

**COLUMBIA LITTLE LEAGUE**

**Bylaws**

**(Local League Rules)**

**2025-2026**

**Constitution and Bylaws Committee Members**

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## **Article I. General**

### **1. General Information**

- a.** These Local League rules shall apply to all divisions of Columbia Little League unless specifically stated otherwise. For the rest of this document, Columbia Little League is to be referred to as CLL.
- b.** We strive for a learning environment that is safe and fun for all ages of children and adults. The Mission of CLL is to facilitate an amateur sports program and activities, that support and develop athletes for local and national competition.
- c.** All players, managers, coaches, board members, parents and volunteers are expected to represent good CLL values, which include proper conduct, sportsmanship, and leadership on and off the diamond.
- d.** Children shall play in their appropriate league age divisions: T-ball (4,5,6), Minor Coach Pitch (6,7,8), “AA” Minor Coach/Player Pitch Baseball (7,8,9), “AAA” Minor Player Pitch (8,9,10,11), Majors (9,10,11,12), Intermediate Baseball (11, 12, 13), Juniors (12,13, 14) and Seniors (13,14,15,16). Players may play up with Player Agent and President approval. Player ages that are underlined MUST have Player Agent and President approval on a case-by-case basis.
  - i.** Minor Coach Pitch: 6 year olds can play, with at least 1 year of T-ball experience.
  - ii.** “AA” Player Pitch Baseball: Intended for 8 year-olds with at least 1 year of Coach Pitch experience, or 9 year-olds with no experience. 7 year-olds may play with Player Agent approval.
  - iii.** “AAA” Player Pitch Baseball: 8 year-olds may play with Player Agent approval. 8 year-olds wishing to play AAA baseball should have at least one year of AA or coach pitch experience.
- e.** The Little League Rule book is always in effect. Our Bylaws may add more but not take away any rules from the book.
- f.** Any game rules in these Bylaws will be superseded by any Divisional Interleague Agreement Rules.

### **2. Player Registration**

- a.** All eligible players are encouraged to sign up at CLL. To be a fully registered player, parents or guardians must complete all requirements of this section.
- b.** Parents and/or Guardians of Players shall have a filled out a CLL Registration Form, Medical Release, and Code of Conduct to be fully registered at CLL. Failure to provide all of this information may delay the player being placed on a team.
- c.** Must either pay the CLL Registration Fees, qualify and be approved for a scholarship or be approved for alternative arrangements by the Board of Directors.
- d.** Players League Age 4-7: Players have League Choice. Please See Little League 2025 Regulation II – League Boundaries.
- e.** Players League Age 8-16: Players must live within or attend a school that is within the boundaries of Columbia Little League or have received a qualifying exception that makes them eligible, either II(d), II(a) or IV(h), as designated under Little League International regulations.
  - i.** Players must provide three acceptable proofs of residence proving that they reside within the league boundaries or provide proof that they attend a school that is located within league boundaries. Players shall provide proof that they previously lived within the boundaries and played at CLL the season before to qualify for an II (d) or IV (h), exception. Players must provide proof they attended a school within the CLL boundaries to qualify for an II(a) exception.
  - ii.** Residency shall be established and supported by three documents of residency of the parent or guardian. The three residency proofs must be 1 from each of the 3 Little League Residency Proof Groups. Note: Three utility bills (three items from #10 above) constitute only ONE document. Players must have a Little League School Enrollment form filled out and signed by a school official to provide proof of school attendance.

- f.** Must be able to provide a certified birth certificate from the state in which the player was born, which includes a raised state seal. Photocopies of the player's birth certificate are not acceptable.
- g.** CLL is a 100% volunteer organization. Parents and Guardians of players are required as part of CLL's Registration to volunteer their time for Field Clean Up Days and Team Concession Duties.
  - i.** Field Clean Up is scheduled for 1 or more days to do work on the fields so they are safe and ready for the players to play on.
  - ii.** Teams are scheduled to work in the concession stand during the season. At least 1 representative (age 16+) is required to work 1 full concession duty shift for each player they have registered at CLL at least once during the regular season.
  - iii.** The Board of Directors may waive the Field Clean Up and/or Concession Duty requirements for a parent or guardian if they umpire at least 3 games outside of any game they have a player associated with.

### **3. Refunds**

- a.** Parents of players must submit a refund request for a child that is no longer playing at CLL in the form of a written letter or email to the Board of Directors. Refunds shall be considered on a case-by-case basis at a CLL Board meeting.
- b.** Refunds can take up to 90 days to be completed.
- c.** The Board of Directors shall decide on the amount of the Refund given. Fees associated with the registration process such as credit cards or website fees cannot be refunded. Refunds cannot be given at more than 92% of the registration fees, 50% of registration fees once hat and jersey are given out.

### **4. Alcohol / Tobacco / Drugs**

- a.** Use of tobacco is prohibited within all areas of David Douglas Park, including, and not limited to the fields, bleacher areas, in and around the club house, parking lot, etc. Tobacco use is illegal in all Vancouver City Parks.
- b.** Use of illegal drugs at any CLL event is prohibited.
- c.** The consumption of alcohol at any CLL event is prohibited.
- d.** Smoking or Vaping at any CLL event is prohibited.

