

**Demotte Little League
Draft and Team Assignment Plan
2019**



Created Jan 2019

I. PARENT REQUESTS

A. Parent Requests: DeMotte Little League will honor parents' requests for siblings who are in the same Division to play together on the same team. We will also honor requests to move players between Tee-Ball and PeeWee Divisions to play together. All other requests (to facilitate carpooling, for instance, to be on the team of a particular coach, or to move players between other Divisions) are not guaranteed.

II. TEE-BALL AND PEEWEE DIVISIONS

A. Team Assignments: President and Player Agent will create preliminary team assignments, trying to create teams with balanced distributions by age, experience, and gender.

B. Coaches: Each Manager may select one additional coach that they wish to be placed with. Managers are not guaranteed a second requested coach on their team; volunteers will instead be divided with the intention of placing at least one additional coach on each team. Manager may freely choose a second coach from among the parents of players on his team, or from any community volunteer.

C. Trades: At the draft meeting, Managers may trade players with the approval of the Player Agent. All trades must be for a justifiable reason. All players must be 1 player for 1 player.

D. Post-Draft Trades: After leaving the draft meeting, there shall be no trades made except for special circumstances. Trades after the meeting require the approval of the Player Agent and League President.

E. Parent Requests: DeMotte Little League will honor parents' requests for siblings who are in the same Division to play together on the same team. We will also honor requests to move players between Tee-Ball and PeeWee Divisions to play together. All other requests (to facilitate carpooling, for instance, or to move players between other Divisions) are at the discretion of the Player Agent.

III. EVALUATIONS

A. TeeBall and PeeWee players: Players in the tee-ball and PeeWee divisions do not participate in evaluations.

B. Minor Divisions evaluations: Evaluation sessions will be held for all players in Minor Divisions. Separate time slots will be scheduled for Minor B Baseball, Minor A Baseball, and Minor Softball. Players will have at least two Evaluation sessions to select from and need only attend one.

- Coaches are welcome but not required to observe the evaluation sessions. There is no limit on the number of individuals who may observe. They may record any information as they deem appropriate.
- The Division President, Player Agent and Coaching Coordinator shall design an appropriate evaluation with a number of stations designed to measure players' basic skills. They will create clear scoring criteria for each station.
- During the evaluation session, multiple stations will be active simultaneously with players rotating through them. An independent score will be given to them for each station (for instance, 1 through 5). Those performing evaluations will not be Managers or Coaches for the Division being evaluated. Every effort will be made to use the same evaluator for all players in a Division.
- Each player's scores will be recorded and shared with the Managers in the Division before the Draft. All Managers will have access to the same information.

C. Major and Junior Divisions evaluations: Evaluation sessions will be held for players in Major Divisions except those automatically placed on teams as described in Section V Below. Separate time slots will be scheduled for Major Softball, Major Baseball, Junior Softball and Junior Baseball. Players will have at least two Evaluation sessions to select from and need only attend one.

- Coaches are strongly encouraged to observe the evaluation sessions. There is no limit on the number of individuals who may observe. They may record any information as they deem appropriate.
- The Division President, Player Agent and Coaching Coordinator shall design an appropriate evaluation with a number of activities designed to measure players' basic skills.
- During the evaluation session, each player will have an opportunity to perform each activity. Only one activity will be active at a time, giving coaches an opportunity to independently observe each player's performance.

- No independent scoring will be performed. It is solely the Manager's responsibility to appropriately note each Player's performance on a skill.

IV. DRAFT PROCEDURES

A. Applicability: These procedures will apply to all Minor and Junior Divisions. Additionally, these procedures may be used with Major Divisions in some circumstances; see Section V for further information.

B. General Draft Information

- Notice of the time and place of the Draft Meeting will be provided to Managers at least one week in advance or with as much advanced notice as reasonably possible.
- Managers may bring up to one additional adult with them. At no time shall any Players be present. If the Manager is unable to attend, they may send one substitute as well as one additional adult.
- The Draft will begin promptly at the scheduled time. Any Manager who is not represented will be assigned the last number in the Draft Order. If they are still not present when it is their turn to Draft, they shall automatically select the player with the highest evaluation score (for Minor Leagues) or the Player Agent will make a selection for them.

