



Lincoln Little League

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Local League Policies & Procedures 2026

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MANAGERS/COACHES/VOLUNTEERS

MANAGER SELECTION/EVALUATION: LLL utilizes a Board appointed Manager Selection/Evaluation Committee to review applications, volunteer form, verify qualifications, interview (as required), and present candidate selections to the President for nomination to the Board for approval prior to each season. This may include maintaining a waiting list of qualified applicants should there be openings during a season. Managers affiliated with, or have interests in, other youth athletic activities or leagues shall make LLL activities priority when conflicts are present.

The Manager Selection/Evaluation Committee will take into account conduct in all past regular season play and tournaments in accordance with local league rules (e.g., sportsmanship, player playing time, etc.). During the playing season, the committee shall observe the conduct of the managers and coaches and report its findings to the LLL President. At the request of the President or Board of Directors, the committee shall investigate complaints concerning managers and coaches and make a report thereof to the President or Board of Directors as the case may be. If further action must be taken the Complaints will then be sent to the Disciplinary Committee for further review.

PLAYER AGENT RECOMMENDATION: Managers and Coaches in all divisions will be reviewed by the Division Player Agent at the end of each spring season. Player Agents shall make an effort to reach out to others (parents or Board members) to gather information on the performance of Managers and Coaches. At the conclusion of the spring season, the Player Agent shall deliver to the Board a complete roster of Managers and Coaches indicating which should be recommended and which should not be recommended for the following spring season. The version approved by the Board shall be presented to the Manager and Coach Selection Committee for consideration when Managers and Coaches are selected for the following spring season.

COACH SELECTION: LLL must have a completed volunteer form and background check from all Coaches before practice or game participation is allowed. With a volunteer application on file, parents may assist at practices but are not recognized as approved Coaches and therefore may not be in the dugouts or provide instruction during games. Coaches must demonstrate the same conduct as Managers and will be subject to the same disciplinary processes. Parents may assist in the dugouts for T-Ball and Farm divisions only, provided there is a volunteer application on file.

MANAGER & COACH CONDUCT: Managers and Coaches must uphold all Rules of Little League Baseball & LLL Code of Conduct. Safety violations, foul language, violent actions, or abuse will not be tolerated. LLL's Disciplinary Committee will handle all complaints. The disciplinary committee should notify the Board of all cases resulting in disciplinary action, which may include game suspensions, season suspensions, or dismissal from LLL.

Managers are responsible for the conduct of their Coaches, players, team parents, and parents during all baseball events. For the safety of the players, at least one Manager, Coach, or Parent (T-Ball and Farm only) shall be in the dugout at all times during a game. Managers are responsible



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for their parents and teams leaving the field, dugouts, and seating areas clean and ready for the next game. Managers are responsible for field grooming, including the locking of the storage shed and equipment boxes, storage and securing of drags, rakes, and chalkers. Continued violations will be considered misconduct and may be subject to further disciplinary actions including loss of practice field time, suspension, and/or not being recommended for a manager/coach position for the next season.

VOLUNTEERS: Any volunteers being in close contact with players must complete a volunteer form and background check.

SAFETY ADMINISTRATION: LLL updates its Safety Plan each year. Managers will receive a copy of this plan during the Pre-Season Structure Forum. The Plan is also available on the LLL Web site. In addition to their own compliance, it is the responsibility of each Manager to ensure all Coaches understand and comply with the LLL Safety Plan. Accident report forms are available on the website and must be routed to the Safety Officer within 24 hours of injury, whether the injury occurs in practice or play.

Anytime a player is out under physician's orders, a full physician's release is required for the player to return (releases for limited participation will not be accepted). A copy of the physician's release must be provided to the respective division's Player Agent before the player can participate in any games or practices. The Player Agent will provide a copy to the Safety Officer.



