

GROVES NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1

NAME

This organization shall be known as the Groves National Little League, herein referred to as "GNLL."

ARTICLE 2

OBJECTIVE

- A. The objective of GNLL shall be to instill firmly in the youth of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and reverence, so that they may be well-adjusted, stronger, and happier youth, and so they will grow up to be good, clean, healthy, and trustworthy citizens.
- B. This objective will be achieved by providing supervised, competitive baseball games. The supervisors shall bear in mind that the attainment of exceptional athletic skills or the winning of games is secondary, and the molding of future citizens is of prime importance.

ARTICLE 3

MEMBERSHIP

- A. Player Members. Any youth meeting the requirements as to age and residence as set forth in the Regulations of Little League Baseball, Inc., shall be eligible to compete for participation in GNLL. Players should try out in their respective divisions according to age as follows: Tee Ball (ages 4-5), Coach Pitch (ages 6-7), Minor League (8-9 and those ages 10-11 not making Major League), Major League (ages 10-12), Junior League (ages 13-14), and Senior League (ages 15-16).
- B. Active Members. Any adult person actively interested in furthering the objectives of GNLL. They may attend meetings and shall perform any reasonable service required. With regular attendance at monthly meetings, these members are allowed to vote on GNLL business. Active members must be 18 years or older. Managers and coaches should be active members.
- C. Board of Directors. Any elected official shall be a member of the Board of Directors. These members should of course be Active members involved in the routine decision-making of GNLL and in good standing with the league.
- D. Suspensions and Terminations. The Board of Directors, by a two-thirds vote at any duly constituted meeting, shall have the authority to suspend any member thereof, whose conduct is considered as detrimental to the best interest of the league.
 - Members of the Board of Directors shall, upon evidence of the misconduct of any youth, notify the manager of the team of which the young person is a member within 24 hours of the event. Said manager shall appear within five (5) days in the capacity of an advisor, with

the youth before a duly appointed committee of the Board of Directors, which shall have full power to suspend, or revoke, such youth's right to future participation. Minimum penalty for misconduct that has been addressed by the Board of Directors or for ejection from a game (regardless of the circumstances): suspension from play at the VERY NEXT game, regardless of the level of play or game circumstances. The player may not suit out or sit in the dugout.

- E. Dues or Fees. No player will be required to pay a fee to participate at GNLL. A suggested registration fee to cover the cost of uniforms and insurance is requested of each player at the time of registration, but it is not mandatory for admittance to the GNLL program.

ARTICLE 4

MEETINGS

- A. Elections. A meeting of the Board of Directors shall be conducted on the second Tuesday of September of each year for the reading of reports and the election of officers (nominations for elections take place in August). Additional meetings may be called by the President at any time or upon written request of at least three (3) members of the Board of Directors.
- B. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held monthly, without call or notice, on the second Tuesday of each month, or at such other times as the Directors may determine. All Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at a public place, open and accessible to the general membership of GNLL.
- C. Voting. To be passed by the Board, a vote must be carried out by the majority of those present, except when otherwise, especially provided.
- D. Rules of Order. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings except where there are some conflicts with the Constitution or Bylaws of the League.

ARTICLE 5

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- A. The Board of Directors shall not consist of less than 15 members but not more than 32 members at any given time.
- B. The Board of Directors shall have the power to adopt such Rules and Regulations for the conduct of its meetings and the management of GNLL as it may deem proper, subject to the provision such Rules and Regulations shall in no way conflict with the Articles of Incorporation, the Constitution and Bylaws, or Little League Rules and Regulations.
- C. The Board of Directors shall have the management and control of the assets, property, business affairs, and baseball program of GNLL.
- D. It should be necessary for members of the Board of Directors to attend regularly scheduled monthly meetings. After three (3) unexcused absences in any twelve (12) month period, the absent Director will no longer be in good standing and shall lose voting privileges. Voting privileges of the Director will be reinstated after they have attended a regularly scheduled meeting. Any Director with excessive absences will automatically be referred to the Executive Board for review.

- E. Executive Board. An Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Player Agent, and Safety Officer. This board may consist of an additional member or two, appointed by the President, as he/she deems necessary (with Board approval).
- F. The Executive Board duties include providing whatever services the President may need assistance with. These duties include, but as not limited to: assistance with choosing managers (as requested); agreement on the expenditures of money (not to exceed \$500 per project, three project maximum) when unable to hold a Board meeting for approval in a timely manner; review of the good standing of all Board of Directors; provide a signature on checks in the absence of the Treasurer and/or the President (must sign the bank signature card to be eligible for this—usually the Treasurer and President are the two required signatures); and assist in any matters of dispute or confidentiality that arise.