### **5. Player Dismissal**

- a.** A player may be dropped from a team roster with the Board of Directors approval for any of the following reasons i - iii. If a player is dropped from a team, the Player Agent shall replace said player within seven days after the action becomes official. The replacement player shall be selected in accordance with the Little League Regulations.
  - i.** When an injury, no show, or extended vacation causes said player to miss all practices and games during 14 consecutive calendar days of the regular season, without Board of Directors pre-approval.
  - ii.** When a player poses a safety hazard to him/herself or other players.
  - iii.** When disciplinary action causes the player's removal

### **6. Notice of Player Injury / Discipline Action**

- a.** The manager shall report in writing to the Board of Directors (at least the President, respective Vice President, Player Agent and Coaching Coordinator), 24 hours before the scheduled game time, which players, if any, are injured or being considered suspended for discipline. Such a written report for disciplinary action shall state the reasons in detail for the action. The Board of Directors can decide to overrule suspension from a game for disciplinary actions. The scorekeeper shall record this in the team's official scorebook for that game.
  - i.** If a pool player is needed, refer to Subsection 14 of this Article.

## **7. Ejection / Suspension**

- a.** A manager, coach or player who is ejected from any regular season game at any facility shall be suspended from participation in his/her next regularly scheduled or make-up game, after review directed by the Little League Rule Book. The Board of Directors may assess additional penalties.
  - i.** Any ejection during the regular season may result in a loss of All Star eligibility.
  - ii.** Any ejection shall be reported to District 4 administrator for possible further action
- b.** All CLL players, managers and coaches involved in a fight (either physically or verbally) while preparing for, during or after any regular season, special, or tournament game, or practice, played at any facility are subject to the following disciplinary actions, by the Board of Directors:
  - i.** First offense = 3 game suspension
  - ii.** Second offense = suspended for remainder of season. A person may be banned from future participation in league.
- c.** Any person(s) involved in a physical or verbal fight at CLL facilities, practice areas, and/or other Little League facilities are subject to the following disciplinary actions.
  - i.** Police will be called.
  - ii.** Individuals will be ejected from the park.
  - iii.** Individuals will not be allowed at CLL facilities when Little League games of any level are being played. If parents/guardians fails to abide by these guidelines, player(s) may be suspended or removed from the league.

## **8. Field Fitness / Canceling a scheduled game / Make up Schedule.**

- a.** Playing Rule 3.10 establishes authorities for determining the fitness of the playing field before a game starts and during a game. This determination shall be made no later than 90 minutes before scheduled game time(s) by the Board of Directors, between 90 minutes and scheduled game time by the managers, and by the Scheduled Umpire once scheduled game time occurs. Team Managers and Umpires shall go through the Board Member on Duty to cancel the game. Every reasonable effort shall be made to prepare the field for play, provided the field doesn't need more than 1 bags of drying agent (Turface, Playball, etc.) to get the game started. Upon determination that the field is unfit for play, either before the game begins or during a game which is not yet a regulation game, the game shall be called, and a make-up game shall be scheduled. If a makeup game cannot be immediately rescheduled, the two managers should reschedule a makeup game within 24 hours and coordinate with the Schedule Coordinator.
- b.** Make-up games shall be played on the first available date agreed upon by both managers on the first available field used for that division.
- c.** Managers may request that make-up games be rescheduled if they will not be able to field the minimum number of players due to previously scheduled school or church activities. Managers are encouraged to utilize the player pool prior to rescheduling a game. Such requests must be submitted to the Schedule Coordinator, no later than 24 hours before the scheduled make-up game. The Schedule Coordinator has the authority to reschedule games.

## **9. Manager and Coaches**

- a.** At the beginning of each registration season, there shall be a call out for volunteers to manage and coach teams for the regular season. All volunteers for managing and coaching shall be given the opportunity to participate in a Coaches interview.

- b. The Coaching Coordinator shall schedule the interviews. The Coaching Coordinator shall also assemble a committee of at least 2 other Board Members (one of them should be the Vice President of the division the potential manager/coach is seeking) to conduct the interviews. After the conclusion of all the interviews, the Coaching Coordinator and Committee will turn over their recommendations for managers to the President. The President shall use these recommendations when deciding who to select and appoint to the Team Manager positions. The Board of Directors shall vote to approve the manager appointments.
- c. After the draft, the team manager shall select who they would recommend for the coaches of their team. All recommendations must get the approval of the President to be nominated for Board Approval. The Board of Directors may decide ahead of time to leave the decision of the coaches to the President without a Board approval.
- d. All managers and coaches will conduct themselves in a manner that represents fairness, good sportsmanship, and leadership, on and off the diamond. They are the ambassadors of CLL and shall always promote CLL.
- e. Each manager shall select at least 1 Team Parent to assist them with activities off the field.
- f. All managers, coaches and Team Parents must attend all training clinics deemed mandatory by CLL. Clinics or training may be online or in person. Training must include the Diamond Leader, USA Baseball Adult Abuse Awareness, and a First Aid Clinic. Proof of all training must be given to the Safety Officer and President before they can be on the field.
- g. All Managers, Coaches, Team Parents and Parent Volunteers must complete a Little League background check before they can volunteer with the kids.
- h. Each manager shall comply with and be responsible for all CLL Team Requirements and Rules, including but not limited to Team Concession Duties, Field Clean Up, Team Umpire Duties, etc.
- i. All Managers and Coaches shall be knowledgeable of the game and its rules.

