23. **All-Star Selection Rules and Procedures**

The All-Star roster is determined in two parts. The first part is the result of direct voting by the players, managers and coaches. The second part is determined by the managers of AAA and Majors managers as more fully described below.

**Eligibility:**
Players must meet the eligibility requirements of Little League International General Eligibility Rules and Tournament Rules to be eligible to be an LPPLL All-Star.

**Commitment Letter:**
To be eligible for consideration as an All-Star, families must complete the Commitment Letters that are distributed to all families in AAA and Majors describing the commitment expectations of LPPLL as well as a summary of the All-Star selection process. All families must return the form, indicating whether their child wishes to be considered for an All-Star team. Forms must be signed by a parent or guardian, even if the family declines to participate in All-Stars.

- The player’s commitment to full participation is required during the tournament season. The commitment can run from early June through August, depending on the success of the team. The managers may hold daily practice. The expectation is that players attend all practices. Managers may only excuse a player from attending three full or partial practices or one game for good cause. Good cause will never include playing another sport. The Board of Directors (BOD) retains discretion to excuse further absences in extraordinary circumstances. Should a player have an unexcused absence or partial absence from a practice or game, the manager shall notify the BOD, which will then collect the relevant information and determine whether to remove the player from the team.

- For players who wish to be eligible for All-Stars, the completed Commitment Letter shall specify information including whether the player is available for daily practices or whether there is a period of time for which the player will be unavailable. For those players with a period of unavailability (e.g., due to a family vacation, etc.), the Commitment Letter shall require that the family certify that they understand the player may not be placed on the ballot if there are enough fully-committed players for consideration.

- For each All-Star team, if there are eight fully-committed players, the partially-committed players shall not be eligible for the ballot. However, those players may still be eligible to be selected by the managers, at the discretion of the managers, taking into consideration the timing of each player’s period of unavailability. Prior to the occurrence of the voting, the BOD shall make reasonable efforts to notify families of partially-committed players their child is not eligible for the ballot, but are eligible to be selected by the managers.
All-Star Ballots:
The President delegates a member of the BOD to generate All-Star ballots.

- There are three different ballots for the three different All-Star teams: (1) the 9-10 team, (2) the 10-11 team, and (3) the LPPLL All-Star team. The respective age groups are baseball ages, according to Little League International rules.
  - Nine- and ten-year-olds will be placed on the 9-10 team ballot. Eleven-year-olds (including those in the AAA division) will be placed on the 10-11 team ballot. Twelve-year-olds will be placed on the LPPLL All-Star team ballot.
- The ballots for players, managers and coaches shall specify that the voter may select up to 10 players. A ballot selecting more than ten players is invalid and will not be counted. A ballot may reflect selection of fewer than 10 players and remain valid.
- Voters include all players in the AAA and Majors age divisions, the managers of each team in those divisions, and the two official coaches for each team in those divisions. No more than two coaches (not including the manager) from a given team may vote for All-Stars.
  - Players may not vote for players from their own teams.
  - Coaches may not vote for players from their own teams.
  - Managers may vote for players from their own teams.
  - AAA players vote only for the 9-10 team.
  - Majors players vote for both the 10-11 team and the LPPLL All-Star(12s) team.
- Ideally, voting shall take place immediately following each team’s final regular-season game. If that is not possible, the voting may be moved to within three days of the team’s final game.
- Each team’s voting process shall be overseen by a member of the BOD who does not have a child in the division being overseen. Players are not allowed to discuss the ballots with each other before the votes are collected. Coaches and managers are not permitted to influence the players’ votes in any way.
- Votes shall be collected and transmitted to a delegate of the President’s choosing to count the ballots. Counting of the ballots shall be performed by two BOD members, neither of whom has a child in the age division for which they are counting ballots.
- The vote shall determine the first eight roster spots on each All-Star team.
- All candidates on the ballot shall be ranked according to the following formula: (percentage of player votes for the player as a function of total player votes cast x 0.4) + (percentage of coach votes for the player as a function of total coach votes cast x 0.1) + (percentage of manager votes for the player as a function of total manager votes cast x 0.5). The formula generates a numeric value and all players will be ranked according to that numeric value. The eight players with the highest numeric value from the formula will be included on the All-Star roster.
Completion of the All-Star Rosters:

All three All-Star teams shall each be comprised of 12-14 players. Eight of the players are selected by the vote, as described above. The remaining players shall be selected at a meeting of the regular-season managers in the corresponding division (AAA managers for the 9-10 team, Majors managers for the other two teams). The meeting shall take place at a reasonable time and place, with a goal of including as many managers as possible, but no fewer than over half for each division. The attendance of every manager is not necessary for a valid selection process. If a manager is unable to attend the meeting, a BOD approved coach from that team may attend in the manager’s place. A BOD representative who does not have a child in the relevant division shall attend the meeting for the purpose of sharing the vote-based roster of eight players with the managers. The BOD representative shall also remain at the meeting to ensure it is conducted in an appropriate manner and to record the final selections. The BOD representative shall make no effort to influence the managers’ selections. The BOD representative shall share the following information with the managers:

- The managers shall complete the roster based upon factors including but not limited to: quality of play, baseball skill and athleticism, position needs, and character.
- The goal of the managers should be to create the best possible team.
- Eligible players include the players on the relevant ballot that were not voted in as well as any partially-committed players that were not included on the ballot due to their inability to fully commit to the time requirements.
- The managers have discretion to add four to six players to the roster as they see fit to create the best possible team. The managers shall take into consideration the different tournament rules that apply to a roster of 12 versus a larger roster.
- The confidentiality of the proposed players for the All-Star team is of utmost concern. The selection order will not be discussed outside the managers’ meeting and under no circumstances should players or parents be told of the selection order of the players. The names of the players shall not be made public until the 6:00 a.m. following the conclusion of the final DCS game.

All-Star Manager and Coach Selection:

The player roster will be selected prior to the selection of the All-Star managers and coaches.

- All relevant division managers and coaches shall be sent a form summarizing eligibility and expected time commitment. Only managers and coaches in the regular season in the relevant division shall be eligible for selection (however managers are not limited to becoming managers and coaches are not limited to becoming coaches). The form shall indicate whether the manager or coach wishes to be considered, and in what role. From the list of eligible candidates who wish to be considered, the BOD will select the managers of the All-Star teams. Considerations should include previous coaching experience, including All-Star experience, character, and regular-season and playoff performance.
- The BOD may require interviews of perspective managers and coaches to clarify each person’s aptitude for their role.
• Once the All-Star managers are selected, they shall then select two formal coaches from a list of BOD-approved, eligible coaches. No more than two formal coaches shall be selected per team. Informal assistants are permitted, however those individuals must undergo an appropriate background check prior to working with players.

**All-Star Team Administration:**

• Families are responsible for the cost of the All-Star uniforms. In the event a family cannot afford the cost of the uniforms, scholarships will be available at the President’s discretion. LPPLL shall provide the managers and coaches with hats and polo shirts at LPPLL’s expense.

• Shortly after the All-Star teams are made public, the President shall hold a barbecue at Dooley Field to welcome the players and families. The barbecue will be hosted by the 10-11 team’s All-Star families. During the barbecue, each All-Star manager shall host short, breakout meetings that include the President. Talking points for the managers shall include:
  - Explain how All-Stars is different from the regular season. [Many players already know it, but there are rookies at every level.]
  - Discuss your philosophy for setting lineups and playing time.
  - Discuss your philosophy for how you will communicate the roles. When will the players learn their roles for any given game?
  - Describe how you need every one of your players at every practice.
  - Explain that the only reasons to miss practice are events like an illness or family emergency. Advise the parents that if their child cannot be at practice, they should contact you and let you know why.
  - Tell the players that when they come to practice, they need to stay for the entire practice. If they need to leave a practice early for some reason, please tell you about it ahead of time.
  - Leaving early without permission is the same as missing practice. You cannot excuse anyone to leave early to attend an event for another sport.
  - You and your coaches will treat every player with respect. You expect the same respect in return. Further, you expect the players to treat each other with respect too. We are going to be positive and support our teammates.

• When an All-Star player has any absences beyond those which the manager is authorized to excuse, the manager must inform the BOD of the circumstances, and the BOD may then take action as appropriate and necessary.

• In the event an All-Star player is removed from the team due to absence, incident, injury, or because the player is no longer eligible under Little League rules, the President shall have discretion to determine how to proceed relative to replacing the player, consistent with Little League rules. However, once rosters are submitted to Little League International on June 1, 2018, no substitutions are allowed.