ARTICLE 6

OFFICERS, DUTIES, AND POWERS

President

- A. Conduct the affairs of GNLL and execute the policies established by the Board of Directors.
- B. Maintain a Little League charter from Little League Baseball annually for GNLL, mandatory renewal process through the Little League Data Center to ensure the league remains in good standings, insured, and authorized to operate.
- C. Present a report on the condition of GNLL at the annual meeting (August of each year).
- D. Communicate to the Board of Directors, such matters as deemed appropriate and make such suggestions as may tend to promote the welfare of GNLL.
- E. Be responsible for the conduct of GNLL in strict conformity to the policies, principles, Rules and Regulations of Little League Baseball, Inc., as agreed to under the conditions of charter issued to GNLL by the organization.
- F. Investigate complaints, irregularities and conditions detrimental to GNLL and report thereon to the Board or Executive Board as circumstances warrant.
- G. Prepare and submit an annual budget to the Board of Directors and be responsible for the proper execution thereof (January/February of each year).
- H. Designate other officers (in writing if necessary), to have the power to make and execute for/and in the name of GNLL such contracts and leases they may receive, and which have had the prior approval of the Board.
- I. Appoint committees, including but not limited to a Nominating Committee (to compile a list of possible candidates for next year's Board of Directors), as situations deem necessary.
- J. With the assistance of the Treasurer, GNLL is required to use Sports Connect for registrations, volunteer opportunities, and background checks.
- K. Accept applications for press box workers and choose acceptable scorekeepers from these. Provide a schedule for scorekeepers of games he is assigned to work, rules for the operation of the press box, and continued monitoring to ensure that these rules are being upheld.

- L. Choose managers for each of the teams registered with GNLL (with the assistance of the Executive Board if desired). Managers may then submit the names of their assistant coaches for approval by the President.
- M. With the assistance of the Player Agent, examine the applications and proof-of-age documents of every player candidate, certify residence requirements, and certify age eligibility before the player may be accepted for tryouts and selection.
- N. With the assistance of the Player Agent (if desired), prepare game schedules for GNLL, and prepare a work schedule for each team in each division to commit to one (or more) Saturdays in which they oversee cleanup and general maintenance as specified by the Field Maintenance Director.
- O. With the assistance of the Secretary (if desired), create flyers for registration to be distributed to area schools.
- P. Unless otherwise approved by Little League Baseball, the President shall not manage a team, nor shall he/she umpire games.

Vice President

- A. In case of the absence or disability of the President and provided he/she is authorized by the President or Board so to act, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President and when so acting, shall have all the powers of that office.
- B. Have such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the Board of Directors or by the President.
- C. Shall oversee local advertisement (ballpark signs) and team sponsors. These duties should begin early in November and be virtually complete by the first of February (or the time of the draft).
- D. Shall assist with the Bylaws Committee, in association with the President.

Secretary

- A. Be responsible for recording the activities of GNLL, especially the minutes from monthly and various meetings.
- B. Maintain appropriate files, mailing lists, and necessary records.
- C. Notify all members, officers, directors, committee members, etc., of their election or appointments as necessary. Maintain a list of these elected or appointed officials.
- D. Notify members of meetings by mail, email, text, or telephone call.
- E. Must be responsible for all field rentals and maintain an up-to-date schedule for rentals. Must receive a waiver and / or proof of insurance before making entrance on the field.

Treasurer

- A. Have custody of GNLL funds and securities.
- B. Keep full and accurate records of receipts and disbursements in books (or on league computer) belonging to GNLL.
- C. Deposit all monies and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of GNLL in depositories as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

- D. Pay all bills in a timely and professional manner, maintaining good business relationships with vendors. It is suggested for security measures that all disbursements by check have dual signatures. Oversee use of charge accounts if any exist.
- E. Oversee utility turn on, payment of, and turn off at end of season as appropriate.
- F. Under the direction of the President, assist in preparing the annual budget and the annual financial report for submission to GNLL.
- G. Assist in the registration process through Sports Connect.

Player Agent

- A. Conduct the annual tryouts, oversee player selection (drafting), supervise any player transaction or selection meetings, and preside over the selection of the All-Star teams and their respective managers.
- B. Shall not manage, coach, or umpire in his child(s) respective division(s).
- C. Assist in the registration process through Sports Connect. Issue, receive, and review applications for player candidates and assist the President in checking residence and age eligibility.
- D. Supervise and coordinate the transfer of players to and from teams and/or between divisions (such as Minor League to Little League).
- E. Record all player transactions and maintain an accurate and up-to-date record.
- F. Prepare the Player Agent's List of accepted player candidates for use by the Managers for tryouts and drafting purposes.
- G. Prepare (with the assistance of the President) the official team rosters in Sports Connect. Also, (with the assistance of the President) prepare the tournament eligibility affidavits for All-Star teams for the President's signature and submission to Little League Headquarters.
- H. Notify Little League Headquarters of any subsequent player transactions, replacements, or trades that occur after submission of the official team rosters.
- I. Assist the President (if needed) in the preparation of game schedules.