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DISCIPLINE

SAFETY VIOLATIONS: All violations of the Safety Manual, Local League Rules, or the Official Rules of Little League Baseball (LLB) by a manager or coach which deal with safety issues (e.g., pitch count violations, pitcher eligibility, unauthorized equipment, etc.) will usually result in the following discipline: 1st offense – written warning, 2nd offense – one game suspension, and 3rd offense – suspension for the season. If the violation is deemed intentional or involves gross negligence, more serious discipline may be imposed.

SUSPENSIONS: Violations of the Code of Conduct, Safety Manual, or the Official Rules of Little League Baseball will not be tolerated. LLL has a standing policy of zero tolerance for arguing with officials, foul language, safety violations, or unsportsmanlike conduct. The Manager is responsible for complying with Little League minimum play rules in Minors through Seniors. In the event that a manager's failure to comply is deemed intentional, the offending Manager will be suspended from managing the next scheduled game. When a manager, coach, or player is ejected by an umpire, s/he shall immediately leave the game site and take no part in the remainder of the game. The ejected individual may not be replaced in the dugout. An ejection will result in at least a one game suspension from the next scheduled game for the ejected individual. Per LLB, a one game suspension for an ejection is not eligible for appeal. Ejections due to violence or gross misconduct to an opposing player, parent, or official will be cause for immediate indefinite suspension.

The manager, coach, or player accompanied by his/her coach shall appear before a Disciplinary Committee to explain his/her conduct.

Reinstatement will be based on the ejected individual(s) appearance before the Disciplinary Committee, where review of the circumstances, and approval for reinstatement must occur. Reinstatement is automatic after the suspension is served. The Disciplinary Committee reserves the right to impose additional sanctions based on the severity of the offense. A second ejection within the same season for any reason will result in an immediate indefinite suspension, with mandatory appearance and approval for reinstatement by the Board. Suspension for the remainder of the season includes all games, practices, tournaments and post-season play. Suspension means that the Manager/Coach/Player cannot be at the field, or in direct communication with anyone at the field, involving any team in which s/he coaches. The field or game site is defined as the playing field, dugouts, bleacher/seating areas, adjacent walkways, and parking areas including parking lots.

If a situation arises where a manager is possibly going to be disciplined (outside of an automatic suspension), the Disciplinary Committee will call an emergency meeting as soon as practical. The only people in attendance at this meeting will be the Committee members, the Manager or Coach in question and the person bringing the action. At this meeting, the person asking for disciplinary action must present their case in person or in writing. The Manager or Coach in question will then be allowed to present their case. After all sides have been heard, the Disciplinary Committee will meet in a closed session and make a final decision regarding discipline.



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DISCIPLINARY APPEALS: If the Manager, Coach, or player disagrees with the discipline proposed by the Disciplinary Committee, s/he may request to appeal the matter to the Board. Such a request shall be forwarded in writing (e-mail acceptable) to the LLL President. If such a request is submitted, the Board shall meet as soon as practical in closed session. The only people in attendance at this meeting will be the Board members, the Manager, Coach, or player in question and the person bringing the action. At this time, the Manager, Coach, or player in question will be allowed to present their case in person or in writing. After all sides have been heard, the Board will meet privately and make a final decision regarding discipline.



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PLAYERS

PLAYER AGENTS: LLL's Board has a Player Agent for each age group/division. The full list of responsibilities is listed in the Constitution. They serve to provide assurance of fairness in player evaluations, selections, practice and game administration, safety issues, and act as a liaison for players, parents and Managers/Coaches to the LLL Board.

