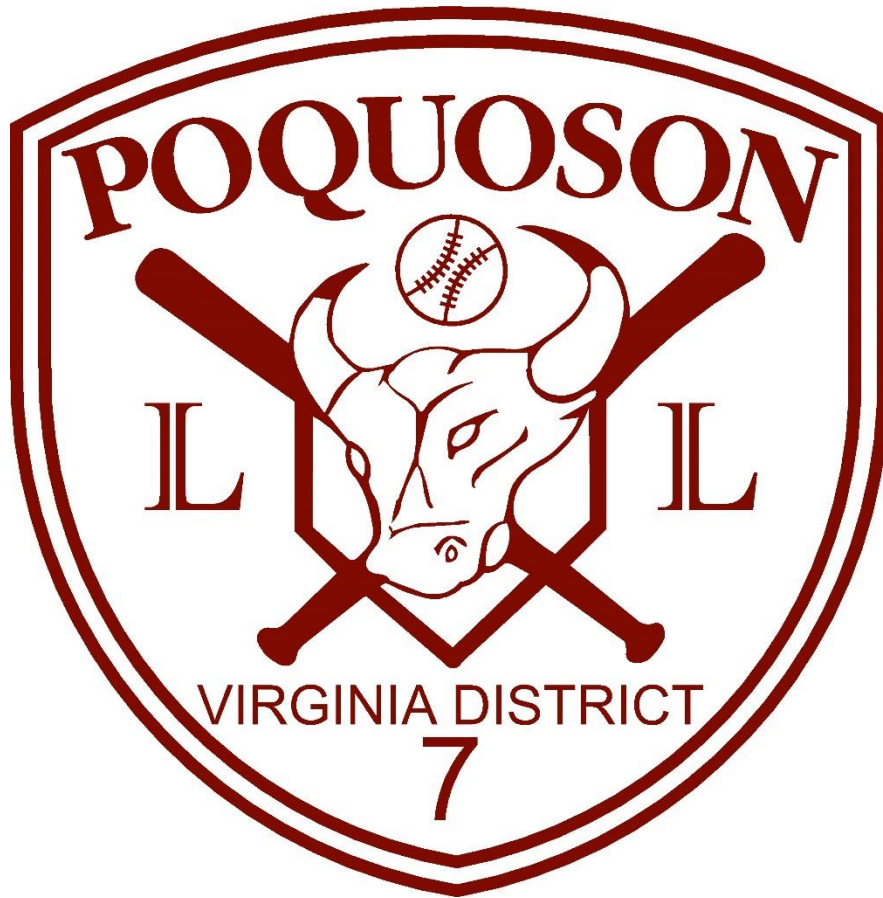


POQUOSON LITTLE LEAGUE

BY-LAWS AND GROUND RULES



2024

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ARTICLE I - LEAGUE POLICY AND OFFICIAL LEAGUE INFORMATION

Poquoson Little League abides by and conforms to all rules as governed by Little League Baseball, Incorporated. The following policy, as it relates to Poquoson Little League (PLL), is approved by Poquoson Little League's Board of Directors for the sole purpose of further defining how Poquoson Little League functions and operates. This document may be changed from year to year as deemed necessary and approved by the Board of Directors. This document shall be made available to all recognized members of Poquoson Little League and is available on the league's website at www.poquosonlittleleague.org. A copy will also be available at the Poquoson Little League Complex.

Poquoson Little League is a community-based organization to improve the character, courage, and loyalty of our players. PLL is not focused on one individual but the entire organization.

ARTICLE II- LEAGUE OFFICIALS

Poquoson Little League is a volunteer organization and cannot be run without volunteers. PLL offers many ways to volunteer such as being a manager or coach, umpire, concession worker, team parent, and/or board member. There are many ways to get involved. One of the most crucial volunteers that the league offers is the board member position. PLL offers a variety of positions including: President, Vice President, Player Agent, Treasurer, Secretary, Safety Officer and Coach Coordinator. Other positions may be established by the Board of Directors yearly depending on the size of the elected Board of Directors.

On a date set forth by the PLL Constitution that is approved by Little League, a General Membership Meeting is held to approve the Constitution and elect the Board of the Directors.

To join the Board of Directors, a notification to the current President is needed to be placed on the ballot and can be nominated at the General Membership Meeting. A returning board member is not guaranteed to be elected the following year. At the General Membership Meeting, a quorum needs to be present before any official discussions can be started. A person is elected to the Board of Directors with a majority vote of collected in-person and absentee ballots.

Once elected to the Board of Directors, the elected official's mission is to work with the other elected officials to improve Poquoson Little League. There is an expectation that while serving on the Board of Directors that personal interests and agendas will be set aside for the best interest of the league and its participants. PLL Board of Directors should help encourage and carry out the motto of Little League International of Character, Courage and Loyalty. As an elected official of the PLL Board of Directors, it is expected to attend at least 50% of board meetings and league functions (registrations, tryouts, etc.) year-round. Being an elected official does not guarantee automatic approval for any other position required by the league (i.e., manager or coach). Those positions will continue to be approved using the below guidance in Article IV.