Safety Officer

- A. Make sure all areas of the ballpark are safe.
- B. Work with the Field Maintenance Directors and Lighting Director as needed.
- C. Work on the development of the annual SAFE Program and make sure it is uploaded in the Little League Data Center in January. Schedule a meeting with the District Safety Coordinator for inspection and suggestions where necessary.
- D. Meet with the Groves City Inspector to complete the annual inspection required before our electricity is taken over by the city. Must be scheduled, completed, and all infractions corrected early in February.
- E. Follow through on the completion of the Safety Audit, making any recommended corrections or alterations suggested.

Tee Ball / Coach Pitch Director

- A. Assist the Player Agent in the drafting process where needed.

- B. No scores are kept in the Tee Ball division. Coach Pitch scores are optional for each team but are not recorded for the purposes of final standings. The scoreboard is an option to vote on each season by the managers but is not encouraged.
- C. Schedule meetings as necessary with Tee Ball and Coach Pitch managers / coaches to discuss rules, rule changes, conduct, and other areas related to the operation of this division.
- D. Handle disputes if the Manager of said team cannot reach an acceptable solution or compromise. If further action is required after the Tee Ball / Coach Pitch Director's intervention, he may contact the President for assistance.
- E. Coordinate a pre-season practice schedule with the Tee Ball / Coach Pitch Field Maintenance Director for practices on the field (if possible) for Tee Ball / Coach Pitch teams in our league.
- F. Prepare an umpire schedule for the Coach Pitch division (where umpires become necessary), rotating duties between the Coach Pitch managers and their coaches.
- G. The Tee Ball / Coach Pitch Director may not have a child as a player in this division, nor shall he be eligible to manage or coach a team in the league.

Minor League Director

- A. Assist the Player Agent with the Minor League tryouts wherever needed.
- B. Keep track of wins and losses (via the official scorekeeper's book) in the Minor League division to determine the leading teams for the end-of-season records.
- C. Schedule meetings as necessary with the Minor League managers / coaches to discuss rules, rule changes, conduct, and other areas related to the operation of this division.
- D. Handle disputes if the Manager of said team cannot reach an acceptable solution or compromise. If further action is required after the Minor League Director's intervention, he may contact the President for assistance.
- E. Coordinate a pre-season practice schedule with the Minor / Major League Field Maintenance Director for practices on the field (if possible).
- F. The Minor League Director shall not have a child as a player in this division, nor shall he manage, coach, or umpire in this division.

Major League Director

- A. Assist the Player Agent with the Major League tryouts wherever needed.
- B. Keep track of wins and losses (via the official scorekeeper's book) in the Major League division to determine the leading teams for the end-of-season records.
- C. Schedule meetings as necessary with the Major League managers / coaches to discuss rules, rule changes, conduct, and other areas related to the operation of this division.
- D. Handle disputes if the Manager of said team cannot reach an acceptable solution or compromise. If further action is required after the Little League Director's intervention, he may contact the President for assistance.
- E. Coordinate a pre-season practice schedule with the Minor / Major League Field Maintenance Director for practices on the field (if possible).
- F. The Major League Director may not have a child as a player in this division, nor shall he manage, coach, or umpire in this division.

Junior / Senior League Director

- A. Assist the Player Agent with the tryouts wherever needed.
- B. Keep track of wins and losses (via the official scorekeeper's book) in the Junior and / or Senior division to determine the leading teams for the end of season records.
- C. Schedule meetings as necessary with the Junior / Senior League managers / coaches to discuss rules, rule changes, conduct, and other areas related to the operation of this division.
- D. Handle disputes if the Manager of said team cannot reach an acceptable solution or compromise. If further action is required after the Junior / Senior League Director's intervention, he may contact the President for assistance.
- E. Coordinate a pre-season practice schedule with the Minor / Major League Field Maintenance Director for practices on the field (if possible).
- F. The Junior / Senior League Director may not have a child as a player in this division, nor shall he manage, coach, or umpire in this division.

Tee Ball / Coach Pitch Field Maintenance Director

- A. Maintain all fields and grounds according to Little League Baseball Rules. Work with the Safety and Lighting Directors to meet these requirements when necessary.
- B. Prepare a batting cage schedule during pre-season practices for use by Tee Ball / Coach Pitch teams (if a batting cage is available). This may need to be done in cooperation with the Minor / Major League Field Director, as he will also be scheduling practices in the batting cage on occasion.
- C. Inform Minor / Major League Field Director of needed supplies (fertilizer, grass, dirt, chalk, etc.) to be purchased.
- D. Provide for repairs that are needed to buildings and fixtures that are associated with the Tee Ball / Coach Pitch Field. Report on and supervise projects that may be undertaken.

Minor / Major League Field Maintenance

- A. Maintain all fields and grounds according to Little League Baseball Rules. Work with Safety and Lighting Directors to meet these requirements when necessary.
- B. Prepare a batting cage schedule during the pre-season practices for use by Minor / Major League teams (if a batting cage is available). This may need to be done in cooperation with the Tee Ball / Coach Pitch Field Director, as he will also be scheduling practices in the batting cage.
- C. Purchase needed supplies (fertilizer, grass, dirt, chalk, etc.).
- D. Provide for repairs that are needed to buildings and fixtures that are associated with the Minor / Major League Field. Report on and supervise projects that may be undertaken.

