

# *Trumbull Little League*

## *By-Laws*

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*American League Charter #2070216*  
*National League Charter #2070217*

Trumbull Little League  
P.O. Box 241  
Trumbull, CT 06611

# **Trumbull Little League By-Laws, Local Rules and Ground Rules 2016 Season**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The purpose of **Trumbull Little League**, (TLL), is to implant in our youth the ideals of sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect for leadership.

## **AUTHORITY AND VALIDITY**

The Board of Directors shall be governed by the Constitution of the League on record in Williamsport, Pa. The TLL operating rules and bylaws shall be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Following adoption of these rules by the Board of Directors, they may only be changed upon the concurring vote of majority of the Board. These rules pertain to all of TLL.

## **CONSTRUCTION OF THE RULES**

The TLL Bylaws, Operating rules, local rules or ground rules (the terms are interchangeable.) are constructed in a manner intended to conform to the operating regulations and playing rules of Little League Baseball & Softball.

The Bylaws are to be distinguished from TLL's Constitution. The Constitution spells out the duties and responsibilities of the officers of the board, definition of membership, election procedures, meeting requirements such as quorum, etc. The local Little League board of directors must make a copy of the bylaws, local rules or ground rules available to any member of the local Little League for review and inspection if requested. No part of the bylaws, local rules or ground rules can conflict with or supersede any Little League rule, regulation or policy.

Any rules that are not addressed within the bylaws, local rules or ground rules will be followed in accordance with the Little League Rule book (Green book/ Orange book).

These bylaws of Trumbull Little League shall expire at the end of each fiscal year, and are not considered part of the Trumbull Little League Constitution.

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## 1 General Policy

It is the intent of Trumbull Little League (TLL) to accommodate any player who wants to play baseball or softball, lives within the TLL boundaries, and meets registration requirements established by Little League Inc. and Trumbull Little League. No player will be turned away except for severe disciplinary reasons or restrictions placed on TLL by organizations with which TLL is obliged to cooperate.

TLL follows the rules as set forth in the Official Regulations and Playing Rules for the current year for each chartered division as well as the Little League Operating Manual for the current year. TLL has adopted supplemental rules (Bylaws) (contained herein) that augment the Official Regulations and Playing Rules. These Supplemental Rules are mandatory during regular season, but are not applicable during post-season tournament play. Managers and coaches (and players and parents) are responsible to know these Supplemental Rules as well as the Official Regulations and Playing Rules authorized and published by Little League Baseball, Inc.

If extenuating circumstances do not allow any of the processes in these Bylaws to be followed as written, said process(es) may be temporarily adjusted as required with the approval of the TLL President and the TLL Board of Directors. The temporary adjusted process(es) shall be posted at [www.TrumbullLittleLeague.org](http://www.TrumbullLittleLeague.org).

### 1.1 Player Eligibility Requirements

TLL shall enforce the following age and residence rules during registration in compliance with Little League, Inc.:

**Player Age:** A player's league age for the current season of baseball follows the current Baseball and Softball age charts available from Little League International. See Little League Baseball/Softball Proof of Age Requirements document for details on acceptable proof of age documents that **must** be submitted at registration (<http://www.littleleague.org/learn/forms.htm>).

**Player Residence Location:** The player must live within the Town of Trumbull to be eligible to participate. TLL is mandated to follow town policies. See Little League Baseball Proof of Residency Requirements document for details on acceptable proof of residency documents that must be submitted at registration (<http://www.littleleague.org/learn/forms.htm>).

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### 1.2 Volunteer Applications

All adult volunteer wishing to manage or coach any baseball and/or softball team and all board members must complete a TLL Volunteer Application. These forms are available on the TLL website, at in-person registration sessions and from your league commissioner. Team Managers and Coaches must be appointed by the President and approved by the board of directors each and every year. Anybody who does not submit a completed form and is not approved by the board of directors will not be allowed to manage, coach or help at any TLL games or practices.

### 1.3 Background Check

Per Little League Inc. Regulation 1 (c), TLL is required to conduct an annual, nationwide background check on all personnel and hired personnel. Each volunteer or hired personnel is required to complete and submit a “Little League Volunteer Application” and provide a copy of a valid government-issued photo identification to the President or board member(s) designated by the President (“designee(s)”). No one will be allowed to participate in any manner, whose background check reveals a conviction or guilty plea for any crime involving or against a minor. TLL may also prohibit any individual from participating as a volunteer if the individual is deemed unfit to work with minors.

TLL shall perform background checks as follows:

1. The President shall name one or more TLL Board of Director members to perform background checks under the direction of the President. The President shall review the results of any background check that returns information that warrants further investigation on individuals identified in Step 6.
2. Each TLL Board of Directors member, manager, coach, adult umpire, and all other adult volunteers or hired personnel shall complete and submit a “Little League Volunteer Application” for the current fiscal year and a copy of a valid, government-issued photo identification to the President or designee(s).
3. The President or designee(s) shall conduct a background check on all managers using First Advantage at <https://ca.fadv.com/CA/welcome.do?LLinternational>
4. The President or designee(s) shall conduct a background check on all other volunteers and hired personnel using the United States Department of Justice National Sex Offender Public Registry at [www.nsopr.gov](http://www.nsopr.gov). The President or designee(s) shall complete the “Little League Volunteer Application” as required by Little League.
5. If the background check returns information or TLL subsequently becomes aware of information, by any means whatsoever, that an individual, including, but not limited to, volunteers, players and hired workers, has been convicted of or pled guilty to any crime involving or against a minor, the President must contact the applicable government agency to confirm the accuracy of the information. The President or designee(s) shall also notify the individual of the action that is being taken so that the individual can offer any response or comment to the President and the TLL Board of Directors. Upon confirmation of a conviction for, or guilty plea to, a crime against or involving a minor, TLL shall not permit the individual to participate in any manner. That person shall be dismissed immediately.
6. If the background check reveals that the individual, including, but not limited to, volunteers, players and hired workers, has been convicted of or pled guilty to any other type of crime not involving nor against a minor, the President must contact the applicable government agency to confirm the accuracy of the information. The President or designee(s) shall present the findings to the investigation committee. The individual shall have the opportunity to present his or her side of the case to the investigation committee. The investigation committee shall determine whether or not the individual will be able to continue participating in TLL. The following shall apply:

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Any felony involving physical harm to an individual (for example, murder, kidnapping, spousal abuse) is reason for immediate dismissal.

Any felony not involving physical harm to an individual (for example, extortion, theft) shall be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. However, the individual cannot hold a board position, manage, or coach.

Misdemeanors (for example, a minor fist fight), infractions (for example, a speeding ticket), and DUIs (driving under the influence) shall be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

All decisions by the President, investigation committee, and TLL Board of Directors are final.

7. All forms submitted for and created as a result of the background check shall remain in the possession of the President or designee(s) until the end of the fiscal year. Except as required by law, no other person shall have access to or see the forms.

Immediately after the conclusion of the fiscal year, all forms shall be destroyed, except for those from volunteers or hired personnel who are participating in Fall Ball.

### 1.4 LITTLE LEAGUE® Child Protection Program

#### Modifications to Regulation I

All Little League/ rule books and operating manuals now include in Regulation I the following language dealing with mandatory use of the Volunteer Application and mandatory background checks.

#### Regulation I (b)

New language: As a condition of service to the league, all managers, coaches, Board of Directors members and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to, or contact with players or teams, must complete and submit an official “Little League Volunteer Application” to the local league President. Annual background screenings must be completed prior to the applicant assuming his/her duties for the current season. Refusal to annually submit a fully completed “Little League Volunteer Application” must result in the immediate dismissal of the individual from the local league. (See also Reg. I (c) 8 and 9.)

#### Regulation I (c) 8 and 9.

I (c) Each league shall:

8. Require that all of the following personnel have annually submitted a fully completed official “Little League Volunteer Application” to the local league President, prior to the applicant assuming his/her duties for the current season: Managers, Coaches, Board of Directors members and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to, or contact with, players or teams.. The “Little League Volunteer Application” must be maintained by the President of the local league board of directors for all personnel named above, for a minimum of the duration of the applicant’s service to the league for that year. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in the suspension or revocation of tournament privileges and/or the local league’s charter by action of the Charter or Tournament Committee in Williamsport.

9. Conduct an annual background check on all personnel that are required to complete a “Little League Volunteer Application” prior to the applicant assuming his/her duties for the current season. No local league shall permit any person to participate in any manner, whose background check reveals a conviction for any crime involving or against a minor. A local league may prohibit any individual from participating as a volunteer or hired worker; if the league deems the individual unfit to work with minors. A local league must conduct a search of the applicable government operated statewide sex offender registry. If no

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sex offender registry exists in a State /Province, the local league must conduct a statewide criminal background check through the appropriate governmental agency unless prohibited by law. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in the suspension or revocation of tournament privileges and/or the local league’s charter by action of the Charter or Tournament Committee in Williamsport.

Note: Information regarding background checks is available at [www.littleleague.org](http://www.littleleague.org).

### 2 Seasons

TLL offers three seasons of baseball and softball:

Spring Season	Open to all youth who properly register and meet age and residency requirements per Section 1.0.
Summer Season	Reserved for players selected from the Spring Season to play on All-star teams and represent Trumbull LL in district, state, region, and world series tournaments.
Fall Season	Open to all youth who properly register and meet age and residency requirements per Section 1.0 and is intended for skill development and improvement.

### 3 Divisions

TLL offers the following baseball and softball divisions. The number of teams in the chart below is subject to change due to the number of registered players. (The brand of softball played is FastPitch; the term softball is used per Little League convention).

Division	Gender	Ages	Maximum Number of Conferences
Tee Ball	Boys and Girls	5, 6	1
Baseball 7/8	Boys and Girls	7, 8	2 (American & National)
Baseball Minors 9/10	Boys and Girls	9, 10 (See Baseball Minors for 9 year-old exception and BB Majors for 12 year-old exception)	2 (American & National)
Baseball Majors 11/12	Boys and Girls	11, 12 (All 12 year-olds must play in BB Majors unless parent/legal guardian requests child to play in BB Minors and waiver is approved)	2 (American & National)
Softball Mini (7/8)	Girls	6,7,8	1
Softball Minors (9/10)	Girls	9, 10	1
Softball Majors (11/12)	Girls	11, 12	1
Softball Juniors	Girls	12, 13,14	District

## 4 Managers and Coaches

### 4.1 Code of Conduct

Competent leadership on and off the playing field is essential to the full benefit and enjoyment of the youngster who plays in Trumbull Little League. A requisite to good leadership is knowledge of and ability to do a specific job. The Manager and other adults who perform services in the Trumbull Little League are looked upon to provide leadership in much the same fashion, as is the Board of Directors. Each must know his/her job and develop the respect of players and adults alike. Character, good judgment, ability to get along with youngsters and the desire to do that job well are the attributes of a good manager. The manager's conduct on the field will, in a marked degree, determine success. The attitude in disposing of disputed decisions can elevate a manager's effectiveness rather than lower dignity.

