

# Stanwood-Camano Little League

## All-Star Team Selection Process

*SCLL Board of Directors approved the following process on January 7, 2016 for immediate implementation.*

### SELECTION POLICY AND BASIC OVERVIEW

As a League, Stanwood-Camano Little League strives to make sure that the regular season offers as much opportunity to play and experience baseball and softball as possible. Our League has many different playing levels, each geared to accommodate players based on their age and ability of play.

The All-Star Season is a completely separate season from the regular season. It is an opportunity for a higher level of play within the regional Little League system. Players will have a significantly higher level of commitment, will receive a more intense level of instruction and have a chance to compete against other All-Star teams.

When it comes to All-Star teams, it is the intent of Stanwood-Camano Little League Board to field a team that will **best represent our League in competition and character**. Stanwood-Camano Little League believes that it is important to include the players themselves in the selection process and that the process be transparent and fair to all kids. All of the baseball and softball players should have an opportunity to make the team regardless of popularity, school affiliation, parental influence, or manager bias. The details of all selections shall be held in the strictest of confidence and remain private by all of those on the All-Star Selection Committee and any managers/coaches involved in the voting.

All selection decisions regarding All-Star teams need to be made with the SCLL Board and District approved ideals in mind. Several characteristics permeate our selection process for players and Managers for the All-Stars team:

- Skill-level and ability to compete
- Attitude, hustle, team spirit, and team leadership
- Overall character, integrity, and sportsmanship

Winning is fun, but it is very important that we remember that Little League is a child development program and that we strive to teach life lessons while also building and demonstrating the positive ideals and characteristics that we hope for in all of our children.

### GENERAL PLAYER SELECTION PROCESS AND PROCEDURE

#### Timing

The All-Star team selection process will begin approx. 3-4 weeks prior to the start of the All-Star season. The All-Star team *cannot* be announced at any earlier date than is prescribed by Little League Rules each year (typically June 15<sup>th</sup> or two weeks prior to the start of the first tournament game).

The All-Star practices typically begin in the middle of June when teams are announced. Practices usually run 2 to 3 hours per day and can be up to 7 days a week up to the time of the tournament.

The All-Star tournaments typically begin in late June or early July and may encompass July 4<sup>th</sup>. If a team were to win the District All-Star Tournament, the team would then move on to the State Tournament (typically late July).

The older teams also have a regional tournament in California or Arizona and the Little League World

Series that takes place in early to late August in Pennsylvania or California should they advance past state.

### **Player and Parent Commitment**

SCLL is striving to field the most competitive All-Star teams possible and assure that they are comprised of players and managers/coaches that represent the attitude and character we desire.

With this in mind, SCLL wishes to involve only parents and players who are committed to the hard work and practice time that are required to participate at this level of competition. Each interested player submits his or her name for consideration by completing the All-Star Commitment Form by the deadline specified by the league.

The player and parent must agree to a high level of commitment to All-Stars. Although the SCLL Board recognizes that many players participate in additional leagues and sports, tournament players must bear in mind that their first commitment is to the SCLL team before any other non-Little League team or to any other sport camps or sport teams during the All-Star Season. A player's availability will be considered when selections are made.

### **Number of Players**

Each All-Star team representing SCLL will consist of 12 or 13 Players. In SCLL the All-Star Manager has the discretion of choosing a 13<sup>th</sup> player from among those eligible for the team. It is strongly recommended that the All-Star Manager carry 12 Players due to the possibility of significantly reduced playing time for more players upon carrying 13 players per Little League minimum play allowance.

The SCLL President, or his/her designee, shall appoint a new player should the team need to replace a player due to injury, lack of commitment, ineligibility, or other unforeseen circumstance. Per Little League rules, some players may be eligible for multiple teams, however, an Individual may only be selected or be allowed to practice or play with one All-Star team.

### **Number of Managers and Coaches**

Managers will be selected from regular season rostered managers and coaches. All-Star teams may only have three adults in the dugout during games consisting of the rostered team manager and two rostered coaches.

