



## HERSHEY LITTLE LEAGUE POLICY & PROCEDURES

### All Stars Selection and Procedures

Last Rev. Date: January 8, 2025

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#### **1.0 Purpose**

This Exhibit defines the objectives, policy and a procedure associated with the selection process of All-Star Team(s), Managers and Coaches and defines the participation in All-Star Tournaments.

#### **2.0 Scope**

Defines the objectives of the Hershey Little League All-Star Program:

1. To recognize and reward a select proportion of the top players in the Majors, Minors and Colts divisions for their accomplishments and commitment during the regular season by providing an opportunity to develop advanced skills by playing highly competitive baseball, and
2. To represent the best of Hershey Little League, Derry Township and the community of Hershey by competing to win while pursuing excellence on the field with the highest levels of sportsmanship.

#### **3.0 Responsibilities**

Hershey Little League (HLL) may field the following All-Star teams with each team initially **rostering twelve (12) players**. Team Coach may choose to add up to 2 alternate players based on team needs for additional tournaments. *Little League International does not allow rostered alternates in International Tournament play.*

HLL will provide uniforms, balls, and fees for games and scrimmages associated with tournaments listed. (An additional fee of \$60.00 per player is required to cover these expenses.) If an All-Star team chooses to play additional games or tournaments beyond those supported and approved by HLL, participation must be approved by HLL board or HLL baseball operations committee. All related additional costs will be the responsibility of the team unless specifically approved by the HLL board.

#### **4.0 Age Limits**

All teams created under this policy shall adhere to the Little League International division age rules, if that team is eligible for Little League International Tournament play. At the time of approval, those age limits are based on a player's age as of August 31 of that year. As of the time of the approval of these procedures, teams eligible for Little League International Tournament play are the 8U, 10U, 11U and 12U teams. The 9U team may take players based on the age limitations of local tournaments – players' age as of May 1 of that year.

## 5.0 Teams and Tournaments

### 5.1 Majors Division:

#### 1. Hershey Blue (12U):

The best players of all participating and eligible Majors players

- Alternate players shall be chosen after selection of the Hershey Orange 11U team
- Team will participate in at least 2 tournaments, and up to 6 based on game success
- Tournaments will be played in the following priority, until team is eliminated:
  - Little League Tournament (road to Williamsport) (late June through August)
    - District Little League Tournament
    - Sectional Little League Tournament
    - State Little League Tournament
    - Regional Little League Tournament
    - National Little League Tournament
    - International Little League Tournament
  - Hershey Summer Slam (Early June)
  - Other Tournaments based on availability

#### 2. Hershey Orange (11U):

The best players, league age 11-year-olds of all participating and eligible Majors players, that have not been selected to the Hershey Blue 12U.

- Alternates may be chosen after selection of the Hershey Blue 12U team. Players on this team are eligible to serve as alternates on the Blue 12U team ONLY if it does not interfere with any games for this team.
- Team will participate in at least 2 tournaments.
- Tournaments will be played in the following priority, until team is eliminated:
  - Little League Tournament (late June through July)
    - District Little League Tournament
    - Sectional Little League Tournament
    - State Little League Tournament
  - Hershey Summer Slam (Mid-June)
  - Other Tournaments based on availability

#### 3. Hershey White (12U):

The team may be formed at the discretion of the league commissioner

- The best players of all participating and eligible majors players that have not been selected to the Hershey Blue 12U or Hershey Orange 11U and were All-Star nominees.
- Teams will participate in at least 2 tournaments based on availability
- If there are enough deserving players to form the Hershey White team, players on this team may serve as alternates on the Orange and Blue teams, if they qualify by age.

## 5.2 Minors Division:

### 1. Hershey Blue (10U):

The best players league age 10 and under of all participating players. 10U players that play majors are also eligible; however, an eligible player who played in Majors shall not be placed on this team solely based upon their participation in the Majors division

- Teams will participate in at least 2 tournaments.
- Tournaments will be played in the following priority, until the team is eliminated
  - Hershey Summer Slam Tournament (early June),
  - Little League Tournament (Late June through July)
    - District Tournament
    - Sectional Tournament
    - State Tournament
  - Other tournaments based on availability (June-July)

### 2. Hershey Orange (9U):

The best players, league age 9-year-olds and under of all participating and eligible Minors players, that have not been selected to the Hershey Blue 10U team or the Hershey Blue 8U team.

- Team will participate in at least 2 tournaments.
- Tournaments will be played in the following priority, until the team is eliminated
  - Hershey Summer Slam ( Late June)
  - Other tournaments based on availability

### 3. Hershey White (10U):

The team may be formed at the discretion of the league commissioner

- The best players of all participating and eligible players 10 and under that have not been selected to an All-Star team and were All-Star nominees.
- Team will participate in at least 2 tournaments.

