

BYLAWS of STERLING BOYS LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

January 10, 2006

ARTICLE I - OBJECTIVE

Section 1. To further baseball activities for boys in the Sterling area by implanting firmly in the children of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority, so that they may be well adjusted and grow to be decent, healthy and trustworthy citizens. All Directors, Officers and Members shall bear in mind that the attainment of exceptional athletic skill or the winning of games is secondary, and the molding of future citizens is of prime importance.

Section 2. To cooperate with Sterling Youth Baseball by publicizing and promoting the program within the community.

ARTICLE II - AFFILIATION

Section 1. Sterling Boys Little League Baseball (hereinafter referred to as the League) shall be governed by the official regulations and playing rules of Little League Baseball Inc. of Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Additions to the Little League rules and regulations handbook are contained herein.

Section 2. The League shall annually apply for a charter from Little League Baseball, Incorporated and shall do all things necessary to obtain and maintain such charter.

Section 3. Financial obligations of the League including but not limited to; deposits and disbursements of funds, shall be managed by Sterling Youth Baseball Inc., an Illinois corporation operating under Section 501- (c) -(3) of the Internal Revenue Code for the purpose of administering the rules, regulations and policies of Little League Baseball, Incorporated.

Section 4. Territory comprising Sterling Boys Little League Baseball shall be the area located within the boundaries of Sterling Unit 5 School District.

Section 5. Sterling Girls Little League Softball shall be chartered under Sterling Boys Little League Baseball as directed by Little League Baseball Inc. Girl's softball shall operate autonomously with a separate operating Board of Directors.

Section 6. Sterling Boys JR-Senior-Big League Little League Baseball shall be chartered under Sterling Boys Little League Baseball as directed by Little League Baseball Inc. Sterling Boys Senior League Baseball shall operate autonomously with a separate operating Board of Directors.

Section 7. Upon dissolution of the local League and after all outstanding debts and claims have been satisfied, the Members shall direct the remaining property of the local League to Sterling Youth Baseball inc.

Section 8. The fiscal year of the League shall begin on October 1 and shall end on September 30

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility

Any person with an interest in furthering the purpose of the League shall be eligible for membership in the League, including Player members, Regular members, Honorary members or Sustaining members. All members must pass a background check prior to membership. All members are subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Voting rights

Voting rights shall be vested solely in the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Member Conduct

Solicitation or attempted solicitation of an existing manager, coach or player by any member of the League is prohibited by these By-Laws. A written charge of tampering must be submitted to the Senior Vice President. The Senior Vice President shall appoint and chair a three-member committee to rule on the validity of the charge. If the charge is found valid a special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be called to rule on the charge including a penalty as allowed by Little League Baseball, Inc. The penalty could include suspension from all levels of Little League baseball and softball.

Section 4. Little League Volunteer Application

All prospective members must annually submit a properly completed (Little League volunteer form) to the Senior Vice-President. Members must consent to a background check as a condition of membership. This application does not commit a prospective member to a Team or Organization. All members are responsible for reporting changes to this document to the league Secretary in writing; this includes any changes to contact information such as residence, telephone and email address.

Section 5. Organization Volunteer Commitment Form

A member may annually commit his/her service to an Organization by completing and signing the volunteer commitment form.

A member relinquishing his/her commitment to the Organization during the current season may not manager or coach for another Organization during the current season.

ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall manage business affairs of the League.

Section 2. The Officers and Directors of the Board shall be not less than six (6), and include the following officials:

OFFICERS

President \ SYB President
Senior Vice President
Development Vice President
Player Agent

DIRECTORS

Major League Manager from each team
Major League 1st Coaches from each team
Minor League Manager from each team
Minor League 1st Coach from each team

Section 3. Election, Nomination and Term

Officers

Officers of the Board shall be elected annually or as vacancies occur. The Board of Directors shall hold the annual meeting in October for the purpose of electing Officers and Directors. Vote shall be by ballot method. Officers and Directors shall assume responsibilities at the first meeting following election. Term of office shall be one year but may not exceed the date of the next annual meeting of the Board of Directors. Managers and Coaches shall not occupy the office of President, SYB President, Senior Vice President or Player Agent.

Major League Manager

Major League managers are nominated annually or whenever vacancies occur by the Senior Vice President and approved by the Board of Directors. Term of office shall be one year but may not exceed the date of the next annual meeting of the Board of Directors. The Vice President shall consider the following list of candidates before nomination.

1. Existing Major League Manager
2. Current Major League 1st coach
3. Current Minor League manager
4. Current Minor 1st coach
5. Any other qualified candidate.

Other Managers and Coaches

Other Major and Minor League managers and first coaches are appointed annually or whenever vacancies occur by the Major league manager and approved by the Board of Directors. Term of office shall be one year and may not exceed the date of the next annual meeting of the Board of Directors.

Rookie League managers and first coaches and other T-Ball league managers and first coaches are appointed annually or whenever vacancies occur by the Development league Vice President and approved by the Board of Directors. Term of office shall be one season and may not exceed the date of the next annual meeting of the Board of Directors.

2nd Coaches at the Major and Minor league level are appointed annually or whenever vacancies occur by the Major league manager and approved by the Board of Directors. Development division 2nd Coaches are appointed annually or whenever vacancies occur by the Development league Vice President on recommendations received by each Development division team manager. Term of office for all 2nd coaches shall be one season and may not exceed the date of the next annual meeting.

Section 4. Advisory Members

Advisory Members shall be appointed by the Senior Vice President annually or as vacancies occur and approved by the Board of Directors. Advisory members are non-voting members of the Board of Directors. Term of office shall be one year but may not exceed the date of the next annual meeting of the Board of Directors and shall include the following officials:

ADVISORY MEMBERS

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Secretary | Manager Representative |
| Equipment Coordinator | Assistant Player Agent |
| Umpire Coordinator | Tournament Coordinator |
| Schedule Coordinator | Safety Officer |

Section 5. Removal

Removal of an officer, director or other member of the League may occur with two-thirds majority vote of a quorum at a regular scheduled meeting of the Board.

