Lindenwald Baseball & Softball, Inc.
Organization Rules and Regulations – Revised Apr 2018

Team Organization/Assignments

A. League names and ages are as follows:

T-Ball	4-5 year olds (As of Apr 30 current year)
Instructional	6-7 year olds (As of Apr 30 current year)
Rookie	8 year olds (As of Apr 30 current year)
Minor	9- 10 year olds (As of Apr 30 current year)
Major	11-12 year olds (As of Apr 30 current year)
Prep Babe Ruth	13-14 year olds (As of Apr 30 current year)
Babe Ruth	15-16 year olds (As of Apr 30 current year)
U8 Fastpitch	7-8 year olds (As of Dec 31 previous year)
U10 Fastpitch	9-10 year olds (As of Dec 31 previous year)
U12 Fastpitch	11-12 year olds (As of Dec 31 previous year)
U14 Fastpitch	13-14 year olds (As of Dec 31 previous year)
U18 HS Fastpitch	15-18 year olds (As of Dec 31 previous year)

B. Players may not start a season with a team without having their registration paid in full. Registration slots are assigned on a first come, first served basis. Team counts and number of players per team will be the final decision of the Board of Directors.

C. All registrants are expected to be present for a skill assessment when necessary. In the event a player does not attend a skill assessment, his/her name will be placed in a blind draft. Such players will be placed on teams after the draft is complete (see Draft Procedures).

D. Teams in T-Ball league will consist of no more than ten (10) players unless approved by the Board of Directors. Teams with the exception of the T-Ball league will consist of no more than twelve (12) players unless approved by the Board of Directors. Number of teams in each league will be determined by the Board of Directors based on registrations and scheduling considerations.

E. Players registering after the draft will be assigned to a team only if there is availability. Players will be placed on the team that was scheduled to draft next (see Draft Procedures).

F. All players added after the draft will be assigned to the team that was scheduled to draft next when the player pool was exhausted. If a team loses a player after the draft, they will automatically be assigned the next available player (s) until such time that they have the same roster size as when the draft was completed.

G. A maximum of three players may be locked as a 'coach's option' per team. The child of the manager and two (2) assistant coaches will automatically be assigned to their teams. All other players must be assigned a team through the draft process. Some consideration will be given for transportation problems when placing players on teams. Lindenwald Baseball & Softball reserves the right to place players on teams due to extenuating circumstances as determined by the Board of Directors and agreed upon by the League Director. Parents may request their child not be on a team managed by a particular manager by communicating this request in writing prior to the draft. The League Director may choose to honor such a request after consultation with the Board of Directors.

H. All managers and assistant coaches and other team support personnel who may have unsupervised contact with a child must pass a background check. All managers and coaches must be actively involved by base coaching, scoring, etc. within the confines of the playing field.

I. All Team Managers and Assistant Coaches must be familiar with Lindenwald Baseball & Softball Rules and Regulations, as well as Babe Ruth League and Butler County Babe Ruth League rules. They must also sign a coaching contract.

J. Managers will be responsible for their own behavior and conduct of their coaches, players, parents, and fans. If a player displays unsportsmanlike conduct, the manager is to remove the player from the game.

K. All registrations are final, as stated on the registration form. In the event a refund is requested, our Board of Directors will discuss the details of the case and vote on whether it will be permitted or not. If a refund is permitted, the full amount of the

registration fee will be refunded up until Player Evaluations. After Player Evaluations, only 50% of the registration fee will be offered, since teams are set and uniforms are ordered. Any request for refund after Opening Day will not be granted. Refund requests for cases of injury, illness, or relocation will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will require Board approval.

Lindenwald Baseball & Softball Skill Assessment Guidelines

A. With the exception of the T-Ball league, new players and players advancing to a new age division will undergo a skill assessment during a published schedule. Location of the skill assessment will be at the discretion of Lindenwald Baseball & Softball.

B. Each League Director will provide all managers a copy of registered players in his/her age group. There will be no changes to this list without prior approval from the League Director. No assessment will be conducted of a player that is not listed on the official list without approval from the League Director or Board of Directors. This is an attempt to prevent players from assessing with the wrong age group or playing without completing the registration process.

C. Skill assessment is to be conducted in the following areas:
    1. Batting
    2. Grounders
    3. Throwing
    4. Pop Flies
    5. Base Running

D. All managers must be present and/or send their assistant coach to the skill assessment. Managers will personally rank players based on their performance in each of the above areas. In the event a player does not attend skill assessments, they will be placed in a blind draft. Such players will be placed on teams after the draft is complete (see Draft Procedures).

Draft Procedures

A. All returning players will be placed on their team from the previous year. Any new players or players moving up to the next age group will have performed the skill assessment and be entered into the draft procedure.

B. With the exception of the T-Ball league that will be divided into equal players per team if possible, all players that have performed the skill assessment will enter into the draft conducted by the League President with the exception of 'coach's option'. Coach's options must be disclosed to the League President and Director prior to the draft. The assistant coaches with the 'protected' child must confirm the arrangement with the League Director prior to the draft.

C. Prior to the draft, the League President will calculate the number of players each team may draft (example – there are 105 players, so all ten teams will draft 10 players). Once a team reaches the assigned quantity of players, that team does not select additional players.

D. Only managers and assistant coaches are permitted in the draft area. No parents or children are allowed in the draft area.