### 4.2 Manager Selection

Individuals interested in managing a TLL baseball/softball team must complete and submit the following to Trumbull Little League (Coaches Coordinator, Director of Baseball/Softball and appropriate division commissioner):

1. TLL Manager Application.
2. Little League Volunteer Application Form. (Including a copy of a USA government issued photo ID – refer to Section 1).

Each manager candidate shall be interviewed by the manager selection committee for each division (Director of Baseball/ Softball, Player Agent, Division Commissioner, and Coaching Coordinator) – time permitting. When the manager candidate vetting process is complete, each Division Commissioner shall submit their recommendations to the TLL Board of Directors for approval.

Manager positions are for one-year only. Having previously been a manager in TLL is not a guarantee of a managing position in any subsequent season.

All candidates for Baseball Majors manager must meet the following minimum qualifications :

1. One year as a TLL Baseball Minors (9/10) manager, or
2. Two consecutive years as a TLL Baseball Minors (9/10) coach, or
3. One year as a TLL Baseball Majors manager or coach, or
4. Equivalent experience as a manager or coach (must provide proof).

All candidates for Softball Majors manager must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. One year as a TLL Softball Minors (9/10) manager, or
2. Two consecutive years as a TLL Softball Minors coach, or
3. One year as a TLL Softball Majors manager or coach, or
4. Equivalent experience as a manager or coach (must provide proof).

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### 4.3 Coach Selection

Each manager shall select up to two coaches, pending the approval of the President and TLL Board of Directors. Coaches for a drafted team may not be chosen prior to the draft according to the current Little League Operating Manual. While it is desired that the coaches be fathers/mothers of a player on the team, the manager may ask another individual (who does not have a son/daughter playing in TLL) to be a coach. All Managers must declare their coaches in writing to their division director and the Player Agent prior to their first regular season game.

### 4.4 Manager Training

Every manager shall attend the classroom and field training classes given under the direction of the TLL Coaches Coordinator Director. Failure to attend these classes may result in dismissal of that manager from TLL at the discretion of the TLL Board of Directors.

Every manager shall attend the First-Aid Training for Coaches given under the direction of the TLL Safety Director.

### 4.5 Manager/Coach Responsibilities

Managers are responsible for the following:

1. Ensure the physical and emotional safety of all players on their team.
2. Ensure the proper moral and ethical conduct of players, coaches, players' and parents.
3. Know, teach, and follow all rules and regulations as set forth by Little League® and TLL.
4. Attend all required manager meetings and training classes.
5. Accept all decisions of TLL Board of Directors and/or President as final.
6. Look for ways to improve TLL and convey them to the TLL Board of Directors.

### 4.6 Manager/Coach Discipline

Failure to follow Little League rules and/or TLL Bylaws and/or failure to manage/coach in the spirit of Little League may result in a reprimand, suspension or dismissal by the TLL Board of Directors following a thorough investigation into alleged infractions and/or failings.

Infractions include, but are not limited to:

1. Foul language.
2. Yelling at or intimidating a player or umpire.
3. Following umpire off the field.
4. Inappropriate behavior.
5. Use of tobacco products at a practice and/or game.
6. Drinking alcohol at or before a practice and/or a game - includes having the odor of alcohol on the person or breath.
7. Failure to follow TLL Bylaws.
8. Managers serve at pleasure of TLL Board of Directors, under supervision of the Coaching Director and may be removed at any time pending a vote of the TLL Board of Directors.

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### 4.7 Managers Committee

Each year before the start of the season, the board of Directors appoints a Managers Committee of no less than three and not more than five directors. The Managers Committee, during the playing season, will observe the conduct to the President of the League. It shall, at the request of the League President or any league member, investigate complaints and make a report thereof to the league President or Board Of directors as the case may be. The Managers Committee will communicate with each other, meet as needed and report any findings to the League President in the timely manner. This committee may also interview and investigate prospective new coaches and managers and recommend acceptable candidates to the League President for appointment and subsequent approval by the Board of Directors.

Article VII of Little league Baseball, Inc. provides for disciplinary action including, but not restricted to, removal or suspension, for any act, conduct or involvement contrary to the Rules, Regulations, and Policies of the Corporation. (Trumbull Little League), or which might tend to bring the corporation (Trumbull Little League) into disrepute, or for any failure to perform the duties and responsibilities assigned to each member.

Any member of Trumbull Little League that wishes to initiate a complaint concerning a coach, Manager or spectator, does so by contacting anybody on the Board. Members of Trumbull Little League include all players, coaches, managers, umpires and any other league volunteers.

## 5 Parents

### 5.1 Parent Conduct

Parents must exhibit good sportsmanship at all times, especially from the stands. Coaching from the stands is not allowed, but encouraging players is. Negative comments **will not** be tolerated.

### 5.2 Parent Code of Conduct

Trumbull Little League is an organization whose objective is to provide quality, instructional and fun baseball and softball programs for its participants. Participants include players, coaches, parents, other spectators, and volunteers who contribute their time to the program. Managers and coaches are typically trained through coaching clinics and meetings within the league itself.

In addition, the league is continually training umpires and volunteers to achieve the highest quality of fairness and sportsmanship at games. We are always looking to improve. However, several incidents in the past few seasons warrant our asking for parental support to abide by this

## **Code of Conduct:**

### **Support your child**

Help your child work towards skill improvement and good sportsmanship in every game. Teach your child that hard work and honest effort are often more important than victory. Players will always be winners, regardless of the outcome of the game.