Section 6. Voting Authority

Voting Authority is vested solely with the Officers and Directors. An officer or director may exercise one vote and his/her vote may not be replaced or substituted

Section 7. Quorum

A simple majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute the quorum. If less than a majority of the board is present, a majority of the board members present may adjourn the meeting without further notice.

Section 8. Meetings

The Board of Directors shall have regular meetings at such time as the Board may fix by resolution and no additional notice thereof shall be required. The Board shall conduct the annual meeting in October each year. Special meetings may be called by the President or Vice-President or by any 4 members of the Board with written notice delivered to the Vice President at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings.

Section 9. Manner of Acting

The act of a quorum shall be the act of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V - DIVISION STRUCTURE

Section 1. Division Layout

Sterling Little League shall base its operation on the following divisional structure:

- A) Organization Division
 - 1. Major league level Approved ages (10,11,12)
 - 2. Minor league level Approved ages (9,10,11,12)

- B) Development Division
 - 1. Rookie league level Approved ages (8,9,10)
 - 2. Coach Pitch league level Approved ages (7,8,9)
 - 3. T-Ball league level Approved ages (5,6,7)

ARTICLE VI - STRUCTURE of the (ORGANIZATION)

Section 1. Organization Names

Each organization shall split into two teams with the same team name (1) Major team, (1) Minor team. Players are drafted to the organization roster annually.

- 1. Indians 4. Tigers
- 2. Cubs 5. Orioles
- 3. Pirates 6. Yankees

Section 2. Managing and Coaching Structure

- A) The Major League manager shall recruit and appoint the following members for the organization:
 - 1. Major league 1st Coach
 - 2. Minor league Manager
 - 3. Minor league 1st Coach

- B) The Major League manager shall require all candidates listed above to sign the "Organization Volunteer Sheet" provided annually by the Secretary. Signature on this form authorizes the Major League Manager to bring appointment of the candidate to the Board and binds the candidate to the organization after approval by the Board of Directors.

- C) The Major League manager may list 2nd coaches on the coaching roster in recognition of their volunteer effort. 2nd coaches should follow the duty guidelines listed in Article V, section 13 "Other Coaches". Organizations do not retain rights to 2nd coaches or the sons of second coaches.

- D) **The Major League manager and other members of each organization shall annually recruit new volunteers for the Development division. Annually, each organization shall be assigned a Rookie league team to mentor. In return for this effort each organization will be allowed to draw replacement players from this Rookie league team to facilitate temporary player requirements at the Minor league level, per rules and regulations listed in Article XI, Rosters. Mentoring is a key part of League development and is a required assignment for each Major league manager.**

ARTICLE VII - STRUCTURE of the DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

"See" Addendum to these By-Laws: The Development Division Operations Manual

ARTICLE VIII - DUTIES

Section 1. President

The President of Sterling Youth Baseball inc. is the President of Sterling Little League. The President is responsible for reporting the financial affairs of Sterling Youth Baseball Inc to the Sterling Little League Board of Directors.

Section 2. Senior Vice President

- A) Act as operating officer for Sterling Boys Little League
- B) Provide operating oversight to the Development Division of Sterling Boys Little League
- C) Preside over League meetings.
- D) Represent the league as a board member of Sterling Youth Baseball Inc.
- E) Receive and forward all protests to the Protest Committee pursuant to Section 4.19(f) of the 2005 Regulations and Playing Rules Handbook of Little League Baseball Inc.
- F) Record all changes to the Official Little League Rules and Regulations Handbook and distribute changes to all league managers and coaches.
- G) Annually, nominate candidate for each Major League manager position.
- H) Annually, nominate the Manager Representative.
- I) Establish committees necessary for the successful operation of the League.
- J) Approve all trades between consenting teams.

Section 3. Development Vice President

- A) Perform the duties of the Senior Vice President, in absence of Senior Vice President.
- B) Act as operating office for the Sterling Boys Little League Development Division.
- C) Preside over meetings for Development Division
- D) Represent the League as a board member of Sterling Youth Baseball Inc.
- E) Conduct league registration in conjunction with Sterling Youth Baseball
- F) Perform duties as outlined in the Sterling Boys Little League Development Division operations manual, which is an addendum to these By-Laws.

Section 4. Secretary

- A) Record the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors in one or more books provided for that purpose, see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these By-laws.
- B) Keep a record of address for each Board member as furnished by the Board.

Section 5. Player Agent

- A) Conduct league registration in conjunction with Sterling Youth Baseball
- B) Arrange facilities, publish details and conduct tryouts.
- C) Preside over the annual player draft and placement of players.
- D) Maintain all official rosters for Sterling Boys Little League.
- E) Maintain the official player pool.
- F) Serve on the Protest Committee pursuant to Section 4.19(f) of the 2005 Regulations and Playing Rules Handbook of Little League Baseball Inc.

Section 6. Assistant Player Agent

- A) Report to and assist Player Agent with all duties required to accurately maintain roster information for Sterling Boys Little League.
- B) Assist Development Vice President with annual organization of the Development division as outlined in the Development division operations manual, which is an addendum to these By-Laws.

Section 7. Tournament Coordinator

- A) Serve as tournament director for all official League tournaments.
- B) Appoint assistant tournament directors and other tournament volunteers as required, with approval of the Senior Vice President.

Section 8. Schedule Coordinator

- A) Prepare annual schedule of games for all division of Sterling Boys Little League, subject to approval by the Board of Directors.
- B) Schedule all make-up and postponed games

Section 9. Equipment Coordinator

- A) Maintain inventory records of all league equipment and order replacement equipment as necessary.
- B) Provide for repair of defective equipment.
- C) Provide storage in League sponsored facilities for league equipment and uniforms.
- D) Coordinate equipment purchases with Sterling Youth Baseball

Section 10. Manager Representative

- A) Serve as member of the board of directors of Sterling Youth Baseball Board of Directors.
- B) Represent League managers as a board member of Sterling Youth Baseball Inc.
- C) Serve as member of the protest committee pursuant to Section 4.19(f) of the 2005 Regulations and Playing Rules Handbook of Little League Baseball Inc.