ARTICLE III- REGISTRATION AND TEAM SELECTIONS

SECTION I- Registration

All boys and girls interested in playing for Poquoson Little League must register to play in the upcoming season. The registration process is mandatory for **ALL** players and must be done each year prior to the conclusion of tryouts. Junior/Senior Baseball and Softball divisions ~~will~~ have a later registration deadline due to High School tryouts. Any player who registers after teams have been selected or drafted will be put on a waiting list. The league cannot guarantee team placement or the availability of uniforms for late registrants.

In order to register in the Poquoson Little League program, the following steps must be completed:

1. Provide the league with proofs you are a resident of Poquoson. This is accomplished by providing an approved document as listed in the Little League Baseball or Softball Official Regulation and Playing Rules Book, under “Residence Eligibility Requirements.” If you do not live within the boundaries of Poquoson Little League, you are not able to participate in Poquoson Little League unless you apply for a waiver. An alternate method is providing a certified copy of the Little League school enrollment form that is signed by the parent and a certified school official at the school the player attends.
2. Provide the league with proof of age documents for the player being registered. An original (raised embossment with original ink certification) birth certificate is the only document that is acceptable. However, other documents may be acceptable for players not born in the United States. These documents are defined in the Little League Baseball or Softball Official Regulations and Playing Rules, under “Proof-of-Age Requirements”.
3. Pay the necessary fee for the division you desire your child to play in; plus, any fundraising which may be in effect. These fees may change from year to year. Financial aid is available upon request. In the event that your child is placed in another division, a refund or additional payment is possible. All fees must be submitted to the PLL Treasurer and/or PLL Player Agent. No other board member shall collect a fee without the approval of the PLL President or Treasurer, and the approved board member collecting such fees must present those fees and any associated paperwork to the PLL Treasurer as soon as practical.

Registration will occur on our league website and in person at pre-determined dates set by the league. During registration, the league will provide information regarding the League, tryouts, fundraising, and take the opportunity to answer questions from parents and players.

SECTION II- Baseball and Softball Divisions

PLL offers the following divisions: T-Ball, Coach Pitch Baseball and Softball, Minor Baseball and Softball, Major Baseball and Softball, Junior Baseball, Senior Baseball and Softball. After registration occurs, the PLL Board of Directors will review the number of registrants in each division. In the event that any division does not have enough players to make a team, PLL will accept late registrations or pull players off the waitlist in order to make teams. If a team cannot be

established due to a lack of players, the league will see if neighboring leagues can accommodate additional players. If players are not placed on a team, a refund will be issued.

A player's League Age is determined by Little League International based on the month and year the child was born in. A complete age chart is available online at www.littleleague.org.

Division	League Age(s)	Exceptions
T-Ball	4, 5 and 6	7 year olds may play down
Coach Pitch Baseball	6, 7 and 8	5 year olds w/ one season of T-Ball
Coach Pitch Softball	6, 7 and 8	5 year olds w/ one season of T-Ball
Minor Baseball	8, 9, 10, and 11	7 year olds may play up
Minor Softball	8, 9, 10, and 11	7 year olds may play up
Major Baseball	9, 10, 11, and 12	
Major Softball	9, 10, 11, and 12	
Junior Baseball	12, 13 and 14	15 year olds may play down w/ waiver
Senior Baseball	13, 14, 15, and 16	12 year olds may play up
Senior Softball	13, 14, 15, and 16	12 year olds may play up

T-Ball Division: Players of League Age 4, 5, and 6 are eligible to play in the T-Ball Division. Any players League Age 7 are eligible to play in the T-Ball Division.

Coach Pitch Baseball & Softball Division: Players of League Age 5 and League Age 6 with one year of T-Ball experience and players League Age 6 and 7 are eligible to play in the Coach Pitch Division. Any players League Age 8 in Baseball and Softball registered for the Minors Division must be evaluated during player evaluations before being allowed to play in a lower division.

Minor Baseball & Softball Division: Players of League Age 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 are eligible to be drafted in the Minor Division. All eligible 12 year olds must play in the Major (or higher) Division unless there is a safety concern that is addressed to the Board of Directors. A waiver will need to be submitted to allow a 12-year old to play Minors.

Major Baseball & Softball Division: Players of League Age 9, 10, 11, and 12 are eligible to be drafted in the Major Division. All eligible 12 year olds must play in the Major (or higher) Division unless there is a safety concern that is addressed to the Board of Directors. A waiver will need to be submitted to allow a 12-year old to play Minors.

Junior Baseball Division: Players of League Age 13 and 14 are eligible to be drafted in the Junior Division. 12 year olds are also allowed to move up at the guardians' request. 15 year olds can also play in this division if there is not enough to field a Senior Division team. A waiver must be completed and submitted to Southern Region for a League Age 15 players to play in this division.

Senior Baseball & Softball Division: Players of League Age 13, 14, 15, and 16 are eligible to be drafted in the Senior Division. 12 year olds are also allowed to move up at the guardians' request.

