



HAMMONTON LITTLE LEAGUE

PO Box 1025, Hammonton, NJ

www.eteamz.com/hammontonlittleleague



HAMMONTON LITTLE LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - NAME

This organization shall be known as the Hammonton Little League, hereinafter referred to as “Local League.”

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Local League shall be to implant firmly in the children of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority, so that they may be well adjusted, stronger and happier children and will grow to be good, decent, healthy and trustworthy citizens. To achieve this objective, the Local League will provide a supervised program under the Rules and Regulations of Little League Baseball, Incorporated. All Directors, Officers and Members shall bear in mind that the attainment of exceptional athletic skill or the winning of games is secondary, and the molding of future citizens is of prime importance. In accordance with Section 501-(c)-(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, the Local League shall operate exclusively as a non-profit educational organization providing a supervised program of competitive baseball and softball games. No part of the net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual; no substantial part of the activities of which is carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and which does not participate in or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE III-GOVERNANCE

The Hammonton Little League shall be governed by a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer (to be known as “League Officers”), and also by the operating personnel consisting of league representatives, player agent, scorer, Umpire-in-Chief, equipment manager, and publicity agent. The combined group shall be known as the “Operating Board”. The Hammonton Little League shall strive to have equitable representation of all divisions on the Operating Board.

Election of League Officers shall be held once every two years during the month of September. The active membership in good standing, as defined by the Operating Board, shall be duly advised well in advance of the election date. The term of office for League Officers shall be two (2) years. The Officers shall make appointments for the next season to the posts of league representative(s), player agent, scorer, Umpire-in-Chief, equipment manager, and publicity agent.

Active members in good standing of the Hammonton Little League, as defined within Article VI herein, may petition the President to become a member of the Board of Directors. The President will determine the extent to which additional members of the Board of Directors is necessary. If applicable, the President shall recommend said petitioner(s) for Director-status on the Board. Via 2/3 majority vote of the Operating Board, a petitioner will acquire Director status and shall serve a one-year probationary period upon which he/she may provide input on the Board, but may not vote. At the conclusion of the one-year probationary period, the Operating Board will to determine if full Director-status is appropriate, via 2/3 majority vote.

If any vacancy occurs in the Board of Directors, by death, resignation or otherwise, it may be filled on the recommendation of the President with a majority vote of the remaining Directors at any regular Board meeting or at any Special Board Meeting called for that purpose.

ARTICLE IV-MEMBERSHIP/PARTICIPATION/CONDUCT

All girls and boys meeting the requirements as to age and league boundaries shall be permitted and encouraged to participate in the Hammonton Little League.

Membership shall be invited and solicited from any interested and qualified adult. Any person sincerely interested in active participation to further the objective of this Local League may apply to become a Member. Any adult seeking active membership status shall submit to a background check, as stipulated and defined by the Operating Board. Members shall be considered to have active status in good standing if they, at a minimum, participate in two or more of the following activities: field maintenance, coaching, umpiring, scoring, and concession stand duty. Field maintenance shall be required from the entire membership and interested parents. Further, active members in good standing are free from violations of the code of conduct, and have not displayed any behavior deemed inappropriate or unbecoming by the Operating Board.

The Operating Board by a 2/3 decision shall have the authority to remove any League Officer, Operating Board Member, manager, coach or member from league membership after careful consideration for due cause.

Serious misconduct of any player shall be considered by a committee, appointed by the League President for that purpose, at a meeting with the player and his/her parent/guardian, and supported and advised by his/her manager. The findings and recommendations of the committee shall be considered final unless a written appeal is made. Formal appeals will be considered and voted on by the Operating Board at the next available Board meeting. A majority vote from the Operating Board will render a final decision. The findings and recommendations shall be treated with a minimum of publicity.

Membership may be terminated by resignation or action of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors, by a two-thirds vote of those present at any duly constituted Board meeting, shall have the authority to discipline or suspend or terminate the membership of any Member of any class, including managers and coaches, when the conduct of such person is considered detrimental to the best interests of the Local League and/or Little League Baseball, Incorporated. The Member involved shall be notified of such meeting, informed of the general nature of the charges and given an opportunity to appear at the meeting to answer such charges.