#### **10. Player Evaluations**

- a. Player Evaluations shall be held to allow each candidate the opportunity to bat, field, throw and run within competition with other children having the same League Age and Division. Player Evaluations only need to be conducted for the Minor – Player Pitch, including AA baseball, divisions and older if there is more than 1 team in a division.
- b. Managers shall attend the Player Evaluations to observe each Player’s abilities and to grade each Player for the manager’s own reference.
- c. Player Evaluations shall be conducted at least on two separate dates.
- d. Players that do not attend at least one player evaluation will not be drafted (see Section 10.a.iv) and are not automatically eligible for All-Stars. All star eligibility for players who miss player evaluations will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Board of Directors.

#### **11. Team Player Selection and Draft – Minor Player Pitch and above**

- a. If there will be 3 or more teams in a division, players shall be selected using the Little League Draft System ---Alternate Method for Plan B, as described in the Little League Baseball Handbook and Manual and as revised in these Bylaws.
  - i. After Player Evaluations are complete, the Player Agent, President and one Board Member selected by the President shall conduct a Team Draft for each division of play with the Team Managers. If the President is a manager in the Draft, they shall appoint a Vice President in their place.
  - ii. All Manager and Sibling Options must be announced before the draft begins.
  - iii. The Draft Order shall be determined by drawing cards --- King being the highest, Ace being the lowest. Highest card will begin first. The drafting order shall be reversed for the even numbered rounds (the last pick of round one gets the first pick of round two) using the Serpentine Method.

- iv. Only Players that attended a Player Evaluation can be drafted. Parents that provide a legitimate reason in writing to the Player Agent and President for their player missing all Player Evaluations can receive a waiver to be eligible for the draft. Players that do not attend a Player Evaluation will be a blind hat pick continuing in the same manager pick order after the drafted players are completed.
- v. Players with an approved excuse by the Board of Directors for missing all Player Evaluations can receive a waiver and be accepted into the draft. All players receiving a draft waiver will be announced before the start of the draft.
- b. If there are only 2 teams in a division, the two managers will pick back and forth, first one to pick will be determined by drawing cards like above.
- c. If there is only one team in a division, all players will be placed on that team.
- d. Any trades shall be conducted immediately after the draft with all managers present and with the consent of the Player Agent. Blind pick players are not eligible for trade. Trades that are requested after the draft session is over must be in writing to the Player Agent and President for approval.
  - i. Any non-approved, non-official player roster changes will be subject to reversal or removal of player from the league without a refund for that season.

## **12. Player Selection – Tball and Coach Pitch**

- a. Managers for the teams will be selected, their player(s) will be selected to their team.
- b. Managers can select up to two coaches to assist them and their player(s) will be assigned to that team.
- c. Teams will then be selected by random computer pick by our registration system.
- d. Player Agent will adjust teams when needed.
- e. Once rosters are set and distributed, any changes must be approved by the Player Agent and President.
  - i. Any non-approved, non-official player roster changes will be subject to reversal or removal of player from the league without a refund for that season.

## **13. Number of Teams per Division**

- a. The number of teams needed in each division each year will be determined by the number of players signed up for that division, so that each team in the Major Division and older will have at least 10 but no more than 15.
  - i. T-Ball and Coach Pitch teams should have 7 to 10 players.
  - ii. Minor Player Pitch (AA and AAA) should have 10 to 13 per team, maximum of 15 if necessary.

## **14. Team Requirements and Rules**

- a. Home teams are responsible for getting the field ready for the game, which includes raking, drying out puddles and muddy areas, putting out bases and chalking the field. Managers, coaches, and parents should be familiar with how to do these things, or ask a knowledgeable board member for training.
- b. After each game, home teams shall clean up the dugouts, the playing field and the spectator area and properly dispose of all trash collected.
- c. After each game, the home team shall rake the field (with help from the next home team if there is another game following). The home team for the last scheduled game of the day will put away the bases, fill and fix any holes in the field (batters' boxes, pitchers area, bases, etc.).
- d. When games are scheduled back-to-back on the same field, no new inning shall begin after 1 hour 45 minutes from scheduled start of game. An inning begins the moment the third out is made, completing the preceding inning. T-Ball shall have time limit of 1 ½ hours.
- e. Field lights shall be turned off no later than the time mandated by the City of Vancouver ordinance, whether game is complete or not. Games must be complete and lights off by 11:00 PM, unless given permission by Vancouver Parks and Rec.

- f. Teams shall follow all Interleague Rules if their division is involved in Interleague play with other leagues, even if it is two CLL team playing each other.
- g. All teams shall be required to participate in scheduled concession duties, field clean ups, opening and closing ceremonies, and fundraisers. Most of these require the parents to volunteer their help.
- h. Mandatory Play Rules shall be followed in every game.
  - i. T-Ball and Minor Coach Pitch teams are allowed to place all players in the field when they are on defense. Extra positions will be created in the outfield if needed.
  - ii. Minor Player Pitch (AA and AAA) division teams shall have no player sit more than 2 innings in a row until every player has sat 2 innings. Scorekeepers shall keep track of who plays defensively each inning.
  - iii. Managers are strongly encouraged to have all players play all positions.

#### 15. Division Championships

- a. If a division has 3 or more teams, an end of year tournament of champions can be scheduled to determine a Division Champion. Such a tournament will not interfere with any scheduled regular season games.
- b. Minor Coach Pitch and T-ball divisions shall not have a championship tournament.