Dual Division Play (Baseball): A player who is able to participate in two programs will be required to pay the cost of the higher of the two divisions he/she registered for and \$50 of the second division

to cover the uniform cost. It is to be understood that there may be overlap between the two teams and the player may need to make a choice of which team to play for on that given night.

League Age 12 year olds can dual roster between Majors, and Junior & Senior divisions.

League Age 13 year olds can dual roster between Junior & Senior divisions.

League Age 14 year olds can dual roster between Junior & Senior divisions.

Dual Division Play (Softball): A League Age 12-year-old can participate in both the Major & Senior Softball division. The player will be required to pay the cost of the higher of the two divisions he/she registered for and \$50 of the second division to cover the uniform cost. It is to be understood that there may be overlap between the two teams and the player may need to make a choice of which team to play for on that given night.

High School Players: Any player on a high school (JV or Varsity) can participate in Little League and can be eligible for All-Stars provided they meet eligibility requirements.

***These rules may have exceptions at the President, Player Agent, and Safety Officer's discretion with the regard to safety. A waiver can be submitted by PLL to the District but must be approved by the Little League Charter Committee, which makes the final decision of all charter cases.**

Requests: In the spirit of Little League, we encourage players to meet new people and make new friends. The friend request rules below are in place for only T-Ball and Coach Pitch divisions as Minor divisions and above are selected via a player draft.

To be considered for a friend request, players must mutually request each other on their registration. Each player will only be allowed one player request. If more than one is listed, only the first player will be considered.

No coach requests will be collected. Each manager will be allowed one player request to use as an assistant coach. PLL will separate assistant coaches evenly throughout the teams when they are put together in the T-Ball and Coach Pitch divisions.

ARTICLE IV- RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGERS, COACHES, AND UMPIRES

SECTION I- Manager/Coach Selection

Any person who is interested in becoming a Manager or a Coach **MUST** submit a Volunteer Application, Manager Application and consent to a background check. Manager applications will be presented to the Board of Directors for selection and approval. Any manager or coach who is interested in managing or coaching All-Stars must be approved by the League's Board of Directors and present on the rosters that are sent to Little League. Appointees are responsible to the President for the conduct of league affairs, both on and off the field. Importantly, the President is the Officer with whom Little League Headquarters maintains conduct and who represents the league in the council of the District Organization.

SECTION II- Manager and/or Coach Responsibilities

All Managers and Coaches, upon completing and signing the Volunteer Application, Manager Application, and submitting a Background Check, agree to follow a set of rules which include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- A. Attend all mandatory Managers meetings (if you cannot attend the meeting, a coach or representative may be sent in your place).
- B. Attend Concussion Training and complete training exam required by the City of Poquoson.
- C. Conduct regularly scheduled practice sessions and attend games as set forth by the League, based on the assigned practice schedule prior to the game season and at least once a week after the season starts, weather permitting.
- D. Attend all coaching, safety, and umpiring clinics provided by PLL and District 7.
- E. Read thoroughly and abide by the Little League Playing Rules, *Poquoson Little League Constitution*, and *Poquoson Little League By-Laws and Playing Rules*.
- F. Report all final game scores and pitch counts to the specified individual (usually the Scheduler or Commissioner), in the designated manner, within 24 hours of the end of each game (Minors and above divisions).
- G. Respect all Umpires, Coaches, Spectators, Volunteers, and Players in a considerate manner.
- H. Ensure that the league provided equipment is returned at the conclusion of the season.
- I. Work with all team members to ensure there is concessions coverage when their team is assigned.

Failure to abide by these rules will cause the Manager to face disciplinary action by the League. Compliance with these rules can be used in future decisions when selecting managers.

SECTION III- Umpires

The recommended minimum age to umpire in Poquoson Little League is sixteen (16) years old unless approved by the Board of Directors and Umpire-in-Chief. PLL uses a combination of paid and volunteer umpires. This decision is made annually by the Board of Directors. Managers will be informed by the league if the league will provide paid umpires or if volunteers will be required.

ARTICLE V- TRYOUTS AND DRAFT

Section I- Tryouts

ALL PLAYERS MUST ATTEND EVALUATION/TRYOUTS FOR ACCURATE DIVISION PLACEMENT. All players (with the exception of T-Ball) must be evaluated during player evaluations before being allowed to play in a lower or higher division. A player who is trying out for the Major Baseball Division **MUST** attend tryouts to be eligible to be drafted to the Major Baseball Division.

Conducting Tryouts: All players are generally observed but not limited to five categories: batting/bunting, fielding ground balls, fielding fly balls, throwing, pitching and running.

Player Responsibility:

It shall be the responsibility of the player to attend at least 50% of the tryouts and he/she must actively participate in all phases of the tryout process. A player not meeting these requirements shall not be eligible for the draft unless (s)he presents an excuse (such as illness or injury) that is acceptable to the Board of Directors. As roster spots become available after the draft has taken place, players on the waiting list can be called to fill the vacant roster spots. The waiting list shall be established on a first-come, first-serve basis. The Board of Directors determines each year when to close registration and the wait list for the season.

Manager Responsibility:

It shall be the responsibility of the Manager to attend all the tryout sessions for their age groups. The Manager shall evaluate the skill level of player candidates during each phase of the tryout process.