Section 11. Umpire Coordinator

- A) Hire and schedule all league umpires.
- B) Educate all umpires on official Little League Rules and regulations and the by-laws of Sterling Little League Baseball.
- C) Serve on Protest Committee pursuant to Section 4.19(f) of the 2005 Regulations and Playing Rules Handbook of Little League Baseball Inc.
- D) Work with the Senior Vice President to keep all league managers and coaches informed of changes to the official Little League Handbook.

Section 12. Safety Officer

- A) Responsible for development and maintenance of the Sterling Little League safety plan.
- B) Responsible for submitting the Sterling Little League safety plan to Little League Baseball inc. for approval.
- C) Must work with Little League Baseball inc. representative to keep the Sterling Little League safety plan in compliance with Little League standards.

Section 13. Major League Manager

- A) Responsible for educating players in the fundamentals of baseball and the rules of good sportsmanship.
- B) Appoint Major and Minor league coaching staff.
- C) Responsible for all uniforms and equipment issued to team and its subsequent return to the League equipment manager at the conclusion of the season.
- D) Responsible for team conduct including players, coaches and parents.
- E) Must keep accurate scorebook records including all pitching records, as mandated by playing rules in the Official Little League Regulations and Rules Handbook.
- F) Must keep accurate team player roster and report all roster changes to the Player Agent in writing.
- G) Must inform released player(s) of the annual League tryouts, including the date, time and place.
- H) Must inform walk-ons from the previous season of the annual League tryouts, including the date, time and place.
- I) Must collect all properly completed registration forms and team registration fees and all other fees required by the Board of Directors.
- J) Must submit a pre-draft roster for organizational unit to the Player Agent 7 days before the scheduled tryout date. Must submit organizations final player roster to the Player Agent no later than 7 days prior to the first scheduled League game.
- K) Responsible for verifying opposing manager's scorebook including signoff of pitching records after every game. Record shall include pitcher name and innings pitched.

Section 14. Minor League Manager

- A) Responsible for educating team members in the fundamentals of baseball and the rules of good sportsmanship.
- B) Responsible for all uniforms and equipment issued and its subsequent return to the League Equipment manager at the conclusion of the season.
- C) Responsible for team conduct including players, coaches and parents.
- D) Must keep accurate scorebook records including all pitching records, as mandated by playing rules found in the Official Little League Rules and Regulations handbook.
- E) Must keep accurate team player roster and report all roster changes to the Major league manager.
- F) Must assist the Major league manager with collection of all properly completed registration forms and team registration fees and all other fees required by the Board of Directors.
- G) Responsible for verifying opposing manager's scorebook including signoff of pitching records after every game. Record shall include pitcher name and innings pitched.

Section 15. Other Coaches

- A) Responsible for educating team members in the fundamentals of baseball and the rules of good sportsmanship.
- B) Responsible to assist the team manager.
- C) Responsible for team conduct including players, coaches and parents.

ARTICLE IX - PLAYER POOL AND WALK-ON'S

Section 1. Player Pool

All non-roster Little League players returning properly completed registration forms become a member of the player pool. Players remain in the player pool until:

- B) Roster assignment via the annual player selection draft (Major or Minor level).
- C) Assignment by Player Agent (Organization Division).
- D) Assignment by Assistant Player Agent (Development Division).

Section 2. Standard Assignment Procedure

- A) To accommodate Late Registrants and when otherwise necessary the Late Registrant shall be assigned to a roster using the following criteria:
 - 1. Organization with lowest roster total
 - 2. Team with lowest roster total
 - 3. Player age (replacing lost player with player of equal age or the next oldest age group)
 - 4. Most recent draft order (offering each team a player before returning to the top of the order)
 - 5. Player Agent discretion
 - 6. Assistant Player Agent discretion
- B) The Player Agent handles player assignment for the Organization division. The Assistant Player Agent handles player assignment for the Development division.
- C) The Major League manager may refuse player assignment. If all Major League managers refuse player assignment the Player Agent, at his/her discretion, may assign the Late Registrant to any organization and the organization must accept the player. Development division teams may not refuse player assignment.

Section 3. Late Registrant

The candidate who submits a properly completed registration form after the Tryout date and who is not otherwise ineligible.

- A) Late Registrant, League age 11 or 12 shall be designated with Walk-on status and placed on a Major or Minor League team by the Player Agent. The Player Agent shall offer the player to an organization using standard assignment procedure.
- B) Late Registrants League age 10 shall be eligible for assignment at the Minor league level based on a talent evaluation. The initial recommendation should be to assign the player to the Rookie League, however the talent evaluation should be the basis for the final assignment decision by the Player Agent. If the 10-year-old is assigned to a minor league roster the Organization does not retain rights to this player the following season. The 10-year-old must attend tryouts the following season at age 11 and cannot be protected as a walk-on.
- C) Late Registrant, League age 5 through 9 is not eligible for Walk-on status and will be placed on a Development Division team for the remainder of the current season.
- D) In the season following assignment a Late Registrant who is eligible by age for tryouts must attend tryouts and be subject to selection in the annual player selection draft.

Section 4. Free Agent

Major or Minor League player whose rights were held by a team, but is no longer held by any team.

- A) A player released by the Major League Manager before tryouts shall be considered a Free Agent and must attend tryouts for assignment via the annual player selection draft.
- B) A player released after tryouts of the current year and before June 3rd who submits a properly completed registration form shall be considered a Free Agent and may be placed in the player pool for assignment by the Player Agent as a Walk-on.
- C) Players may not declare their status. Only the Major League manager or Player Agent can release a player from a roster.**

Section 5. Walk-on

Late Registrant; League age 11 or 12.

