

Westborough Little League 2019 Season All-Star Policy

Section 1 – Tryouts, Nomination, and Selection Process

- 1.1. TRYOUTS :: Players interested in trying out for the 2019 All-Star teams may be invited to work out in front of managers and independent evaluators so that their relative skill level can be compared against other players within their age group if it's determined a tryout is required for their age group. The tryout will be an hour-long process and will ask players to go through a series of stations aimed at identifying their relative baseball skill levels in fielding, throwing, running, hitting, and athleticism. While important in the overall assessments, and will be used to help guide the selection of the All Star team, the tryouts are only one aspect of the selection to the team. Managers input at the selection meeting (see below) will also be an important aspect of their selection. Dates for the tryouts will be announced at least a week prior to the event.
- 1.2. NOMINATION :: Players who are interested in participating on the all-star teams should express their interest in doing so by registering on the league website prior to the tryout dates. All-Star players will be selected through a detailed selection process described in greater detail below.

A nomination and selection meeting will be held by each of the Division managers no later than June 10th. This will allow enough time to compile and submit rosters and affidavits to the various tournament committees. To the extent practical, all managers involved at that Division must be included in the All-Star selection. EVERY candidate that expresses their interest shall have his/her name listed on the nomination board so that all parties involved get a clear view of potential All-Star team players. An independent member of the Westborough Little League Executive Board will attend and run all selection meetings. This Executive Board member shall not have a conflict of interest in a Division's selection process. To be eligible to be considered for All-Star team participation, candidates must meet and/or understand the following criteria:

- A. Candidates must complete 60% of their scheduled regular season games to be declared eligible for All-Star play.
- B. Candidates interested in participating in the All Star season will make their intentions known by completing the nomination & commitment form on the league website prior to the tryout date.
- C. Sportsmanship plays a major role in being on an All-Star team. Poor attitude and behavior will not be tolerated and will impact a candidate's consideration for nomination.
- D. To be eligible for selection to the 12YO LLWS Tournament Team, you must be 100% committed to be available for the entire duration of the event (June 13 through July 25, excluding July 3rd and 4th, when any practices will be considered "optional"). To be eligible for the 8YO, 9YO, 10YO, or 11YO All Star teams and the 12YO "B" team, a candidate must first indicate that they are 100% committed to the team, but

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with permission granted by the team manager, players on these teams may miss up to one (1) game and/or up to two (2) practices that are scheduled with at least 3 days of advanced notice. There are no exceptions permitted for the 12YO Tournament team.

NOTE: during the season, certain unexpected events may arise that will take the player away from the team activities. These might include illnesses, injuries, family emergencies, and other unexpected and/or unfortunate life events. The commitment rule above does not apply to these situations as they are not possible to foresee. The expectation is that the player/family will contact the team manager when practical and let them know if/when to expect the return of the player to the team. The manager will inform the Player Agent to confirm no disciplinary action will be taken.

- 1.3. Once the pool of potential players has been identified, the Division managers will select the All-Star teams by ballot. There is no requirement that a player be selected from every team. Three or more selection rounds will be needed to complete team rosters.

Round One:

All players will be discussed openly and honestly by all the members of the selection committee. In the majority of the cases, the player's manager will first provide a summary of the player's contributions to his/her team followed by the opportunity of other managers to chime in with their observations and thoughts. Selection will start by each manager casting votes for five (5) roster positions from the available pool of nominees. All nominees receiving votes from more than 50% of the managers will be placed on the All-Star team. Once selected to the All-Star team, players will be removed from the nominating board. (It is possible that less than five will be selected.)

Round Two:

The managers will then discuss the players remaining on the board and vote for another five (5) roster positions in the next round. Again, all nominees receiving votes from more than 50% of the managers will be placed on the All-Star team and their names will be removed from the nominating board.

Round Three:

After providing one more opportunity for discussion, the managers will then cast a number votes equal to the balance of the roster positions yet unfilled, as determined from number shown in Table A, from the available pool of nominees. Of those nominees receiving votes from more than 50% of the managers, the nominee receiving the highest number of votes will fill the first available roster spot and be placed on the All-Star team. The next highest vote getter will fill the next available roster spot and so on. In case there are two (2) or more nominees tied for the last available roster position, only those tied will be made available for one final runoff vote.

