

# Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be known as the **Shikellamy Little League**, hereinafter referred to as the “Local League.”

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# Article II: Objective

## Section 1: Purpose

The objective of the Local League is to firmly instill in the children of our community the values of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect. Our goal is to help children grow into well-adjusted, strong, and happy individuals who will become responsible and trustworthy citizens.

## Section 2: Method

To achieve this objective, the Local League shall provide a supervised baseball and softball program under the Rules and Regulations of Little League International. All Directors, Officers, Coaches, and Members shall remember that developing youth positively is our highest priority. Winning games or achieving exceptional athletic skill is always secondary.

## Section 3: Nonprofit Status

In accordance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, the Local League shall operate exclusively as a nonprofit educational organization. The League will provide a supervised program of competitive baseball and softball games.

- No part of the League’s net earnings shall benefit any private shareholder or individual.
  - The League shall not engage in propaganda or attempt to influence legislation.
  - The League shall not participate in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.
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# Article III: Membership

### **Section 1: Eligibility**

Any person genuinely interested in supporting the objectives of the Local League may become a member. In accordance with Little League International, the Local League shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity, sexual orientation, or pregnancy), national origin, age, disability, or genetic information.

### **Section 2: Classes of Membership**

- **Player Member:** Any child meeting the eligibility requirements of Little League International. Player Members have no voting rights or responsibilities in the management of the League.
- **Coach Member:** Any adult approved to serve as a Manager or Coach. Coach Members do not vote at General, Special, or Formal Complaint Meetings, but their feedback will be recognized and considered.
- **Regular Member:** Any adult actively interested in advancing the objectives of the Local League. Regular Members must attend at least four meetings per year to remain in good standing and are eligible to vote in elections and at General Membership Meetings.
- **Executive Member:** Members of the Executive Board of Directors, including the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Umpire-in-Chief, Player Agent, Safety Officer, and any other appointed executive positions.

### **Section 3: Affiliations**

Membership in the Local League does not require affiliation with any other organization or group.

### **Section 4: Termination of Membership**

Membership may be terminated by resignation or by action of the Board of Directors:

1. **Discipline or Removal:** The Board may, by majority vote, discipline, suspend, or terminate any member whose conduct is deemed detrimental to the League or Little League International. The member will be notified in advance and given an opportunity to respond at a hearing.
2. **Players:** In the case of a Player Member, the team Manager, parents, or guardians must attend the disciplinary hearing with the player. The Board has full authority to suspend or revoke a player's participation.
3. **Board Attendance:** An Executive Board Member's position may be declared vacant if they miss three consecutive meetings without valid reason.

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# Article IV: Meetings

## Section 1: Definition

A General Membership Meeting is any meeting of the membership of the League. General Membership Meetings shall be held monthly, as determined by the Board of Directors. At least one Annual Meeting must be held each year.

## Section 2: Notice

The Secretary shall prepare and distribute an annual meeting schedule following the Annual Meeting. The schedule will also be available during registration or upon request. If any meeting times change, members will be notified within 24 hours.

## Section 3: Quorum

A quorum is reached when 60% of the Board of Directors is present. Members may attend in person, virtually, or by telephone. No business may be conducted without a quorum.

## Section 4: Voting

- Only Voting Members may make motions or vote at General Membership Meetings.
- At Special Meetings or Formal Complaint Hearings, only the Executive Board may vote.
- Voting is conducted by voice (“yea” or “nay”). Abstentions are allowed but do not affect the requirement for a majority vote of those present.

## Section 5: Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting, held each September, shall:

1. Review the League’s constitution.
2. Receive the Treasurer’s annual report (including funds received, expended, and on hand).
3. Elect the Board of Directors for the upcoming year.
4. Transition newly elected officers into their roles.

## Section 6: Special Meetings

The President may call a Special Membership Meeting at their discretion, or upon request.

Members will be notified at least three days in advance, and only the specified business may be discussed.

### **Section 7: Formal Complaint Hearings**

- A complaint must be reviewed by the President or Vice President to determine if it violates Local League or Little League International rules.
  - Valid complaints must be addressed within five days. A hearing shall be called, with all parties notified at least three days in advance.
  - Information necessary to review the case may be shared with the parties involved.
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## **Article V: Directors**

### **Section 1: Authority**

The Executive Board of Directors manages the property and affairs of the Local League.

### **Section 2: Increase in Number**

The number of Directors is set at the Annual Meeting but may be increased later at any General or Special Membership Meeting. Additional Directors must be approved by majority vote of Voting Members.

### **Section 3: Vacancies**

Vacancies caused by death, resignation, or removal may be filled by majority vote of the remaining Directors at a Regular or Special Meeting.

### **Section 4: Duties and Powers**

- The Board may create committees as needed and delegate appropriate authority to them.
  - The Board may adopt rules and regulations for managing League business, provided they do not conflict with the constitution.
  - The Board may discipline, suspend, or remove any Director or Committee Member by majority vote, following Article III, Section 4.
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# Article VI: Duties

## Section 1: Appointments

The Board may appoint additional officers or agents as needed. These appointees shall not have voting rights unless elected to the Executive Board or designated as Regular Members.