Umpire Coordinator

- A. Make sure that qualified umpires are scheduled for each game. In the case of rainouts or makeup, notify the umpires of schedule changes.
- B. Monitor the conduct and procedures of each umpire and schedule necessary meetings with them to correct or improve upon any shortcomings.
- C. Handle disputes that arise from umpire situations.

Team Mom / Fundraiser Coordinator

- A. Help organize a person to be Team Mom for each team where necessary.
- B. Conduct a Team Mom Meeting following the Managers Meeting.
- C. Handle the distribution of BBQ tickets and the collection of funds, acquiring prizes for winners, etc.
- D. Organize what exactly the product will be and from whom it will be purchased and bring to the Board of Directors for approval before putting into action.
- E. Prepare a work schedule for the BBQ for each team to assist in serving.
- F. Keep records showing the sales and money received from the fundraiser. Keep records on the top sellers for prize rewards.
- G. Conduct team mom meetings as necessary to inform them of duties, events, etc.
- H. Help with the registration process when needed.
- I. Organize the team pictures (contact photographer, set date, make schedule, attend the picture-taking to supervise staying on schedule, etc.).
- J. Report directly to the President (progress, results, disputes, discrepancies, etc.).

Concession Stand Coordinator

- A. Purchase and keep stocked the supplies for both concession stands.
- B. Work with the Treasurer to make timely deposits of the money.
- C. Keep a record of expenses (purchases) and profits (deposits) that may be turned over to the Treasurer. Keep inventory of all products in the stands.
- D. Organize workers for both concession stands.
- E. Contact the President if no scorekeeper shows up for a game.
- F. Supervise all activities including opening and closing of both concession stands, stocking of products, organizing workers, and filling out the nightly deposit slip and turning in slip and money collected.

BBQ Coordinator

Responsible for organizing the annual BBQ fundraiser, including setting dates, reserving the KC Hall, printing tickets to pass out to the Team Mom Coordinator, finding workers and cooks, purchasing supplies, collecting donations, etc.

Equipment Buyer

- A. Purchase all needed equipment pertaining to the operation of GNLL.
- B. Distribute all equipment to team managers at the Managers Meeting.
- C. Keep records of what equipment has been distributed to each team and have the manager's sign for responsibility.
- D. Collect equipment at the end of the season, checking it for upkeep. Store the equipment for next season.
- E. Give a report to the President at the end of each season on the condition of the equipment that was distributed to each team.

Uniform Buyer

- A. Purchase regular season uniforms for each team, providing the vendor with sizes, quantities, sponsors, patches, etc.
- B. Supervise the distribution of uniforms to the players.
- C. Purchase All-Star for each team.

Rules Consultant

- A. Maintain an up-to-date listing of all Little League Rules, GNLL local rules, and assist others in being aware of said rules.
- B. Handle disputes concerning rules as the need arises.
- C. Work with the President, Player Agent, and the Umpire Coordinator where necessary.

Lighting Director

- A. Maintain the field lighting according to Little League Baseball Rules.
- B. Conduct the annual lighting survey and submit the completed survey application to the President. This survey must be completed no later than mid-April, as it is a requirement for GNLL to be considered for hosting all-star games, but should be completed prior to the deadline for the annual Safety Audit Report.
- C. Work with the President, Field Maintenance, and Safety Officer as needed.

Directors

Depending on the number of members filling the positions listed in Article 6 (one person could hold more than one position on the Board during a given year), additional members may be added to the Board of Directors (up to a total of 32 members on the Board) to help support the activities of GNLL. These additional members do not hold a specific office, nor do they have specific responsibilities. They are to serve the league in whatever capacity is needed and are considered full members of the Board, with full voting privileges if they remain in good standing.

ARTICLE 7

MANAGERS AND COACHES

- A. Managers of teams shall be annually selected by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. Managers will be selected for the following divisions: Tee Ball (ages 4-5), Coach Pitch (ages 6-7), Minor League (ages 8-9 and those ages 10-11 not making Major League), Major League (ages 10-12), Junior League (ages 13-14), and Senior League (ages 15-16). Managers shall be responsible for the selection of their assistant coaches, their teams, and for the actions of all those mentioned on the field.
- B. While holding such office, the Player Agent shall not conduct a draft in the division he manages. Tee Ball / Coach Pitch Director, Minor League Director, Major League Director, or Junior / Senior Director shall not manage or coach a team within the division they are Director. All other responsible adults who have submitted a written request to manage a team to the President shall be considered by the President for the available teams.

- C. Managers are held to the same responsibility standards as any other player or parent on the team (concession stand, cleanup, required fees, etc.).
- D. Although a manager is not required to complete these tasks on his own, the manager is responsible for seeing that the following tasks are completed: workday is attended and all required tasks completed; and field preparation before games and cleanup after games. Failure to oversee these tasks can result in a warning or even suspension from ball games.