#### 16. Player Pool Process

- a. Pool players may only be requested if the team is expecting fewer than 9 rostered players to attend a game. Requests for pool players must be made by the manager of the team to the Division Player Agent in writing, preferably by email, at least 48 hours before the game time that the pool players are needed.
- b. Managers and coaches may not contact a potential pool player to entice them to play for their team.

#### 17. Playing Fields

- a. Teams shall play their games on the best field that is available for them at their scheduled game time. Games always come before practices, even if the practice was scheduled before a make-up game. Games will be scheduled to fields once the game schedules are released and can be moved to a better field if available.
  - i. The Schedule Coordinator shall decide what fields games are played on, BMOD can move fields if necessary.
- b. Teams shall play on the correct diamond size.
  - i. T-Ball can be played on a 50' diamond. Currently the Tball Field is a 54' diamond. All other fields Tball plays on at CLL will be a 60' diamond unless the home manager wants to use throw down bases.
  - ii. Minor Coach and Player Pitch (AA and AAA) and Major baseball shall be played on a 60' diamond.
  - iii. Minor Coach and Player Pitch, Major, Junior, and Senior Softball shall play on a 60' diamond.
  - iv. Intermediate baseball shall be played on a 70' diamond.
  - v. Junior and Senior baseball shall be played on a 90' diamond.

#### 18. Board Member Responsibilities

- a. All Board members shall promote CLL, encourage good sportsmanship and help provide a safe recreational and learning environment for youth to play baseball and softball.
- b. Board Members shall do their duties that are required with the office that they are elected.
- c. All Board Members shall be required to be on the Board Member on Duty (BMOD) schedule to manage the activities at the park. BMOD must be visible and continuously check on the status of all games happening at that time. **BMOD's are required in order for games to occur.**

- d. Board Members shall attend Board Meetings as often as possible. Any Board Member that is absent for three consecutive Board Meetings, without a valid excuse, shall no longer be considered a member in good standing, and will lose voting rights. Voting rights may only be reinstated by the board with the member in attendance. Restored voting rights will take effect at the next meeting after reinstatement. The Secretary shall keep a record of attendance and alert the President on the third missed meeting.
- e. Regular Board Meetings shall normally be held on the second Sunday or the Monday of each month, unless otherwise voted on by the Board at the previous meeting. Special Board Meetings can happen at any time, given that the Board has at least 10 days of notice.
- f. All Board Members shall be required to obtain their Food Handlers Card and have a copy on display in the Concession Stand at their own expense as dues for being on the Board of Directors.
- g. All Board Members must complete all required training courses and pass a required background check. The secretary or safety officer will maintain a record of all completed training certificates. Background checks and annual training must be completed by January 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.
- h. Only Board Members in good standing shall be in possession of any Board Keys. The secretary shall keep a log of keys that Board Members have in their possession.
  - i. Coaches may possess and use a Coach's Key to have access to the fields.
- i. In order to remain a Board Member in good standing, all board members shall do a combination of the following, for the spring season:
  - i. Serve as a BMOD three (3) times
  - ii. Serve as a concession **lead** three (3) times
  - iii. Umpire a game, that is not your team's game, three (3) times
  - iv. A combination of each of the above. E.g. lead a concession shift, umpire a non-team game, and serve as BMOD once.
  - v. For the fall season, if games are scheduled, board members are expected to do at least one of the activities listed above (BMOD, concessions lead, umpire non-team game)

**19. Volunteer/Player Code of Conduct**

- a. All Little League Volunteers and Players shall conduct themselves in a behavior that represents the best values of CLL.
- b. All Volunteers and Players shall not exhibit unbecoming conduct as defined, but not limited to, by these below.
  - i. The improper use of physical force against anyone including excessive discipline.
  - ii. Inappropriate physical contact
  - iii. Sexual abuse or harassment on anyone through any means of communication
  - iv. Continued and repeated violation of or refusal to obey CLL rules or regulations.
  - v. Racial, gender, religious and other forms of discrimination
- c. Anyone who fails to conduct themselves appropriately shall be brought before the Board of Directors for possible discipline or removal from CLL. Removal shall be voted on by the Board of Directors as outlined in the League Constitution.
- d. The President shall maintain a record of persons that have been voted on by the Board of Directors for removal from CLL.
- e. All parents/guardians of players shall sign the Parent Code of Conduct. Failure to sign the Code may result in All-Star ineligibility and/or removal from the league.

**20. Little League® Child Protection Program.** Columbia Little League shall remain in full compliance with Little League International's Child Protection Program. Details of this program can be found at <https://www.littleleague.org/player-safety/child-protection-program/> All members of Columbia – board members, volunteers, parents, guardians, and players shall be in compliance with the Little League Player Safety Program. This includes but is not limited to:

- a. **Completing Background Checks.** All local leagues are required to use the Little League Official Volunteer Application for all managers, coaches, members on the Board of Directors, and any other person, volunteer, and/or hired worker who provides regular service to the league and/or has access to minors. The Little League Official Volunteer Application is available through Sports Connect or online at [LittleLeague.org/BackgroundChecks](http://LittleLeague.org/BackgroundChecks). The applicant must also submit a government-issued photo identification card (e.g. driver's license) for the league to verify that the information on his/her volunteer application is correct (e.g. spelling of the name, address, date of birth, etc.).
- b. **Mandatory Training and Continuing Education.** The free Abuse Awareness for Adults courses provides resources to create a positive and safe environment for all athletes, coaches, parents, legal guardians, and umpires by understanding how to recognize misconduct and abuse of all types. including the Abuse Awareness Program - <https://www.littleleague.org/player-safety/child-protection-program/safesport-resources-parents/>.
- c. **Mandatory Reporting Requirements –** Any individual who participates in the league must report suspected child abuse, including sexual abuse, within 24 hours to the proper authorities. If a case of abuse is suspected within a league, it must be reported to the appropriate child services organizations and/or local law enforcement, as well as their League President and District Administrator.
- d. **Non-Retaliation for Reporting -** potential reporters should not be afraid to come forward in cases where they either have firsthand knowledge of or a good faith belief that abuse has occurred, even if there is a possibility that the report is wrong. Little League policy prohibits retaliation, of any kind, when a good faith report of child abuse is made.
- e. **Appropriate One-on-One Interaction Guidelines.** An adult participant should not allow themselves to be alone with a minor (who is not their child) and should always position themselves in an area where they can be observed by others. Minors must always be supervised by appointed volunteers and/or hired workers who have completed the mandated background check. If an adult participant finds himself or herself alone with a child, he or she should remedy the situation by removing themselves to an area within an observable and/or interruptible distance of another adult over the age of 18.

**21. Umpires.**

- a. Every game (Minors Player Pitch and above) should have two umpires.
- b. Every game, that has umpires, shall have at least one adult umpire.
  - i. No manager shall address any minor-aged umpire without an adult umpire present
- c. Any game-related disputes shall be the sole purview of the umpire crew of that game. BMOD shall be summoned to handle any non-game related disputes including but not limited to addressing any violations of the Code of Conduct.
- d. Failure to comply with any of these bylaws will be considered a violation of the Code of Conduct and will be subject to the Board of Directors' sanctions.

**22. Little League Regular Season Game Rule Options**

- a. The following addresses the rule options given in the Little League Rule Book. Interleague Game Rules shall supersede these game rules for any division involved in an Interleague. Any division not involved in Interleague play will follow these league options.

- i.** Rule 3.04 – A courtesy runner is permitted to run the bases for a pitcher or catcher of record when there are 2 outs. If using continuous batting order is used, the courtesy runner shall be the player in the batting order that was the last out.
  - ii.** Rule 4.04 Note 3 – A team will be permitted to start and play a game with 8 players if a ninth player is not available and there will be no penalty for skipping over the ninth batting position.
  - iii.** Rule 4.10 (c) (2) – If a game is called, it is a regulation game if it has been played for 1 hour and 45 minutes. Any inning started before the 1 hour 45-minute time limit will be completed. No new inning will start once the time limit has expired.
  - iv.** Rule 4.11 (d) – A called game ends at the moment the umpire terminates play and will be a regulation game if the game has been played for at least 1 hour 45 minutes and any inning that started before that 1 hour 45-minute time has been completed.
  - v.** Rule Baseball 4.16 and Softball 4.16 (1) – A game may not start with less than 8 players in the Minor Player Pitch, Major, Intermediate, Junior and Senior Divisions.
  - vi.** Rule 5.07 – The five-run rule shall be in effect for all innings played in the Minor Divisions.
  - vii.** Rule 6.02 (c) - No penalty for the batter not keeping at least 1 foot in the batter's box once they have started their at bat.
  - viii.** Rule 6.05 (b) (2) – A batter will be allowed to try to advance to first base on a third strike that is not caught by the catcher in the Major Division if:
    - 1. First base is unoccupied with less than 2 outs.
    - 2. There are two outs.
  - ix.** Rule 7.15 – When available, CLL will utilize the double first base and abide by all of the Little League Rules pertaining to its use.
  - x.** Rule 9.01 NOTE – Stealing and relaying signs is unsportsmanlike behavior. Proving it may be near to impossible though so CLL will not adopt this noted application to prevent umpires from focusing on looking for it.
  - xi.** Rule 9.04 (a) – The plate umpire shall be permitted to umpire from behind the pitcher. If the plate umpire stands behind the pitcher, they do not have to wear protective equipment.
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## **Article II. All Stars**

### **1. Mission of Columbia Little League**

- a.** To select the best players, managers and coaches that represent the Columbia Little League values, which foster among the members the ideals of teamwork, good sportsmanship, good citizenship and character on and off of the diamond.

### **2. General Information:**

- a.** The league shall support the following All-Star teams if available:

#### **b. Baseball Divisions**

- i.** 8 - 10-year-old baseball
- ii.** 9 - 11-year-old baseball
- iii.** Little League (Major) baseball
- iv.** Intermediate (50/70) baseball
- v.** Junior baseball
- vi.** Senior baseball

#### **c. Softball Divisions**

- i.** 8 - 10-year-old softball
- ii.** 9 - 11-year-old softball
- iii.** Little League (Major) softball
- iv.** Junior softball
- v.** Senior softball

### **3. All-Star Manager Selection Process:**

#### **a. Manager Eligibility**

- i.** All managers and coaches of record and approved by CLL can be eligible to serve as All Star Manager. Little League tournament rules permit any regular season manager or coach to serve as an All-Star Manager.
  - 1.** All Baseball / Softball managers and coaches are eligible to be All Star Manager in the respective division they managed or coached.
  - 2.** Special Exception – In the event that no manager or coach is available to serve as All Star Manager from within a specific division, the President may nominate a Manager or Coach or Volunteer from outside of that specific division to be eligible.
- ii.** Must have completed all required manager/coach training and any other meetings, training and/or clinics as seen mandatory by CLL as follows:
  - 1.** USA Baseball Abuse Awareness for Adults
  - 2.** First Aid Clinic or Training
  - 3.** Little League Diamond Leader Training
- iii.** Demonstrates CLL values, which includes proper conduct, sportsmanship, and leadership on and off of the diamond. They must be knowledgeable of the game and its rules.

- iv. To the extent feasible, the president may form an advisory committee to evaluate the candidates for all-star manager and coach positions. The committee will provide their recommendations to the president to consider for his/her selections.
- v. The All-Star Manager that is selected must meet all eligibility requirements set forth by the Board of Directors and have fulfilled all of their obligations required as a manager / coach during the regular season.

**b. All Star Manager Election Process**

- i. The Board of Directors will issue a ‘call for Managers’ a minimum of two weeks prior to its annual balloting to all managers and coaches at CLL.
- ii. All managers and coaches interested and committed to becoming a Division All-Star Manager must submit their name to the CLL Board of Directors in writing, within one week of the actual balloting, so their name can be added to the voting ballot. If the board requests, candidate managers and coaches may be required to complete a questionnaire detailing why they should be nominated. The names of managers and coaches that do not notify the Board of their interest in writing to become Division All-Star Manager will not be placed on the voting ballot. The Board may accept late notices at their sole discretion.
- iii. Ballots to select the All-Star Manager will be cast by all eligible players, rostered coaches (max 2 per team) and managers that are eligible to vote. One Team Parent shall also be allowed to vote per team.
- iv. These votes can be used when the Presidents considers his/her nomination for manager to be given to the Board of Directors.
- v. The Little League (Major Division) All Star Manager will be selected first. The 8 - 10-year-old Division All Star Manager will be selected second. The CLL President will select the 9 - 11-year-old Division All Star Manager from the remaining eligible candidates. The Intermediate, Junior and Senior Division Managers will then be selected.
- vi. The President will nominate the All-Star Managers, and the Board will vote on their approval. If the Board does not approve the President’s first nomination, the President shall make a second nomination from the eligible list of potential managers for Board approval. This shall be repeated as needed.
- vii. If a Manager selected in the Board voting process does not meet the Manager Eligibility Requirements, the President shall select the All-Star Manager for that division.
- viii. The Manager of each Division will be announced on the CLL All Star Announcement Day. The Manager will be notified at least two days prior to Announcement Day in order to select their coaches and select the final players to their roster.

**4. All Star Coach Selection Process:**

**a. Coach Eligibility**

- i. All managers and coaches of record and approved by CLL are eligible to serve as All Star Coach. Little League tournament rules permit any regular season manager or coach to serve as an All-Star Coach.
    - 1. All Baseball / Softball managers and coaches are eligible to be All Star Coach in the respective division they managed or coached.
    - 2. Special Exception – In the event that no manager or coach is available to serve as an All-Star Coach from within a specific division, the president may nominate a Manager or Coach or Volunteer from outside of that specific division to be eligible. Must have attended required manager/coach training clinics and meetings.
  - ii. Demonstrates CLL values, which include proper conduct, sportsmanship, and leadership on and off of the diamond. They must be knowledgeable of the game and its rules.
- b. The All-Star Coach must meet all eligibility requirements set forth by the Board of Directors and has fulfilled all their obligations required as a manager / coach during the regular season.**

**c. Coach Selection Process**

- i. The Division All Star Manager that was approved by the CLL Board shall nominate Coaches to the President. The President shall give the coach nomination to the Board for approval, unless the Board delegates full approval authority to the President. The Coaches of each Division will be announced on CLL All Star Announcement Day.

**5. All Star Player Selection Process:**

**a. Player Eligibility**

- i. A player must have been fully registered for the regular season to participate in All-Stars. This includes turning in all required paperwork and participating in required volunteer activities.
- ii. A player must have played in a minimum of 8 regular season games with the regular season team they are rostered on. With the exception of the Senior division, which has no minimum game requirement.
- iii. Players can only play for the All-Star team that are dictated by the player's league age.
- iv. Players must live within or attend a school that is within the boundaries of Columbia Little League or have received a qualifying waiver under Little League International regulations.
- v. Players must provide a certified birth certificate from the state in which the player was born. Photocopies of the player's birth certificate are not acceptable.
- vi. Players must provide three acceptable proofs of residence proving that they reside within the league boundaries, or provide proof that they attend a school that is located within league boundaries, or have a waiver under Little League International rules.
- vii. Demonstrates CLL values, which include proper conduct, sportsmanship, and leadership on and off of the diamond.
- viii. Players must have attended a preseason Player Evaluation before the regular season. If an evaluation was not attended, the player (or player's parents/guardian) must provide a written statement on why they didn't attend a tryout (sick, school or church function, etc) so that the Board of Directors can decide on eligibility.

**b. Player Selection Process**

- i. The Player Agent will compile a list of all eligible players. Each player's name will be placed on the All-Star ballot, provided the player and the parent has signed and understands the Columbia Little League All Star Player Commitment form. Players that qualify in multiple divisions must declare what division of All Stars they want to play in. The Player Agent and President may adjust if needed.
- ii. Ballots to select the All-Star Players will be cast by all eligible players, rostered coaches, team parents and managers within their division. Once the ballot is completed, they are to be turned in to the Board member that handed out the ballots, which are then given to the President until counted.

For the 2026 season, we will establish an advisory committee that will research methods of rostering players onto appropriate all-star teams. See Section 7, subsection g, h, and i for details.

## 6. Team Selection Process:

- a. All Star voting will be conducted in the month prior to All-Star Announcement Day. The ballots will list each team and their players in alphabetical order for each division. The ballot will post the players legal name, as shown on the original, state issued birth certificate provided to CLL. If the player goes by another name, or nickname on the field, the parent or manager must notify the Division player agent in writing to note this on the ballot. The ballot can also include the jersey number that the player wore during the regular season. A list of the player pictures can also be available for voters to look at.
- b. At the time of voting, the players, managers, coaches, and team parents will be instructed to vote for a maximum of twelve players. They will be instructed to select each player by their positive attitude, sportsmanship, and ability on the field.
- c. If a division has three or more teams participating during the regular season, not more than six players can be voted on from any regular season team.
- d. If a division has only two teams participating during the regular season, not more than eight players can be voted on from any regular season team.
- e. If a division has only one team participating, not more than twelve players can be voted on from the team.
- f. No player or adult will attempt to influence the All-Star team voting process prior to the Player, Coach, Manager or Team Parent ballot being cast. A violation of this rule will cause an immediate disqualification of that player, manager, or coach ballot. A Board Committee, selected by the President will determine if the person violating this rule should be allowed to participate with any further CLL team or event. This includes telling/instructing players not to vote for a player or manager candidate. Trading of votes is strictly forbidden.

## 7. Counting the ballots

- a. The President will hold all the ballots until the Board Committee of 3 Board Members appointed by the President meet to count all Division votes. At least one of the ballot counters shall not have a child in that division.
- b. After all the ballots have been completed within the division, the All-Star ballots will be counted by the three members of the CLL Board appointed by the Board President. The board members to count the ballots will not have served within that specific division either as a manager or coach. The votes will be counted within seven days of the election. The three Board members counting ballots for the division will sign and certify the ballot results. The league President will supervise the vote tally if not part of the committee and certify the ballot results.
- c. The first 6 players elected to each All-Star Team will be the top 6 players that get the most votes off of the players ballots. In the event of a tie for the 6<sup>th</sup> player, the manager / coaches/ Team Parent ballots will be used to determine a winner between the players in the tie.
- d. The next 4 players elected to the All-Star team shall be the 4 players that get the most votes off the Manager / Coaches / Team Parent ballots after the 6 players elected by the players have been removed. In the event of a tie for the 4<sup>th</sup> player, the player ballots will be used to determine a winner between the Manager/Coach/Team Parents in a tie.
- e. The Manager of the All-Star team shall pick the last 2 required players, if available, on the All-Star team. The Manager may also pick the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> players to the All-Star Team if they decide to have a team that big.
- f. The President must certify the All-Star Team after the voting has been counted.

- g. Barring injury or player ineligibility that would affect the viability of a team, once a player has been assigned to an all-star team, they shall remain only with that team.
  - h. The Little League Division All Star team will be counted and selected first.
  - i. The 8 - 10 Division All Star team will be counted and selected second.
  - j. The 9 – 11 Division All Star team will be selected by a CLL Board Committee, chosen by the President, and selected third from the players not selected to a team from above.
    - i. To form the most competitive team, CLL Board will restrict players league age 9 from playing on the 9-11 team. Exceptions may be made by a Board vote.
  - k. The Intermediate Division All Star Team will be counted and selected fourth.
  - l. The Junior Division All Star team will be counted and selected fifth, fourth for Softball.
  - m. The Senior Division All Star team will be counted and selected sixth, fifth for Softball.
8. All Star Equipment:
- a. **Making an All-Star team at Columbia is a great honor and privilege – only select players achieve this accomplishment. All Stars are essentially a second season and as such, will require a supplemental fee of \$50 per player. This fee helps to offset the additional costs of fielding an All star team. If a player cannot afford the fee, please contact the league President about scholarships or alternative arrangements.**
  - b. All Star uniforms: A jersey and hat will be issued by CLL. Pants can be offered if there is a need but are usually provided by the player. The player will provide all other uniform/wearing apparel required to be worn by the All-Star team - socks, belt, undershirt, etc.
  - c. Teams shall use the hats and visors provided by CLL.
  - d. Each team shall have matching colored pants and socks.
  - e. All uniforms must use the CLL colors of royal blue, navy blue, red, gray, and white. Uniforms do not have to use all these colors.
  - f. Managers and coaches will be provided a CLL All Star shirt and are expected to wear this for all games.
9. Combined All Star Teams
- a. If CLL does not have enough players to have an All-Star Team in any Division, every effort shall be made to combine with other leagues to form a Combined All-Star Team. In that instance, the Presidents of the combined leagues will decide together the processes on sections 1-8 of this article.
10. All Star Commitment:
- a. Being a member of an All-Star team at Columbia Little League is an honor. This honor requires tremendous commitment by every Manager, Coach, Parent and Player selected to the team. All Star Players can expect to practice two to three hours each day, every day, until the tournament starts. Tournaments' start dates will vary by division. The location of each tournament game will be announced as early as CLL is notified. Depending on the success of the All-Star team on the field, the players could participate at the state, regional and national tournaments after the district level. The Player commitment could run well into August, when the Little League World series is played.

- b.** The All-Star Player is required to attend all practices and games, unless excused by the Manager. Any unexcused absence, or violation of any team rule or policy, could cause the Player to become ineligible from the All-Star team. The All-Star Manager will advise the Board of Directors of any team violations. A Board Committee of at least 3 Board Members selected by the President will determine if the Player should be allowed to continue to participate on the team for the remainder of the All-Star tournament.
  - i.** The All-Star Manager may excuse up to 2 absences. More than 2 absences must be immediately reported to the Division Player Agent for an eligibility evaluation. The Player will be evaluated by the President and the 3 Board Members that counted the All-Star votes for that Division.  
Excused absences shall be limited to: injury, illness, or family emergency.
  - ii.** The President and the Board of Directors can evaluate any extenuating circumstances as they arise and act accordingly.
- c.** All Parents of All Star Players shall attend a mandatory All Star Team Meeting which will happen shortly after the All-Star Team is announced. Parents of All Star Players shall be required to help with any fundraisers, field clean up and Concession duties that are required by CLL.
- d.** Any fundraising done on behalf of CLL shall return the funds to the league, and not to the individual team.
- e.** In the event that a player is removed from an all-star team roster, the President and the Balloting Committee may decide to add a replacement player to that roster.

**11. All Star Player Commitment Form:**

- a.** All potential All Star Players and their parents will fill out the following All Star Commitment/Decline form.
-

**COLUMBIA LITTLE LEAGUE**  
**ALL-STAR PLAYER COMMITMENT/DECLINE FORM**

**PLAYER INFORMATION**

Last Name	First Name	Nickname
Address	City	Zip
E-mail	Phone	Birth Date
Division: <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball <input type="checkbox"/> Softball	Reg Season Level: <input type="checkbox"/> Sr <input type="checkbox"/> Jr <input type="checkbox"/> Inter <input type="checkbox"/> Maj <input type="checkbox"/> Min	Reg. Season Team

If available, First Choice of All-Star Team (circle one): 8-10 9-11 Majors Intermediate Juniors Seniors

If available, Second Choice of All-Star Team (circle one): 8-10 9-11 Majors Intermediate Juniors Seniors

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**Accept to participate in All-Stars.**

We the parents/guardians of the above-named candidate for the Columbia All-Star team hereby grant approval to participate in **any and all tournament activities** and agree to make our child available **for all tournament activities** throughout the District 4 tournament and to every subsequent tournament thereafter that the All Star team qualifies to play in. We also agree to make available our child's original, state issued Birth Certificate for age verification purposes and the required documents needed to verify your residency within the Columbia Little League boundaries.

We understand that while the chances of the All-Star team advancing through District, State or Regional are remote, we agree to not schedule vacation or other activities that will interfere with our child's ability to attend all practices and games during the All-Star period. We also understand that **the mandatory \$50 league fee funds team uniforms, which only includes jersey, hat, and required baseball/softball equipment.** Pants may be available if needed. CLL does not reimburse for other expenses related to All Stars including personalized uniforms and jackets, hotel and travel, etc. If our player becomes unavailable for any reason, other than short-term illness, or any other reason excused by the All-Star Manager and CLL Board of Directors, we understand that his or her position on the roster may be forfeited. I have read and understand the Tournament Selection Process in the CLL Bylaws. All Star teams advancing past district tournament, may be eligible to receive per diem from CLL to help defray their cost, depending on CLL financial position.

We agree to participate in any All-Star meetings, field clean ups, fundraisers, and Concession duties that CLL schedules during the All-Star season.

Parent/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*All Star Practices may be 7 days a week for at least 2-3 hours a day.\*\*\***

**Schedule Conflict**

We do have a prior scheduled obligation that may interfere with being able to participate in the All-Star Season. If CLL will allow this absence, we would like the above-named player to participate in the All-Star Season. We also agree with the paragraphs above.

Parent/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dates in Conflict \_\_\_\_\_

**DECLINE All-Star Participation**

***I do not wish my child to participate in All-Stars this season. Signing this line below will keep my child's name off of the voting ballot. This cannot be changed once All-Star voting has started.***

Parent/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

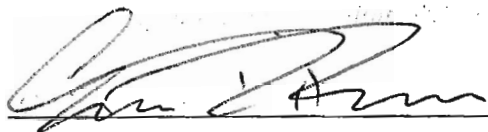
Date \_\_\_\_\_

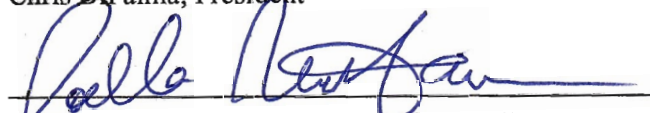
Columbia Little League

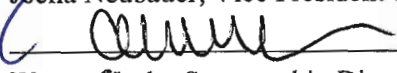
ID# 447-04-10

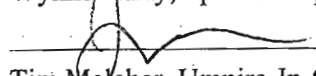
Board of Directors

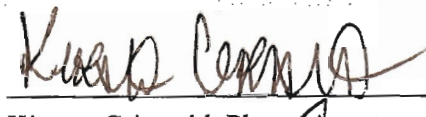
Approved on: 1/11/26

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris DiPalma, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joella Neubauer, Vice President of Softball

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wynne Hurly, Sponsorship Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Melcher, Umpire-In-Chief

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kirstyn Griswold, Player Agent

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tanya Cardoza, Assistant Player Agent