Managers may ask a player trying out to perform tasks such as running, throwing, catching, or pitching, to better evaluate their ability.

Conclusion of Tryouts: The Player Agent determines how many players need to be drafted to the Major Baseball Division. Each evaluator will submit a list of top prospects to the Player Agent. Every list that a player is on, (s)he receives one vote. Players with the most votes are added to the Draft-Eligible List. Only players placed on the Draft-Eligible List can be drafted to a Major Baseball team. The remaining players will be allowed to be drafted in the Minor Baseball division. In the event that a player needs to be replaced in the Majors division, the eligible candidate will come from the Draft Eligible list.

SECTION II- The Placement of Players and the Draft

The purpose of the player draft in competitive divisions is for managers to pick players they deem appropriate to play in the division in which they are managing. The selection of players will take place at a date and time approved by the Board of Directors and take place after the conclusion of tryouts. All players must go through the drafting process, no player is guaranteed a spot on a respective team until they have been drafted by the manager of that team. Managers who want specific assistant coaches with players MUST draft them.

Those persons allowed to attend the player draft in all divisions shall be limited to the President, Vice President, Secretary, Player Agent, Commissioner of the respective division, and the Managers of the respective division. Additional persons may be appointed as appropriate by the President and/or Player Agent.

The Player Agent controls the draft unless otherwise directed by the President. All questions, concerns, or requests must be directed to the Player Agent or designated person conducting the draft.

At the discretion of the Player Agent, he/she may ask league representatives or Major Division Managers to assist in the Minor Division selection of players.

Major Baseball Division Draft:

The Major Baseball Division Draft will be in accordance with the “Method in First Year of Operation, Plan A” of the LLB Operating Manual. Teams will draw as to the order they pick. This draft will use the “Horseshoe Method”.

All players drafted to a Major Baseball team in the previous year are considered “returning players” and must be drafted into the division by the conclusion of the draft.

In the Major Baseball Division Draft, there is a Draft-Eligible List. Managers can only select from the Draft-Eligible List. The Draft-Eligible List consists of 12 year olds and the prospects that the evaluators chose after tryouts. Managers will select only from the Draft-Eligible List until all teams have reached the maximum of 12 players on each team. The remaining players on the Draft-Eligible List that were not selected will be eligible for the Minor Division Draft. In case of a release of a Major Baseball player, a player who was not drafted to a Major Baseball team and was on the Draft-Eligible List shall be a replacement candidate on the Major Baseball team.

Minor Baseball Draft:

The Minor Baseball Division Draft will be in accordance with the “Method in First Year of Operation, Plan A” of the LLB Operating Manual.

This Draft will be held immediately following the Majors Draft. Teams will draw as to the order they pick. This draft will use the “Horseshoe Method” in order to fill the teams. Prior to the Minor Baseball Draft taking place, the Player Agent will inform each Manager which players have not been drafted into the Majors and are available for drafting. Managers should keep in mind that players who were named to the Draft-Eligible List and not selected to the Majors Division can be eligible to be called up as a replacement at any point during the season.

No players are considered “returning players” in the Minor Baseball Division and they are eligible to be placed on any Minor Baseball team.

Coach Pitch: All Coach Pitch eligible players will be required to attend the tryout evaluation. The evaluation is used as a tool to assist in even distribution of players on all Coach Pitch teams. It is also a tool to ensure League Age 5 and 6 players do not need to be placed in the T-Ball Division. Coach Pitch teams will be created by the Player Agent with input from evaluating managers and other members of the Board as necessary.

T-Ball:-All T-Ball players will be assigned to a team by the Player Agent. T-Ball does not participate in tryout/evaluations.

Junior Baseball Draft: This draft will usually be held immediately following the tryout. The managers will select in accordance with the “Method in First Year of Operation, Plan A” in the LLB Operating Manual.

Softball Drafts: All softball divisions will use the “Method in First Year of Operation, Plan A” in the LLS Operating Manual. Following the tryout, the Player Agent and the respective Managers will select which players will be eligible for the Major Softball Division and which players will be eligible for the Minor Softball Division.

SECTION III- Options

Sibling Options:

This option takes place when there are brothers, sisters, or siblings in the draft. Parents will not be allowed to request this option. However, the League will strongly urge the option to be exercised by the Managers. If a team during the draft should select a player candidate who has a brother or sister also in the draft, that team may invoke the brother/sister option. This option must be taken at that time and will be charged as a team’s next round draft selection. Failure to take the option at that time releases the remaining brother/sister/sibling to be drafted by any other team.

Manager Option:

This option takes place when the Manager has a son or daughter in the draft. They will be protected in the draft prior to the close of a specific draft round depending on the league age. If (s)he is not selected by his/her guardian by that specific round, (s)he is free to be drafted by any other teams.

SECTION IV- Trades

Following the draft, managers may, if they desire, trade players immediately. All trades must be finalized before leaving the drafting room. All trades shall be made through and with the approval of the Player Agent and President. All trades must be player for player only. The Player Agent must monitor any attempts by managers to manipulate the system and thus create an imbalance in the league.