## 5.3 Colts Division

### 1. Hershey Blue (8U)

The best players, league age 8-years-old and under of all eligible Colts or Minors players. *A player shall not automatically be placed on this team based solely on their participation in a particular HLL division.*

- Team will participate in at least 3 tournaments
- Tournaments will be played in following priority:
  - Little League District Tournament (Mid-July)
  - Hershey Summer Slam (Mid-June)
  - Other Tournaments based on availability

## 5.4 Other All-Star Teams

Note: The following All-Star teams are listed for informational purposes only. Selection and determination of these All-Star teams independent of HLL. HLL does not sponsor the All-Star teams at these levels. HLL has no prescribed tournaments identified for these levels.

- All-star teams for 13U and older: Dauphin County Teener League & American Legion:
- American Legion (19U)  
One or two players per regular season team are nominated for the legion All-Star Team. Final player selection(s) is by the Legion All-Star coach. The coach of the team that wins the league is, per American legion Rules, the All-Star Team Coach.
- Sr Teener (19U), Teener A (Suburban)(15U) and Teener B (14U)  
One or Two players per team are nominated for the Regional Teener All-star team. Selection is by the Dauphin County Teener League Officers. The Coach of the Division winning team is, by Dauphin County Teener league rules, the All-Star Team Coach.

### **5.5 All-Star Tournaments**

Baseball OPS, Board All-Star Coordinator and The Team Manager for each team is responsible for registering their All-Star Team for tournaments and notifying players and parents with tournament information. Managers and Coaches must attend the pre-tournament coach's meeting to go over rules and make payment or mail it in advance. Rules are unique to each tournament. Pay particular attention to the limitations imposed when playing in a Little League Tournament (see the Little league web page). Specific tournament participation may vary as approved by baseball ops committee and/or HLL board.

### **6.0 All-Star Player Selection Process (Minors and Majors)**

The following All-Star selection process will be administered by the Division Commissioner and overseen by an independent designated Board member. Independently defined as a board member who does not coach, nor does he have a child or relation who is playing or coaching in that division.

#### **6.1 Collecting Nominations and Creating Ballots**

1. Division Commissioner shall distribute one (1) All-Star Nomination Ballot to each team on or before May 1
2. In order to aid managers in nominating players, the Commissioner/All-Star Coordinator shall provide each manager with a nomination form containing each player and their "League Age."
3. Managers shall complete and return the ballots to the Commissioner on or before May 8. Managers will:
  - a. Keep statistics for all players during the regular season necessary to support the nomination.
  - b. Identify the players on their team (minimum 6 – or as many as necessary to create a pool of nominated players containing at least 35-40 players in the league) who the manager believes have demonstrated the necessary skill, maturity, competitiveness and other attributes that would merit inclusion on one of the Hershey All-Star teams, and rate the players on the nomination form. Managers should take care to nominate players who are eligible for any team.

- For example if a minors manager has a player who does not demonstrate the necessary skill to be voted onto the 10U team, but player is age eligible for the 9U or 8U teams, the manager should nominate that player on their ballot, if that player's skill and other attributes would merit their inclusion on one of the younger teams.
- c. Players being nominated must have played in 60% of the regular season games. This is a Little League rule, waivers may be available for certain situations and should be discussed with League Commissioner.
- d. Players who have not played the minimum games may be eligible as alternates.
- e. Give each player a "star" ranking. Five stars mean that the manager and first assistant believe they are strong candidates.
- f. Prior to nomination of the player to the commissioner, the manager or first assistant coach is required to have a personal conversation with each player and their legal guardian to confirm that they are:
  - interested in being nominated for an All-Star team
  - committed to participation in whichever team they are voted to
  - have no significant commitment conflicts that could negatively impact the Team.
- g. Once all criteria in f) have been agreed upon, the manager will provide a copy of the "All-Star Family Commitment and Disclosure" form to all nominated players' parents or guardians prior to May 8. The parent or guardian must sign and return the letter to the Manager by May 15. Manager will submit the nomination form and the signed copies of the disclosure form prior to the voting session as directed by the Commissioner. If the parent or guardian does not agree to the policy, the player will not be eligible for an All-Star nomination.
- 4. The division commissioner shall collect the Nomination Ballots and All-Star Family Commitment and Disclosure form from each Manager on or before May 15.
- 5. The Division commissioner shall assemble the Voting Ballot for the Division.
  - List all players nominated for that division on the Voting Ballot.
  - Players shall be sorted by team, and "star ranking."
- 6. A designated Board member will independently verify that the players have all been transferred to and sorted properly on the Voting Ballot.

**HLL will not tolerate any coach collaborating with any coach of other teams regarding player votes or parents soliciting coaches for votes. If allegations are presented to HLL Board and substantiated, the coaches and/or players involved will be removed from participation in the All-Star selection process and meeting. Disqualification of any coach or player is at the sole discretion and responsibility of the HLL board. In the event of the manager/first assistant removal of a single team, another independent board member will replace that team presentation at the All-Star selection meeting.**

**If allegations are presented to the HLL Board and substantiated involving players or their families collaborating with coaches of other teams, without evidence of coaches' involvement, those players will be removed from consideration and participation in All-Stars. Disqualification of the player(s) is at the sole discretion and responsibility of the HLL board.**

## **6.2 Voting Procedure**

1. The division commissioner shall assemble an All-Star selection meeting of the division manager and first assistant coach of each team with a designated independent Board member. Majors coaches shall vote on the designated Majors teams; Minors coaches shall vote on the designated Minors teams; Colts coaches shall vote on the designated Colts team. No other coaches or representative are permitted to attend. If both manager and first assistant coach are unable to attend, the role to represent that team will be provided by the independent board member in attendance. That independent board member will NOT have voting rights for players or coaches. That manager may call into the meeting and relay information via phone to the independent board member as information, but will not be considered to submit voting for players or coaches. If more than one pair of manager/first assistants is unable to attend, additional independent board members will be solicited to participate. Upon calling the meeting to order, the commissioner and independent board member may open the meeting for confidential but open discussion about the nominee list.
2. The Order for priority of players shall be as follows: Majors Blue (12U); Majors Orange (11U); Minors Blue (10U); Colts Blue (8U); Minors Orange (9U). Minors Orange (9U) team may be selected prior to the Colts Blue (8U) team for convenience, however the 8U team shall have priority for any players who are age-eligible for that team and did not get selected to the 10U team. In the event that Little League creates a 9U tournament, then Minors Orange shall have priority before Colts Blue.
3. Primary voting round for each All-Star team:
  - a. By secret ballot, each team shall vote for the top 12 eligible players (1 voting ballot per team)
  - b. The commissioner and independent board member shall collect and tally the ballots, outside of the voting room.
  - c. The commissioner reviews the completed ballots with the designated Board member.
  - d. All players which were voted for by >70% of the coaches are on the team.
4. All subsequent voting rounds :
  - a. Redistribute the ballots and have each manager cross off players who have already been selected for a team (by primary voting round or prior All-Star team selection)
  - b. By secret ballot, each team shall vote for the number of remaining from the 12 slots on that team (for example, if 7 players were selected in the primary voting round, each team will vote for 5 players)

- c. The commissioner and independent board member shall collect and tally the ballots, outside of the voting room
- d. The commissioner reviews the completed ballots with the designated Board member.
- e. This round's highest vote getters fill the remaining slots on the team, to total 12 players.
- f. In the event that there is a tie for the last few positions, subsequent rounds of voting are completed until the team roster of 12 players is identified. (For example, if in the second round there are 3 player candidates receiving the same number of votes for the 11th and 12th position on the team, the 3rd round will consist of the voting process for 2 votes per team with those 3 candidates on the ballot. If after the 3rd round, there remains a tie among 2 of the 3 from previous round, only those 2 would be on the ballot for the 4th round) .
- g. The commissioner announces the team to the coaches.
- h. Vote on the next team in the same manner by distributing new Voting Ballots and having the coaches cross off the players that are on an all-star team.
- i. The commissioner, independent board members will then determine when and how each player for each team is to be notified, ensuring that all coaches understand that players shall not be notified before May 15, or two weeks prior to the start of the tournament within their respective division, whichever is earlier. (Little League, International rule-pp. T-4).
- j. Immediately upon completion of the voting for a team, the 12 player roster for that team is considered to be finalized, even before the selection of the manager of that team.
- k. The commissioner shall secure the voting ballots and tallies, and roster of selected players, and provide this information to the League President.
- l. The All-Star Managers will notify the selected players on or shortly after May 15 or two weeks prior to the start of the tournament within their respective division, whichever is earlier. (Little League, International rule-pp. T-4). Only the selected players will be notified.

### **6.3 Removal of Player**

A rostered All-Star player may be removed from the roster through a due process at the discretion of HLL and Baseball Ops. Reasons may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Decline to play on the selected team
- b. Parent or child request removal from the team for unforeseen circumstances,
- c. Injury of severity that does not allow them to safely participate for the remainder of the All- Star season.
- d. Violation of HLL or Little League International rules and regulations.
- e. Violation of the expectations of the All-Star Commitment and Disclosure form

- f. If after due process by HLL and Baseball Ops the player is removed from the roster of an All-Star team for reasons related to violations of HLL or Little League, International rules and expectations the player is no longer permitted to participate in All-Stars for that All-Star season. Removal from an all-star roster requires review by baseball ops and recommendations for all-star eligibility in future years will be discussed. It is within the sole determination of baseball ops to recommend future all-star eligibility.