- A) The Organization shall retain rights to the Walk-on for the remainder of the current season. The Walk-on must attend tryouts the following year. If the Walk-on does not attend tryouts the following year, his status as a Walk-on ends and he may not participate as a player in the season following assignment. A player may petition the Board of Directors in writing requesting reassignment. The Senior Vice President shall call a special meeting of the Board of Directors to address the petition. If the Board grants a petition for re-assignment the player shall be reassigned using standard assignment procedure.
- B) A player with Walk-on status who complies with requirements in Article 9, section 5A may be retained by his current organization in the season following assignment. The Organization may exercise the "Right of First Refusal" in the next player selection draft using the organizations regular fourth round draft choice or the next available draft choice after the regular 4th round selection if the regular 4th round choice is unavailable.**

ARTICLE X - TRADES

Section 1. Trading Regulations

- A) Trades may be made between consenting Organizations between January 1st and the date of the first regularly scheduled game.
- B) All trades must be submitted in writing to the Senior Vice President and Player Agent. The Senior Vice President must approve all trades.
- C) Future draft picks may not be traded. Both First and Second round picks may not be traded in the same season.
- D) The Organization may not trade unexercisable draft picks. EXAMPLE: If the official roster limit is 24 and organization "A" recorded 19 players on its pre-draft roster, 5 players would need to be drafted to complete a 24 player roster for this organization. If organization "A" completes the 24-player roster by selecting players in round 1 thru 5 then organization "A" cannot trade draft picks from round 6 through the last round.
- E) A team must obtain advance approval from the Senior Vice President to discuss a player trade if the player in question has a parent who is recognized as a Manager or Coach. With appropriate approval, consenting teams may negotiate compensation however the minimum compensation shall be the "player" for a 1st round draft choice. Additional compensation may be negotiated beyond a 1st round selection as long as all other Trade regulations are followed. Parent-(Manager\Coach) of traded player must resign his/her coaching position for the remainder of the season. **This type of trade is not encouraged.**
- F) The Player Agent shall announce all trades between consenting teams before the supplemental draft. After announcement the Player Agent will:
 - 1. Adjust roster sizes for teams involved.
 - 2. Note on the draft tally sheet any draft picks involved in the trade.

ARTICLE XI - ROSTERS

Section 1. Organization Pre-Draft Rosters

- A) Each Major League manager must submit a Pre-Draft roster to the Player Agent no later than 7 days before the scheduled tryout date. This roster shall contain the names and ages of all players retained on the organizational roster from the previous season. Walk-on players must be listed on the Pre-Draft roster separately and distinctly.
- B) Little League Baseball allows each Major league roster to record up to a total of 8 players, league age twelve. Since Organizations within Sterling Little League occasionally have more than 8 players, league age 12, it shall be an annual requirement to declare "status" for every 12 year old player. To facilitate accurate record keeping the Major league manager must include on the pre-draft roster an indicator declaring "Protection Status", for each 12-year-old player. Eight or fewer players marked protected must be retained on the Final Major League roster. Players recorded on a Major league roster at league age 11 who return to participate as a 12-year-old player must be listed as a "Protected" 12-year-old player.
- C) The Major league manager may elect not to protect an eligible 12-year-old player on the Pre-draft roster. The Player Agent shall review each pre-draft roster and record all unprotected 12-year-old players. At the appropriate time per these By-laws each un-protected 12-year-old player must be made available for selection by any other team during the annual Supplemental Draft.
- D) Changes to a Pre-Draft Roster may be made at any time prior to the start of the Supplemental Draft, by notifying the Player Agent in writing. Once the Supplemental Draft starts no changes can be made to the Pre-Draft roster.

Section 2. Organization Final Team Roster

Each Major league manager shall submit a final organizational roster to the Player Agent no later than 7 days before the first scheduled league game. This final roster must indicate the Name, Address, Phone Number, Birth Date, Age and level of play (Major or Minor) for each player.

Section 3. Organization Roster Size Calculation - Major and Minor Levels

- A) Roster size for each organization shall be officially set at 23. Each organization shall record 11 players on the Major League roster and 12 players on the Minor League roster.
- B) To retain operational flexibility the Board of Directors may annually elect to modify the official roster number only if the total number of available participants will not support the official standard roster size of 23 per Organization. The Board of Directors may raise or lower roster size utilizing the chart located in this section.
- C) The annual size of the Minor League roster shall always be equal to or greater than the corresponding Major League roster.
- D) After the draft and during the season the Player Agent may increase the roster size of any organization past the official limit to accommodate a walk-on from the player pool. The Player Agent shall assign players using standard assignment procedure, defined in Article IX Section 2 (Player Pool and Walk-on's)

Formula is (Sum) of returning Major and Minor players and Tryout players divided by (6) - (six organizations)

| Organization Roster Size Guidelines – Major and Minor: | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------------|
| Total # of Candidates | Organization Major Roster Total | Team | Minor Team | |
| 126 | 21 | 10 | 11 | |
| 132 | 22 | 11 | 11 | |
| 138 | 23 | 11 | 12 | Official |
| 144 | 24 | 12 | 12 | |
| 150 | 25 | 12 | 13 | |
| 156 | 26 | 13 | 13 | |
| 162 | ADD ANOTHER TEAM | | | |

Section 4. Rookie League Roster Size Calculation

- A) "See" The Development Division operations manual addendum to these By-Laws

Section 5. T-Ball Roster Size Calculation

- A) "See" The Development Division operations manual addendum to these By-Laws

Section 6. Major and Minor Roster Regulations

It is the responsibility of each Major League manager to notify the Player Agent in writing when roster openings occur within the respective organization.