ARTICLE 8

AFFILIATION

- A. GNLL shall annually apply for a charter for Little League Baseball, Inc., and shall do all things necessary to obtain and maintain such charter. GNLL shall devote its entire energies to the activities authorized by such charter, and it shall not be affiliated with any other program or organization or operate any other program.
- B. The Official Playing Rules and Regulations as published by Little League Baseball, Inc., Williamsport, Pennsylvania, shall be binding on GNLL.
- C. The Local Rules of GNLL shall be adopted by the Board of Directors. Any changes to these rules shall be approved at a meeting to be held not less than one month before the first scheduled game of the season (no later than February meeting), but shall in no way conflict with the Rules and Regulations of Little League Baseball, Inc.

ARTICLE 9

FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING

- A. The Board of Directors shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of GNLL and it shall place all income, including Auxiliary funds, in a common League Treasury, directing expenditures of same in such manner as will give no individual or team an advantage over those in competition with such individual team.
- B. The Board of Directors shall not permit the contribution of funds or property to individual teams but shall solicit same for the common Treasury of GNLL, thereby to discourage favoritism among teams and to endeavor to equalize the benefit of GNLL.
- C. The Board of Directors shall not permit the solicitation of funds in the name of Little League Baseball unless all funds solicited and raised are placed in the GNLL Treasury.
- D. The fiscal year of GNLL will begin on the first day of October and will end on the last day of September each year.
- E. The Board of Directors shall not permit the disbursement of GNLL funds for other than the conduct of Little League activities in accordance with the Rules and Policies of Little League Baseball, Inc.
- F. No Director, Officer, or member of GNLL shall receive directly or indirectly any salary, compensation, or emolument from GNLL for service rendered as a Director, Officer, or member.

- G. All monies received, including Auxiliary funds, shall be deposited to the credit of GNLL in a bank or financial institution designated by the Board of Directors and all disbursement shall be made by check or debit card.
- H. Upon dissolution of GNLL and after all outstanding debts and claims have been satisfied, the members shall direct the remaining property of GNLL to another Federally Incorporated entity which maintains the same objectives as set forth herein, which are or may be entitled to exemption under Section 501 (c)-(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or any future corresponding provision.
- I. The actual land that GNLL is located on is the property of the City of Groves. The lease with the city is valid indefinitely and no lease payment is required by the city if GNLL remains a functioning ballpark and a service to our community. All fixtures on the land are the property of GNLL.

ARTICLE 10

EXECUTION OF INSTRUMENTS

- A. The Board of Directors may, in its discretion, determine the method and designate the signatory officers or offices, other person or persons, to execute any corporate instrument or document, or to sign the corporate name, with limitation, except where otherwise provided by law, and such execution or signature shall be binding upon GNLL.
- B. All checks or demand for money and notes of GNLL shall be signed by the GNLL Treasurer and President and/or other such officers or persons as the Board of Directors may from time to time designate (signatures required on bank signature card). All checks require at least two (2) signatures (usually members of the Executive Board).

ARTICLE 11

BOUNDARIES

GNLL Boundaries (a) start at the north corner of Hogaboom and Twin City Hwy. (soccer fields), the area within, (b) Down Hogaboom extended north, including Dixie Garden, to south shore of the Neches River, (c) East along the south shore of the Neches River to the west side of State Highway 87, (d) Orange Highway south along the west side of State Highway 87, (e) to Orange Acres Rd. (including south side of Orange Acres Rd.), (f) West to end of Orange Acres Rd. (dead end) turning south to the storm levee north of Duff Drive, (g) West on the storm levee to the west side of 25th Street, (h) South to west side of 25th Street to the Intersection of 25th Street and Twin City Hwy., (i) West on the north side of Twin City Hwy. to the intersection of Hogaboom and Twin City Hwy.