### **Always be positive**

Parents must serve as role models for their children. Be aware of this and work to be a positive role model. Applaud good plays by your child's team *as well as good plays by the opposing team.*

### **Remember your child wants to have fun**

Remember your child is playing, not you. It is very important to let children establish their own goals and to play the game for themselves. Take care not to impose your own goals. Do not put too heavy a burden on a team to win games. National surveys reveal that more than 70% of children would rather play for a losing team than ride the bench on a winning team. Children play for the fun of playing!

### **Reinforce positive behavior**

Positive reinforcement is the best way to help children achieve their goals and overcome the natural fear of failure. Nobody likes to make mistakes. If a player does make a mistake, remember it's all part of learning. Encourage the best effort from everyone. *Point out the good things all the players accomplish!*

### **Please! Don't be a sideline coach or umpire**

Coaches are usually parents just like you. Umpires are often older players. Umpires are required to attend clinics and are paid a nominal amount or volunteer their time as community service. They need your support. Please refrain from acting as a coach or umpire from the sidelines. As a predominantly volunteer organization, there are opportunities for you to take your interest in coaching or umpiring to the next level by officially becoming one yourself! Arguing with umpires in any capacity or intimidation of an umpire is not allowed and will result in strong disciplinary action or expulsion from the league.

This Code of Conduct states expectations from our parents. Also, be advised that while participating in Trumbull Little League in any capacity (manager, coach, umpire, player, etc.) conduct that is prohibited (including but not limited to: verbal abuse, fighting, throwing equipment, using profanity, use or possession of alcohol or drugs, use of tobacco products) may result in immediate suspension and other possible disciplinary actions. By reading this Code of Conduct, we ask that parents agree to abide by these guidelines and to work to make Trumbull Little League a fun, safe and positive experience for all participants.

## **6 Suspension or Disciplinary Action**

Matters regarding disciplining of members shall be a TLL Board of Directors decision. The actions of players, managers, coaches, umpires, and league officials must be above reproach. Any player, parent, spectator, manager, coach, umpire or league representative who is involved in a verbal or physical altercation, or an incident of unsportsmanlike conduct, at the game site or any other Little League activity, is subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors.

### **6.1 Disciplinary Committee**

The duties of the Disciplinary Committee will be the investigation and rendering of disciplinary action for any on or off the field incident or issue involving a TLL player, Manager, Coach, or parent. This will include any TLL Board Member who is also an acting Manager or Coach. In the event the party before the Committee is also a TLL Board member, any further action pertaining to the status as an acting member of the TLL Board of Directors for any incident will be handled pursuant to the existing provisions of the TLL Constitution and By-Laws. (ie: Consideration by the full TLL Board of Directors.) The TLL Board of Directors expressly authorizes and sanctions the actions of the Disciplinary Committee. The Disciplinary Committee will have the authority to issue and enforce its decisions.

#### **6.1.2 Composition**

Trumbull Little League will have a Disciplinary Committee consisting of the following Board Members:

- 1) Player's Agent
- 2) Director of Baseball
- 3) Director of Softball
- 4) Vice President

\*\*In addition, the 2 Division commissioners from Baseball and Softball of the affected party shall assist in the Committee's tasks and be eligible to vote on the specific disciplinary action for the incident or action that is before the Committee. (ie: 12 year old baseball manager incident shall include the 12 year old Boy's Major's Commissioner and Softball Commissioner of the similar age group).

#### **6.1.3 Tenure and jurisdiction**

The Committee's tenure and jurisdiction will begin at the start of each new Board session beginning on December 1 of each calendar year and last through November 30<sup>th</sup> of each calendar year. This period will include, but not limited to: registration, evaluations, Spring Season and playoffs, All Stars tryouts and All Star season, and Fall Ball.

Each member's tenure on the Committee will coincide with their election or appointment to the TLL Board position enumerated above.

### **6.2 Member Termination**

Membership may be terminated or other action may be taken by the TLL Board of Directors as follows:

- (a) The TLL Board of Directors, by a two-thirds vote of those present at any duly constituted Board meeting, shall have the authority to discipline or suspend or terminate the membership of any member of the board or the league, including managers and coaches, players, parents and spectators, when the

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conduct of such person is considered detrimental to the best interests of TLL and/or Little League Baseball, Inc.

- (b) The TLL Board of Directors shall, in the case of a player member, parent, or spectator, give notice to the manager of the team for which the player is a player member. Said manager shall appear, in the capacity of an adviser, with the player before the Board of Directors or a duly appointed committee of the Board of Directors. The player's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may also be present. The Board of Directors shall have full power to suspend or revoke such player's right to future participation by a simple majority vote of those present at any duly constituted meeting.

### **7 Player Selection/ Team Formations**

The most important consideration in assigning players to teams is the assignment of players to the level of play they are best suited for and to distribute the available player talent so that all teams, in all divisions, of TLL are competitive.

To ensure parity for all levels of play in baseball and softball there will be a draft of players for all teams prior to the start of the season. The draft will be implemented for all divisions unless otherwise noted under the division's specific regulations. Managers will select players during the draft, which will be conducted by the Player Agent/and the applicable Commissioner

*NOTE: Managers do NOT have input as to who is on their team.*

#### **7.1 Player Movement**

The Player Agent, Commissioner and the League President must approve any movement of players between levels after the draft. Movement of players between levels requires approval of the Player Agent.