- A) All 11 and 12-year-olds must be listed on a Major or Minor League roster. They may not participate at the Rookie League level without approval of the Board of Directors.
- B) For reason of illness, injury, vacation, etc., the Major league team cannot field more than 9 players, a temporary replacement player from the Minor affiliated roster may be used as a substitute. All player participation rules must be observed. The parents must grant permission.
- C) For reason of illness, injury, vacation, etc., the Minor league team cannot field more than 9 players, a temporary replacement player from the Rookie league level may be called up. The call up period must not exceed more than three games during the current season. One inning constitutes a game. All player participation rules must be observed. Rookie league players are not allowed to pitch at the Minor league level. The parents must grant permission.
- D) For reason of illness or injury the Major league manager may place a player on the minimum 21-day inactive list. The Major league manager must send written notice to the Player Agent who will record the effective date of the transaction. While on the inactive list a player may not participate in a regular season game but may practice with the team. A Player on the inactive list does not count against the organization roster total. The Major League manager must send a player replacement request in writing to the Player Agent. The Player Agent will assign a player from the player pool if a player is available. The replacement player counts against the organization roster total and the organization may not expand its roster size past the current official roster limit to accommodate return of the inactive player to the active roster. The organization must wait for roster spot availability before returning the inactive player to the active roster. Only the Player Agent can assign players from the player pool to a roster.
- E) When permanent player replacement is necessary the Major League manager may promote a player from a lower level to a higher level or send a written request for permanent replacement to the Player Agent. The Player Agent shall draw a replacement player from the player pool
- F) Players permanently promoted to a higher level of play may not be demoted during the players Little League career.
- G) The Organization may retain rights to existing players who are otherwise eligible but elect not to submit a properly completed registration form. The Organization must count all unregistered players against the roster total. Organizations may retain the unregistered player on the roster until 7 days prior to tryouts the following season when the player must be dropped or a properly completed registration form submitted to the Player Agent. The Player Agent shall automatically release a player from the roster who does not comply with this regulation. The Player Agent must notify the Major Manager when an automatic release is executed.

Section 7. Rookie League Roster Regulations

- A) 9 and 10 year old players attending tryouts but not selected in the annual player draft must be passed to the Development division and placed on a Rookie league roster.
- B) "See" The Development Division operations manual addendum to these By-Laws

Section 8. T-Ball Roster Regulations

- A) "See" The Development Division operations manual addendum to these By-Laws

ARTICLE XII - TRYOUTS AND DRAFT

Section 1. Tryouts

Managers and coaches may not be appointed, nominated or approved by the Board of Directors during the calendar period, which is seven days before the scheduled Tryout date. Appointments and nominations may resume at any regular meeting of the Board subsequent to completion of the annual player selection draft.

The Player Agent shall conduct tryouts annually for candidates with a League age of 9, 10, 11 or 12.

- A) All eligible players are required to attend tryouts at least once during their Little League career.
- B) Standard first year of Tryout eligibility is the 9th year of age as calculated by player age on April 30th in the current season. Candidates normally tryout once however, circumstances could change the number of times a player must Tryout. Example: If a candidate attends tryouts at age 9 or 10 and is not selected the player will be assigned to the Rookie League for the current season. The un-drafted player must attend tryouts again the following season. If a player quits and is released by an organization but elects to play again the following season then additional Tryout requirements would be necessary to return to the League.
- C) Approved Managers and 1st Coaches retain the option of sending their son through tryouts but are not required to do so. All new players including sons of managers and coaches must return a properly completed registration form and be included on the Tryout Roster Sheet.

Section 2. Player Selection Draft

The annual player selection draft shall be considered a regular meeting of the board and normal business may be considered up to the start of the Supplemental Draft. Once the Supplemental Draft starts no new business can be considered and changes to these Bylaws are not allowed until conclusion of the annual Player Selection Draft.

It shall be the clear purpose of the player selection draft to provide advantage to teams with the lowest won/loss percentage.

- A) The Annual Player Selection Draft shall be conducted by round, beginning with the first round continuing until all prospective players have been drafted or until every team has reached the maximum roster limit.
- B) Players, league age 9, 10, 11 or 12 shall be eligible for the player selection draft.
- C) A Player attending tryouts at league age 11 or 12 must be drafted. All 11 and 12 year old players must be recorded on a Major or Minor League roster.
- D) A Player attending tryouts at league age 9 or 10, who isn't drafted must be returned to the player pool for assignment to the Development Division at the Rookie League level.

Section 3. Rights to Protection

- A) Organizations receive the "Player Right of First Refusal" to select sons of members holding the following coaching staff positions:
 - 1. Major League Manager
 - 2. Major League 1st Coach
 - 3. Minor League Manager
 - 4. Minor League 1st Coach
- B) To qualify for "Player Right of First Refusal" the new coaching staff member must serve at the same level of play and the same team in which his/her son participates and the new member must be properly approved by the Board of Directors in accordance with Article XII, Section 1.
New member is defined as: Any Manager or 1st Coach who is not listed on the official coaching roster from the previous season.
- C) Organizations do not receive "Rights of First Refusal" to draft sons of 2nd Coaches (all levels), Rookie League Manager and Rookie League 1st Coach.

Section 4. Draft Order

Draft order shall be determined by the won/loss percentage method. Before the annual Player Selection Draft the Vice President will announce the previous season record of each Major League team and the associated won/loss percentage. Won/Loss percentage shall be calculated by dividing total team wins by the sum of total wins and losses. The team with the lowest percentage shall draft 1st. The team with the 2nd lowest percentage shall draft 2nd, continuing until all teams are slotted. In the event of ties, head to head competition between tied teams shall decide the order of selection. The team losing head to head competition shall receive the higher draft selection. In the event head to head competition does not provide a clear determination of draft order a coin toss involving the tied teams shall determine draft order. The team winning the coin toss shall receive the higher draft selection. In the event of three ways ties use of a draw instead of a coin flip is acceptable.

Section 5. Supplemental Draft

It shall be a mandate of the League to provide opportunity for 12-year-old players to participate at the highest level possible. All un-protected 12-year-old players listed on a Pre-Draft roster are eligible for the Supplemental Draft.