ROSTER ADMINISTRATION: Player Agents are responsible for the structuring and administration of divisional team rosters. Rosters for T-Ball and Farm division teams may have 10-13 players. Rosters for Minors through Seniors division teams may have 12-15 players. Initial drafts will be held to 12 players per roster in Minors through Seniors, unless population allows for an equal increase to each team's roster in the division. Minors through Seniors rosters may be increased up to 15 based on Manager request to the appropriate Player Agent. Special appeals may be approved by the Board. Prior to presenting for Board approval, any release and replacement of a player must first have reason(s) reviewed and confirmed by the Player Agent and President (unless it is a Franchised Major Player, see below.) Teams have seven days from release of players to move a lower division player up. Managers and Coaches are not permitted to contact the potential player/family in regards to moving up, the Player Agent will contact the family. Any player brought up to a higher age division within 30 days of the end of the regular season will not be a franchised player, and will be re-entered into the draft pool for the following season. All trades must happen at the conclusion of the draft, while still at the draft site, and be approved by the Trade Committee within 30 minutes of completion of the trade. The Trade Committee will consist of the Player Agent of that division and 2 other Board members appointed by the President. The trade will then be submitted to the President for approval.

FRANCHISE PLAYERS: Players in the Majors division will remain on the same team once drafted. Once a player has been drafted to a Majors team they do not need to attend assessments again until they move out of the division. If a player or their parents want to request not to continue with the team they were drafted by for the next season, they would need to submit a letter to the League President stating the reason(s) for the request. The Board of Directors would review it to ensure fairness and consistency with the league's rules then make a determination to release the player back into the draft or to keep them on their current team.

DRAFT PROCEDURES: AAA & Juniors divisions will follow the Green Book procedures. AAA draft procedures are to be submitted by the Player Agent and approved by the Board in advance of proceedings.

TEAM NAME ASSIGNMENT: Will be determined by the Uniform Coordinator, whether it is done by assigning teams or by hat pick. Managers returning to the same division have first pick of the team they had the prior spring season.



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PAYMENT ADMINISTRATION: LLL charges a reasonable participation fee as a parent's obligation to assure the operational continuity of the Local League. LLL offers scholarships to assist families who cannot pay in advance. If a family would like to request a scholarship they need to submit the request to the League President. Registrants who have not provided full payment by the division draft date will be dropped from the draft pool and placed on the division's wait list. The first registrant on the wait list to provide full payment will then take the roster spot that has been released.

Refunds will be provided if requested prior to the 1st season game of your division. Refunds requested before the 1st season game of your division will be determined based upon deduction of associated cost, e.g., Jersey and Hat, Fundraiser, city fee, Pictures, etc. Any refunds requested after the 1st season game of the division will be referred to the Board for review.

SEASONS: The Spring and Fall Ball programs are separate seasons.

AGE DIVISIONS

League age for your player can be found at littleleague.org

T-Ball Division: Instructional division for players league ages 4-6. No scores or league standings are maintained. A tee will be used for the entire season. There will be NO COACH PITCH.

Farm Division: Instructional division for players league ages 6-7. Players who are league age 6 are permitted to advance to Farm after participation in T-Ball for at least one Spring season. No scores or league standings are maintained.

Minor A Division: Instructional division for players league ages 7-8. No scores or league standings are maintained. This is a coach pitch division. There will not be any player pitching in this division.

Minor AA Division: Instructional division for players league ages 8-10. The Minor AA Division is an instructional level where players pitch, but with some coach pitch.

Minor AAA Division: Instructional, yet competitive division for player league ages 8-11. Regular season standings will be kept. Players are drafted to teams based on a pre-season tryout. Any player that is league age 11 and misses tryouts, will be assessed by the Player Agent and placed in the appropriate division draft or under special circumstances with prior written request by parent.

Major Division: Competitive division for player league ages 10-12. Scores and standings are posted. Players are drafted based on a pre-season tryout. All Players who are league age 11 are eligible to be drafted or "called up" to Majors. Not all Players league age 10 or 11 will be drafted into Majors. Once drafted into Majors, a Player league age 10 or 11 CANNOT refuse to play Majors and play in Minor AAA. LLL utilizes a franchise model (see above).



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Intermediate Division: Competitive division for players league age 13. Scores and standings are posted. The Intermediate division will redraft each year and players will be placed on teams based on a pre-season tryout.

