

SLJL TRAVEL TEAM BYLAWS V5

TEAMS

Thunder: 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, 14U, 15U, 16U, 17U and 18U (maximum of 2 teams per age group)

Stealth: 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, 14U, 16U, and 18U (maximum of 1 teams per age group)

Additional travel teams may be approved by the SLJL Board. All teams will be designated as “Thunder” (Red, Blue).

All travel softball teams will be designated as “Stealth”.

TRUSTEES

The SLJL Board shall elect a Thunder travel trustee and a Stealth travel trustee by

May 1 of each year. Each trustee will serve a 13-month term.

TRAVEL TREASURER

The SLJL Board shall elect a Thunder travel treasurer and a Stealth travel treasurer. Where a conflict of interest may arise with a specific team, the appropriate travel trustee or Executive Director shall review respective team’s finances on a monthly basis.

PLAYERS/ROSTERS

Thunder: Based on age of player as of May 1 of the playing season year.

Stealth: Based on age of player as of September 1 of the playing season year.

Additional player restrictions for all travel teams:

- A. Full time player rosters must meet membership requirements of the South Lyon Junior League Article V.A 4
- B. Teams may use a “substitute” or “replacement” player from within the Junior League travel program at any time, and is preferred.
- C. Use of a non-members requires notification to and approval from the appropriate travel trustee with explanation. Maximum of 2 tournaments or 10 games per season for each out of program substitute/replacement player.
- D. Maximum number of full-time players per team for 8U-13U is 15 players.
- E. Maximum number of full-time players per team for 14U-18U is 19 players.
- F. A full time player is defined as a player that has paid the SLJL registration fee and full dues to that specific team. A rostered non full-time player must meet the membership requirements of the South Lyon Junior League Article V.A 4., but does not count toward 75% residency requirement.
- G. For 8U-13U teams the host travel league minimum roster requirements must be met by December 31 with full time players to be considered a viable South Lyon Junior League team (see bullet above for definition of full-time player).
- H. A coach may not release a player for any reason other than a player quitting after initial player deposit is received

without prior approval of the Trustee and SLJL Board. A Team/Player Separation form must be submitted to the League. In the case where a team and player separate during the season, all monies collected are NON_REFUNDABLE.

I. The roster submitted to the SLJL must match the roster provided to the host travel league or appropriate sanctioning body at all times.

J. Rosters must maintain 75% South Lyon residency compliance at all times. Residency is defined as school districted in South Lyon. (15U+ age groups are omitted from this requirement)

K. Team Funds are not accessible until final roster approval by the appropriate travel trustee and submission of all required registration/documentation items.

L. 'Game Changer' (or similar app) access must be provided to appropriate travel trustee and SLJL President.

M. All players and coaches MUST register with the SLJL through the league website

CODE OF CONDUCT

Thunder/Stealth

A. All players and parents registered to play on a South Lyon Thunder travel baseball team or Stealth softball team are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of others and reflects positively on the South Lyon Thunder and Stealth programs and the South Lyon community. The Thunder and Stealth programs feel strongly about promoting the appropriate behavior in its players and their families. For this reason, all players, coaches, and families are required to read, sign, and adhere to the code of conduct. The incoming 8U coach can be voted in by June 1st so they can begin scouting players for their team.

B. Addendum B contains South Lyon Thunder travel baseball and Stealth softball code of conduct. Trustees are responsible for managing and updating their program code of conduct as necessary.

COACHES

A. The appropriate travel trustee shall be responsible for reviewing head coach applications and recommending a slate of head coaches to the entire SLJL Board for an up or down vote on that slate. Any significant conflict of interest (i.e., relative) must be disclosed prior to SLJL Board vote.

B. Coaches must apply each year to be part of the program coaching staff and are not guaranteed positions. Coaches shall complete an application form/process and meet requirements approved by the appropriate travel trustee and SLJL Board. Coaches are required to disclose their additional coaching responsibilities of other competing travel organizations each season if applicable. C. Head coaches/assistants shall complete and pass the approved SLJL background check policy prior to participating in any team activities.

D. A coach may be suspended by the travel trustee and removed from his/her position by the SLJL Board for any reason. This may include, but is not limited to, unlawful activity, player abuse, financial abuse, non-compliance with

any SLJL policy (Travel or General), host league or sanctioning body recommendation, peer review, poor evaluation, parent issues, violation of South Lyon School rules, code of conduct violation, solicitation of SLJL players for outside travel programs, etc.

E. A member of the Thunder Committee (Head Coach) should attend at least 1-2 meetings per year and in the absence of the Trustee, a member of the Thunder Committee needs to be present.

