



# **Frederick County American Little League Bylaws and Rules Operation**

PO Box 2412 Winchester, VA, 22604  
League ID#: 03460313  
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# **FREDERICK COUNTY AMERICAN LITTLE LEAGUE BY LAWS**

## **ARTICLE I – Refund Policy**

FCALL encourages players to honor their commitment to their team to play baseball or softball. However, we understand that circumstances may occur which require a player to withdraw from playing. FCALL has adopted the following Registration Refund Policy:

- a) Refunds will only be issued for medical reasons. A doctor's note must be provided.
- b) Refunds will only be issued between the time of registration and the final day of registration for the current season. FCALL will refund the registration fee minus the administrative fees incurred (i.e. -database fees, online registration fees).
- c) No refunds will be issued for any reason after the final day of registration for the current season.
- d) The parent or guardian of the player must submit a letter/email to the Treasurer requesting a refund and stating the reason as to why the player is resigning from FCALL. No refunds will be processed without this letter/email.
- e) Refunds will be issued if a team is folded by FCALL and there are no other teams in the division for the player to be added to.

## **ARTICLE II – Training**

Training sessions will be conducted by the league for managers, coaches, umpires and scorekeepers.

- a) Scorekeepers and umpires are expected to attend training clinics so that scorekeeping and umpiring methods will be consistent for all divisions and games. Each team is required to provide a scorekeeper and an alternate, each of whom must attend the scorekeeper's clinic.
- b) Managers and coaches are required to attend the Managers/Coaches clinic provided by the league.
- c) Concussion training must be completed by the Manager and Coaches. A copy of their certification is to be provided to the Safety Officer.

## **Article III – League Structure**

### **SECTION 1**

#### **General League Structure**

The general league structure of FCALL shall be in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of Little League Baseball, Inc. FCALL shall offer programs in Baseball and Girls Softball. All players, minor division and above, must attend the draft. Skill assessments will take place at a

time designated, prior to the draft, and players will be assigned to the division in which the skill level is appropriate, no matter the age, as long as the Little League International rules are followed.

## **SECTION 2**

### **League Age.**

FCALL follows the Little League Baseball and Little League Softball age chart found on Little League's website. All ages mentioned below are in reference to this chart.

## **SECTION 3**

### **FCALL Baseball League Structure**

The local structure of FCALL for baseball shall be made up of a Tee-Ball League, Coach Pitch League, Minor League, Major League, 50/70, Junior League and Senior League. All baseball leagues are open to both boy and girl player members. All players, Coach Pitch division and above, must attend the skill assessment. Skills assessments will take place prior to the draft and players will be assigned to the division in which the skill level is appropriate, no matter the age, as long as the Little League International rules are followed.

- a) Tee-Ball League – the Tee-Ball league of FCALL shall consist of player members who are league age four (4), five (5), and six (6).
- b) Coach Pitch League – the Coach Pitch League of FCALL shall consist of player members who are league age seven (7) and eight (8). A player member who is league age six (6) and has Tee-Ball experience may choose to enroll at this level of play. A player who is league age five (5) and has 1 year (2 completed seasons) may choose to enroll in the coach pitch division, pending evaluation. Players in this division will participate in a skill assessment prior to the start of the season and **may** be selected in the player draft.
- c) Minor League – The Minor League Baseball of FCALL shall consist of player members who are league age eight (8) through ten (10). All players in this league will participate in a skill assessment prior to the start of the season and may be selected in the player draft.
- d) Major League – The Major League of FCALL shall consist of player members who are league age ten (10) through twelve (12). All players in this league will participate in a skill assessment prior to the start of the season and may subsequently be selected in the player draft. Each team will have a minimum of 12 players and a maximum of 15 players.
- e) 50/70 League – The 50/70 League shall consist primarily of players who are league age eleven (11), twelve (12) and thirteen (13). All member players must participate in a skills assessment and may be subsequently selected to teams in the player draft. Each team will have a minimum of 12 players and a maximum of 15 players.
- f) Junior League – The Junior League shall consist of players who are league age thirteen (13), fourteen (14), and fifteen (15). Players of the league aged fifteen can only play in the Junior League if there are no Senior League teams. A waiver must be approved. These players are not eligible to pitch or play All-Stars in this division. All member players must participate in a skills assessment and may be subsequently selected to teams

in the player draft. Each team will have a minimum of 12 players and a maximum of 15 players.