## **TEAMS AND AGE GROUPS**

### **Baseball:**

#### **Seniors Team**

The Seniors All-Star team will be made up of players who are League age 13, 14, 15, or 16 years of age and who played in the SCLL Seniors division during the regular season.

#### **Juniors Team**

The Juniors All-Star team will be made up of players who are League age 12, 13 or 14 years of age and who played in the SCLL Juniors division during the regular season.

#### **Intermediate Team**

The Intermediate All-Star team will be made up of players who are League age 11, 12 or 13 years of age and who played in the SCLL Intermediate division during the regular season.

#### **Majors Team**

The Majors All-Star team will be made up of players who are League age 11 or 12 years of age and who played in the SCLL Majors division during the regular season.

**10-11 year-old Team**

The 10-11 year-old All-Star team will be made up of players who are 10 or 11 years of age who played in the SCLL Majors or Minors division during the regular season.

**9-10 year-old team**

The 9-10 year-old All-Star team will be made up of players who are 9 or 10 years of age who played in the SCLL Majors or Minor division during the regular season.

**Softball:****Seniors Team**

The Seniors All-Star team will be made up of players who are League age 13, 14, 15, or 16 years of age and who played in the SCLL Seniors division during the regular season.

**Juniors Team**

The Juniors All-Star team will be made up of players who are League age 12, 13 or 14 years of age and who played in the SCLL Juniors division during the regular season.

**Intermediate Team**

The Intermediate All-Star team will be made up of players who are League age 11, 12 or 13 years of age and who played in the SCLL Intermediate division during the regular season.

**Majors Team**

The Majors All-Star team will be made up of players who are League age 11 or 12 years of age and who played in the SCLL Majors division during the regular season.

**10-11 year-old Team**

The 10-11 year-old All-Star team will be made up of players who are 10 or 11 years of age who played in the SCLL Majors or Minors division during the regular season.

**9-10 year-old team**

The 9-10 year-old All-Star team will be made up of players who are 9 or 10 years of age who played in the SCLL Majors or Minor division during the regular season.

**ALL-STAR PLAYER SELECTION PROCESS****Eligibility**

Players must meet the eligibility requirements set forth in the Official LL Rules and Regulations. In general, a player must participate in 60% of the regular season games and attend at least one of the preseason tryouts to be eligible for All-Star nomination by the regular season Managers of his/her respective division. Every regular season Manager will solicit all of the players on their team to identify those that are available and interested in having their name considered for All-Star Player Candidate Selection.

**Balloting**

Any players who have indicated interest in being considered for All-Star voting shall be placed on the ballot as a Candidate. This involves submitting a signed All-Star commitment form, typically administered by the managers in May. Every manager at AAA level and above (minors and above for softball) will solicit all of the players/parents on their team to identify those that are interested in having their name considered for the All-Stars ballots. Managers of AA minor teams may choose to nominate one player candidate from their team for the ballot.

Managers and coaches will encourage all players to apply regardless of ability. Every player that completes a commitment/eligibility form will have their name placed on the ballots as eligible for the All-Star team.

### **Voting**

All regular season Little League players (AAA and above) are allowed 6 votes at each age level for the candidates on their divisional ballot. Managers and parents may not assist in the vote. Player voting is an independent and anonymous activity, which is conducted on the field. Players may not vote for themselves and may only select 3 players from their own team at each age level and must vote only once per candidate. Players vote for their division's candidates and for candidates of their same age group. Voting will take place at all levels AAA and above. Managers of AA minor teams may choose to nominate one player candidate from their team for the ballot.

Rostered managers and rostered coaches (up to three total per team) will be allowed 12 votes on their divisional ballot at each age level. These votes are also independent and anonymous but may be conducted by email or other means and returned to the player agent. Managers and coaches may vote for up to six players at each age level from their team. The remainder must be from other teams.

### **Vote tally and initial player selection**

The Player Agent, with oversight from the President, or designee, shall tally the votes and create consolidated ranked lists of player candidates by age.

### **Tryouts**

When deemed necessary, the Board of Directors can call for tryouts to manage issues surrounding fielding the most competitive team.

### **Final Eligible Player Candidate Pool**

To be considered for placement on an All-Star team the player candidate must meet certain criteria:

- He/She must be ranked among the top 18 in the division/age group, or top 30%, whichever is greater or
- The player must be a nominated player by a AAA or AA manager

### **Final Team Configurations**

The league managers will then meet together with the player agent, president, and other officers appointed by the board to review and confirm the player rankings and determine the final roster of players. At this manager meeting, managers will vote, one player slot at a time, until the first 12 players are chosen for the team by majority vote. Brief discussions between votes about team position and other needs are appropriate between votes with the president or player agent calling for a vote. A 13th player may be added later by the approved All-Star Manager.

Players are evaluated on multiple criteria including: player's performance, attitude, character, sportsmanship and teamwork. The team is completed on the basis of these criteria and on the needs of the All-Star team (i.e. are their adequate catchers and pitchers, and other key positions represented). Once the managers have completed their deliberations, the final recommended slate of players for each team is submitted to the Board President for final approval. The SCLL President shall be involved in the manager deliberations and shall make the final decision to accept the committee recommended roster on behalf of the SCLL Board, unless the President or another board member feels that there is sufficient reason to call for a Board meeting to resolve an issue.

### **At Large Player Selection**

Each All-Star team representing SCLL will consist of 12 or 13 Players. In SCLL the All-Star manager, once chosen, has the discretion of choosing a 13<sup>th</sup> player from among those eligible pool of players. This player must fall within the top 30% of players on the manager or player voting or be an 11 year old appointed by a AAA manager or a 9 year-old nominated by a AA manager. This player must exhibit outstanding All-Star qualities of leadership and sportsmanship.

### **Confidentiality and Oversight**

The process and meetings are facilitated by the League President (who is not eligible to manage an All-Star team) and assisted by the Player Agent. The results (rankings, selection order, etc.), and manager deliberations about the prospective players, are strictly confidential. Board members and managers shall refrain from discussing any manager or player candidate rankings outside of nomination and selection committee meetings.

### **Player Candidate Notification**

The All-Star team manager is asked to notify all selected players as promptly as is possible, but not prior to the date set forth in the Little League Rules and Regulations. This is typically June 15<sup>th</sup> or 2 weeks prior to the first tournament game.

## **MANAGER AND COACH SELECTION PROCESS**

The President of the League inquires of each Manager or Coach to determine who is interested in managing All-Star teams and encourages them to submit an application. The manager, via confidential correspondence or conversation, shall provide the president with an application and any additional input needed for All-Star manager candidacy for each of the teams. The President shall solicit additional information with regard to a manager's candidacy and alignment with League ideals should multiple All-Star manager candidates emerge.

### **All-Star Manager Candidate selection criteria and eligibility, per Little League rules:**

- All-Star managers shall be a rostered manager or coach during the regular season for the level they wish to manage.
- The League President may not serve as an All-Star manager or coach without approval from the District Administrator.
- A Manager or coach that has participated in another youth baseball and softball League may be eliminated from All-Star participation if their participation in the other League is deemed "detrimental" to League operations.
- *Selection as manager or coach does not guarantee inclusion of the manager's or coach's child(ren) on the team.* The players must meet the criteria set forth in final eligible player candidate pool and should earn their right to participate based on their own merit.

After the manager applications and other input are received, the SCLL Board shall hold a meeting to discuss the manager candidates and discuss the President's findings and act upon the President's recommendation to the Board. The President shall seek proxies from all Board members not able to attend and those with direct conflicts in the decision shall be excused.

Should the Board not be able to reach consensus, the League President shall seek counsel from the District Administrator and make the final determination on the selected manager for each team.

The selected manager is allowed to choose the two coaches after the players have been selected, provided that each coach is a rostered manager or coach during the regular season for the selected level and meets all other eligibility requirements. The SCLL President shall make the final decision to accept the selected manager's recommended coaches on behalf of the SCLL Board, unless the President feels that there is sufficient reason to call for a Board meeting to resolve an issue.