E. The team with the lowest number of returning players gets the first selection in the draft. If a team does not have a coach, the League Director will take the place of the coach for the draft.

F. The League Director will identify any siblings that are to be drafted together. When one child is selected, the sibling is automatically added to the same team.

G. The League Director will identify any special requests that have been made prior to the draft. These requests will be discussed among all coaches within the league. If mutually agreed upon, those requests will be granted. If they are not mutually agreed upon, those players must be placed back into the draft for standard draft procedures.

H. The League Director will specify the approved number of players by age for each team if necessary (example- Minor league teams can only have (8) 10 year old players).

I. The team with the lowest number of players will make their first player selection based on their assessment performance. Once the selection is made, the process moves to the team with the second lowest number of players; and so on. This process will continue until all players from the skill assessment have been chosen.

J. Once all players from the skill assessment have been selected, any remaining non-assessed players will be placed in a blind draft. Coaches will select players' names from a hat in their selection order until all names have been drawn.

K. Within a time limit of no more than thirty minutes, one trade per team is permitted at the end of the draft (i.e., one player for one player, or two players for two players) and cannot alter a team's required composition. All trades must be approved by the League Director and cannot involve more than two players per team.

L. Under special circumstances, the League President may assign a player to a team. The player will be drafted by the "selected" team and all teams will be notified of such agreement prior to the draft. These circumstances include, but are not limited to, family medical needs or military deployment.

M. Once coaches have left the draft room, no changes will be made to the team rosters. Rosters will be entered online and released to all team personnel.

N. Managers are required to contact all players within 48 hours of the draft to advise them of their team placement.

Baseball Equipment

A. At the beginning of each season, each manager will be assigned an equipment bag for the season. The manager will be responsible for the contents of the bag and should return a piece of equipment to the equipment manager if the equipment becomes damaged or unusable over the course of the season. The equipment cannot be altered in any way (i.e., coloring of helmets or decals attached).

B. At the end of each season, each manager, with the exception of the All-Star Managers, will return their assigned equipment bag to the equipment manager. Any manager not returning the park's equipment will be held financially responsible.

C. Each batter/base runner must wear a batting helmet at all times. The batting helmet should not be removed until the player is back in the dugout. Any player running the bases and deliberately removing his headgear (in the umpire's judgment) should be given a warning.

D. All bats must meet the requirements of Babe Ruth League as specified in the Babe Ruth rule book. Damaged or altered bats are illegal. Please review updated bat rules for the current season to ensure you are using the correct bats.

E. Lindenwald Baseball & Softball will supply all teams with game balls prior to Opening Day. Only balls authorized and approved by Lindenwald Baseball & Softball may be used during games.

Lindenwald Baseball & Softball Uniforms

A. Teams are required to wear the full uniforms furnished by Lindenwald Baseball & Softball that includes jersey, hat, socks and regulation pants. The jerseys will include the player number and teams may decide to add the player's last name. This will be at the expense of the parents.

B. Lindenwald Baseball & Softball will provide three coaches per team with matching team hats. They may purchase matching shirts at their expense.

Field Usage Rules

A. When fields are closed as posted on the Lindenwald Baseball & Softball website, both infield and outfield areas are closed unless noted otherwise. Unless specifically mentioned, batting cages are available. The use of any field when closed is prohibited.

B. The use of infields is prohibited after such fields have been prepared for play. No activity is to take place in the infield other than pregame warm up by the teams about to play.

C. The home team or last practice must remove bases after the final activity of the day. Remove the bases if another team is not on time to begin the next scheduled practice or game.

D. Teams are responsible for making sure their dugouts and fan stands are cleaned out at the end of each practice and game.

E. No balls other than plastic balls are to be hit or thrown directly into any fence (including batting cage nets).

F. Batting cages are to be used for batting practice. Batting practice prior to games may NOT be taken on any field.

G. All team members (including coaches) must enter and exit the playing field from the appropriate dugout gate

H. Any catcher using bullpen areas must use appropriate safety equipment.

I. All equipment is to be kept inside the dugout during games.

J. Post-game team meetings will be held off the playing field if there is a game immediately following.

Safety Concerns

A. It is a safety violation to allow bat swinging in any common pedestrian area. This includes the areas directly behind all dugouts and in general, includes most areas outside of field fences. Manager and coaches should supervise all bat work. Safety is everyone's responsibility.

B. When lightning is sighted at any time during any field activity, the field shall be cleared until no lightning has been sighted for a period of at least thirty minutes or until the umpire approves play to resume.

C. No digging on any baseball field at Joyce Park. Anyone caught digging may be subject to a one game suspension.

D. No climbing or swinging from trees or fences. This includes in dugouts.

Operations

A. Extreme caution should be exercised in the parking lots in and around the park. Personal vehicles are allowed only in designated parking areas. Vehicles not parked in designated areas are subject to tow or ticketing by the Hamilton Police.

B. Field closings will be posted on the Lindenwald Baseball & Softball website and rainout line by 3:00 PM.

C. Joyce Park is a Hamilton City Park, therefore it closes at dusk. Gates will be locked by the City at that time. Please ensure you have exited the park prior to that time.

D. The fields and cages will be closed to practice on the day before Opening Day. They will only be open for park clean up.

E. All Hamilton City Park rules must also be obeyed while in park limits.