C. Draft Order: At the beginning of the Draft, Managers shall have a random draw to determine the Draft Order. "Serpentine" draft order will be then be utilized (1-2-3-4, 4-3-2-1, 1-2-3-4, 4-3-2-1....).

D. Manager's Players: The Manager is required to select their child(ren) in the first rounds of the draft. Those players are protected until they are selected. Managers may not defer in selecting their players.

E. Coaches and Coaches' Players: Each Manager may optionally select one Coach. The Manager must draft all each of the Coaches' players immediately after drafting their own children. Failure to draft their coaches' players immediately after drafting their own children will return the players to the general pool where any other Manager may draft them. Siblings must be drafted consecutively; the Manager may not choose to delay on drafting a sibling.

F. Siblings: When parents request that siblings play together, that request must be honored. Therefore, when a Manager drafts one sibling, they must choose additional siblings in immediately subsequent rounds. The additional siblings are protected. Managers may not choose to delay in drafting an additional sibling.

G. Missed Evaluations: Players who missed evaluations are not included in the Draft Pool. Instead, they are included in a blind draw at the conclusion of all other drafting. This prevents an unfair advantage to any Manager or Coach who has knowledge of a Player who chose not to attend evaluations.

H. Parent Requests: Parents are allowed to request that their player is not drafted by a specific Manager based on specific past incidents. The Player Agent has discretion whether this request shall be enforced or not based on the merits of the request. The Manager in question will be informed of this request privately and will not be allowed to select that particular player in the draft.

I. Sponsors' Players: Each sponsors may choose one player or one set of siblings that they wish to sponsor. These players will be indicated in the draft. Managers may not choose more than such player.

J. Confidentiality: The Draft is kept completely confidential, including Skills Evaluation results, player draft order and trades. Each individual attending the draft is responsible for maintaining confidentiality of the draft and draft materials. All draft materials must be returned to the Player Agent at the conclusion of the draft. Violation of this rule by a Manager or their invited guest is cause for Suspension of the Manager.

V. MAJORS DIVISIONS ONLY: CONTINUING TEAMS

A. General Policy: For Major Baseball and Major Softball divisions ONLY, when there are the same number of teams in a division as the previous year, players continuing for a second year in the same division are generally eligible to return to their teams (no re-draft). This applies even in circumstances when the team is assigned a new Manager. This will only be applied with the approval of the DeMotte Little League Board of Directors, who reserve the right to call for a full redraft at the discretion. This may happen in circumstances such as:

- In the previous season, one team had an unusually strong talent pool and record and the condition is expected to recur
- In the previous season, there was an uneven distribution of experienced pitchers and the condition is expected to recur
- One team is losing significantly more players than the others
- The distribution of 12-year-olds across teams is unbalanced
- The number of "All Star" players is skewed for or against one team

B. Managers for continuing teams: For teams continuing on, the Manager will generally also continue on, unless the Manager has no more players in that Division, or the DeMotte Little League Board of Directors determines that it is in the players best interest to replace the Manager.

- In the event that the former Manager no longer has players in the Division, the Board shall select the most qualified Manager for the team. This may involve moving a player from another existing team whose parent has served as a non-Manager coach.
- In the event that the Board determines that a Manager should be replaced, the Board shall select the most qualified Manager for the team. This may involve moving a player from another existing team whose parent has served as a non-Manager coach. That former Manager will be allowed to choose whether their player should continue on the team or transfer to a new team.

C. Coaches for continuing teams: For teams continuing on, the (non-Manager) coaches will generally also continue on. In the event that a continuing team has NO additional coaches (due to the coaches' players moving out of the Division, the former coach choosing not to continue in that role, or the Manager choosing not to invite a former coach to continue in that role), the Manager will be allowed to select a new Coach as per the Draft procedures above. **Managers may not use this option to "stack" their team with an above-average number coaches. The Coach that was protected in the Draft must actively participate in that role.**

D. Automatic team placements: Siblings of players already on the team, as well as children of the manager (if a new manager is assigned) will be automatically added to the existing teams and are not included in the draft.

E. Evaluations: Players who are continuing with an existing team are exempt from attending evaluations.