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- 1.4. All-Star team rosters will need to be certified by the independent Board members running the selection process before the teams may be announced. Following that certification, the teams may be announced as soon as all the teams have been selected by the Team's manager.
- 1.5. All-Star managers must be elected by the managers of that division (Majors, Jr., Sr., etc.) or by volunteers who are familiar with their managerial skills. Managers shall be nominated in the same manner as the players. They shall be nominated from a pool of active managers from a specific division, any rostered assistant coaches from the specific division, or from previous All-Star team managers of this particular age group. If none are nominated, then other candidates will be considered based on familiarity with the age group. It is not mandatory that All-Star managers have a player on the team he/she manages. All-Star managers must be selected after selection of players. Manager nominees shall complete and submit a 2019 All-Star Manager Nomination Form prior to the All-Star manager voting process. Final approval of All-Star managers will be at the discretion of the Executive Board. The process for selecting a Manager is noted below:

There shall be a minimum of 5 voters for any vote held to select an all-star manager, unless said a nominee runs unopposed. Voters shall first consist of head coaches who coached in the most recent season and in the league from which the team is comprised. Coaches who have submitted their name for consideration as an all-star manager **and** their assistants are **not** eligible to vote, even if they are a member of the BB Ops Board. In the event that there are not 5 head coaches who meet this criteria, contingency voters will be selected with the following criteria and with the following process:

- Baseball Ops Board members who are not themselves a nominee for the all-star manager role
- Official rostered assistant coaches (those who are CORI'd and permitted in the dugout during playoff games) of those coaches who are themselves also eligible to vote.

Potential contingency voters must meet the following criteria in order to be eligible:

- Must agree to participate in the voting process
- Must be able to attend the selection meeting either via phone or in person.

Once the pool of potential voters has been established, the President of the Baseball Operations Board and the League commissioner (or Baseball Ops board member if the President and Commissioner are the same person or are being considered for the managerial role) will meet prior to the manager selection meeting to determine the voters for the meeting. The names of all eligible contingency voters who meet the criteria stated above shall be drawn randomly until the minimum of 5 voters is met. Managers who are not conflicted out of the process are automatically part of the section committee.

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(E.g. 3 coaches submit their names for consideration and there are 5 teams in the league. The remaining 2 coaches would qualify to vote. 3 contingency voters would need to be drawn from a pool of eligible contingency voters (assistant coaches of the two eligible coaches or BB Ops Board members). Those 5 voters would then be present during the selection meeting and will participate in the coaches selection process only.)

- 1.6. Official All-Star “bench” coaches shall be picked by the All-Star manager. The role of the coaches is to assist the Manager on the field. Unless otherwise restricted by tournament rules, the manager shall select two (2) coaches and a scorekeeper. First consideration shall be given to the pool of active managers and rostered assistant coaches from the division. If none are available, then the selection will be at the All-Star Manager’s discretion. It is not mandatory that All-Star coaches have a player on the team he/she coaches. Final approval of All-Star coaches will be at the discretion of the Executive Board.
- 1.7. Once the players, managers, and coaches are selected for each of the All Star teams, a mandatory meeting will be held, with the manager, parents, tournament director, and Baseball Board President (or designee). This meeting would serve to answer any questions about the all star season, reinforce the provisions of the All Star policy (including the various levels of commitments, playing time, and the role of the manager), and provide the opportunity to collect necessary additional all star-related fees and process necessary paperwork for the upcoming season. At the meeting, parents and players will have an opportunity to have any questions or concerns they may have addressed before the All Star season by Little League officials or their Manager; be informed about the reporting, hearing, and disciplinary process in place for violations of the Commitment levels; and will allow for the manager to meet with the team ahead of the season’s first practices.

Section 2 – Playing Time and Position Requirements

NOTE : Dates shown are approximate only and may change subject to the tournament organizers, weather, and other outside factors not know at this time.

8 Year Olds (AA) – Roster: 12.

Ashland Sparkler Tournament. Dates June 17-July 15 (no games July 3-5).

- Tournament rules ensure equitable playing time.
- All players must play a minimum # of innings in the infield.
- Selection of the player will be through a tryout process.
- General Tournament dates run from June 15-July 31.

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9 Year Olds (AAA) –Roster: 12

Shrewsbury Minor League Tournament. Dates June 21-July 9 (no games July 1-4)

Webster District 5 Tournament. Dates July 15-July 23

Northborough 9 YO Tournament. Dates July 24-August 2 (optional, if interested)

- All players should receive equal playing time.
- Manager is required to play every player in the infield each game.
- Pitching and Catching shall be left to the discretion of the Manager.
- Selection of the players will be through a tryout process.

10 Year Olds (Majors & AAA) - Roster: 12 to 13

Oxford District 5 Jimmy Fund Tournament. Dates June 24-July 22

- All players should receive equal playing time.
- Manager is required to play every player in the infield each game.
- Pitching and Catching shall be left to the discretion of the Manager.
- Full time 10 year olds in Majors are automatically offered a slot on the All-Star roster. Therefore, no selection process is required for those players who are called up to the Majors in a given season (unless they don't meet the minimum playing time rule ~ see 1.2 (A) above). These players must certify that they can meet the commitment level to be included in this team.
- Given only four 10 year olds were called up to the Majors in 2019, the remaining roster spots will need to be filled by 10 year old players in the AAA division. A special selection process, to be overseen by the Tournament Director, will be held by the AAA managers prior to the selection of the 10 Year Old AAA team to fill the vacancies required to bring the roster to 12 or 13 players.
- 10 Year Old Majors players that decline to participate on this A level team are eligible to participate on the 10 Year Old B level team (if there is enough interest in forming a 10 year old "B" level team).

