



## Hamilton Fairfield Little League By-Laws

Revised 12/4/19

### 1. Board of Directors

- 1.1.1 President
- 1.1.2 Vice-President
- 1.1.3 Secretary
- 1.1.4 Treasurer
- 1.1.5 Player Agent
- 1.1.6 Safety Officer
- 1.1.7 League Information Officer
- 1.1.8 Tee Ball Division Director
- 1.1.9 Coach Pitch Division Director
- 1.1.10 Minors Division Director
- 1.1.11 Majors Division Director
- 1.1.12 Girls Softball Director
- 1.1.13 Umpire Coordinator

- 1.2 The job descriptions as outlined in Article VI of the Hamilton Fairfield Little League Constitution are valid with the clarifications listed in the 2020 Hamilton Fairfield Little League Board Descriptions document.

### 2. Player Evaluations

- 2.1 All players in all divisions (except t-ball) will attend an evaluation session where they will be scored in three categories. Players will be given a rating for each area and these ratings will be provided to managers at the time of the draft to assist with their evaluation. All managers are highly encouraged to attend the evaluations and make their own determination of a player's strengths and areas for improvement. The categories evaluated consist of: Hitting, Fielding, and Throwing.
- 2.2 Any player who achieves an advanced rating in their current age division may be considered for "playing up" one division. This is determined with manager evaluation. Player Agent and parent approval is required.

### 3. Draft

- 3.1 All Baseball Divisions (except T-ball):
  - 3.1.1 The standard draft type with a 'Plan A' draft procedure will be used (Operating Manual).
  - 3.1.2 Managers will draw numbers to determine the order of the draft. The team with the fewest players prior to the draft (with returning players and options), will draft first regardless of their draft position. The team with the next fewest players will then draft etc. until each team has equal number of players.
  - 3.1.3 Options: Up to four (4) options are available to each manager in the Coach Pitch and Minors divisions. These options must be taken in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> rounds of the



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draft. *Reminder: Managers may not roster more than 8 players from a specific age group.*

- 3.1.4 One (1) manager's child is considered as an automatic option not included in the above four options. One (1) assistant coach's child is considered an automatic option same as the manager's child.
- 3.1.5 Sibling options will follow the Little League rules including optioned siblings.
- 3.1.6 All options **must** be submitted **in writing** to the Player Agent at least **48 hours prior to evaluations**. If they are not submitted in writing, then they will not be considered as an option. Parental consent will need to be confirmed in writing with for each option. **Player options must be registered to play prior to being approved as an option.**
- 3.1.7 Players will be assigned numbers at the draft. Players will be identified at the draft by their number. The player's names will not be disclosed until after they are drafted.
- 3.1.8 All players that are not evaluated or register after the draft are blind drafted. Late registrations will be added in draft order to a roster by the Player Agent. (based on where the draft ended and roster size)
- 3.1.9 Each player drafted or optioned by a Majors, Juniors or Seniors division team will remain with that team for the duration of their career in that division. The player can only be traded or released by mutual agreement of the parents, manager, and player agent. For a returning team, if there is no manager to coach the team, the Board of Directors may dissolve the team and place the players back into the draft.
- 3.1.10 A new manager to the Majors, Juniors or Seniors division will have the option of taking over an existing team if the prior manager of that team is no longer a manager in that division. The new manager will have only one (1) child option and one (1) assistant coach's child option. A new manager to the Majors or Juniors division may elect to start a new team in that division and the manager will have the same options outlined above in 3.1.3, 3.1.4, and 3.1.5.
- 3.1.11 A returning manager to the Majors, Juniors or Seniors division has only one (1) child option and one (1) assistant coach's child option. A returning manager to the Majors, Juniors or Seniors cannot take over another existing/returning team nor start a new team in the same division.
- 3.2 Tee Ball Division:
  - 3.2.1 Each manager has unlimited options up to the maximum player limit per team for that season.
  - 3.2.2 All players in the Tee Ball division that are not optioned will be blind drafted by the Player Agent. Managers are invited to attend the blind draw.
  - 3.2.3 Rosters for Tee Ball will be kept to approximately 8 players.
- 3.3 All Softball Divisions:



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- 3.3.1 All softball divisions will have the same options available as outlined with the respective baseball divisions.