#### **6.4 Adding Players**

In the event that an All-Star roster shrinks below 12 players, the manager shall immediately notify the Division Commissioner to discuss the situation. In consultation with the commissioner, the manager may elect to fill or not fill a 12th roster slot. (Note: All-Star rosters must have at least 11 players rostered.) In the event the manager must build to re-roster 11 players, or would request to fill a vacated 12th roster spot, the following will occur:

- a. The next highest voted player(s) on the last voting ballot for the affected All-Star team will be identified by the commissioner (by review of the All-Star ballots.)
- b. Once identified, the division commissioner will arrange and facilitate a conversation between the All-Star manager requesting to fill the vacancy(ies), and the manager of the other All-Star team on which the player(s) to fill the vacancy is currently rostered.
- c. During the discussion, the two managers and commissioner will jointly determine if the player(s) will change teams based on the overall impact to HLL. If no agreement is reached, no player change will occur and the situation will be referred to the HLL President and Baseball Ops for assistance or resolution.

#### **6.5 All-Star Selection Process (Colts)**

The board shall set a date in late May, which may fall after the elections for Majors and Minors All Star teams, upon which to have assessments for Colts and Minors players who are age-eligible for the 8U team and were not selected to the 10U team. Minors coaches and independent Board Members shall run the assessments, thus freeing Colts coaches to observe and take notes on the players. Assessments shall include fielding, throwing and hitting for all players, as well as pitching and catching for players who are interested in taking part in those sessions. Following the completion of the assessments, Colts managers shall elect the Hershey Colts Blue 8U team in accordance with the guidelines described in Section 5.6 above.

#### **7.0 All-Star Manager and Coach Selection**

The Commissioner for each division will administer the All-Star Manager and Coach Selection process. The manager of a given All-Star team will be determined immediately following the determination of the roster for that specific All-Star team, during the All-Star selection. (See section 6.0)

The Manager and Coach Selection process is as follows:



- a. The commissioner shall obtain a list of individuals interested in becoming a Manager for any or each of the division's all-star teams. Only regular season Managers and Assistant Coaches in the division that are in good standing are eligible to serve as the All-Star manager. The President grants exceptions if determined by a majority of the baseball operations committee to be in the best interest of HLL and that team, subject to Little League rules. The President may not Manage or Coach any team participating in the Little League, International sponsored tournament (Little League, International rule, pp. 22.).
- b. Immediately after the roster for an All-Star team is finalized the commissioner will confirm which of the managers or 1st assistant coaches (or others) remain interested in managing the finalized team.
- c. Upon confirmation, the coaches should provide input to the commissioner to guide HLL final decision- making of All-Star Managers.
- d. Based upon confirmed interest and input received, the Commissioner shall make final recommendation to the Baseball operations committee as he determines to be in the best interest of HLL and the respective team, consistent with the Goals of this policy. The baseball operations committee should be made aware of all relevant feedback with regards to the Commissioner's recommendations. In the interest of expediency, the Commissioner may elect to seek approval from the Baseball operations committee of a short list of coaches prior to the all-star voting meeting.
- e. Immediately upon determination and approval from the Baseball operations committee, within 48 hours the full HLL Board shall vote to approve the all-star coach. The commissioner will then announce the name of the Manager for each All-Star team.
- f. The All-Star Managers are responsible for selecting 2 assistant coaches. The All -Star assistant coaches must be managers or identified coaches from that division and in good standing (including previous completed and approved back ground clearances). These coaches are approved by the division commissioner and subject to review by the HLL board. The President grants exceptions applicants if determined to be in the best interest of HLL and that team.

## **8.0 Other Procedures**

- a. The All-Star Managers will notify the selected players on or shortly after May 15 or other date as set by the Board or BBOps. Only the selected players will be notified.
- b. Managers will not begin practices until after the team has been announced. Those practices and scrimmages shall not interfere with the remaining HLL games or playoffs.
- c. Managers will have discretion for substitution and play time requirements to meet or exceed tournament participation requirements. During pool play managers should attempt for all players to play in the field for 6 defensive outs and bat the full lineup. The minimum play rule is not required to be completed for all players in a shortened game that is declared an official game (such as "10 run rule"). For tournament knockout rounds, playing time does not have to be distributed evenly and games will be managed to maximize the chance of victory.