

PATRIOT JUNIOR AND SENIOR LEAGUE, INC.
2024 OPERATING POLICIES

- I. **The League.** The Patriot Junior and Senior League, Inc. is a division of Little League Baseball, Incorporated, that is comprised of participants between the ages of thirteen (13) and sixteen (16) years of age. The League will be comprised of players from the boundaries of Allied Gardens Little League, Lake Murray Little League, Mission Trails Little League and San Carlos Little League, and together they will form the following Little League Charter:

American Jr/Sr Patriot League ID # 00178101

For All-Stars, and per a Little League directive, the Patriot League will field two teams under Divisional play, which means Allied Gardens will combine with Mission Trails players to form the American Team, and Lake Murray and San Carlos players will combine to form the National Team.

*For the current spring season, Junior and Senior players from La Mesa National Little League and Rolando Little League, will play with the Patriot League under an Inter League agreement and Combined Team Rosters. For All-Stars, La Mesa National and Rolando Little Leagues will play under a Combined Team Form between those two leagues if neither league has enough players for their own All-Star team. Effective beginning 2019 and until further notice per Little League International, the leagues will no longer be added to the Patriot League charter under a Combined Team Form as in previous years. However, if La Mesa National and Rolando do not have enough players for one combined ballot in a single season, the Patriot League will always appeal to Little League International (with no guaranteed approval) for permission to add Rolando to the American and La Mesa National to the National Team.

- II. **League Divisions.** The following league divisions shall be established:
- A. Junior Division. The Junior Division shall consist of players who attain the league age of thirteen (13) with birthdates ranging from September 1, 2010-August 31, 2011, and 14-year old players with birthdates ranging from September 1, 2009-August 31, 2010.
 - B. Senior Division. The Senior Division shall consist of players between the ages of 13-16 with birthdates ranging from September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2011. Thirteen year-old players must be assessed by the Player Agent to ensure the players' skills meet or exceed what is expected at the Senior level and that there is no safety risk involved for such players. Decisions for any 13 year-old to play at the Senior level each season is at the discretion of the league as safety is the priority.

III. **League Organization.** The League shall be organized to allow for the full development and participation of as many players as possible each season that reside or attend school in the established boundaries of the League.

A. Eligible Participants. Eligible players from the Patriot Junior and Senior League, Inc. shall be comprised of those players attaining the appropriate league age as outlined in Section II, and:

- 1) Living or attending school within the defined league boundaries of Allied Gardens, Lake Murray, Mission Trails, and San Carlos as established by Little League; or otherwise approved by District 33 (i.e., La Mesa National and Rolando through a Combined Team Form or an Inter League Agreement).

B. Skill Evaluations. All Eligible Participants shall participate in at least one skills evaluation session. (Second-half Senior players may or may not be given a skills evaluation.) Players who do not participate in a skills evaluation session will automatically be placed on a team by the Player Agent unless a make-up session can be scheduled in a timely manner.

C. Draft. All eligible players shall be placed in a common pool and drafted onto a team.

Exception: All players wishing to play in the Junior Division, including any league age 14-year old trying out for a high school freshman team, MUST try-out with the Patriot League. Only players who have participated in a skills evaluation prior to the Patriot League common pool draft will be included in the draft. The Player Agent will assign any player who does not try-out, or is on the first-come, first-served wait list as openings occur. Those players who make their high school team and choose not to play simultaneously with the Patriot League Junior Division shall only be eligible to play in the Senior Division for the second half of the season.

The Junior draft shall form teams for the entire regular season. For the second-half Senior draft rules, please see section VI. Senior Division.

The Player Agent shall be responsible for any trades after the draft, but prior to teams being announced, or placement of players following the draft(s) onto a team based on any teams' needs. In order to create a balance between the teams, the need of each team will be the priority in the overall placement of players. Requests of any kind will be secondary.

D. Team Size. Each Junior team shall have a maximum of thirteen (13) players and minimum of eleven (11) players per team (per D33 approval). Each Senior team shall have a maximum of fifteen (15) players per team and minimum of twelve (12) players per team unless otherwise adopted by the Board of Directors.