At no time should a manager contact another team or the parents of a player of another team about a trade. If it comes to the Player Agent’s attention that this rule has been broken, the trade will not be considered and disciplinary action against the Manager may result.

In the event that a player is not placed in the division they are originally registered for, notification will be made to the parent/guardian prior to the rosters being finalized. If there is a price structure difference, the league will issue the refund for the difference in price.

ARTICLE VI – PRACTICE AND GAMES (SPRING SEASON)

All practice and games will be set by Poquoson Little League. Scrimmages can only be conducted before the season begins, and it can only be between teams in the same division. Any additional practices must be scheduled through the Scheduler.

NOTE: The Scheduler has the right to revise the schedule at any point during the season with approval from of the President.

All teams will be scheduled a minimum of 12 games. For All-Star eligible divisions, each team must play a minimum of 12 games to have their respective players eligible for All-Stars. All players must play at least 8 of their teams' games to be eligible. In the event of cancellations and reschedules, PLL will attempt to make up as much T-Ball and Coach Pitch games as possible since they do not have a specific game requirement like All-Star divisions.

If games are cancelled and need to be rescheduled, the Scheduler will provide a makeup date for the teams depending on availability.

All home games will take place at the Poquoson LL Complex, Municipal, Firth Field (Junior/Senior Baseball), and Bradshaw (Senior Softball). Specific field assignments will be provided on the schedule.

If there is less than four teams in a particular division, the managers and/or Board of Directors can opt to participate in Interleague Play with surrounding leagues within District 7 Little League. In Interleague Play, teams will be required to play games outside of Poquoson.

ARTICLE VII- POSTSEASON

Poquoson Little League wants players to have a full experience of baseball and softball. Some divisions play Interleague (playing other leagues within in the districts) and thus, an End-of-the-Year Tournament is usually unavailable. Poquoson Little League reserves the right to offer an End-of-the-Year Tournament for the Minors and Majors Baseball/Softball Division and/or Future Stars Tournament at the end of the regular season if time allows or if it is in the best interest of the League. All Special Games requests must be approved by Little League International.

End-of-the-Year Tournament: The EOY Tournament is a special games tournament that follows the PLL regular season. There are two EOY Tournaments, one for Major Baseball/Softball and one for Minor Baseball/Softball. The format will be determined by the PLL Board of Directors prior to the start of the tournaments.

Future Stars Tournament: Future Stars is a special games tournament for the younger ones to experience an All-Star like atmosphere. It is typically a week-long tournament with practices, games, and fun activities to help prepare the child for a higher level of competition. Participants will engage in practices, games, and special events to facilitate a fun and learning experience. Teams are made by the Player Agent, respective Commissioners, and any Board of Director volunteer available to assist. In the event that the program is offered, there is an additional fee for Future Stars player to cover uniform and tournament costs.

NOTE: In case of weather or any other reason that the regular season needs to be pushed back, an End-of-the-Year or Future Stars Tournament does not have to be played. It is only to further the instruction of baseball and softball and is not required. Playing out the regular season takes precedence.

ARTICLE VIII – DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

In the event of a potential complaint, the following steps should occur:

STEP ONE: Discuss the issue with the person responsible for the complaint and attempt to reach a mutually agreeable resolution to the concern.

STEP TWO: Explore any other possibilities that might reasonably be expected to resolve a situation in a satisfactory manner.

STEP THREE: File a written complaint.

If a member of Poquoson Little League feels that they have no alternative but to raise a formal complaint with the league, the following procedure should be used:

1. To be considered, a formal complaint **MUST** be in writing.
2. The formal complaint should be addressed to the Vice President of Poquoson Little League.
3. When the Vice President receives a properly made formal complaint, it shall be investigated. The investigation should include, but is not limited to discussing the issue with all involved parties and others who may have knowledge of the situation.
4. If the complaining party wishes or if the Vice President deems it necessary, the formal complaint will be brought to the Poquoson Little League Board of Directors.
5. In presenting the complaint to the Poquoson Little League Board of Directors, the Vice President will present the situation, as he/she understands it.
6. The complainant and the subject(s) of the complaint (if any) will be notified when the complaint will be presented to the Poquoson Little League Board of Directors. The above parties will be invited to hear the presentation of the complaint and will be given the opportunity to comment if they wish; however, the complainant and any such subjects will be asked to leave prior to the discussion of the issue by the Poquoson Little League Board of Directors.
7. After appropriate discussion, the Poquoson Little League Board of Directors will take whatever action it deems appropriate. The complainant will be notified of the decision of the Poquoson Little League Board of Directors in a timely manner. If unsatisfied with the outcome, the complainant has forty-eight (48) hours from the time of the notification to file a formal appeal to the Vice President.

ARTICLE IX- SAFETY

Poquoson Little League participates in the Little League ASAP Program. The ASAP paperwork should be completed by the League Safety Officer and submitted to the District 7 Staff by the assigned date of each year. Proof of Insurance from our charter shall be provided to all entities that Poquoson Little League does business with.