ARTICLE 12

FIELD DECORUM

- A. The actions, on or off the field, of players, managers, coaches, umpires, and league officials must be above reproach. Any player, 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 including through online or social media, is subject to disciplinary action by the local league Board of Directors. The ultimate responsibility for a team and its members (including coaches) lies with the Manager. He shall be held accountable for team conduct, team duties (field preparation, workdays, and fund-raising obligations along with the Team Mom, etc.), and the proper use and return of all equipment issued to the team.
- B. Uniformed players, approved credentialed photographers, managers, coaches, and umpires shall be permitted within the confines of the playing field just prior to and during games. Batboys and/or batgirls are not permitted at any level of play. Except for the batter, base-runners, and base coaches at first and third bases, all players shall be on their benches in their dugouts or in the bullpen when the team is at bat. When the team is on defense, all reserve players shall be on their benches or in the bullpen. **EXCEPTION:** The on-deck position is permitted in **Junior and Senior Division**.
- C. Two adult base coaches are permitted.
- D. A manager or coach shall not leave the bench or dugout except to confer with a player or an umpire and only after receiving permission from an umpire. Only three (3) coaches shall be permitted in the dugout of each Minor or Major League team during games at any time. **EXCEPTION:** In Tee Ball and Coach Pitch, managers and coaches may be on the field for instructional purposes but shall not assist runners or touch a live ball. At least one adult manager or coach must be in the dugout at all times.
- E. The possession and/or use of firearms, tobacco products, cigarettes (including e-cigarettes and vapors), controlled substances, and alcohol beverages in any form is prohibited on the playing field, benches, or dugouts. Alcohol is prohibited at the game site. Smoking must be done outside of the boundaries of GNLL property.
- F. All players participating in Pre-Game warm-up and/or during game conditions shall remain within the confines of the fenced playing field.
- G. All players on a team shall wear a uniform identical in color, trim, and style. The Official Little League Shoulder Patch shall be affixed to the upper left sleeve of all Little League uniforms. Names and/or numbers may be added to the sleeves or hats of players in the Tee Ball and Coach Pitch divisions ONLY. No alterations of any kind may be made to the Minor League or Major League division uniforms.
- H. Managers and Coaches shall not wear conventional baseball uniforms. However, they should be appropriately dressed in shirts, team hats, and shoes without metal spikes.
- I. Field Decorum dictates that there shall be no loud or boisterous coaching by the Managers or Coaches during the game.
- J. Players, managers, and coaches of the participating teams shall not address, or mingle with spectators, nor sit in the stands during a game in which they are engaged. Manager or Coaches are permitted to warm up a pitcher at home plate or in the bullpen or elsewhere at any time, including in-game warm-up, pre-game warm-up, and in other instances. They may also stand by to observe a pitcher during warm-up in the bullpen or elsewhere.

- K.** Unsportsmanlike conduct or wild displays of temper by Managers, Coaches, Players, or Spectators shall not be tolerated. Umpires shall have the authority, based upon their judgment of any such incident, to eject any violator and said violator shall immediately leave the ballpark (with the exception of a player who shall remain in his dugout).
- L.** In the event of a rainout game, all games will automatically be rescheduled for the first available day. If more than one rainout occurs, the President, in cooperation with the Field Maintenance Director, shall determine the schedule. Rainout games will be played at normally scheduled times unless otherwise covered by Little League Rules. Managers requesting an “option to pass” and have a game rescheduled must have approval from the President, Field Maintenance Director, and opposing Manager to do so, thus being exempt from a forfeiture for his team. No team shall be required to play more than three (3) games in a calendar week (Sunday-Saturday) nor shall they be required to play three (3) consecutive days in a row (unless said team agrees to do so).
- M.** When two (2) games are played on the same night on the Minor / Major League Field, the first game will start at 5:30PM. No inning starts after 7:00PM and the game will be stopped at 7:15PM WITHOUT EXCEPTION. In the event of a game being called in the middle of the inning, see Rule 4:11D of the Little League Rulebook. The four (4) inning rule constitutes a complete game. The Minor League will apply the five (5) run rule per inning. The second game of the night shall start at 7:30PM. No inning will start after 9:15PM. (See Policy #5) The ten (10) run rule will be in effect for Minor League and Major League games.
- Tee Ball and Coach Pitch game times may vary from season to season and should be agreed upon by the Board of Directors each season. Rules for these two divisions are updated each season in cooperation with the President, Tee Ball / Coach Pitch Director and the Rules Consultant. The Managers of the teams from each division may give their input before these rules are approved by the Board of Directors.
- N.** When two (2) teams tie for first place in the first and/or second half of the season (regardless of who beat who, standings are based on total wins, losses, and ties), one play-off game will be played to determine the championship for that half. (Any tie games that effect the final standings for the first or second half will be played off before any “playoff” games begin. These tie games will pick up from the point where they ended, according to the Little League Rules, and will be played until the completion of a full inning where one team is ahead.) If necessary, one play-off game will be played between the first-half champion and the second-half champion to determine the League Champion for that division. These games will be played on the first available date agreed upon by the President, the Field Maintenance Director, the Division Director, and the Managers of the opposing teams.
- O.** Umpire fees and the Official Scorer fees shall be paid out of the Concession Stand petty cash nightly and accountable for in the Concession Stand records. The Umpire and Scorer are to be paid an amount approved by the Board of Directors. Each may be provided with a free drink during the time of the game, and a meal if both games are worked in one night.
- P.** There will be no headfirst sliding in any division when approaching a base. It will be an automatic out. Headfirst sliding is allowed when returning to a base.

