

South Farmington Little League

Early Advancement Policy - Softball

The South Farmington Little League (SFL) board discourages playing up in a division for which a player is not eligible due to age, however, we will consider exceptions on a case by case basis for early advancement for the spring season. The following is our policy regarding such advancement. This policy is for softball only and uses the player's fundamental skill levels to determine whether or not the player is allowed to advance to the higher division. **It does not consider a player's desire to play with their friends or for a certain manager.**

1. A player must be four-years-old by December 31st to be eligible for the T-Ball Division. Children younger than this interested in playing will be encouraged to participate in introductory programs offered by organizations such as the YMCA or private companies such as The Bullpen or Total Sports.
2. A player who has played two years in the T-Ball Division can advance to the 8U Division regardless of age.
3. SFL strongly discourages early advancement. However, should a player wish to do so, their parent or guardian must complete the Early Advancement Request Form. The form must include signatures from the player and parent or guardian. South Farmington Softball staff will then submit the form to the player's most recent manager and league director for endorsement. The form will then be submitted to the softball commissioner for review. A formal skills evaluation will most likely be scheduled at the discretion of the commissioner.
4. If a formal skills evaluation is deemed necessary, based on player rating and discussions with SFL, it will be conducted by the following "Skills Evaluation Board"
 - Softball Commissioner (or designee)
 - Director of the player's most recent league (or designee)
 - Director of the league the player wants to advance to (or designee)

A unanimous agreement of all three evaluators is required for advancement..

5. The formal skills evaluation shall include the following categories:
 - Defensive Skills
 - Hitting
 - Pitching (If Applicable)
6. There will be a single day scheduled for this advancement process prior to the draft. Usually held in late February or early March.
7. Parents of early advanced players will only have the opportunity to coach if there are an insufficient number of coaches available for that age division while his child is underage for that division. Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to the softball commissioner.

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Early Advancement Request Form - Softball

The following softball player is formally requesting early advancement from one division to another within South Farmington Little League. This form must be completed and submitted on the date scheduled for tryouts and move ups (please see the website for the scheduled date)

Upon initial endorsements for the player's potential for early advancement, the player's parent or guardian will be contacted and a formal skills evaluation will be scheduled.

Player's Name: _____

Player's Date of Birth: _____

Parent or Guardian's Name: _____

Parent or Guardian's Phone Number: _____

League & Coach played in Last Year: _____

League the Player Desires to Play in This Year: _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Most Recent Manager's Name: _____

Most Recent Manager's Phone Number: _____

Most Recent League Director's Name: _____

Most Recent League Director's Phone Number: _____

Softball Commissioner's Name _____

Softball Commissioner's Phone Number _____

Most Recent Manager's Endorsement: _____

Most Recent League Director's Endorsement: _____

Softball Commissioner's Endorsement: _____