F. Ejection from a game will result in the offending coach being required to sit out the next game. 3 ejections in a season will result in a coach not retaining his/her position for the following year. In the event of an ejection, coach must notify appropriate Trustee.

G. Any coach submitting and/or signing a false roster will result in immediate removal of the team and coach from the SLJL and may result in the forfeiture of team monies.

H. Trustees will manage program coaching staff (set expectations/requirements, coach's code of conduct, program goals, mentoring, dismissal, etc.). Coaches will be evaluated at the end of each season by Trustee, seeking feedback from all stakeholders. Coaches with poor evaluations will not be asked to return as a coach for future seasons. Trustees are responsible for developing and managing this evaluation process.

TEAM TRYOUTS

Team Tryout dates and process will be set each year by the appropriate travel trustee, with SLJL Board approval, and can commence any time after the completion of the SLJL Spring season. A meeting prior to tryouts will be held & coaches are required to attend. The Trustee will outline specific rules & general best practices on how to conduct tryouts. Also, this is where coaches will be assigned for evaluation of tryouts.

Thunder:

Each age group tryouts must have a Coach from a different age to help evaluate the players at the Team Tryouts.

Rosters:

All rosters must be submitted to the Travel Trustee for final approval once offers have been submitted and then provided to the SLJL registrar.

A. Thunder: 75% residency requirement – All Teams. The Thunder program is designed for high school bound athletes that have the skills necessary to develop as part of an elite baseball program. As a feeder program for our South Lyon High School baseball programs, the Thunder baseball program strongly encourages 100% South Lyon residency for all teams. (15U+ age groups are omitted from this requirement but MUST have board approval for any roster that does NOT meet 75% residency requirement)

B. Stealth: 75% residency requirement – All Teams. The Stealth program is designed for high school bound athletes that have the skills necessary to develop as part of an elite softball program. As a feeder program for our South Lyon

High School softball programs, the Stealth program strongly encourages 100% South Lyon residency for all teams. (15U+ age groups are omitted from this requirement but MUST have board approval for any roster that does NOT meet 75% residency requirement)

REGISTRATION FEE & COSTS

Thunder and Stealth: Dues can be no higher than \$2,000 per player and are at the coach's discretion. Teams may petition the SLJL Board for amounts above the maximum amount per player. A registration fee shall be paid by each Stealth and Thunder player, as set forth by the SLJL Board. Dues do not include fundraising dollars. Teams are allowed to conduct fundraisers or obtain sponsorships to collect money in addition to player dues. Fundraising requirements (excluding sponsorships) above the base dues must be fully disclosed at time of team selection to each family. The maximum financial commitment per family (registration fees excluding fundraising and sponsorships) cannot exceed \$2,000. A financial commitment beyond \$2,000 requires appropriate travel trustee and SLJL Board approval.

Due Dates: An initial minimum deposit of \$200.00 is due upon selection and acceptance of offer by the player. The remaining balance and timing of final payment will be specified by the team's head coach. Team funds (registration fees, dues, fundraising, etc.) are not accessible until the final roster has been approved by the travel trustee and all registration/documentation items have been submitted.

*As part of the maximum \$2,000 per player fee, there is a \$50 per player fee that needs to be paid to the SLJL general fund for all players. This payment needs to take place no later than December 1st of each year.

THUNDER LEAGUE PLAY

All Thunder travel teams are required to participate in the KVBSA travel league unless they have declared to be tournament only. Playing in another league is not permitted without trustee and SLJL Board approval.

THUNDER TOURNAMENT

If there will be a Thunder tournament held each year, Thunder teams are required to play unless approved by the Trustee. The proceeds that are raised from the tournament will go into a general Thunder account & be earmarked: 50% of profits split between participating teams equally divided & distributed by the travel treasurer & 50% of profits towards field improvements, clinics, continuous improvement-type expenditures. Any expenditure must be approved by the Board. However, this 50/50 split can be voted & go entirely to the teams that participate should the board vote.

COOPERSTOWN or SIMILAR (Thunder)

The 12U Thunder Red team is required to attend the Cooperstown tournament or similar weeklong tournament. Examples are Ripken Experience, Wide World of Sports, etc, as long as they are allowed to raise funds by running the SLJL All-Star weekend concessions as an 11u team. The 11U Red team has first option to run the SLJL All-Star weekend concessions in preparation for Cooperstown tournament as a 12u team, but may decline by 1/31 of their 11U season.