The Safety Officer shall coordinate First Aid Training with the League Vice President and President. A Safety Class and a Concussion Training Exam must be offered and completed to all managers and coaches before any team can practice. The purpose of the class is to train Managers and Coaches in proper First Aid Training. Players and parents will be involved in the League safety training and prevention program also. With proper training, the league hopes to prevent injuries from occurring. With all of us working together, our players will be safer.

Per Little League Rules, all volunteers who have repeated contact with the players MUST submit a Volunteer Form and consent to a Background Check.

ARTICLE X- ALL STARS

Poquoson Little League will abide by the following selection process for selecting All-Star players and coaches that will represent PLL at All-Star tournaments played at the district level, as well as state, regionals, and possibly World Series levels.

The All-Star Executive Committee (ASEC) will oversee all processes involving All-Stars, including selections of managers, coaches, and players. The PLL ASEC will be composed of five voting members and a record keeper. The voting members consist of the following: The President, Vice President, Player Agent, Commissioner and one board member that is chosen at the discretion of the President. Another board member can be selected by the President if positions are shared or if there is potential bias.

In cases in which there is a conflict of interest, the member shall recuse themselves, and the President shall select a replacement committee member.

All registered players of Poquoson Little League, who have met age and eligibility requirements per the Little League rulebook, will be eligible for All-Stars. The parent/guardian of any player wishing to be considered for the All-Star teams must declare by the date set forth by the Poquoson Little League Board of Directors. The parent/guardian(s) declaration is no guarantee that said child will be chosen for their respective division All-Star team. Poquoson Little League will provide notification to parent/guardian(s) of all deadlines.

Prior to the All-Star season, PLL will determine what teams will be represented at the district level based on available managers, player commitment forms, and what is in the best interest of the league.

If enough interest is available and at the discretion of the PLL Board of Directors, the tournament baseball and softball teams will be composed of eligible players selected by the respective All-Star manager. Players who meet the minimum requirements and have submitted a commitment form are eligible for selection. A spot on an All-Star team is not guaranteed. The teams will be selected in this order: 10-12, 8-10 and 9-11.

SECTION I: All-Star Manager Selection

The All-Star Executive Committee will have the deciding vote on the final list of managers and coaches.

Any approved regular season manager/coach interested in managing an All-Star team in their respective age group, must declare their intention to the All-Star Director by deadline set forth by the Board of Directors as well as signing a letter of intent form to confirm his or her intentions of managing a team.

Selection Process:

- All managers for each Poquoson Little League All-Star team will be selected using the same process.
- The All-Star Executive Committee will interview manager candidates following the deadline.

- Any manager or coach from the Little League season will be able to nominate themselves for a manager position. The manager or coach must:
 - a) Be approved by the Poquoson Little League Board of Directors.
 - b) Have turned in a Volunteer Form and passed a background check.
 - c) Must have the ability to represent themselves and the league well.

The manager candidates will be evaluated based on the following criteria (other criteria not listed here may be used):

- Poquoson Little League history, including any feedback received from parents or other members
- Knowledge of the game
- Knowledge of players
- Input from non-All-Star coaches, managers, and board members
- Personal commitment

The ASEC will select managers by majority vote of the Committee. The approved manager of each tournament will be allowed to select their coaches with the approval of the Poquoson Little League Board of Directors.

League Presidents may be eligible to be selected by local league Board of Directors as tournament team manager or coach with written approval from their respective District Administrator.

SECTION II: All-Star Player Selection

The ASEC will have the final vote on the final list of approved players, managers, and coaches. Depending on the number of players desired on the roster by the selected All-Star manager, the top votes in numerical order shall be selected with the only exceptions allowed:

- Said player will miss tournament action due to previous engagements listed on the commitment form
- Said player suffered an injury since the ballots were submitted
- Said player faced disciplinary action enforced by the league

Voting for the All-Star teams is extremely confidential. Only those members designated to the count of the votes should see the results in the balloting.

Manager Vote: Each regular season manager will be presented with a ballot with the names of every eligible player listed alphabetically by team. Each manager voting will be required to put their name on the ballot in the event of any question from the ASEC. Each manager shall vote up to 12 players. Managers can select players that play on his or her regular season team. Each player selected by a manager receives two votes towards the All-Star selection.

Assistant Coach Vote: The two appointed assistant coaches for each Major Division team will be presented with a ballot with the names of every eligible player listed alphabetically by team. Each coach voting will be required to put their name on the ballot in the event of any question from the ASEC. Each manager shall vote up to 12 players. Coaches can select players that play on his or her regular season

team. Each player selected by a coach receives one vote towards the All-Star selection. Practice coaches do not get the opportunity to vote.

Player Vote: Each player will receive a ballot consisting of players in their respective division minus their own team. Each player shall vote up to 12 players. Only the PLL Player Agent or proxy determined by the Player Agent shall be present for the voting. Managers and coaches shall not be present with the players to prevent any pressure situations. The Player Agent shall determine the top 12 players from the Player Vote, and each of those players shall receive one vote towards the All-Star Selection.