- A) Before the regular draft, a Supplemental Draft of all un-protected 12-year-old players shall be conducted. The Supplemental Draft shall be executed using the following procedure:
 - 1. Un-Protected 12-year-old players shall be listed alphabetically and their name read by the Player Agent.
 - 2. Each team in draft order shall be given the opportunity to claim the 12-year-old player and immediately promote the player to the Major League roster. Compensation is not required.
 - 3. The Player Agent will adjust the roster of both teams and continue the Supplemental Draft until all un-protected 12-year-old players have been presented.
- B) A 12-year-old player unclaimed during the Supplemental Draft shall remain on the roster of his original organization. At the discretion of the Major League manager the unclaimed 12-year-old may be recorded on the Major or Minor league roster for the remainder of the current season. Once permanently promoted to the Major league level a player can not be demoted.

Section 6. Protecting Players on the Draft Tally Sheet

- A) Prior to starting the Draft, each Organization may exercise the "Right of First Refusal" to select sons of managers and 1st coaches who qualify under Article XII section 3 (Tryouts and Draft). The organization may select the son by recording his name on the draft tally sheet using the first available draft pick, continuing with the next available draft pick until all sons have been recorded on the draft tally sheet.
- B) The organization may select a Brother of a player currently listed on the organization pre-draft roster. The brother candidate must attend tryouts. The organization may record the name of the brother candidate on the draft tally sheet prior to the start of the draft beginning with the first available selection in the fourth round. The organization may continue to select brothers in the same manner with the next available draft pick in round four or subsequent rounds, until all brothers are recorded.
- C) When two or more brothers tryout in the same season they may be drafted by the same organization. Example: When brother "A" is drafted and before the next draft selection the Player Agent shall offer to the Major League manager the opportunity to select brother "B" utilizing the organizations regular fourth round draft pick or the next available draft pick after the regular 4th round selection if the regular 4th round selection is not available. This process may be repeated with each additional brother. The organization is not required to draft a brother and the Major League manager may accept or refuse the opportunity.

Section 7. Draft Procedure - Starting and Ending the Draft

1. Announce roster count for each organization (minus Walk-on players)
2. Announce Trades and adjust roster count
3. Record traded draft picks on the Draft Tally Sheet
4. Provide last opportunity to change Pre-Draft rosters
5. Conduct Supplemental Draft
6. Adjust roster count of each team to reflect results of Supplemental Draft
- 7. Announce final count of Tryout candidates**
- 8. Announce total number of returning players** (Total from step #6)
9. Sum the numbers from steps #7 and #8. Divide total by the number of teams
10. Reference results from #9 and compare to guidelines outlined in Article XI section 3, to make sure available numbers will work.
11. It is highly recommended that roster size be left unmodified at 23 players.
The league may annually entertain a motion to modify organizational roster size. A two third majority vote of the quorum is required to modify the standard 23 player roster limit, per regulations in Article XV – Amendments.
12. Announce Official Roster size
13. Subtract current roster of each team (step 6) from the results in #12
- 14. Announce count of players each team must draft to reach official roster limit**
15. Conduct Draft until each team reaches result from #13
- 16. Reminder: All 11-12 year old players must be drafted. Pause draft after round 3 to examine the count of remaining 11 and 12 year old players. Total number of remaining 11 and 12 year old players can not exceed the total number of draft selections remaining to be executed.**
17. Continue Draft
- 18. Send un-drafted players League age 9 or 10 to the Development Division player pool for assignment to the Rookie League.**

ARTICLE XIII - TOURNAMENTS

Section 1. Team Organization

Little League Baseball Inc. recognizes three official tournament teams: 11-12-year old Major league tournament team, 10-11-year-old Major league tournament team and a 9-10-year-old Minor league tournament team.

- A) The League shall provide a Major league tournament team for participation in the annual Little League World Series playoff. This team shall be recognized as the official Sterling Major League tournament team. The Major league tournament team shall be comprised of players' league ages 11 and 12.
- B) The League may, upon recommendation by the Senior Vice President or Player Agent and upon approval by the Board of Directors form the 10-11-year-old Major league tournament team comprised of players' age 10 or 11.
- C) The League may, upon recommendation by the Senior Vice President or Player Agent and upon approval by the Board of Directors form a 9-10-year-old Minor league tournament team comprised of players' age 9 and 10.
- D) The League may, upon recommendation by the Senior Vice President or Player Agent and upon approval by the Board of Directors, form additional tournament teams that are not recognized by Little League Baseball Inc. These additional tournament teams may participate in any post-season tournament officially recognized by the Board of Directors. From the pool or remaining candidates the Senior Vice President shall appoint Managers for each additional tournament team.
- E) Under no circumstances shall a Sterling Little League player participate on more than one tournament team in a calendar season.

Section 2. Tournament Team Coaching Staff

- A) 11-12-year-old Major League Tournament Manager. The 11-12-year-old Major League tournament team manager shall be selected from a pool of Major league managers and 1st coaches. To qualify as manager the member must have completed a minimum of 6 regular season games as manager or coach before June 3rd of the current season.
 - a. Qualified members shall be placed on a ballot certified by the Senior Vice President. The Senior Vice President shall present this ballot to each Major League director and Officer by May 15th. Major League Directors and Officers shall mark their ballot by voting for one primary candidate and one alternate candidate. Directors and Officers shall return their ballot to the Senior Vice President by May 20th for tabulation. The Major League tournament team manager and first alternate shall be announced by the Senior Vice President by May 22nd.
 - b. The tournament team manager with approval of the Senior Vice President shall select each assistant coach.
- B) 10-11-year-old Major League Tournament Manager. The 10-11-year-old Major League tournament team manager shall be selected from a pool of Major and Minor league, managers and Major and Minor league 1st coaches. To qualify as manager the member must have completed a minimum of 6 regular season games as manager or coach before June 3rd of the current season.
 - a. Qualified members shall be placed on a ballot certified by the Senior Vice President. The Senior Vice President shall present this ballot to each Major League director and Officer by May 15th. Major League Directors and Officers shall mark their ballot by voting for one primary candidate and one alternate candidate. Directors and Officers shall return their ballot to the Senior Vice President by May 20th for tabulation. The tournament team manager and first alternate shall be announced by the Senior Vice President by May 22nd.
 - b. The tournament team manager with approval of the Senior Vice President shall select each assistant coach.
- C) 9-10 year old Minor League Tournament Manager. The 9-10-year-old Minor League tournament team manager shall be selected from a pool of Minor League managers and 1st coaches. To qualify as manager the member must have completed a minimum of 6 regular season games as manager or coach before June 3rd of the current season.
 - a. Qualified members shall be placed on a ballot certified by the Senior Vice President. The Senior Vice President shall present this ballot to each Minor League director and Officer by May 15th. Minor League Directors and Officers shall mark their ballot by voting for one primary candidate and one alternate candidate. Directors and Officers shall return their ballot to the Senior Vice President by May 20th for tabulation. The tournament team manager and first alternate shall be announced by the Senior Vice President by May 22nd.
 - b. The tournament team manager with approval of the Senior Vice President shall select each assistant coach.
- D) In the event a manager is unavailable the first alternate manager shall be asked to serve. In the event the first alternate manager cannot server a manager shall be appointed by the Senior Vice President.