ARTICLE 13

ALL-STAR VOTING

- A.** 12-year-old All-Star Players shall be selected as players from any 11- or 12-year-old that tried out for Major League. They are elected by the vote of: (a) Little League Managers, (b) Little League Players (age 12), and (c) Board of Directors (in good standing). In seasons where there are four Major League teams, the Manager's vote will count as fifteen (15) points each and all other classes that vote shall count as one (1) point each. In seasons where there are five (5) or more Little League teams, the Manager's vote will count as ten (10) points each and all other classes that vote shall count as one (1) point each. The Players receiving the highest number (plurality) or votes cast shall be declared All-Star Players. The All-Star Manager for the 12-year-old team shall be elected by the Major League Managers and must hold a position as a Major League Manager or Coach for that season. The Manager with the best record for the season at the time of voting shall have first right of refusal for the 12-year-old team. In the event of a tie in voting for the Manager, the Manager with the better record (total wins/losses) for that season (at the time of voting) shall win the tie. Alternates are not chosen.
- B.** 11-year-old All-Star Players shall be selected as players from any 11-year-old that tried out for Major League by the vote of the Major League Managers. Players are not allowed to vote for All-Stars. The Manager of the 11-year-old team shall be elected by the Major League Managers and must hold a position as a Major League Manager or Coach or a Minor League Manager or Coach during that season. The Manager, with the best record for the season at the time of voting, shall have first right of refusal for the 11-year-old team. In the event of a tie in voting for the Manager, the Manager with the better record (total wins/losses) for that season (at the time of voting) shall win the tie. 11-year-olds can be "pulled up" to the 12-year-old team after their season is completed.
- C.** 10-year-old All-Star Players shall be selected as players from any 10-year-old that tried out for Major League by the vote of the Major League Managers. Players are not allowed to vote for All-Stars. The Manager of the 10-year-old Team shall be elected by the Major League Managers and must hold a position as a Major League Manager or Coach or a Minor League Manager or Coach during that season. The Manager with the best record for the season at the time of voting shall have first right of refusal for the 10-year-old team. In the event of a tie in voting for the Manager, the Manager with the better record (total wins/losses) for that season (at the time of voting) shall win the tie. 10-year-olds can be "pulled up" to the 11-year-old team after their season is completed.
- D.** 9-year-old All-Star Players shall be selected as players from any 9-year-old that tried out for Minor League by the vote of the Minor League Managers. The Manager of the 9-year-old Team shall be elected by the Minor League Managers and must hold a position as Minor League Manager or Coach or as a Major League Manager or Coach during that season. The Manager with the best record for the season at the time of voting shall have first right of refusal for the 9-year-old team. In the event of a tie in voting for the Manager, the Manager

- with the better record (total wins/losses) for that season (at the time of voting) shall win the tie. 9-year-olds can be “pulled up” to the 10-year-old team after their season is completed.
- E. 8-year-old All-Star Players shall be selected as players from any 8-year-old that tried out for Minor League by the vote of the Minor League Managers. The Manager of the 8-year-old Team shall be elected by the Minor League Managers and must hold a position as Minor League Manager or Coach or as a Major League Manager or Coach during that season. The Manager with the best record for the season at the time of voting shall have first right of refusal for the 8-year-old team. In the event of a tie in voting for the Manager, the Manager with the better record (total wins/losses) for that season (at the time of voting) shall win the tie. 8-year-olds can be “pulled up” to the 9-year-old team after their season is completed.
 - F. It will be the decision of the elected Manager to the All-Star teams in each age group to decide: (1) how many players will be on the roster as official team members (12 minimum and 14 maximum) and (2) who the assistant coaches will be for the all-star teams. (Assistant coaches must also have been a regular season Manager or Coach.)
 - G. If a player is added to any of the All-Star teams (“pulled up”) after the drafting has taken place, they may only be added as a pitcher in the 13th or 14th spot unless there is an open spot on the team that has been vacated by a player that has withdrawn after being drafted.

ARTICLE 14

PRE-GAME CEREMONIES/POST-GAME RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The Pre-Game Ceremony shall start when the Umpire walks on the field five (5) minutes before game time. The Umpires shall meet a Manager and a Player (preferably a different Player each time from each team) and explain the ground rules. A copy of the team rosters shall be handed to the Chief Umpire (a copy should also be provided to the Scorekeeper). Immediately prior to each game starting, Home Team Players, Manager, and Coaches shall line up in front of the Home Team Dugout, and the Visiting Team Players, Manager, and Coaches shall line up in front of the Visiting Team Dugout. The “Star Spangled Banner” shall be played over the public address system and the American Flag should be raised. The Announcer shall call for the Little League Pledge to be spoken in unison by the Players with their hats over their hearts. After completion of the Little League Pledge, the Announcer shall say “Play Ball” and the game shall officially begin with the opposing team taking their proper places on the playing field.
- B. The Home team shall be responsible for putting out the bases (first game of night), raking the baseline, lining the field (PLEASE DO NOT CHALK THE GRASS—The grass is painted weekly), returning the bases (last game of night), turning out the lights, and locking the equipment building and the restrooms. The Minor League / Major League manager (or one of his coaches) shall remain at the Concession Stand until the workers are ready to lock up and leave (last game of night) and the Tee Ball / Coach Pitch manager (or one of his coaches) shall assist the Concession Stand Director in counting the money (ALL deposits require two money counters to sign off) and remaining at the stand until the workers are ready to lock up (last game of night).

- C. The Visiting team shall be responsible for checking garbage cans around the field, making sure that they do not need to be emptied; dumping the trash into the dumpsters if cans are full and replacing any bags if necessary; dumping garbage cans inside the dugouts; and raking the field after the game.
- D. Each team shall be responsible for cleaning out their own dugout and the trash around the bleachers.