## Section 2: President

The President shall:

- Conduct League affairs and implement policies set by the Board.
- Report on the condition of the League at the Annual Meeting.
- Ensure compliance with Little League International rules.
- Investigate complaints and report findings to the Board.
- Prepare an annual budget with the Treasurer.
- Certify the age and residency of all player candidates.
- Umpire only if absolutely necessary, with approval from the Executive Board.

## Section 3: Vice President

The Vice President shall:

- Act in the absence of the President, with full authority.
- Carry out duties as assigned by the President or Board.
- May manage, coach, or umpire, provided they do not serve on any Protest Committee.

## Section 4: Secretary

The Secretary shall:

- Keep accurate records of all League activities and meetings.
- Maintain membership lists.
- Send notices of meetings.

- Record minutes and correspondence.
- Ensure all board appointees are notified of duties.
- Maintain required clearances for all volunteers.

#### **Section 5: Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall:

- Receive and deposit all League funds.
- Approve and record all disbursements (dual signatures required).
- Prepare an annual budget and financial report.
- Submit reports to both the Board and Little League Headquarters.

#### **Section 6: Player Agent**

The Player Agent shall:

- Maintain player records and applications.
- Conduct tryouts, drafts, and transactions.
- Submit rosters and eligibility affidavits to Little League.
- Oversee player replacements and trades.
- Not manage, coach, or umpire in their division.

#### **Section 7: Safety Officer**

The Safety Officer shall:

- Promote safety awareness throughout the League.
- Develop and submit a safety plan to Little League International annually.
- Ensure incidents are documented and reported properly.

## **Article VII: Committees**

### **Section 1: Appointment**

The Executive Board may appoint special committees as needed to assist with League operations. Committees must include at least two members, and their purpose and expectations shall be clearly defined before formation.

### **Section 2: Duties**

Committees shall oversee their assigned responsibilities and ensure League members uphold the values of the Local League. Committee members do not have voting rights at General or Special Meetings but must report their activities to the Executive Board at monthly meetings.

### **Section 3: Types of Committees**

Suggested committees may include, but are not limited to:

- Protest Committee
- Division Committee (Commissioners)
- Tournament Committee
- Fundraising Committee

All committees must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

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## **Article VIII: Affiliations**

### **Section 1: Charter**

The Local League shall annually apply for and maintain a charter with Little League International. The League shall devote its entire efforts to activities authorized by this charter and shall not affiliate with other organizations or operate other programs.

### **Section 2: Rules and Regulations**

The Official Rules and Regulations published by Little League International shall be binding on this Local League.

### **Section 3: Local Rules**

- Local rules for each division shall be adopted by the Board of Directors at least one month before the first scheduled game.

- Local rules may not conflict with the rules, regulations, or policies of Little League International or these by-laws.
  - Local rules shall expire at the end of each calendar year and must be reviewed and reinstated before the next regular season.
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## **Article IX: Financial and Accounting**

### **Section 1: Authority**

The Board of Directors shall control all League finances, ensuring income is deposited into a common treasury and spent in ways that do not give any individual or team an unfair advantage.

### **Section 2: Contributions**

The Board shall not allow direct contributions to specific teams or players. All fundraising efforts must benefit the League's general treasury.

### **Section 3: Solicitations**

No one may solicit funds in the name of Little League Baseball unless all proceeds are deposited into the Local League treasury.

### **Section 4: Disbursement of Funds**

- Funds may be used only for official Little League purposes.
- All disbursements must be by check or other approved methods.
- All checks must carry the signatures of the Treasurer and one additional officer as designated by the Executive Board.

### **Section 5: Compensation**

No officer, director, or member of the Local League may receive salary or compensation for their services.

### **Section 6: Deposits**

All funds shall be deposited in the Local League's designated bank (currently Northumberland National Bank).

### **Section 7: Fiscal Year**

The League's fiscal year shall run from the fourth Sunday in August to the fourth Sunday in August of the following year.

### **Section 8: Dissolution**

If the Local League dissolves, and after all debts and obligations are satisfied, remaining property shall be transferred to another federally incorporated 501(c)(3) organization with objectives consistent with those outlined in Article II.

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## **Article X: Player Draft**

### **Section 1: Selecting Team Managers**

- Before each annual draft, the Executive Board and Voting Members shall appoint Managers for each level of play.
- Returning Managers must be reapproved each year.
- Appointments must be made by majority vote at the February General Meeting (or a Special Meeting if necessary).

### **Section 2: Player Evaluation**

- Player evaluations shall be scheduled at least one week before the draft (not required for T-Ball).
- Evaluations will test hitting, throwing, and fielding skills.
- Dates and times must be posted at least 10 days in advance.

### **Section 3: Draft Eligibility**

- All new players eligible for Rookies, Minors, Majors, Juniors, or Seniors must enter the draft.
- Returning players remain on their current teams unless their parents request, in writing, that they re-enter the draft. The Board must approve such requests.
- Players must participate in their recommended division unless exceptions are approved for development, experience, or special needs.
- No exceptions may conflict with Little League International's age rules.