Unbiased Member Vote: The ASEC will appoint one member of Poquoson Little League Board of Directors (a member of the ASEC is allowed) to submit a ballot. Each player selected by the unbiased member will receive two votes towards the All-Star Selection. The unbiased member shall meet the following criteria:

- Not have a child playing in the respective division that he or she may be submitting a ballot for
- Must have knowledge of the players

Once all the votes are tallied, the top nine players (as determined by votes) will automatically be placed on the roster. The manager will be presented with up to 6 more players to complete the final roster of a minimum of 12 players and a maximum of 14 players (set forth by Little League International). In the event of a tie, all the players receiving the same number of votes will automatically be placed onto the team unless the number of players exceeds the required minimum of 12 players. If that situation occurs, the ASEC will present the list of players that the manager will need to choose from to round out the team.

For the 8-10 Baseball, 8-10 Softball, and/or 9-11 Baseball All-Star team(s), the managers in the Minor Division will be requested to submit a ballot of top players in the respective division to assist with team selection. If there are more than one team, the Junior and Senior All-Star team(s) will use the process outlined above.

SECTION III: All-Stars Season

After being selected to the All-Star team, practices can start on the date that is determined by Little League International. Practices will be scheduled by the Manager of the team through the Scheduler. It is up to the Manager's discretion of how many times he/she wants to practice throughout the season.

In the first couple of practices, each parent/guardian(s) will get a list of requirements that must be fulfilled in order to have their son/daughter eligible to play. An affidavit will also be filled out by the Player Agent with the information. Without the affidavit, that team cannot play in a tournament.

Players/Parents must provide the following:

- Pay a fee to Poquoson Little League to cover All-Star costs such as uniforms, equipment, and banners. The fee will vary each year and is set by the Board of Directors.
- Provide the original birth certificate. The Player Agent will keep the birth certificate until it is approved by the District 7 Staff, it will then be returned to the parents.

- Provide three proofs of residence showing that the player is a resident of Poquoson. These proofs must be from February 1 of the previous year to February 1 of the current year.

If a player has participated in All-Stars in previous seasons, filled out a Player Verification Form and has not moved from their address on the form, they do not need to provide any further information other than a new medical release.

After the affidavit has been checked by the District 7 Staff, the team is eligible to play in their respective tournament. If they win Districts and advance, the team might have to travel to other districts in Virginia. Travel, hotels, and reimbursements will be discussed with the Board of Directors based on the All-Star Travel Policy and addressed before tournament season in case of a team advancing.

ARTICLE XI – FALL BALL

Fall Ball registration opens in August of each year. Practices begin in late August/early September and games run through the end of October/early November. The purpose of Fall Ball is to focus on player development to prepare for the spring Little League season.

- A) For Fall Ball – all League Ages will be determined by the following year’s age chart (i.e., Fall of 2024 will be based on the 2025 Little League Age Chart) as a guide.
- B) There is no formal evaluation/tryout process for the Fall. The Player Agent, along with various board members, will aid managers in selecting fair and balanced teams. In the event a player is placed in a different division than he/she originally registered, a board member will notify the parent/guardian.
- C) Fall Ball may require interleague play based on the number of teams in a division. The Scheduler will notify managers once a decision has been made.
- D) Once registration has closed, late registrations may be allowed based on division openings. Timely uniforms cannot be guaranteed for late registrants.

POQUOSON LITTLE LEAGUE

GROUND RULES

All rules described in the current season's **Little League Baseball Official Regulations and Playing Rules** apply unless noted otherwise herein.

GENERAL FIELD USE POLICIES:

1. Alcoholic beverages and smoking devices are strictly forbidden from the Poquoson Little League Complex and other fields that a PLL function is occurring.
2. Pets are not allowed at the Poquoson Little League Complex. Service animals are not considered pets.
3. Foul language and poor sportsmanship should not occur at any PLL functions.
4. Bikes, skateboards, and scooters are not permitted at the PLL Complex.
5. All games will be immediately suspended when there is lightning and thunder in the vicinity and everyone shall be directed to their vehicles for at least thirty (30) minutes. Poquoson Little League strongly urges every adult to remember that the safety of our children is far more important than a ballgame. If players and adults do not go to their vehicles, the right to declare the game over exists.

ALL DIVISIONS:

1. Any manager, coach or player throwing equipment shall be ejected from the game. **NO WARNINGS!**
2. The home team shall:
 - a. Be assigned the 1st base dugout.
 - b. Supply two new game balls and have a good supply of good condition baseballs to be used as needed.
 - c. Be responsible for the official scorebook.
 - d. Be responsible for picking-up and returning bases (if required) and umpire equipment to the appropriate location.
 - e. Field maintenance before and after the game. (Includes filling in, raking and wetting down all holes at home plate, the bases, and the mound).
3. The visiting team shall:
 - a. Be assigned the 3rd base dugout.
 - b. Have a good supply of good condition baseballs to be used as needed.
 - c. Field maintenance before and after the game. (Includes filling in, raking and wetting down all holes at home plate, the bases, and the mound).
4. All teams are responsible for removing all litter from their respective dugouts and stands after each game or practice.
5. At Firth Field, Municipal and Bradshaw – following the team's event (practice or game), both dugouts should be clean. The home team will oversee raking the fields after the game, putting bases in their respective sheds (if applicable), and locking up after everything is done.