If team is choosing a different week-long tournament, it must be approved by the board. ALL FUNDS RAISED AT THE ALL STAR EVENT ARE THE PROPERTY OF THE SOUTH LYON JUNIOR LEAGUE AND WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ONLY BY BOARD APPROVAL. The 11U Thunder Red team has the option, but is not required, to offer a two-year commitment to players (running 11U to 12U).

COMMON BRANDING (i.e., UNIFORMS, LOGO, SPIRITWEAR, etc.)

Uniform colors for SLJL travel teams are Red, White, and Navy Blue. Alternate uniforms & logo colors may be worn but must be approved by the Stealth/Thunder Trustee and the SLJL President

Thunder: As part of our effort to create a common program brand/uniform within the Thunder program, all teams are required to follow common program brand/uniform guidelines. All teams are required to use the programs vendor for at a minimum the Team Basic Uniform Package. Any team-related items must comply with common branding (logo, colors, etc.). Use of common uniforms, logos and branding are mandatory for all travel teams. Common branding (uniforms, logo, etc.) will be approved and managed program-wide by the Thunder travel trustee and SLJL President. Committees can be created by travel trustee to assist with recommendations to trustee. Attachment "A" outlines Thunder program common branding and uniforms. All aspects of common branding / uniforms will be determined by travel trustee and approved by the SLJLBoard in order maintain program-wide consistency and adherence. Changes to common logo (as outlined in Addendum A, but allowing for color variations of red, navy, and white) requires trustee and SLJL Executive Board approval.

Stealth:

As part of our effort to create a common program brand/uniform within the Stealth program, all teams are required to follow common program brand/uniform guidelines. All teams are required to use the programs vendor for at a minimum the Team Basic Uniform Package. Any team-related items must comply with common branding (logo, colors, etc.). Use of common uniforms, logos and branding are mandatory for all travel teams. Common branding (uniforms, logo, etc.) will be approved and managed program-wide by the Stealth travel trustee and the League President. Committees can be created by travel trustee to assist with recommendations to trustee.

SEASON

- A. Travel teams may practice year-round.
- B. Playing season will vary between sport and team and is at the head coach's discretion.

TRAVEL MONIES

A. Each head coach is responsible for collecting team travel monies and turning all money collected to the Thunder or Stealth travel treasurer. Additionally, the head coach must exercise reasonable discretion in spending monies for team endeavors, and provide receipts for all expenditures to the respective travel treasurer. Travel treasurer cannot

reimburse coaches for expenses incurred and paid without a valid detailed receipt.

B. The expectation is that money collected (registration fees, fundraising, sponsorship dollars, etc.) is to be used by the team for current season (with some exceptions allowed by trustee's and/or SLJL Board). Any monies remaining at the end of the year (which should be small balances \$500 or less) shall carry over to the team moving up in an age bracket, e.g., 10U money moves to next year's 11U team. For teams not moving up the following year, any remaining monies shall remain with the replacement team, e.g., remaining money for 16U team stays with next year's 17U team, if no replacement team is in place, money will be moved to the remaining team in the same age group, e.g. money from 16U Blue will be moved to 17U Red for next season. In the event, there is no replacement team nor a team remaining in the teams age bracket, the money will then be moved team moving up into current teams age bracket and team designation. If no team is moving up, then funds will be moved into league general fund.

C. The travel treasurer shall maintain the travel bank account, maintain an accounting summary for each travel team, approve receipts and write checks for team expenses.

D. Each travel team may obtain team sponsors only in accordance with League Sponsor Rules, and each travel team may fundraise to obtain additional team funds.

E. All monies (program fees, fundraising, donations, sponsorship monies, etc.) must be processed through the Travel Treasurer prior to the team accessing those funds. All cash collected for the team for any reason must be processed through the Travel Treasurer prior to the team accessing those funds. All money in and out of the program must flow through the Travel Treasurer...no exceptions.

F. Each head coach will designate a non-spouse financial representative that at a minimum will be copied on team financial reports and communications sent by the appropriate travel treasurer to head coaches. Head coach will disclose to all families the team budget at the beginning of the season and how funds were used at the conclusion of the season.

G. As a 501(c)(3) organization, we must insist on full compliance with the financial controls put in place by the SLJL Board and/or Travel Trustee as a condition of continued participation as part of the coaching staff. Random periodic reviews of travel accounts should be the expectation (minimum of 2 reviews each year for Thunder and Stealth programs).

H. Any financial impropriety, mismanagement, or fraud by the coaching staff will be grounds for immediate removal from coaching position by appropriate Travel Trustee or Executive Board.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

All authority not specifically outlined within these bylaws is retained by the appropriate travel trustee in order to administer/manage the program and is subject to approval by the SLJL Board of Directors.