IV. **Playing Rules.** All divisions shall use the rules in the current season's issue of Little League Baseball Official Regulations and playing rules as set forth, except as amended hereafter:

- A. Standings may or may not be kept for the regular season. If the Board of Directors determine standings will not be kept, one of two scenarios will occur to determine a league champion:
 - 1) If the league chooses to participate in the D33 TOC, an elimination Patriot League tournament for the Junior division shall be held at the end of the regular season to determine the league champion. Depending on the number of league slots allotted by the District 33, additional teams according to the tournament standings (i.e., 2nd place, 3rd place, etc.) may move onto D33 TOC play.
 - 2) If the league chooses not to participate in D33 TOC, the regular season will be extended, and a longer league tournament will be scheduled to determine a Patriot League champion.

If the Board of Directors determine standings will be kept for all or any part of the season to determine which teams advance to D33 TOC, then advancing teams will be based on those standings of first, second, third, fourth place, etc. The number of teams advancing will be determined by how many slots the league is granted by D33.

The Board of Directors will determine season-to-season the league's participation in D33 TOC and/or how the tournaments will be structured.

- B. In accordance with Little League Regulations, any player, manager or coach who has been ejected from a game shall receive a minimum one-game suspension for the next physically played game(s). This includes fall ball and regular season as well as any tournament play. If the offense occurs during fall ball or regular season, the Board of Directors shall determine if the offense requires more than a one game suspension. If the offense occurs during any D33 tournament, D33 will determine if the offense requires more than a one-game suspension.
- C. If a player requires disciplinary action due to, as an example, poor behavior, disrespect towards the manager, coaches or other players, etc., which does not result in an immediate ejection by the umpire, but action in someway needs to be taken to correct behavior, the following will occur:
 - 1) The parents will be contacted first by the manager to discuss the situation. The manager, in writing, will notify the parents and president of a corrective course of action. If a meeting needs to be scheduled with the parents, player, manager, and appointed league official to further discuss a course of action, which may result in a suspension,

then one will be scheduled within a week following the infraction(s).

- 2) The president will then follow-up with a written message to the manager and parents confirming any steps, including any type of suspension, being taken to resolve the problem(s).
 - 3) If it is found a suspension is not imposed immediately, and those corrective steps are not followed by the player at any time thereafter during the season, then the player will either be suspended immediately, or the manager will have the option to bench a player indefinitely. The duration of the suspension or a player being benched will be dependent upon the seriousness of the infraction. If more than a one-game suspension is recommended, the player and parents may appear before the board to appeal. The league cannot reverse any suspensions imposed by District 33. However, the league has the right to extend any suspensions imposed by District 33.
- D. During the regular Junior season until the Mission Trails Regional Park gate closure time is extended past 7:30 p.m., there will be a two-hour drop-dead time limit for all games at Shira Field and San Carlos. Once the gate closure time is extended to 8:00 p.m., no new inning shall begin after 7:00 p.m., but the game must end by 7:15 p.m. for weeknight games in order to take down the field and vacate the park. No new inning shall begin after two (2) hours from the scheduled start time for weekend games and end no later than two (2) hours and fifteen (15) minutes past the game start time with the exception of league TOC games. During TOC games, teams will follow the time adjustments for that tournament. If inter league play occurs in either the Junior or Senior divisions, inter league rules will be followed and take precedence for said games. (During D33 tournament games played at Shira Field, games played past 7:15 p.m. (in an effort to determine a winner) is at the discretion of D33 or the plate umpire as long as any lack of daylight does not impose a safety hazard to players, managers, coaches and umpires; however, all games must end by 7:30 p.m. per park guidelines.
- E. Any end-of-season league tournament shall be played in accordance with the regular season rules; however, new time limits will be followed as outlined in the league's tournament rules.
- V. **Player Conduct:** At all times, players must adhere to the rules of the league. In addition, players must be positive representatives of the league by showing respect and displaying responsibility, character and discipline while within the Patriot League facility, which includes all parking areas, the field, structures, and surrounding areas of the permitted facility.
- A. Any player who engages in malicious acts of behavior in any way, either towards another individual or in destroying property at any time, whether it be during the fall, spring season or off-season, will be removed from the

league and will not be able to continue play or register the next season until an interview with the Board of Directors has been conducted and a Corrective Action Plan has been established to ensure the safety of all as well as the success of said player.

- B. If any player does not directly engage in malicious acts of behavior, however, is present or participates in any way with another player(s) and does nothing to report the act to the league or authorities, will be held accountable and disciplinary action will be taken, which includes but is not limited to suspension or removal from the league.
- C. If any damage to the Patriot League facility is caused by a player(s), then the parent(s) of said players will be responsible for the cost of the repairs.

