marketing will be conducted on the Leagues Website or the Leagues Facebook page.
  - a) The League will post updates; any board member may suggest ideas for posts.
2. Sponsorships opportunities include Regular Season Team, All Star Team, Outfield Fence Banners, Challenger Team Banner, and any

other forms of sponsorship the Board of Directors consider appropriate.

3. Board members should coordinate with each other to identify and pursue potential sponsorships.

4. League Board Members will determine fundraising methods, such as coupon cards, raffles, or other options.

a) The Board may appoint a specific Board Member, or a committee led by a Board Member to oversee the fundraising.

D. Selection, appointment, and discipline of team managers and coaches

1. Selection process of Team Managers and Coaches will be decided on by the League's President, Vice President, and Player Agent

2. Appointing the Managers and Coaches to a team will be the Responsibility of the League's President, Vice President and Player Agent.

3. Discipline of a Manager or Coach will be discussed and voted on by the League's Board, with said Manager or Coach being present to defend their situation. Following the Leagues Guidelines explained in the League Constitution (Section 5 Article A)

E. Playing equipment and uniforms

1. Playing Equipment is required to be inspected by the Safety Officer and/or Equipment Manager. Any replacements needing made then will be brought to the Attention of the League's Board Members.

2. Uniforms and Hats will be order by President and/or Vice President after all the teams are assigned and before the regular season starts.

F. Fields and facilities maintenance, permits, and insurance

1. The Safety Officer and/or Coaching Coordinator will be responsible for maintaining fields and facilities. If needed, they can request the Board to form a committee for assistance.

2. The responsibility for permitting rests with the Board Members, while the League President or Vice President will carry out related actions.

3. Board members are responsible for insurance, with actions handled by the League President.
- G. Required background checks – managers, coaches, umpires, and any volunteers with repetitive access to the players
  1. Making sure Background Checks and Courses are completed will be the Responsibility of the President and/or Vice President.
  2. Player Registration – All league players must be verified as eligible per Little League® Baseball and Softball residency or school enrollment requirements, with proof of age (birth certificate or approved government ID).

## II. Article 2 – Players

1. All league tryouts will be conducted by the Player Agent, and other board members if deemed necessary.
2. Managers, Coaches, and Player Agent and other board members, if necessary, will be entrusted to fairly evaluate each player and discuss the results at the end of the tryout session.
3. Team Selection will be a discussion after tryouts have ended
  - a) How to place players to teams will involve the Player Agent, President, and Vice President
    - (1) Siblings will be assigned to the same team
    - (2) Sons and Daughters will be assigned to the same team as the Parent Coach
    - (3) Final Decisions will be made by the Player Agent.
4. Teams will be announced by the President or Vice President.
5. Managers and coaches are required to comply with mandatory play, substitution regulations, and pitch count guidelines as prescribed by Little League International Rules.

B. Jefferson County Little League offers 8 divisions: T-Ball, Rookies Minors (Machine/Coach Pitch), Minors Softball, Minors Baseball (Player Pitch), Majors Softball, Majors Baseball, Junior Challengers, and Adult Challengers.

Division	Player Ages	Age Chart	Min Players	Max Players
T-Ball Division	4 through 6	Little League Baseball	8	10
Rookies Minors (Machine/ Coach Pitch)	6 through 8	Little League Baseball	9	12
Minors Softball	8 through 10	Little League Softball	10	13
Minors Baseball (Player Pitch)	8 through 11	Little League Baseball	10	13
Majors Softball	10 through 12	Little League Softball	10	13
Majors Baseball	10 through 12	Little League Baseball	10	13
Junior Challenger	4 through 12	Little League Baseball	None	None
Adult Challenger	13 and above		None	None

Note: Changes could be made by the League Board Depending on the number of children registered for a specific league.

C. Any Suspensions will be handled the way it states in Article 3 Section 5 of the Jefferson County Little League Constitution.

1. The League Board Members will then decide on the severity of the suspension.
2. Any member wanting reinstated will have to submit a letter in writing to the Leagues Board.

- a) The Board will then vote if that member will be reinstated.