Section 3. Tournament Team Players

- A) Under no circumstances shall a Sterling Little League player participate on more than one tournament team in a calendar season.
- B) 11-12-year-old Major League Players. The 11-12-year-old Major League tournament team player shall be selected from a pool of 11 and 12 year old players who are members of a Major league roster.
- a. The tournament team manager shall have sole authority to select a final player roster from the pool of eligible candidates, up to the roster limit allowed by Little League Baseball Inc.
 - b. The tournament team manager may utilize one of three player selection methods as listed below:
 1. Tryout method
 2. Direct selection method
 3. Ballot method
 - c. The tournament team manager must announce the player selection method to the Senior Vice President by June 3rd and complete selection of the 11-12-year-old Major league tournament roster by June 7th. Announcement of the official tournament roster to players and the general public must not take place until June 15th. Other tournament team managers may be notified by June 7th.
 - d. The tournament team manager must complete and submit in timely fashion all tournament paperwork required by Sterling Little League or Little League Baseball Inc.
- C) 10-11-year-old Major League Players. The 10-11-year-old Major League tournament team player shall be selected from the pool of 10 and 11-year-old players who are members of a Major or Minor league roster.
- a. The tournament team manager shall have sole authority to select a final player roster from the pool of eligible candidates, up to the roster limit allowed by Little League Baseball Inc.
 - b. The tournament team manager may utilize one of three player selection methods as listed below:
 1. Tryout method
 2. Direct selection method
 3. Ballot method
 - c. The tournament team manager must announce the player selection method to the Senior Vice President by June 3rd and complete selection of the 10-11-year-old Major league tournament roster by June 13th. Announcement of the official tournament roster to players and the general public must not take place until June 15th.
 - d. The tournament team manager must complete and submit in timely fashion all tournament paperwork required by Sterling Little League or Little League Baseball Inc.
- D) 9-10 year old Minor League Players. The 9-10-year-old Minor League tournament team player shall be selected from the pool of remaining players league age 9 or 10 who are members of a Major or Minor league roster.
- a. The tournament team manager shall have sole authority to select a final player roster from the pool of eligible candidates, up to the roster limit allowed by Little League Baseball Inc.
 - b. The tournament team manager may utilize one of three methods listed below:
 1. Tryout method
 2. Direct selection method
 3. Ballot method
 - c. The tournament team manager must announce the player selection method to the Senior Vice President by June 3rd and complete selection of the 9-10-year-old Minor league tournament roster by June 15th. Announcement of the official tournament roster to players and the general public must not take place until June 15th.
 - d. The tournament team manager must complete and submit in timely fashion all tournament paperwork required by Sterling Little League or Little League Baseball Inc.
- E) All other tournament team managers shall select players for additional tournament teams from the remaining pool of eligible candidates.
- a. Each tournament team manager shall have sole authority to select the final player roster from the pool of eligible candidates. Cooperation should be extended to other tournament managers during the player selection process and mutual agreement should resolve possible player selection issues.
 - b. The tournament team manager must submit in timely fashion all tournament paperwork required by the tournament sponsor.
 - c. The tournament team manager must submit requests for payment of tournament registration fees in a timely fashion to Sterling Youth Baseball or the Senior Vice President.

ARTICLE XIV – GROUND RULES and PLAYING RULES

Section 1. Ground Rules for all Levels

Diamonds 1 and 2

- A) Area within the Dugout is considered “out of play”. Area within the Bullpen is considered “out of play”. All other area within the confines of the fenced-in field of play shall be considered “in play” area.
- B) All coaches must remain inside the dugout when the ball is in play, except when occupying a coaching box on the field of play.
- C) On-deck batters must remain in the on-deck area provided, until their time at bat.
- D) Fairly batted or thrown ball lodging in the fence, is not out of play until a player signals the umpire. If a defensive player touches a fairly batted or thrown ball while lodged in the fence and before the umpire has called timeout, the ball remains live and in-play.
- E) Foul balls should be returned to the first base dugout for subsequent return to the umpire crew at the first dead ball opportunity.
- F) The umpire crew shall retrieve two game balls from the concession-stand operator prior to the start of each game. At the conclusion of the game the umpire crew shall issue a ball to each team.

Diamonds 3, 4, 5, 6

- A) Follow all Ground Rules used for Diamonds 1 and 2 in section 4 parts A-F, substituting “home team manager” for “Umpire Crew” in part F.
- B) The out of play boundary line for diamonds 3,4,5,6 shall be the backstop “extended”.