VI. **All Star Selection:** The All-Star Committees shall govern all aspects of the All-Star teams.

- A. All Star Committees. There may be up to three separate All-Star Committees representing the players from Allied Gardens and Mission Trails (also known as the American Team), Lake Murray and San Carlos, (also known as the National Team), and La Mesa National and Rolando (also known as the Rolando-La Mesa Team).

Each All-Star Committee may be comprised of the Player Agent, and appointed League Liaison(s) otherwise known as board members reigning from those leagues, and any other appointed board member(s). The president may attend each committee meeting for informational purposes and will vote only when a tie occurs.

If there are enough players from La Mesa National and Rolando Little Leagues to form their own teams or a combined team between them, the committee may include any board members, if there is no representation from those leagues on the board.

See Section V. F. 1- 7 for more defined explanations of the All-Star teams.

- B. Eligible All-Star Participants. In order to be eligible for selection onto any of the league's All-Star teams, including a team(s) from La Mesa National or Rolando Little Leagues, a player must have played in at least 60% of their regular season games and be All-Star eligible as defined in the Little League rule book. Any ejections, suspensions or continual discipline of a player for unsportsmanlike conduct will be reviewed by the All-Star Committee and may result in deeming player ineligible for All-Stars upon board approval. The Patriot League will provide La Mesa National and Rolando the proper eligibility information on players, as needed. All-Star Letters of Intent with parents stating players' availability

and full agreement to the terms of the letter must be received from every player placed on a ballot. If parents state a player will not be available for a time period of more than three days, then the player's eligibility will be determined by the Player Agent and Manager.

(A suggestion for this upcoming season, in an effort to ensure the snack bar is covered regularly, it has been suggested that we add to this section that unless each family volunteers for a minimum of one shift during the spring season, then their player will be ineligible for All-Stars. This will need to be discussed.)

- C. Eligible Manager Participants. Candidates on each ballot may include current eligible managers and/or coaches from each respective league. If there are no available candidates from a specific league, any manager or coach from another league within the Patriot charter or divisions within the Patriot League may be considered per approval of said candidate as well as D33. Both Junior and Senior managers/coaches are eligible for either division. "Eligible" is defined as "said candidate" must be a regular season manager or coach as listed on information that is forwarded to the Little League Datacenter. Any manager and/or coach who has been disciplined by the league or D33 and such action is defined by either an ejection from a game or suspension from league play for any undefined amount of time for acts unbecoming as a manager and/or coach will be taken into consideration in a manager and/or coach's eligibility to be on the ballot. The president will provide details of each offense, so the All-Star Committee and board may review and determine eligibility.
- D. Manager Selection. All league players, managers and coaches will have the opportunity to vote for an eligible manager for their respective league's All-Star team (i.e., all AG/MT players, managers/coaches vote for that team only, all LM/SC players, managers/coaches vote for that team only, etc.). Board members and Patriot League umpires only shall also have the opportunity to vote for managers for any of the leagues. The candidate with the most votes will typically be recommended to the president for Board approval. However, All Star Committees will have the opportunity to take into consideration the elected manager's league performance, any league infractions/reprimands during the regular season, personal schedule issues, and any other league concerns as they apply. If for any reason the committee by a 51% vote agrees the elected manager should not be recommended to the president for Board approval, the All-Star Committees may recommend another candidate. Each All-Star Committee will make their manager recommendation to the president who will then submit to the board for approval. The President, approved manager and All-Star Committees will discuss coaches for each All-Star team and a recommendation will be given to the Board for approval.

E. Team Size. Each All-Star team shall have a maximum of thirteen (13) and a minimum of twelve (12) eligible All-Star participants on each team. (Little League cap is 14 for Juniors & 16 for Seniors.) Special exception: If any of the ballots for the American or National teams only contain 11 eligible players from their respective leagues, the league must petition D33 for approval. If La Mesa National and/or Rolando do not have a minimum of twelve (12) eligible All-Star participants on their ballot, the board will defer to the affected league(s) to make the decision to proceed and seek approval from D33.