### III. Article 3 – Games Operations

- A. Board-approved schedule for each division.
- B. Pregame Responsibilities
  - 1. During the Season the Home Teams Manager and Coaches will be responsible for showing up early to prepare the field.
    - a) That includes raking the Field if needed
    - b) Chalking the Batters Box and Foul Lines
    - c) Turning on Field lights before the game (if applicable)
- C. In Game Responsibilities
  - 1. Coaches should know and follow the rules according to which division they are in
  - 2. Coaches and Players should always show good sportsmanship towards each other and the other team
  - 3. Both Home and Away will be responsible for keeping their own Scorebooks
    - a) The Home Team will be considered the official book
- D. Postgame Responsibilities
  - 1. The visitor's team will be responsible for Raking or Dragging the ballfield at the end of the game
    - a) As well as shutting off field lights (if applicable)
  - 2. The home team manager will be responsible for posting the final score on the sports connect website or reporting the score to a Board Member to be entered.
- E. Local Rules will be decided by the board and distributed at the coaches meeting at the beginning of the season
- F. Decisions regarding the delay, suspension, or postponement of games due to weather conditions will be made by either the Umpire assigned to the game or the League President.
  - 1. Rescheduling games will be the responsibility of the League President
  - 2. Tie-breaker games or regular-season tournaments will be decided on by the League Board Members

## IV. Article 4 – Awards

- A. Designation of recipients – Players Only
  - 1. All T-ball players will receive a medal for participation at the end of the season.
  - 2. Division winners will receive Trophies once the season comes to an end.
  - 3. Medals and Trophies will be presented at the annual city fun night at the end of the season. In which each player will be presented the award on the field with their team.

## V. Article 5 – All-Star Selection Process

- A. All Eligible Players and Parent for All-Stars will be presented the dates and location for postseason play before team selection takes place.
- 1. Parents and players must confirm availability for all dates and sign a letter of commitment to participate in All-Stars.
  - 1. If a player or coach can't commit to every date that will disqualify the player or coach from making All-Stars.
- B. The Leagues Board Members will designate the number of teams by division to be entered in the Little League® International Tournament
- C. Selection Processes for All-Star Teams
  - 1. Managers will need to submit a letter on why they deserve to be selected for the role before the end of the season
    - a) The League's Board Members will evaluate each Manager's regular season record and address any behavioral issues that arose during the season, after which they will vote to determine the most deserving candidate.
    - b) If necessary, the Manager and Board Members will invite regular season coaches to fill in any remaining spots.
  - 2. Players Selection
    - a) At the direction of the Player Agent, all players who have submitted a letter of commitment will be reviewed by the Regular Season Manager and Coaches. The Managers, Coaches, Player Agent, and any present board members will then select the most qualified players for the All-Star Teams.

- b) During the regular season, teams are required to be scheduled for and participate in 12 official games, with each player expected to play in at least 60% of all games conducted throughout the season.
- c) Each District Team must have between 12 and 14 players. If this requirement is not fulfilled, the district team for that age group will not be registered for participation in The District Tournament.

## VI. Article 6 – Player Agent

- A. The player agent represents players throughout the regular season and for all-stars
  - 1. Will be a member of the Board of Directors
  - 2. Will, in conjunction with the league Treasurer, ensure the collection of appropriate registration fees (if applicable) as determined by the Board of Directors
  - 3. Will assist League President in verifying accurate proof of age and residency requirements, for all participating players in the league
  - 4. Will be responsible for distribution of medical release forms to team managers (in all divisions)
  - 5. Will be responsible for maintaining player records, registration, forms, and information
  - 6. Will be responsible for preparing tentative and final roster dates
  - 7. Will submit the roster (via the Little League Data Center) once registration is completed
  - 8. Will be responsible for coordination of all player transfers, releases, and trades with approval of the Board of Directors
  - 9. Will be responsible for assigning all players for all Divisions with the assistance of the respective Vice Presidents
  - 10. Will prepare a list of all members for Postseason All-Stars
  - 11. Will prepare and maintain a list of all active players in all divisions of the league with the assistance of the league Secretary

## VII. Article 7 – Division Heads

- A. Division Heads will assist the Vice President's on any part of the operation of their division

1. Responsibilities Include:
  - a) Reporting any issues to a Vice President
  - b) Making sure scores for their division is being entered into the system in a timely manner
  - c) Helping coaches understand their duties and responsibilities if they are lacking in carrying them out
2. Division heads will either be appointed or applied for by the League Board Members
3. Division heads might be a coach or manager of their respective division

## VIII. Article 8 – Umpire-In-Chief

- A. Head Umpire in charge of organizing and making sure other umpires are qualified and fit to umpire little league games.
  1. Responsible for scheduling umpires each week for games in need.
  2. Responsible for any training or rules explanations for other umpires.
  3. Responsible for making sure umpires are certified to umpire Little League games.
- B. Will be professional and courteous in resolving disputes and have a full understanding of the Little League International Rules and Local League Rules.

Signatures of the Board of Directors: