

## **Aston-Middletown Little League**

### **Player Pool Procedures**

1. **Rationale for the Player Pool.** Teams in the Minor, American, National, and Major Leagues must have the prescribed number of players to start a game or they must forfeit. The Player Pool is designed to (1) enable managers to field complete teams so they do not have to forfeit games; and (2) provide more opportunities for players to participate in games.
2. **The Player Pool.** The Player Pool consists of players within the same league. All players in the league are considered to be eligible for Player Pool participation unless they or their parents ask not to be included.
3. **Procedure for Getting a Player Pool Player.** If a manager is missing one player from his team, he (or one of his coaches) may contact the Player Agent to supply him with a temporary substitute player from the Player Pool. If a manager is missing more than one player from his team, he (or one of his coaches) must contact the Player Agent for a temporary substitute player from the Player Pool. Ideally, this contact should be made as early as possible and not less than 24 hours prior to game time. However, emergencies do occur and if a manager finds out closer to game time, he can still contact the Player Agent, though his request may not be fulfilled. (NOTE: The Player Pool will be used for all player absences: if a player misses one or two games, several games, or the rest of the season (due to injury, quitting the league, relocation, etc.)
4. **Player Agent's Procedure.**
  - The Player Agent finds out: (a) the name of the “missing player”; (b) what team the missing player is on; (c) the name of the opposing team; and (d) where and when the substitute player should report to play.
  - After identifying the point value of the missing player, the Player Agent contacts players to see if they can serve as a substitute. (Players from the opposing team cannot serve as substitutes.) Player Pool Priority is given in the following order:
    - Players of the same point value as the missing player, beginning with those who have played in fewer substitute games than other players of the same point value.
    - Players rated one point lower than the missing player, beginning with those who have played in fewer substitute games than other players rated one point lower.
    - Players rated one point greater than the missing player, beginning with those who have played in fewer substitute games than other players rated one point greater.
  - The Player Agent, where practical, should wait a reasonable period of time before confirming which player will receive the Player Pool opportunity.
  - If a manager is missing a player with a particular ability—catcher, first-base, etc.—he may inform the Player Agent. The Player Agent may try to find a similarly ranked player, using the regular procedure, who also fills the manager's need. In order to fill this need, the Player Agent may attempt to get a lower rated player, but may not intentionally bypass identically or lower rated players and place a higher rated player just to fill the manager's need.
  - Once the Player Agent locates a substitute, he informs the parent of where and when the substitute player should report to play. The Player Agent then contacts the

manager/coach who requested a substitute and informs him of who the substitute will be. Finally, for the substitute, the Player Agent records the date of the game and the team for which the substitute will play.

5. **Substitution Rules.** Substitute players, or Player Pool Players, must play alongside Regular Players according to the following rules:
  - The Player Pool Player may not pitch.
  - If a Player Pool Player is requested and reports to the game and the missing player reports to the game, either on time or late, the missing player may not participate in the game.
  - A Player Pool Player may bat anywhere in the order
  - In all leagues, a Player Pool Player may not play in the field more than any Regular Player.