F. All Star Participant Selection. All league players, managers and coaches may vote for up to 13 (thirteen) All-Star eligible participants from their respective leagues. Eligibility is based on having participated in a minimum of 60% games as well as any intentional acts of unsportsmanlike conduct during practices or games that require discipline, ejections or suspensions during the season. Any or all of these acts may be considered when determining eligibility of players. Unprecedented acts of unsportsmanlike conduct such as illegal slides into a base or the like may or may not be considered towards a player's eligibility depending on the severity of the situation. Also, board members and Patriot League umpires only may vote for up to 13 (thirteen) All Star eligible participants for each league if they so choose. The top nine (9) eligible All-Stars (if a roster of 12 is determined or ten (10) if a roster of 13 is determined) for each team based on total of all votes for that team will be placed on the All-Star roster, with the remaining three roster spots selected by the All-Star manager per All-Star Committee approval. (The number of rostered players will be based on any current Little League rules for the season in question.) The remaining three players must be selected from the next six players receiving the most votes unless special consideration needs to be given within those next six players, such as but not limited to justified and continual behavioral problems with a player and lack of attendance at practices/games, as well as availability. The president and player agent with approval of the board will determine the validity of any problems and may extend the range of players.

- 1) Per the Divisional Play Form submitted to, and approved by Little League International, Patriot League players from Allied Gardens and Mission Trails will constitute the American Team of the Patriot League. A minimum of 14 players per ballot are needed in order to move forward with an All Star team unless otherwise determined depending on circumstances each season.
- 2) Per the Divisional Play Form submitted to and approved by Little League International, Patriot League players from Lake Murray and San Carlos will constitute the National Team of the Patriot League. A minimum of 14 players per ballot are needed in order to move forward

with an All-Star team unless otherwise determined depending on circumstances each season.

- 3) Per a Combined Team Roster submitted to Little League for the current All-Star season, La Mesa National and Rolando Little Leagues will constitute the Rolando-La Mesa League. When necessary, due to an insufficient number of players from either league, these two leagues will combine eligible participants to elect an All-Star team with representatives from both leagues. The ultimate decision to move forward with a La Mesa National and/or Rolando All-Star team will be left to the boards of those leagues to decide.
- 4) Thirteen (13) and Fourteen (14) year old players who only play in the second-half Seniors division are **NOT** eligible for Junior All Stars.
- 5) If for any reason a selected player cannot fulfill his/her spot on the All-Star team, the Manager and All-Star Committee (if necessary) will reconvene to fill the vacancy. If it is decided another player must be selected as a replacement, and players still remain on the ballot, the manager will be given the next three eligible names from the All-Star selection list to select another player. Consideration, as described in Section V.F, will also be given in regard to extending past the next three eligible candidates.
- 6) **The All-Star Committees will keep the election results confidential.** No one, except the Player Agent and President, are to view the list of player votes once the All-Star selection process has been completed for each league. In an attempt to uphold confidentiality in regard to voting, requests from parents, managers, coaches, board members, etc. to view the list of the voting results will be denied.
- 7) The All-Star participants shall not be made known until at least 12:01 a.m. the day mandated by Little League International each season; however, the Patriot League will not release the All-Star names until June 1st at the earliest as to not interfere or distract from TOC. The Player Agent shall save all the ballots and will destroy as each All-Star team has been eliminated from tournament play.

VII. Board Meetings.

- A. Meeting Dates and Times. The regular meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the San Carlos Recreation Center, unless another meeting time/place is arranged in advance, and the board and general membership are notified a minimum of 24 hours before meeting time, if necessary per the Patriot League

Constitution. During the off-season, meetings shall convene at 6:30 p.m. During the spring season once games begin, meetings shall convene at 7:30 p.m. and may be held twice a month, as needed.

B. Meeting Decorum. The following shall be followed at all meetings:

- 1) All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.
- 2) Inappropriate language will not be tolerated at any time during meetings and/or events; parties shall be excused from the meeting/event after one warning.
- 3) There shall be one speaker to an agenda subject and they may speak for 10 minutes on that subject. The president, as needed, may grant an additional 10 minutes.
- 4) No children may be present during any portion of a meeting when confidential information is being discussed. Player Members may address the Board or appear at the Board's request.
- 5) The Board reserves the right to discuss sensitive issues in executive session, at its discretion.

The Board of Directors of the Patriot Jr/Sr League, Inc. ratified these Operating Policies on December 13, 2023.

President Signature: _____ Date: _____
Recorded by:
Secretary Signature: _____ Date: _____
Approved by:
District Administrator: _____ Date: _____