ARTICLE V- BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings shall, at a minimum, be called by the President once during the off-season months and bi-monthly during the playing season at which time reports shall be received from the Secretary, Treasurer, and all committees. The Treasurer shall make an annual report.

A quorum shall be a majority vote of the Operating Board. With exception of the President, each member of the Operating Board shall be permitted one vote. The President shall vote only in the instance to break a tie. A General Membership meeting shall be conducted at a minimum of one per year. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all General Membership Meetings, except where same conflicts with this Constitution of the Local League.

ARTICLE V - DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE BOARD

President. The President shall:

- (a) Conduct the affairs of the Local League and execute the policies established by the Board of Directors.
- (b) Present a report of the condition of the Local League at the Annual Meeting.
- (c) Communicate to the Board of Directors such matters as deemed appropriate, and make such suggestions as may tend to promote the welfare of the Local League.
- (d) Be responsible for the conduct of the Local League in strict conformity to the policies, principles, Rules and Regulations of Little League Baseball, Incorporated, as agreed to under the conditions of charter issued to the Local League by that organization.
- (e) Designate in writing other officers, if necessary, to have power to make and execute for/and in the name of the Local League such contracts and leases they may receive and which have had prior approval of the Board.
- (f) Investigate complaints, irregularities and conditions detrimental to the Local League and report thereon to the Board or Executive Committee as circumstances warrant.
- (g) Prepare and submit an annual budget to the Board of Directors and be responsible for the proper execution thereof.
- (h) With the assistance of the Player Agent, examine the application and support proof-of age documents of every player candidate and certify to residence and age eligibility before the player may be accepted for tryouts and selection.

Vice President. The Vice President shall:

- (a) Perform the duties of the President in the absence or disability of the President, provided he/she is authorized by the President to so act.
- (b) Perform such duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President.

Secretary. The Secretary shall:

- (a) Be responsible for recording the activities of the Local League and maintain appropriate files, mailing lists and necessary records.
- (b) Perform such duties as are herein specifically set forth, in addition to such other duties as are customarily incident to the office of Secretary or as may be assigned by the President.
- (c) Maintain a list of all Regular, Sustaining and Honorary Members, Directors and committee members and give notice of all meetings of the Local League, the Board of Directors and Committees.
- (d) Keep the minutes of the meetings of the Members, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, and cause them to be recorded in a book kept for that purpose.
- (e) Conduct all correspondence not otherwise specifically delegated in connection with said meeting and shall be responsible for carrying out all orders, votes and resolutions not otherwise committed.
- (f) Notify Members, Directors, Officers and committee members of their election or appointment.

Treasurer. The Treasurer shall:

- (a) Perform such duties as are herein set forth and such other duties as are customarily incident to the Office of Treasurer or may be assigned by the President.
- (b) Receive all moneys and securities, and deposit same in a depository approved by the President and Board of Directors.
- (c) Keep records for the receipt and disbursement of all moneys and securities of the Local League, including the Auxiliary, approve all payments from allotted funds and draw checks therefore in agreement with policies established in advance of such actions by the Board of Directors. All disbursements by check must have dual signatures.
- (d) Prepare an annual budget, under the direction of the President, for submission to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting.
- (e) Prepare an annual financial report, under the direction of the President, for submission to the Membership and Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting, and to Little League International.

Player Agent. The Player Agent, under direction of the President, shall:

- (a) Record all player transactions and maintain an accurate and up-to-date record thereof.
- (b) Receive and review applications for player candidates and assist the President in verifying residence and age eligibility.
- (c) Conduct the tryouts, the player draft and all other player transaction or selection meetings.
- (d) Prepare the Player Agent's list.
- (e) Prepare for the President's signature and submission to Little League International, team rosters, including players claimed, and the tournament team eligibility affidavit.
- (f) Notify Little League International of any subsequent player replacements or trades.
- (g) Administer the divisional player pool.

Safety Officer. The Safety Officer shall:

- (a) Be responsible to create awareness, through education and information, of the opportunities to provide a safer environment for children and all participants of Little League.
- (b) Develop and implement a plan for increasing safety of activities, equipment and facilities through education, compliance and reporting.

NOTE: In order to implement a safety plan using education, compliance and reporting, the following suggestions may be utilized by the Safety Officer:

- (1) Education - Should facilitate meetings and distribute information among participants including players, managers, coaches, umpires, league officials, parents, guardians and other volunteers.
- (2) Compliance - Should promote safety compliance leadership by increasing awareness of the safety opportunities that arise from these responsibilities.
- (3) Reporting - Define a process to assure that incidents are recorded, information is sent to league/district and national offices, and follow-up information on medical and other data is forwarded as available.

Director of Sponsorship/Fundraising. The Director of Sponsorship/Fundraising shall:

- (a) Solicits and secures local sponsorships to support league operations
- (b) Collects and reviews sponsorship and fundraising opportunities
- (c) Organizes and implements approved league fundraising activities
- (d) Coordinates participation in fundraising activities
- (e) Maintains records of monies secured through sponsorship and fundraising initiatives.

ARTICLE VI-AFFILIATION

Charter. The Local League shall annually apply for a charter from Little League Baseball, Incorporated, and shall do all things necessary to obtain and maintain such charter. The Local League shall devote its entire energies to the activities authorized by such charter and it shall not be affiliated with any other program or organization or operate any other program.

Rules and Regulations. The Official Playing Rules and Regulations as published by Little League Baseball, Incorporated, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, shall be binding on this Local League.

Local Rules, Ground Rules and/or Bylaws. The local rules, ground rules and/or bylaws of this Local League shall be adopted by the Board of Directors at a meeting to be held not less than one per season previous to the first scheduled game of the season, but shall in no way conflict with the Rules, Regulations and Policies of Little League Baseball, Incorporated, nor shall they conflict with this Constitution. The local rules, ground rules and/or bylaws of this Local League shall expire at the end of each fiscal year, and are not considered part of this Constitution.

ARTICLE VII-Finance

Financial activities shall be conducted on an equal basis for all teams within the league from one common treasury. Funds necessary for the proper operation of the Hammonton Little League shall be accumulated through registration fees annually set by the Operating Board, revenue generated through facilities operated by the Hammonton Little League, fundraisers as needed, and team sponsorships in accordance with operational demand. Public donations may be included in the funds accumulated by the Hammonton Little League as they become available. No Director, Officer or Member of the Local League shall receive, directly or indirectly any salary, compensation or emolument from the Local League for services rendered as Director, Officer or Member.

Funds necessary for major improvements shall be allocated by a 2/3 decision of the Operating Board. The Board shall not permit the disbursement of Local League funds for other than the conduct of Little League activities in accordance with the rules, regulations and policies of Little League Baseball, Incorporated. All disbursements shall be made by check. All checks shall be signed by the Local League Treasurer and such other officer or officers or person or persons as the President shall determine.

The fiscal year for the Local League shall begin on October 1 and end on September 30.

ARTICLE VIII-Rules/Regulations

Current official regulations and playing rules set forth by Little League Baseball, Inc., Williamsport, PA., on a national and local level shall prevail. Local rules (House Rules) may be implemented by a majority vote of the Operating Board. At a minimum of once annually, House Rules for each playing division will be reviewed and submitted to the Operating Board for approval. This may be done by the President or by a committee established by the President. Once approved, House Rules will be published and distributed, as applicable, for public view.

ARTICLE IX-Revision/Amendment

This Constitution may be amended, repealed or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote at any duly organized meeting of the Members provided notice of the proposed change is included in the notice of such meeting.

The Local League and Little League Baseball, Incorporated does not limit participation in its activities on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, national origin, gender, sexual preference.

Revised: August 21, 2016