Junior Division: Competitive division for players league ages 13-15. The Board may prohibit 15 year olds from pitching within the Junior Division. The player's skill level needs to be assessed appropriate for that division. Scores and standings are posted. The Juniors division will redraft each year and players will be placed on teams based on a pre-season tryout.

Senior Division: Competitive division for players league ages 14-16. Scores and standings are posted. The Senior division will redraft each year and players will be placed on teams based on a pre-season tryout. Typically, there is not more than one team in Seniors. If the number of signups for Seniors falls between more than one team and not enough for a 2nd team, the LLL board will look to combine players from LLL and other leagues to create a 2nd team. If there are not enough players for one team, we will look to combine with other leagues in our area.

Inter-League Play: LLL may enter into inter-league competitions with other leagues. In doing so, the Board will confirm with the division's Managers how the Inter-League play affects LLL competition.

TOURNAMENT PLAY

Tournament of Champions

At the end of the season, a single-elimination playoff tournament for LLL teams will be conducted for Minor AA, and double-elimination for Minor AAA, Majors, and Juniors. At closing ceremonies LLL recognizes the 1st and 2nd place LLL playoff teams for Minor AA, Minor AAA, Majors, and Juniors. LLL also recognizes the 1st and 2nd place season winners in Minor AAA, Majors, and Juniors.

At the end of the season and after LLL playoffs, a single-elimination tournament for District 11 Leagues will be conducted for Minor AAA, Majors, and Juniors only. LLL will send one team from Minor AAA (1st place LLL playoff team), two teams from Majors (1st place season team as Team A & 1st place LLL playoff team as Team B), and one from Juniors (1st place playoff team) to the District 11 TOC. Should the Majors 1st place playoff and 1st place season team be the same team, the 2nd place playoff team will represent LLL as the Majors Team B. The competing team's Manager/Coaches continue with the team through TOC and cannot be substituted without prior LLL Board approval.



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ALL STARS

At the end of the season, a double-elimination tournament for District 11 Leagues (applies ONLY to players ages 9-16). LLL will submit one team per division. ***The All-Star Manager for each team is responsible for determining a roster size of 12 to 14 players.*** A declaration by the manager regarding the roster size shall be submitted to the Major Player Agent prior to the team being announced. Major, Junior, Senior, or Big-League Managers shall participate in the All-Star selection process, unless a valid reason is provided to the Board. No shows are grounds for disciplinary action in the following season.

All-Star Manager Selection Process

All Star Managers will be selected by the Board's All-Star Coach Selection/Evaluation Committee consisting of (but not limited to) the President, Vice President(s) (based on division they oversee), LIO, Safety Officer, UIC, Coach Coordinator, and the Player agent for the respectful division. Applications shall be completed by all Manager/Coach candidates. Manager/Coach interviews may be requested by the Committee prior to final selection. The Manager and Coaches will be selected by the Board's All-Star Coach Selection/Evaluation Committee and approved by the Board Committee prior to practice or play. Selection should take into account current position, team standings, any prior disciplinary actions, teaching ability, etc. Managers/Coaches must have been present for a minimum of 60% of regular season games and practices to be considered by the All-Star Coach Selection/Evaluation Committee.

Eligibility of Managers/Coaches shall be as follows

- Major (12), Intermediate (13), Junior (13-15), Senior (14-16) Teams – Candidates must be a Manager or Coach from the respective division in good standing.
- 11-Year-Old Team – Candidates may be any manager or coach in good standing from Majors or Minors.
- 9–10-Year-Old Team – Candidates may be any manager or coach in good standing from Majors or Minors.

ALL STAR PLAYER SELECTIONS:

The following applies to each division:

- If a player is injured or cannot play, the substitute player must be approved by the Board and cannot be selected from any other All-Star team.
- Two to six (2-6) players will be selected by the All-Star Manager. The other eight (8) players will be selected by majority vote of the respective division Managers, with the Player Agent being the tiebreaker, if needed. Commitment forms must be turned in by All Star Selection.