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10 Year Olds (AAA) - Roster: 12

Hopkinton Sizzler "B" Team Tournament. Dates June 13-July 16

- This team will be formed only if there is enough interest from the combined 10-year-old grouping and only after the 10-year-old Majors team has been formed.
- All players should receive equal playing time.
- Manager is required to play every player in the infield each game.
- Pitching and Catching shall be left to the Manager's discretion. That being said, the Manager shall do his best to give each player who wants to pitch or catch the opportunity to do so.
- 10 year old Majors players are not eligible to be on this roster.

11 Year Olds "A" Team (Majors) - Roster: 12 to 13.

Millbury District 5 Tournament. Dates June 30 – July 29.

- All players should receive equal playing time.
- Playing positions shall be left to the discretion of the Manager. The Manager shall do his best to give each player at least a minimal amount of playing time in the infield.
- Pitching and Catching shall be left to the discretion of the Manager.
- The A level commitment makes practice attendance mandatory; therefore it will be taken into account in regard to playing time.
- The manager shall make the decision as to whether to carry 12 or 13 players on the roster.

11 Year Old "B" Team (Majors) –Roster 12

Hopkinton Sizzler "B" Team Tournament. Dates June 13-July 16

- This team will be formed if there is enough interest from the combined 11 year old group and only after the 11 Year old "A" Team is formed.
- All players should receive equal playing time.
- Manager is required to play every player in the infield each game.
- Pitching and Catching shall be left to the Manager's discretion. That being said, the Manager shall do his best to give each player who wants to pitch or catch the opportunity to do so.

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- 11 year old AAA players are eligible to be on this roster as are all 11 year old major's players.

12 Year Olds (Majors) - Roster: 12 to 14

Little League World Series Tournament Team. Dates: June 13 – July 14 (possibly more if the team advances)

This team will participate in the Little League World Series Tournament, starting with District 5's Local Tournament. If they win the district championship, they will advance to the State Tournament and possibly beyond. The Manager shall be given wide range discretion as far as playing time while abiding by the required Little League rules. The manager shall make the decision as to whether to carry 12, 13 or 14 players on the roster.

12 Year Old "B" Team (Majors) –Roster 12

Hopkinton Sizzler "B" Team Tournament. Dates June 13-July 16

- This team will be formed if there is enough interest from the combined 11 year old group and only after the 12 Year old "A" Team is formed.
- All players should receive equal playing time.
- Manager is required to play every player in the infield each game.
- Pitching and Catching shall be left to the Manager's discretion. That being said, the Manager shall do his best to give each player who wants to pitch or catch the opportunity to do so.
- All 12 year old players are eligible to be on this roster.

Section 3 – Administrative Requirements

- 3.1. If Westborough Little League hosts any District 5 tournament games, other than the District 5 11 Year Old tournament, then managers, coaches and parents of All-Star teams involved will be required to assist the Tournament Director in providing field grooming and concession stand coverage for tournament games played at Westborough fields. This assistance is NOT optional. The All-Star manager is directly responsible to the Tournament Director to provide this support.
- 3.2. All-Star players in every Division except 12 Year Old (Majors) and 11 Year Old (Majors) will be required to pay a tournament fee of \$125.00 to help defray the cost of entering tournaments, uniforms, and equipment expenses.

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- 3.3. All-Star players in the 12 Year Old (Majors) and 11 Year Old (Majors) - will be required to pay a tournament fee of \$150.00. Westborough Little League will be a regional host site for the District 5 11 Year Old Tournament. These funds will be used to both help defray the cost of entering tournaments and to allow the league to hire staff for field grooming and concession stand coverage for tournament games played at Westborough fields. This will free up the manager, coaches and parents of the team to follow the team whether home or away.
- 3.4. Each All-Star player will receive one (1) All-Star Hat. Each All-Star team will receive five (5) additional All-Star Hats to be used by the All-Star manager and coaching staff of the team. These additional five (5) hats are for adult use only. All-Star hats will not be made available for sale under any circumstances. Lost or damaged hats will not be replaced.
- 3.5. All-Star Managers are required to report All-Star policy violations immediately to the Tournament Director.
- 3.6. Changes to this process may only be made by the Westborough Little League Executive Board.
- 3.7. Questions regarding this process shall be directed to Curtis Bramley, Tournament Director, Tony Potenti, President of Baseball Operations, or Jason Pisciotta, Westborough Little League Baseball & Softball President.