ARTICLE 15

ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Board of Directors may choose to appoint an Advisory Council consisting of individuals with a demonstrated interest in the welfare and continued viability of GNLL, but who for reasons of Health, Time Constraints, or Travel Distance prefers not to serve on the Board of Directors. Advisory Councilors may attend regular monthly or called special meetings of the Board of Directors as ex-officio members. However, the Advisory Council shall have no voting privileges on the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 16

MISCELLANEOUS

Any action required to be taken or which may be taken at a meeting of the Members, Directors, or members of the Executive Committee, may be taken without a meeting in a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken and then signed by a majority of all the Members, Directors, or Members of the Executive Committee, as the case may be. Only those entitled to vote may exercise this privilege. Such consent shall have the same force and effect as a majority vote of the Members, Directors, or the Executive Committee at a meeting of said body.

ARTICLE 17

AMENDMENTS

- A. This Constitution and its Bylaws may be amended, repealed or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote at any duly organized meeting of the Members provided notice of the proposed change is included in the notice of such meeting.
- B. Draft of all proposed amendments shall be submitted to Little League Baseball, Inc., for approval.
- C. Policies (see attached) may be reviewed each season and changes to such made as necessary with a majority vote at any duly organized meeting.

POLICIES OF GROVES NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE

The purpose of the following policies is to clarify certain situations that do not require a specific rule. Identification as to the ways that GNLL would like to handle certain situations have long been “understood” but not always written down. These are not rules as much as guidelines that all GNLL participants are asked to follow and respect.

1. NEW PLAYER SUBSTITUTION PROCESS

To be fair to all children, GNLL suggests a policy of “First Drafted/First Played.” Because we accept registration from children until all teams are full and because in some instances it becomes necessary to replace children who have quit a team (when the team falls below 10 members), GNLL suggests the following:

- a)** Children who have registered and began practicing before the first game should have first option to start a ballgame.
- b)** Those children who register after the first games have started should not replace those who are original members of the team as a starter until they have practiced a minimum of 8 days and earned a starting position.
- c)** Those children who are brought on after the second half begins should be registered as a replacement for another child and should be a substitute, not a starter, in fairness to the original members of the team.

Although Little League rules clearly state a manager’s options when it comes to players and substitutions, GNLL hopes that in all fairness to all children on a team, this policy will be seriously considered by all managers. It is not meant to hinder their coaching options, but rather to protect the children that we claim to be serving.

2. UMPIRES ON THE MINOR / MAJOR LEAGUE FIELD

It is suggested that umpires be hired to call games in the Minor League and Major League divisions that are a minimum of 14 years old. It is the decision of the Umpire Coordinator to hire those people whom he deems the very best possible umpires for our park. It will be the decision of the Umpire Coordinator to assign the umpires he has chosen to whichever games he so desires. If there are any problems with the umpires, their abilities, their fairness or objectivity, these concerns should be brought to the attention of the Umpire Coordinator to investigate.

3. CALLING RAINOUTS AND RESCHEDULING

The Field Maintenance Director will have the final say on whether to postpone a game or not. He may consult with the managers, but the ultimate decision is his. Because the weather is so unpredictable and things change so quickly, no game will be called because of pending weather conditions until two hours prior to game time. If the conditions of the field are such that no amount of work could prepare them, the Field Maintenance Director has the authority to postpone a game. However, if there is any possibility of preparation, all attempts to do so should be made. Once a game has been postponed, the Managers, Scorekeeper, Umpire Coordinator, and the Concession Stand Director shall all be notified and the date and time for the rescheduled game will be announced to them. The only person who can override the Field Maintenance Director’s decision would be the Chief Umpire who could decide that conditions are not safe for the children to play.

4. FUND-RAISING REQUIREMENTS

To ensure that all monies and/or products are returned to GNLL at the end of our Fund-Raising activities, the following policies have been used:

- a) No uniform will be issued until a player has returned all the money and/or BBQ tickets that were issued to him. Once he is clear of any debt the team mom may issue his uniform to him.
- b) NO Minor League or Major league player will be eligible for All-Stars if he has not returned all of the money and /or products that were issued to him. Once he is clear of any debt, he may be listed for consideration for the All-Star teams.
- c) NO Tee Ball or Coach Pitch player will be eligible to receive his trophy given out to every player at Closing Ceremonies if he has not returned all the money and/or products that were issued to him. Once he is clear of any debt his participation medallion will be given to him.

5. LATE GAMES

Although Little League Rules say that there is no time limit on Little League games, GNLL requests that all Major League games do not start an inning after 9:15 pm (the inning is to be completed) to be kind to our neighbors. Playoff games (first or second half championships), Championship games (overall championships), and All-Star games are the exception to this rule. GNLL will also try to accommodate game times around the testing schedule at the schools wherever possible. These scheduling provisions should be adhered to wherever possible.