- g) Senior League – The Senior League shall consist primarily of players who are league age thirteen (13), fourteen (14), fifteen (15), and sixteen (16). Player members thirteen can only play in the Senior League if there are no Junior League Teams. All member players must participate in a skill assessment and will be subsequently selected to teams in the player draft. Each team will have a minimum of 12 players and a maximum of 15 players. If fewer than 12 players register for this division, the Player Agent can bring fourteen (14) year old players up from the Junior League to complete one Senior League team.

## **SECTION 4**

### **FCALL Girls Softball League Structure**

The local structure of FCALL for girls' softball shall be made up of Coach Pitch, Minor League, Major League, and Senior League. All players, Coach Pitch division and above, must attend the skill assessment. Skills assessments will take place prior to the draft and players will be assigned to the division in which the skill level is appropriate, no matter the age, as long as the Little League International rules are followed.

- a) Coach Pitch League – The Coach Pitch League of FCALL shall consist of player members who are league age seven (7) and (8). A player member who is league age six (6) and has had one year of Tee-Ball experience may wish to enroll at this level of play. A player who is league age five (5) and has 1 year (2 completed seasons) may choose to enroll in the coach pitch division, pending evaluation. Players in this division will participate in a skill assessment prior to the start of the season and **may** be selected in the player draft.
- b) Minor League – The Minor League Softball of FCALL shall consist of players who are league age eight (8) through ten (10). All players in this league will participate in a skill assessment prior to the start of the season and may be selected in the player draft.
- c) Major League – The Major League Softball of FCALL shall consist of players who are league age ten (10) through twelve (12). All players in this league will participate in a skill assessment prior to the start of the season and may subsequently be selected in the player draft. Each team will have a minimum of 12 players and a maximum of 15 players.
- d) Junior Softball League – The Junior League shall consist of players who are league age twelve (12), thirteen (13), and fourteen (14). All member players must participate in a skills assessment and may be subsequently selected to teams in the player draft. Each team will have a minimum of 12 players and a maximum of 15 players.
- e) Senior Softball League – The Senior League shall consist of players who are league age thirteen (13), fourteen (14), fifteen (15), and sixteen (16). All member players must participate in a skills assessment and may be subsequently selected to teams in the player draft. Each team will have a minimum of 12 players and a maximum of 15 players.

## Article IV – Managers and Coaches

### SECTION 1

#### **Managers.**

Managers have the responsibility of being the liaison between the Board of Directors and the Parents/Guardians of FCALL's player base. Managers must:

- a) All Managers and Coaches must pass Background Check Standards. Please refer to FCALL's Criminal Background Check Policy 500.03.
- b) Be Regular Members of the league.
- c) Be appointed by the league President and approved by a majority vote of the Board.
- d) Understand and comply with all the goals, rules and regulations as described in the Constitution, By-laws, Rule Book and Mission Statement. Failure to do so will result in removal of the manager by the President.
- e) All managers and coaches are to meet with the President and/or Board of Directors when requested, for final approval and specific instructions.
- f) Recruit 2 coaches to assist him/her in the running of the team practices and games.
- g) Attend a Managers/Coaches Clinic. Managers attending the Clinic will have first priority in being selected as a manager.
- h) Recruit a sufficient number of parents from the team to provide a Scorekeeper and a Team Parent.
- i) Manage the team, as well as parents and fans, during games.
- j) Ensure that League equipment is safeguarded and returned at the end of the season. Failure to do so will automatically prohibit this person from managing in subsequent years. Managers take financial responsibility for equipment and first aid kits given to the team.
- k) Managers are responsible for all League Approval Paperwork for Coaches (Including Background Checks, Concussion Certificates, Etc.)
- l) All FCALL Managers and Coaches must complete a volunteer application or they will not be allowed to coach or assist a team. Little League International requires this to be done yearly. The league Secretary will distribute the necessary forms which are to be completed and returned. All paperwork is to be completed within 1 week of being appointed to Manage/Coach.
- m) Uniforms for managers, coaches, and players shall not be altered. All managers, coaches and players shall wear the uniform issued by FCALL. Failure to adhere to this policy will automatically prohibit this person from managing in subsequent years. Managers take financial responsibility for uniform replacement, if deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.
- n) Recruit pool players for divisions minor and above with more than one team and provide player info to Player Agent.
- o) When in need of a pool player, contact and coordinate with Player Agent as soon as possible. All pool play must go through Player Agent.
- p) All team managers must umpire at least two (2) games. One game must be umpired in the first half of the season, and two games must be umpired before the annual General