Section 2. Major League Playing Rules

- A) The Major League shall observe the playing rules as outlined in the official Little League Regulations and Rules Handbook. If bylaws of the League conflict with official Little League Regulations or Rules, the Sterling Little League bylaws shall govern.
- B) A continuous batting order will be used for the entire season.
- C) Free substitutions on defense will be used for the entire season, except Pitchers. Managers and Coaches must follow all Little League pitching regulations as stated in the Little League handbook.
- D) The Ten Run Rule as stated in the Little League Handbook is mandatory.
- E) Early games must start at 5:30 p.m. and must not proceed past 7:30 p.m. regardless of score or game status. Managers should have their team removed from the dugout by 7:40 p.m.
- F) Late games must start by (8:00 p.m.) or 40 minutes after conclusion of the early game whichever time is first. Late games must not proceed past 10:00 p.m. regardless of score or game status.
- G) When a game is stopped due to Curfew, Light failure or Weather both managers should verify scorebooks and reference the following regulations:
 - 1. When a team has a lead at the end of 4 complete innings the game is over and a winner declared. Incomplete innings are not counted in the box score or used to determine game score or status.
 - 2. When 1 or more but less than 4 innings have been completed, the game must resume from the exact point at which play was suspended. The game should resume prior to the start of the next regular meeting between the same teams, when this is not possible resumption of the game should be scheduled on the earliest available make-up date. Note: The Schedule coordinator is responsible for re-scheduling all make-up and suspended games.
 - 3. When a game remains tied after completion of 1 inning, the game must be resumed from the exact point at which play was suspended. The game should resume prior to the start of the next regular meeting between the same teams, when this is not possible resumption of the game should be scheduled on the earliest available make-up date. Note: The Schedule coordinator is responsible for re-scheduling all make-up and suspended games.
 - 4. When a game has not completed 1 Inning, the game shall be declared “no-contest”. The game must be resumed from the beginning on the earliest available make-up date. Note: The Schedule coordinator is responsible for re-scheduling all make-up and suspended games.
- H) The official time clock will be managed by the Concession Stand operator. Managers should refer questions regarding rule 4.10 to the Senior Vice President. Games eligible for rescheduling should be re-scheduled to precede the next game between the same opponents or on a date determined by the Schedule Coordinator.
- I) Coaches may occupy one or both coaching boxes on the field of play provided an approved Manager or Coach supervises the bench.
- J) A team that cannot field nine players may, without penalty, start the game with eight players. A team that cannot field eight players by the official game time must forfeit that game by a score of 6-0. The game will not be re-scheduled. If a team starts the game with eight players and additional players arrive, each player must be assigned the last position in the lineup.
- K) A player may be removed from the batting order for reasons of illness, injury or absence, without penalty to the team. A player once removed from the batting order may return to the batting order in the same batting order position listed at the start of the game.
- L) In cases where a team player is not available to warm up the pitcher, a manager or coach may do so. Pitchers are limited to the number of warm up pitches that can be completed within 2 minutes from the time of the third out in the previous half inning.
- M) Manager must verify all players are in compliance with current Little League safety rules and regulations.

Section 3. Minor League Playing Rules

- N) The Minor league shall observe the playing rules as outlined in the official Little League Regulations and Rules Handbook. If any bylaws of the League conflict with official Little League Regulations or Rules, the Sterling Little League bylaws shall govern.
- O) A continuous batting order will be used for the entire season.
- P) Free substitutions on defense will be used for the entire season, except Pitchers. Managers and Coaches must follow all Little League pitching regulations as stated in the Little League handbook.
- Q) The Ten Run Rule as stated in the Little League Handbook is Mandatory.
- R) Early games (5:30 p.m. start) shall not proceed past 7:30 p.m. regardless of score or game status. Managers should have team removed from the dugout by 7:40 p.m.
- S) Late games must start by (8:00 p.m.) or 40 minutes after conclusion of the early game, whichever time is first. Late games shall not proceed past 10:00 p.m. regardless of score or game status.
- T) When a game is stopped due to Curfew, Light failure or Weather both managers should verify scorebooks and reference the following regulations:
 - 1. When a team has a lead at the end of 4 complete innings the game is over and a winner declared. Incomplete innings are not counted in the box score or used to determine game score or status.
 - 2. When 1 or more but less than 4 innings have been completed, the game must resume from the exact point at which play was suspended. The game should resume prior to the start of the next regular meeting between the same teams, when this is not possible resumption of the game should be scheduled on the earliest available make-up date. Note: The Schedule coordinator is responsible for re-scheduling all make-up and suspended games.
 - 3. When a game remains tied after completion of 1 inning, the game must be resumed from the exact point at which play was suspended. The game should resume prior to the start of the next regular meeting between the same teams, when this is not possible resumption of the game should be scheduled on the earliest available make-up date. Note: The Schedule coordinator is responsible for re-scheduling all make-up and suspended games.
 - 4. When a game has not completed 1 Inning, the game shall be declared "no-contest". The game must be resumed from the beginning on the earliest available make-up date. Note: The Schedule coordinator is responsible for re-scheduling all make-up and suspended games.
- U) The official time clock will be managed by the Concession Stand operator. Managers should refer questions regarding rule 4.10 to the Senior Vice President. Games eligible for rescheduling should be re-scheduled to precede the next game between the same opponents or on a date determined by the Schedule Coordinator.
- V) Coaches may occupy one or both coaching boxes on the field of play provided an approved Manager or Coach supervises the bench.
- W) A team that cannot field nine players may, without penalty, start the game with eight players. A team that cannot field eight players by official game time must forfeit that game by a score of 6-0. The game will not be re-scheduled. If a team starts the game with eight players and additional players arrive, each player must assume the last position in the lineup.
- X) A player may be removed from the batting order for reasons of illness, injury or absence, without penalty to the team. A player once removed from the batting order may return to the batting order in the same batting order position listed at the start of the game.
- Y) In cases where a team player is not available to warm up the pitcher, a manager or coach may do so. Pitchers are limited to 8 warm up pitches or the number of pitches that can be completed within 2 minutes from the third out in the previous half inning if this number is less than 8.
- Z) 12-year-old players are not allowed to pitch at the Minor level.
- AA) Manager must verify all players are in compliance with current Little League safety rules and regulations.
- BB) **Maximum runs for each team at bat is 5 runs per inning.**