### 4. Governing Rules – Baseball and Softball

- 4.1 The Little League 2020 Official Regulations and Playing Rules apply to all HFLL divisions except where special rules defined herein and/or HFLL policies take precedence. The combined rules apply to all games held on HFLL fields. The HFLL Board of Directors reserves the right to grant exceptions to the rules where it is deemed to be in the best interest of the league.
- 4.2 The only division that may have an “On Deck” batter is the Juniors division. No swinging bats outside dugouts. All players must remain in the dugouts when not batting or on the playing field.
- 4.3 No hitting sticks or any other hitting tools will be allowed during the game by the coaching staff or players.
- 4.4 Protective gear (cups) are required for all catchers and recommended to be worn by all infielders from the Minors division and up.
- 4.5 With 2 outs, the catcher, continuing from the previous half inning, can be replaced on the bases with a player that is not in the game or the player who made the last batted out. This is to allow the catcher to put his equipment back on and speed up the game.
- 4.6 There will be three outfielders in the Majors and Juniors divisions and four outfielders in the Minors and Coach Pitch divisions. Minors and Coach Pitch teams may play three outfielders if only 9 players are present.
- 4.7 Teams shall not steal third or home (except for a passed ball or wild pitch) when ahead by ten or more runs. Penalty: 1<sup>st</sup> – warning to manager, 2<sup>nd</sup> – such player will be called out, 3<sup>rd</sup> – manager ejected for remainder of the game. Continuous batting order is required for the Majors, Minors, Coach Pitch, and Tee-Ball divisions during the regular season and league tournament.
- 4.8 Every team must have someone assigned to each of the following positions: Manager, Two Assistant Coaches, and Team Parent. The Team Parent is not to be in the dugout for the Minors, Majors, Juniors, and Seniors divisions.
- 4.9 Score Keeper: Every game for all divisions (except Tee-Ball) will have an official scorekeeper. **Home team supplies the official scorekeeper.**
- 4.10 Pitch Count – Pitch count will be kept by the Official Pitch Counter. Pitch Counters and scorekeepers shall compare pitch count after each half inning to stay in agreement. Coaches can keep track of a pitcher’s pitch count, but it is for their own information and is not the official pitch count. **Visiting team provides the Official Pitch Counter.** The pitch count book is to be signed by both managers immediately following the game. If a manager does not sign the book, any pitchers for their team from that game will be required to have



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- 4 days of rest. If a pitcher is used before he/she is eligible, the game may be protested as outlined in the Little League 2018 Official Regulations and Playing Rules.
- 4.11 Sliding – All players must slide at second, third, and home base where there is a play being made. This is to promote safe play. Failure to slide may cause a runner to be called out. Little League rules prohibit any collisions between runners and basemen. If no ball is present and a collision occurs, the runner is automatically awarded the next base. If the ball is present, the runner is out. Head first slides are not allowed except in the Juniors divisions.
- 4.12 Batting Helmets – Face masks (cages) must be worn by every batter in the Tee-Ball division and the player pitcher in the Coach Pitch divisions. All other divisions are not required to use the face masks and this will be a decision of the parents and coach.

### 5. Player and Team Conduct

#### 5.1 Before the Game:

- 5.1.1 As a courtesy, each incoming team should give the outgoing teams time to move out of the dugout.
- 5.1.2 Medical Release forms MUST be with whoever is coaching the team that day. If a player's parent is not there and the Manager or coach does not have a release form for that player, then that player may not play. This also applies to practices. Board members and/or an umpire will perform spot checks to confirm this procedure is being followed.
- 5.1.3 Coaches and Umpires are to meet at home plate to go over ground rules before the start of each game.

#### 5.2 During the Game:

- 5.2.1 Dugout Supervision – It is each team's job to have only their assigned coaches in the dugout to supervise the players. Parents, siblings, or anyone other than that team's players and coaches are not allowed in the dugout during the game. Players should stay in the dugout until they bat or take the field. Batters and pitchers should not be warming up in any common area of the park.
- 5.2.2 Players and coaches are not allowed to climb, shake, or strike the fences to distract the opposing batter or pitcher.
- 5.2.3 Players and coaches are not allowed to address the opposing pitcher, runner, or batter by name or in any manner in an attempt to distract such player.

#### 5.3 After the Game:

- 5.3.1 Each team must clean all trash from the dugout, fence area, and bleacher area immediately following the handshake at home plate. Teams that fail to clean up their dugout will lose their next home team designation and play as visitors. The determination will be made by the Board Member on Duty following the game.



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5.3.2 Failure to abide by the Little League Principles of sportsmanship will result in losing the privilege to manage/coach in the League and could disqualify them as a potential selection as a manager/coach for an All-Star team.

### **5.4 Penalty Guidelines**

5.4.1 Please refer to the Coach's Code of Conduct and/or the Parent/Player Code of Conduct for the list of violations and subsequent penalties for any inappropriate behavior at the ballpark.

## **6. All Star Teams and Tournaments**

### **6.1 All Star Managers**

6.1.1 The Board of Directors will present their recommendations for each division's All-Star Manager(s). The Board will then vote for each division's All-Star Manager and the nominee with the greatest number of votes will be appointed as the Manager. Each All-Star Manager must have been a manager in the division they are nominated for in that same season. The All-Star Manager selects his own assistant coaches.

### **6.2 Tournament Player Selection**

6.2.1 The Board will determine the appropriate number of teams and age groups.

6.2.2 Each manager and coach in a division shall provide the Board of Directors a list of players from that division for an All-Star player pool. The Board of Directors may also be consulted for this player pool.

6.2.3 Each All-Star official team roster will be finalized by each All-Star Manager. Each player will be informed by their appropriate All-Star Manager and will be listed on the website by the deadline posted in the Little League Tournament rules. The All-Star Manager may then work with these players through practices and/or local tournaments.

6.2.4 Not all players selected to be in the All-Star player pool will be chosen to be on an All-Star team.

6.2.5 The All-Star teams will be selected in order starting with the 12u team, followed by the 11u team, and so forth. Any parent requesting to have their son/daughter play on a team other than the team they were selected by must provide the request in writing and approval can only be granted by the manager of the team they were originally selected by and the player agent.



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