6. All games shall start promptly at the scheduled time. Games delayed due to previous games shall start within 25 minutes of the completion of the previous game. Each team shall be allowed no more than 10 minutes' warm-up on the field prior to the game. The visiting team shall warm-up first unless both managers agree to an alternate order.
7. During any game:
 - a. No food shall be allowed in the dugout, except as provided for the team under the manager's discretion.
 - b. No player from a playing team shall be allowed to leave the dugout or designated team area, except in an emergency, without the umpire's permission. Any player leaving the dugout without the umpire's permission may, at the umpire's discretion, not be allowed to return.
 - c. Shirt tails for all players shall be tucked in at all times.
 - d. Managers and coaches shall remain in their dugout at all times. Exceptions: Base coaches and conferences with players or umpires. They must have the umpire's permission to leave the dugout for a conference.
8. If play is suspended due to weather or light failure, the umpire may waive the 30-minute waiting period to resume play if, in his/her judgment, conditions will not permit resuming play within that time.
9. Teams may not use any field for games or practices if the field has been determined unfit for play and off-limits. Plan to play unless otherwise notified.

Majors Baseball Division:

- A. All games must be completed with a regulation of 6 innings (5 ½ if the home team is ahead). The 15 run, 10 run and 8 run mercy rules are in effect.
- B. All games in this division are under a time limit (1h 45min).
- C. Follow all rules for mandatory play and pitch counts. The home team's scorekeeper will be the official scorekeeper.
- D. All players are in a continuous batting order for the entire game.
- E. All scores need to be reported to the specified league individual.

Minors Baseball Division:

- A. All games in this division are under a time limit (1h 45min).
- B. A half inning shall be complete when the offensive team has scored five runs or three outs are made by the defensive team, whichever occurs first. Any runs that score on the last play of an inning with exceed five runs for the inning will not count toward the game score. The 15 run, 10 run and 8 run mercy rules are in effect.
- C. The first 5 innings in a game are restricted to 5 runs per team per inning. The 6th inning shall allow unlimited runs. During the regular season, games may end in a tie.
- D. All players are in a continuous batting order for the entire game.
- E. No player shall be on the bench for two consecutive innings while their team is on defense.
- F. Follow all rules for mandatory play and pitch count. The home team's scorekeeper will be the official scorekeeper.

- G. All scores need to be reported to the specified individual.

Coach Pitch Division:

- A. All games have a time limit (1h 30min).
- B. All players will be pitched to by a coach from the mound area but may move closer to the batter as necessary to promote pitching accuracy but will remain within five feet of the pitcher's mound; at no time shall players be allowed to pitch.
- C. Coaches shall act as umpire.
- D. The defensive team shall consist of no more than 10 players. All players present are in the batting lineup.
- E. Unlimited substitutions are allowed. Each player shall play a minimum of every other inning on defense.
- F. A defensive coach is allowed on the field during the first half of the season.
- G. There is no on-deck circle. Bunting and stealing is not allowed.
- H. Players cannot advance on an overthrow.
- I. A batter will receive no more than five (5) pitches in an "at bat". No batter will walk and batters will be out after five pitches. A strike is a pitch that is swung at by the batter and is missed, or is fouled by the batter. If the 5th or subsequent pitch is fouled, the batter will continue until he gets a hit or makes an out.
- J. A half-inning is over when five runs are scored OR when three outs are made in batting no more than once through the lineup.

Tee-Ball Division:

- A. All games have an hour time limit.
- B. Live pitching is not allowed.
- C. Safety balls provided by the league shall be used in all games and practices.
- D. Coaches shall act as umpire.
- E. All players must play in the field and bat. There are no substitutions.
- F. An inning is over when all offensive team members have batted.
- G. Players cannot advance on an overthrow.
- H. Base runners can advance on a hit ball at their own risk until the ball is controlled by an infielder.
- I. There is no on-deck circle.
- J. Coaches are allowed on the field to assist players during play.
- K. We encourage the parents to help with their children's team where and when needed (if parents are on the field, a completed background check is required).

In the event a division participates in Interleague, teams will be required to adhere to the following:

- A. All rules will be followed by the Little League Rulebook and District 7's Interleague Ground Rules. These rules will be sent to managers and should be reviewed with the opposing manager prior to the start of the game.

B. All scores and pitch counts need to be reported to the District 7 representative.

Managers & Coaches

T-Ball, Coach Pitch Baseball & Softball, Minors Baseball & Softball – A team may have one manager and three approved coaches on the field of play. All managers and coaches must be approved by the Poquoson Little League Board of Directors. Only approved coaches may be on the field during games. There is not a limit of how many practice coaches a team can have but all practice coaches must submit a volunteer form.

Majors Baseball & Softball, Juniors Baseball & Softball, Seniors Baseball & Softball – A team must have one manager and two approved coaches on the field of play. All managers and coaches must be approved by the Poquoson Little League Board of Directors. Only approved coaches may be on the field during games. There is not a limit of how many practice coaches a team can have but all practice coaches must submit a volunteer form.