- Players selected for tournament teams at age 9 must play in Majors the following year.

#### **Section 4: Draft Order**

- Teams with the fewest returning players pick first until they equal the next-lowest team.
- Draft continues in a “serpentine” format until all teams have equal rosters.

#### **Section 5: Siblings**

- Siblings in the same division shall be placed on the same team.
- If one sibling moves up a division, they will join the existing sibling’s team.
- Siblings must be selected within two rounds of each other.

#### **Section 6: Coaches**

- Assistant Coaches are approved after the draft.
- A Manager may only appoint an Assistant Coach if that person’s child is drafted onto the team.

#### **Section 7: Draft Secrecy**

- Players shall not be informed of their draft position or the order of selections.

#### **Section 8: Trading**

- Trades must be approved by the Player Agent and President within one week of the draft.
- Trades are permitted for reasons such as scheduling conflicts or assistant coaching needs.

#### **Section 9: Expansion Teams**

- Existing Managers may protect up to four players (including their own children).

- New Managers may select up to six unprotected players, with restrictions (e.g., no more than three from a single team).

### **Section 10: Team Reduction**

- If the number of teams is reduced, the Board may disband the last-place team or the team with the fewest returning players.
- All players from that team will re-enter the draft pool.

### **Section 11: Player Pool**

- A pool of available players shall be maintained before the season begins.
  - Players may be temporarily assigned to fill rosters if a team cannot field nine players.
  - Players may “play up” a division but may not “play down.”
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## **Article XI: Gameplay**

### **Section 1: Schedule**

- Teams shall play games as scheduled.
- Games may only be rescheduled for weather or player availability, with at least one-hour notice to the Division Commissioner and Head Umpire.
- Managers are responsible for rescheduling postponed games.
- The President and Field Supervisor have final authority regarding weather-related decisions.
- Managers should use the Player Pool to avoid cancellations.

### **Section 2: Game Times**

- **Majors/Seniors:**

- Non-doubleheaders: Full games (or mercy rule applies).
- Doubleheaders: 1 hour 45-minute limit. No inning may start after that time.
- **Minors:**
  - All games follow the 1 hour 45-minute limit.

### **Section 3: Extra Innings**

- If a game enters extra innings and is within the time limit, it shall begin with a runner on second base.
  - The runner will be the last batter from the previous inning (unless they are due up).
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## **Article XII: Tournament Teams (All Stars)**

### **Section 1: Selection Meeting**

- The Executive Board shall announce a meeting to select Tournament (“All-Star”) Teams following the District 13 timeline.
- The League President, Player Agent, and all eligible Managers and Coaches must be present.
- Only Managers and Coaches in attendance may vote.

### **Section 2: Tournament Team Players**

- A “Showcase Day” may be held to evaluate players who may not be familiar to all Managers or Coaches.
- Showcase Days must be advertised at least seven days in advance.
- Coaches may vote for up to 12 players from the eligible list.
- Teams must carry between 12 and 14 players.

### **Section 3: Voting Process**

- Ballots shall be collected by the President and Player Agent.
- A tally of votes will be recorded, and players unanimously selected will be placed on the team.
- Players receiving zero votes will be removed from the ballot.
- Revotes will be held until the team is complete. If unanimity cannot be achieved, a majority vote may be used.

### **Section 4: Tournament Team Coaches**

- The Manager of the first-place Majors team shall be offered the role of Tournament Team Manager.
- If declined, the offer passes in order of team record.
- If no Majors Manager accepts, the President may appoint a Manager.
- Each Tournament Team Manager may choose two Assistant Coaches (only one may come from their regular-season team).
- The Executive Board must approve all All-Star Managers and Coaches.
- Any Manager or Coach with disciplinary issues during the season is ineligible.

### **Section 5: League Statistics**

- Commissioners, the President, or designated individuals should maintain accurate, unbiased statistics during the season.
- Coaches should consider statistics, defensive ability, speed, attitude, and overall baseball awareness when voting.

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## **Article XIII: Discipline**

### **Section 1: Managers and Coaches**

- If ejected from a game, the Manager or Coach must leave the field immediately.
- They shall serve a one-game suspension in the next scheduled game. If ejected in the final game of the season, the suspension carries into the first game of the following season.
- Additional suspensions may be applied by the Board for egregious behavior.
- Suspended Managers or Coaches are not permitted on League property during the suspension.

## **Section 2: Parents and Spectators**

- Any parent or spectator ejected from a game must leave immediately.
  - The Manager should meet with them before the next game to reinforce expected behavior.
  - Repeat offenders may be barred from attending future games.
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# **Article XIV: Amendments**

- These by-laws may be amended, repealed, or altered by a majority vote at any duly organized Membership Meeting.
  - Proposed amendments must be shared with members at least 10 days before the vote.
  - Draft amendments may be submitted to Little League International for approval.
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