#### **7.2 Sibling Requests**

Siblings may play on the same team if they desire, and will be taken in the round of the draft agreed on by all managers

#### **7.3 Minimum/Maximum**

The minimum number of players on a Little League roster is twelve (12) and the Maximum is fifteen (15)

#### **7.4 Tee Ball 5, Farm 6, 7/8 Baseball and Softball**

Tee Ball 5, Farm 6, 7/8 Baseball, and 7/8 Softball teams are formed by the appropriate, TLL Division Commissioner, Registrar, Director of Baseball/Softball on the basis of:

1. Equal distribution of age.
2. Neighborhood school.
3. Geographic location.
4. Special Requests

This means that each team will have a similar number of aged players and most players will live close to their nearest neighborhood school.

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*NOTE: Registration numbers and age distribution may require that players living in the same neighborhood play on different teams.*

There are no evaluations, tryouts, or draft for these divisions, and it is determined necessary by the Division Commissioner and Director of Baseball/Softball to ensure a learning and competitive environment.

### **7.5 Baseball/Softball - Minors 9/10, Majors 11/12 and Softball Juniors**

#### **7.5.1 Manager Assignment to Teams**

Managers will be assigned to a team prior to the league evaluations.

#### **7.5.2 Evaluation**

The Baseball/Softball Minors, Majors, and juniors divisions shall hold evaluations each year. Evaluations are conducted under the direction of the League Players agent, each division's Director and Director of Baseball/Softball. The evaluation will consist of batting, throwing, fielding and running.

#### **7.5.3 Draft**

The Baseball/Softball Minors, Majors, and Juniors divisions shall hold drafts less than one week following the completion of evaluations. TLL's Players agent is responsible for the oversight of the drafts and will be assisted by the appropriate Division Commissioner, Director of Baseball and Director of Softball.

It is the responsibility of the individual team managers to:

1. Have adequate knowledge of the players attending evaluations and who are eligible to be drafted.
- OR
2. Obtain assistance from another individual and/or Player Agent/Division Director.

Each Manager shall have 3 minutes to make his/her selection. If after 3 minutes have passed and no selections is made, the manager will forfeit their selection for that round and next manager's selection clock starts.

Baseball & Softball Majors only:

All 12 year olds must be drafted. The number of 12 year olds on each team must be as equal as possible under the supervision of the Division Commissioner and Player Agent.

#### **7.5.4 Draft Methods**

The current year Operating Manual, Player Selection Systems section, Methods for Existing Leagues sub-section, Section V, sub-section A - shall be followed.

## 8 Safety

TLL strives to provide the safest playing environment possible. TLL provides training for managers, coaches, and volunteers to be able to handle most accidental injuries. Our facilities are periodically surveyed and maintained to the highest standards to prevent injuries and mishaps.

### **Official Regulations and Playing Rules:**

1. ALL male players MUST wear an athletic supporter with a cup to prevent injury that could occur from a hit or thrown ball at all games and practices. See the Little League Safety Code for more information.
2. The player catching balls for a coach/manager hitting infield practice or fly balls MUST wear a catcher's helmet during games and practices.
3. Plate umpires MUST wear the same protective equipment as required for catchers, including a helmet for all umpires under age 18. No exceptions are allowed.
4. Head first slides are not allowed except when returning to a base. Penalty - the player is automatically out. \*Reference Official Regulations and Playing Rules:
5. Managers shall check the playing facilities for safety prior to starting practices. Umpires and managers shall check the playing facilities for safety prior to starting games. All problems must be reported to the Fields Director.
6. Each incident or accident must be documented and reported to the Safety Director within 24 hours of its occurrence.
7. Each manager must ensure that he/she has a listing of the Medical Release information from their division commissioner and carry the listing with them at all practices and games.
8. Managers and coaches will attend Coach's training prior to the season. The training session will include basic safety principles and first aid.
9. Each manager MUST have a TLL supplied first aid kit at all practices and games. Managers MUST check supply levels prior to practices and games and replenish as required.
10. When there is lightning and/or thunder, all practices and games must stop immediately and everyone must go to a safe location. (See Appendix A – Lightning Safety Guidelines in the Official Regulations and Playing Rules)
11. Managers and parents will utilize safety and security policies as they pertain to dropping-off and picking-up of players at all practice and game fields.
12. Equipment shall be stored in an orderly manner in the dugouts to prevent hazards.
13. Guests are NOT allowed in the dugout area or on the field during games.
14. Each manager must inspect equipment for wear and tear before each game and repair or replace TLL defective equipment. Ensure that all player-supplied equipment meets Little League regulations and requirements.
15. All batters, base runners, and youth base coaches shall wear a batting helmet.
16. During games, managers will ensure that players not currently participating in the game remain in the dugout.
17. On-deck batters are not allowed in the Baseball/Softball Minor and Major divisions. However, the first batter of each half inning may take practice swings in foul territory.

## 9 Fields

1. Field addresses are available on the TLL website
2. Players, coaches, managers, and spectators are required to follow all field rules.
3. Practices and games must only be held at TLL approved fields for insurance reasons.
4. Absolutely no field work (raking, dragging, etc.) is allowed on any field utilized by TLL, only Town of Trumbull/TLL approved vendors are allowed to maintain fields.
5. Practices will not begin until 6:15 on Elementary school fields until all after school programs have been dismissed.

## 10 Equipment

TLL issued equipment (catchers gear, bases, tee's etc.) are the property of TLL and must be returned at the conclusion of the season.

10.1 Players are responsible to supply Helmets, bats, and glove with exception of the 5 and 6 year old division, TLL will provide bats

## 11 Supplemental Playing Rules

TLL playing rules are intended to supplement and/or emphasize the Little League Baseball/ Softball Official Regulations and Playing Rules. These supplemental rules are mandatory during regular season. TLL Playing rules are created by the TLL Rules committee and will be distributed before the start of each season.

### 11.1 Curfews

No new inning will start after 1:45 from the scheduled start time if there is a game that is scheduled immediately following. If there is no game that follows, games can continue until dusk.

Lighted Field: No new inning will start after 1:45 from the scheduled start time. No new inning should start after 9:45 pm.

### Playoff games

Playoff games will be played to completion. If a playoff game reaches its curfew time, the game will be suspended and will be resumed at the earliest possible date scheduled by league officials.

### 11.2 Participation Requirements

At the mid-point in the season, the Managers scorebooks will be collected and validated by each Division commissioner to confirm that each Manager is following participation requirements. Participation guidelines are included in the TLL Playing rules for each division

### 11.3 Temporary Call ups

If a Majors team has fewer than 9 players available, the affected team may temporarily call up two (2) additional players from the next lower level. Any additional player(s) will be required to meet the minimum play requirements for the game, may not pitch, and may not practice with the team.

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### **11.3.1 Procedure for Contacting a Player to be temporarily called up:**

Prior to the start of the spring season, the Players Agent shall solicit from the managers in their leagues a list of players whose managers and parents agree that they may play up, if asked, during the season.

Contact information for those players shall be acquired and a contact list created.

The Manager of the affected team seeking to temporarily add a player(s) must, contact the Players Agent to notify the need for a player(s) 48 hours in advance

The Player Agent will follow the randomized list, the first player to accept the bid to be called up will be assigned. The next request will revert back to the next available player at the top of the list.

## **12 Postseason**

### **12.1 Majors Postseason (11/12)**

Final standings and tournament seeding and tie-breakers for tournament seeding shall be determined by the following:

**COMPLETE SEASON:** When a season ends with all games having been played by contending teams, the champion shall be determined based upon the overall won-loss record. In cases with teams having identical TLL division overall won-loss records, the champion shall be determined by the following order of precedence:

1. Best record of head to head competition.
2. Least number of runs allowed between the tied teams.
3. Most number of runs scored between the tied teams.
4. A coin flip will determine the champion

**INCOMPLETE SEASON:** When a season ends with some games not being played by any contending team, the following order of precedence shall determine the champion:

1. Division best won-loss record against identical competition.
2. Best record of head to head competition.
3. Least number of runs allowed between the tied teams.
4. Most number of runs scored between the tied teams.
5. A coin flip will determine the champion.

### **12.2 Minors Postseason (9/10)**

Postseason tournament seeding shall be determined by a random drawing at the conclusion of the season. The drawing will be administered by The Director of Baseball/Softball and Division Commissioner. All Managers are invited to attend the random drawing for seeding.

### **12.3 Postseason – 7/8 & 5/6**

There is no postseason tournament for these levels.

## **13 Awards**

### **13.1 Graduation**

Each league age 12 year old will receive a graduation gift from Trumbull Little League. The graduation gift is customarily presented during opening day ceremonies.

### **13.2 Championship/Runner-up**

Each player on the 1st and 2nd place team in the regular season of the Majors (11/12) and Minors (9/10) division shall receive a trophy. Trophies shall be presented to players immediately following the championship game.

### **13.3 Participation**

Each player in the 7/8 and 5/6 level will receive participation trophies presented at Major League Day, which usually takes place the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of June.

## **14 Umpires**

### **14.1 Introduction**

An umpire who performs services for TLL is looked upon to provide leadership. He/she must know their job and develop the respect of players and adults alike. Character, good judgment, ability to get along with youngsters and the desire to do the job well are the attributes of a Trumbull Little League Umpire.

### **14.2 Umpire Assignment - Majors**

In the Baseball and Softball Majors and Softball Junior Division, certified (patch) umpires will receive a reasonable and customary fee per game, paid by check. There will be one umpire only per game, except in playoff and championship games when available. All umpires requests are submitted by the Master scheduler to the District Umpire assigner.

### **14.3 Umpire Assignment - Minors**

In the Baseball and Softball Minors (9/10) Division, TLL utilizes young adults to umpire the developmental division. The young adults benefit from their knowledge of the game of baseball or softball, gain leadership experience, and enhance their LL experience through umpiring. These individuals will be paid a nominal fee for their efforts.

### **14.4 Umpire Training (Youth Umpires)**

All youth umpires must have attended a training clinic prior to the season to be eligible to umpire. All umpires will be subject to the rules and regulations set by Williamsport, Trumbull Little League Board of Directors, and the Umpire in Chief.

### **14.5 Umpire Payment**

A person designated by the Trumbull Little League Board will assign umpires for each division. That person will submit a list weekly to the board member responsible for umpire payment. The umpire check will then be mailed in a timely fashion to the umpire.

## 15 Scheduling, Cancellation and rescheduling

### 15.1 Scheduling

The scheduling procedure is as follows:

- (a) The person elected by the B.O.D. shall identify all fields that will be available to Little League during the season.
- (b) Contact all schools to identify any potential conflicts with school fields.
- (c) Contact Town Hall to identify any potential conflicts with town fields.
- (d) Contact all Division Commissioners for any conflicts or requests prior to creating the Master Schedule.
- (e) Identify primary fields for each division in an attempt to simplify the scheduling process.
- (f) Based on the number of teams in each division, fill out the schedule leaving room in the schedule where possible for make-up games.
- (g) The remaining fields and times shall be scheduled for practices keeping in mind that a make-up game will take priority over a scheduled practice.
- (h) Forward the completed Master Schedule to the Umpire-in-Chief for the scheduling of umpires.
- (i) Forward the Master Schedule to each Division Director for distribution to the Team Managers.

### 15.2 Cancellation

When there is inclement weather it shall be the responsibility of the Fields Director to determine which field's games are cancelled.

- (a) The Fields Director shall inform the full board of all cancellations/delay due to unsafe field conditions due to inclement weather or other circumstances.
- (b) The LIO shall update the message on the Trumbull Little League cancellation phone lined and update the league web site.
- (c) When a game has not been cancelled by the above method, it shall then be the umpire's responsibility to determine the status of the game at the field.
- (d) If there is no umpire assigned to a game, it shall then be the Managers' responsibility to determine the status of the game at the field.
- (e) Whenever a game is cancelled at the field, it shall be the Manager's responsibility to notify the Division Director of the cancellation.
- (f) Each Division Director shall notify Master Scheduler of all games that were cancelled so that they may be rescheduled.

### 15.3 Rescheduling

- (a) Using available fields and times, assign a time slot for all cancelled games.
- (b) There should be a minimum one-week notice of all make-up games where practicable. This will not be possible toward the end of the season.
- (c) Forward these tentative assignments to the Umpire-in-Chief who shall check the availability of umpires for these fields and times.
- (d) Reassign time slots as required to accommodate umpire availability.
- (e) Forward the revised Master Schedule to the Umpire-in-Chief who shall schedule umpires for these make-up games.
- (f) Forward the revised Master Schedule to each Division Director for distribution to the Team Managers.
- (g) The revised Master Schedule is now considered official.
- (h) All games shall be rescheduled by the Directors of Divisions, Umpire-in-Chief and Safety/Field

## 16 Concession Stand

Trumbull Little League is currently responsible for the operation and maintenance of concession stand(s) at Unity Park. It is Trumbull Little League's responsibility to ensure that they meet the standards required from the Fire Marshall and the Board of Health. These expenses are incurred (by TLL) as capital expenses each year.

T.L.L. reserves the right to lease out the concession stand(s) to another party for the everyday operations including all of the financial transactions or to operate the concessions stands by our Board or designated committee to organize and carry out the everyday duties of the stands. The actual terms of the agreement may vary. There shall be a contract when awarded to another party that shall be legal and binding.

It is our goal to provide refreshments in a clean and safe environment to the family and fans attending the baseball and softball games and other activities in a fashion that is in the best interest of the program.

## 17 All Star

### 17.1 Appointment of All Star Committee

All Star Committee Chairman shall be appointed by the President prior to the start of the Spring season. The Committee Chairman will have oversight of the District and additional All Star tournaments. In addition, the President shall appoint an all-star team manager/coaches selection committee, comprised of a minimum of 3 members, typically by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

### 17.2 Manager / Coach Selection

- (a) Any manager/coach who has coached during the current little league season is eligible for an All-star coaching position.
- (b) The TLL BOD will notify all regular season manager/coaches to submit a letter of interest to the All Star Committee Chairman if they would like to either Manage/coach an all-star team, by May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- (c) All prospective manager/coaches must submit a letter to the TLL BOD expressing his/her desire to manage, coach or either available position and what all-star team they would like to manage/coach, by May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- (d) All Star Manager/Coach son/daughter review will be conducted prior to the approval of each Manager/Coach.
- (e) The committee will review all letters received by prospective manager/coaches and arrive at a slate of proposed manager/coaches to be submitted to the full TLL BOD for vote.
- (f) The full TLL BOD may change the proposed slate as a result of the review.
- (g) The President will only vote to break a tie.
- (h) Manager/Coaches selection for all divisions except for the baseball majors Division should be completed by June 1st in order to give the manager enough time to hold try-outs.

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### 17.3 Team Composition

Trumbull Little League All-star teams will be comprised of a minimum of 12 players. The only time a team may have less than 12 players is if the Trumbull Little League Board of Directors (“TLL BOD”) has provided prior approval.

### 17.4 Team Selection

All baseball and softball all-star teams, except for Baseball and Softball Majors Division All-star teams, are to be selected (Tryout Process) by the respective manager of that team.

Selection of the all-star teams should be based on:

1. A minimum of 2 tryouts scheduled by the Manager
2. The player’s performance during the regular season
3. Attitude of the player
4. Positions needed by the team
5. Commitment of the player to make his/her practices and games. This may require that no vacations are to be taken by team members until after the all-star season ends.

#### 17.4.1 Baseball and Softball Majors Division All-Star Team Selection (All Star Ballot Process):

- (a) Nine (9) members of the all-star team are selected by a confidential process whereby all players vote on all eligible players in the division.
- (b) The manager/coaches will then select the (3) three remaining players based upon the player’s performance during the regular season, attitude, and positions needed by the team.
- (c) The vote should be conducted by June 15<sup>th</sup>. or 15 days before The District 2 tournament begins, whichever is sooner.
- (d) Each players vote will count once, while Manager, Coach, Director of Operations, and League Commissioner will count twice.
- (e) 11 year old players are eligible to be placed on the ballot; however the player must gain enough votes to be in the top 5 players in the voting.
- (f) The league President and/or Vice President or delegate assigned by the President oversee the voting process.
- (g) The results of the vote are to be kept confidential.
- (h) The manager of the all-star team shall be told the top 9 vote getters in alphabetical order. Also the next 3 vote getters are given to the manager also alphabetically.

### 17.5 Eligibility

Any player who has played at least 70% of the regular season games is eligible to be placed on the ballot or be evaluated during tryouts.

### 17.6 Announcement

All baseball and softball all-star teams must **not** be announced before June 15th or 15 days prior to the first game of District play.

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### 17.7 Team Uniforms

Trumbull Little League shall not finance the costs of All-Star uniforms. The team or a sponsor shall purchase them. Trumbull Little League will oversee and approve the styles and types of uniforms for each Division.

### 17.8 Tournaments

Trumbull Little League will not finance any tournament.

### 17.9 Practices

The All Star coaching staff shall coordinate practice fields with the Post Season Director.

## 18 Fall Ball

### 18.1 Introduction

Fall Ball is for instruction and training in the fundamentals of baseball and softball to improve players' skills and to prepare them for the next season.

### 18.2 Purpose

The Primary function of Fall Ball utilizes chosen coaches to instruct the players through the multiple facets of the game and experience a variety of playing positions. Focus shall continue on building team skills and the social benefits of, while allowing the player to strengthen individual weaknesses. The non-competitive environment permits the player to first establish and to then achieve personal goals.

### 18.3 Playing Rules

The Fall Ball divisions shall use the TLL playing rules and the current edition of the Little League Baseball/Softball Official Regulations and Playing Rules.

### 18.4 Organization

The Vice President shall govern the Fall Ball program within the guidelines established by Little League and local rules. The B.O.D. in its sole discretion may choose to establish a Fall Ball Committee by appointing volunteers to assist and or perform the day-to-day operation of the program. If a Fall Ball Committee is established, the V.P. will act as a liaison between the Committee and the B.O.D.

### 18.5 Divisions

Fall Ball divisions shall be formed based on the age distribution of registrations received. Players who played in the Majors the prior Spring season shall be divided as equally as possible amongst all teams. Player's age is determined by what his/her playing age will be for the following season.

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The following divisions shall be formed (as registrations allow):

<b>Division</b>
<b>Baseball (5/6)</b>
<b>Baseball (7/8)</b>
<b>Baseball Minors (9/10)</b>
<b>Majors (11/12)</b>
<b>Softball (7/8)</b>
<b>Softball (9/10)</b>
<b>Softball (11/12)</b>
<b>Softball (13/14)</b>

### 18.6 Volunteers / Coaches

Adults registering to volunteer must complete a Volunteer Registration form including authorization for the Board of Directors to perform a background check, if not already on file for current year. For more information concerning background checks, see Trumbull Little League's policy on Background Checks.

Participating in the Spring Season is not a prerequisite to participate in Fall Ball or a guarantee that a coaching position shall be granted. Coaching selections shall be conducted by the Board of Directors in accordance with local rules. The Board of Directors reserves the right to solicit the efforts of the Fall Ball Committee to assist or make recommendations for the Coaching selections.

### 18.7 Registration

All players must register to participate in the program. Registration shall consist of having a Parent or Legal Guardian complete a Registration Form. Dates for registration shall be made available via any or combination of direct mail, advertising or publishing in the local papers. Players registering shall be required to provide proof of age and residency in accordance with the policies of Little League, if not already on file for the current year.

A registration fee shall be required from each player prior to commencement of the season. The amount of the fee shall be determined prior to registration by the Fall Ball Committee. Utilization of the fee shall be, but not limited to, supporting the operation of Trumbull Little League, the purchase of equipment, clinics, field maintenance, or required capital improvements.

### 18.8 Players:

Fall Ball is available to Trumbull residents, both boys and girls meeting the divisional age requirements. No experience is required and participation in prior organized sports or Trumbull Little League's spring season is not a prerequisite. Players are required to supply their own baseball glove and appropriate footwear. See Trumbull Little League's policy on equipment.

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### **18.9 Divisional Age Requirements:**

Eligibility to play within a certain division shall be determined by the registered player's age. Each division shall post a range of birth dates that qualifies for that division as published by Little League or in accordance to local rules. The range in which the registered player's birth date complies shall determine the proper division.

Authorization from by the Board of Directors shall be required for any registered player to play outside of their age division.

### **18.10 Try Outs:**

Tryouts are not a requirement of Fall Ball. All registered players shall be placed on a team with emphasis to keep teams between twelve (12) and fourteen (14) players.

### **18.11 Team Selections:**

Registered players shall be placed upon a team by the Board of Directors or, if elected, the Fall Ball Committee. Best efforts shall be utilized to perform team selections with the emphasis to ensure league parity and competitive play.

### **18.12 Schedule:**

Fall Ball is an instructional 7-8 week program with games scheduled on weekends. Each team shall play a single game on each Saturday and Sundays when no clinics are planned. Double headers shall only be the exception and utilized only with prior approval from the Board of Directors.

The team manager shall have the option, but not the requirement, to hold a team practice once a week.

Since the emphasis of the program is instructional, Fall Ball shall not include a playoff or end of season tournament. Board of Directors reserves the right to reverse this decision on a seasonal basis.

## **19 Travel Programs**

Under Little League regulations, Trumbull Little League teams may only play in Little League activities. They are not permitted to play against teams in other programs or in non-Little League tournaments. However, players may play in other programs provided it does not disrupt the Little League season.

## **20 Challenger Program**

Trumbull Little League has established a Little League Challenger Division available to boys or girls ages 4-18, with a physical or developmental challenge. If a child can participate in the traditional Little League Baseball or Softball program with reasonable accommodations we encourage them to do so.

Games are 1-2 innings long and last about an hour. All players play defensively and bat every inning. Typically games are 1-2 innings long and last about an hour. All players play defensively and bat every inning. Buddies are assigned to assist Challenger athletes in the areas of batting, base running and defense, but only as needed. Buddies are peer athletes who are participating in the Little League Baseball or Softball program as well as and Trumbull Little League alumni. There are no registration fees for Trumbull Little League Challenger players.