

# Southwest Little League By-Laws

*(approved by Board on 2/5/2025)*

1. Managers of the Southwest Little League will be nominated by the president. The board of directors will vote and approve the selected candidates.
2. Managers who decide to quit managing for their own personal reasons shall turn over their team to league president. The president in turn will decide and appoint a new team manager, with the approval of the board of directors.
3. All volunteers must have:
  - a. A passed a background check through Victoria Southwest Little League before allowed to participate in any Victoria Southwest Little League function.
  - b. Little League University Abuse Awareness course and certificate of completion
  - c. Little League University Diamond Leader course and certificate of completion
4. Practice Policy:
  - a. Players who do not attend 50% of practices per week are subject to the following penalty:
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Offense – At the manager’s discretion, the player can be benched and receive no playing time at the next game.
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense – At the manager’s discretion, the player can be benched and receive no playing time at the next game. A 2<sup>nd</sup> offense requires manager notification to the board.
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense – At the manager’s discretion, the player can be benched and receive no playing time at the next game. A 3<sup>rd</sup> offense requires manager notification to the board. The board has the right to remove a player from the team when a third offense has been reached based on judgement of the testimony from manager and parents.
  - b. NOTE – Managers must communicate this practice policy to the team parents before a pattern of missed practices occur and penalty used. To implement this practice policy, managers must have a documented date and reason for missed practices per player. This practice verification can be reviewed by the board

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on all offenses and WILL be used for all 3<sup>rd</sup> offense case reviews and discussions.

5. The president has full authority to handle all matters that may arise in the Southwest Little league.
  - a. President and/or the board have the authority to handle as they see fit all matters on any form of social media that are considered offensive or problematic for VSWLL and included parties.
6. Failure of one or both teams to start a game with 9 players will result in a forfeit (loss) for the offending team(s). This includes scheduled and announced make-up games. (Excluding T-ball and Coach Pitch)
7. All rain-out games will be rescheduled for the next available day pending field availability. President will coordinate with the city to reschedule games. The Goal is to get rainout games made up the same week.
8. Delay to start a game – the VSWLL board will allow a game to be delayed beginning up to the maximum time needed to be able to still get the official game time within the allotted time on schedule. This delay will be 30 minutes for coach pitch and senior minor and 20 minutes for majors. However, the umpire-in-chief may impose a 10-minute maximum delay per the rule book if desired, with the offending team forfeiting the game.
9. A two-way tie for first place will be settled by one game to decide the league champion. A three-way tie for first place will be settled as follows: *Flip of a coin by team managers, odd man in the toss draws a bye. The winner of the first game will play the team that drew the bye.*
10. **All Stars:**
  - a. The manager of the Southwest Little League All Star-Team will be decided by the president and board of directors. Regular season managers or coaches can be selected as the manager of an all-star team. The first-place team's manager will be given consideration for the position, but is not guaranteed the position.
  - b. Once all stars managers are approved by the board of directors, managers are to

contact players to inform them of selection to the all-star team must be performed in the following sequential order: 12 year old team (first), 11 year old team (second), 10 year old team (third), 9 year old team (fourth), and 8 year old team (fifth). For example, the manager of the 11 year old all-star team shall not attempt to contact his players until the manager of the 12 year old team has completed contacting his players, and same applies down the age groups. If this sequence is not followed and the communication is deemed to be of mal intent, then the offending all-star manager may lose his privileges to manage the all-star team and additional implications to the team's participation in the all-star tournaments may be enforced.

- c. Announcement of players making all-star teams cannot be done until May 15<sup>th</sup> of that year and directly announced by the president.
- d. All-star candidates have only two options:
  - 1) participate on the team of the highest age group that they are selected to OR
  - 2) forfeit their candidacy as an all-star player.
- e. Selection of All-Star Players:
  - a. Managers of each division will nominate players to be placed for consideration for All-Stars.
  - b. The selected managers for All-Stars will select from the list of players nominated once Board of Directions has approved this list of players.

#### **11. League Age Divisions:**

- a. T-Ball: (Ages 4-5) Blind draft method or randomly selected. No tryouts for T-Ball division.
- b. Coach Pitch: (Ages 6-7) Blind draft method or randomly selected. No tryouts for Coach Pitch Division.
- c. Sr. Minor: (Ages 8-10) –All 8, 9 and 10 year old players will be required to attend a try-out. Players attending the try-out must be drafted before players that did not attend. Players that do not attend a try-out will be placed in a blind draft and randomly selected by the managers per draft order. Draft is conducted per Little League rules.
- d. Majors: (10-12) **ALL PLAYERS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND A TRYOUT.**
  - 1. All candidates who are required to attend a try-out, but fail to do so, will be placed in a randomly selected, blind draft for a Major league team, and will be selected after players who attended the try out.

2. 10 year old player candidates who do not attend a try-out may be placed in a Minor or Majors randomly selected, blind draft at the discretion of the player agent. If they are placed in Majors, they will be included in a draft after the 11 and 12 year old blind draft.
3. Majors Draft Method:
  - a. Majors draft method will follow Little League Rules for draft methods Plan B – Redraft Method.
    - i. All Players will attend a tryout.
    - ii. All returning players who played on a majors team in the previous year will be drafted first.
    - iii. Remaining player candidates will be drafted next until the teams are filled.
    - iv. Snake method will be used during the draft. (ex. 1234,4321,1234,4321, etc)
  - b. Number of teams are determined by number of registered players. Expanding or reducing number of Majors teams will be done by following Little League rules.
4. Majors Eligibility:
  - a. Returning players that were on a majors team in the previous year will be drafted to a majors team.
  - b. All 11 & 12 years olds who did not play on a majors team in the previous year will be drafted to a majors team. Under special circumstances per the player agent will a 11-year-old not be eligible for majors but placed in Sr. Minor. 11 years old in Sr. Minor are not eligible to pitch.
  - c. Based on the number of teams determined by registered players and VSWLL Board decision, if there is room, 10 years olds may be eligible for Majors. (example: 4 Major teams = 48 players needed to fill majors teams. If there are 40 11 & 12 year olds, then 8 ten year olds will be eligible for majors.
  - d. Per the Player Agents assessment of the players tryout performance, the top candidates will be available for the majors draft openings. Players at tryouts at numerically evaluated at draft. Players with the highest score will be eligible for the majors draft openings.