Membership Meeting, which is the third Sunday in May. Managers will sign up for games through the Umpire-in-Chief. Disciplinary actions per infraction will be at the Board's discretion.

## **SECTION 2**

### **Coach Selection**

- a) Coaches will be selected by and work for the team manager.
- b) Coaches shall serve with approval of the league President and subject to approval by majority vote of the Board.

## **SECTION 3**

### **Coach Responsibility.**

- a) All Coaches will attend FCALL clinic as required by the Board.
- b) All Coaches must complete all League Approved Paperwork and turn in to the appropriate party.

## **SECTION 4**

### **Umpire Responsibility.**

- a) Umpires shall serve with the approval of the League President and UIC.
- b) Attend the required classes and receive certification from the district if they want to umpire in All-Star games.
- c) Attend clinics as required by the President.
- d) Complete volunteer form, background check, concussion certificate, & liability waiver yearly.

## **SECTION 5**

### **Manager Accountability (for selection purposes).**

- a) A survey form may be provided to each parent at the end of the season as well as presented to each person enrolling a child, or any other person involved in the league. This survey form will contain the names of managers and coaches from the previous year and will ask this question, "Would you want your child to play for this manager again and why or why not?"
- b) This survey will be distributed by the league Board of Directors. This same form will be made available on the league website with instructions on where to send it.
- c) The results of this survey will be compiled by the League President and/or Vice President as long as they are not managing a team. If both roles are team managers, it will fall on the Secretary. The results will be available to the Selection Committee and Board of Directors who will use their best judgment and discretion with this information when making their decision on manager selection.

- d) The President will keep these results and actions with the responsibility to ensure that they are presented to the succeeding President.
- e) The Secretary will ensure that these results and actions are made a part of the permanent league record for 6 years.

## **Article V – Assessment and Team Formation Policy**

### **SECTION 1**

#### **Assessment/Player Selection System (Draft)**

Players in divisions requiring skills assessment will be assessed according to the rules and regulations of Little League Baseball, Inc. for both baseball and softball programs.

- a) No skills assessment is required for participation in Tee-Ball.
- b) Assessments may be required for player members in the following baseball divisions; Coach Pitch, Minors, Majors, 50/70, Juniors, and Seniors.
- c) Assessments may be required for player members in the following softball divisions; Coach Pitch, Minors, Majors, Juniors, and Seniors.
- d) Players (excluding the Minor League) are offered the opportunity to be put in the draft every year by checking the box next to re-enter me into the draft on the Registration Form.
- e) At any time, a player's abilities can be reassessed by the Board of Directors and placed where the skills level is appropriate, no matter what age, as long as Little League International rules are followed.
- f) All Minor League divisions will participate in a complete redraft each year.
- g) All Majors and above division teams will stay together unless the Board of Directors votes for complete redraft due to division structure issues.

### **SECTION 2**

#### **Procedure.**

For Divisions requiring assessment, Player Members must attend the assessment date set by the League Board of Directors.

- a) Should there be an insufficient number of players to create more than one team, players may be assigned to a team without attending an assessment.
- b) If a player is eligible for two Divisions and is trying out for the upper Division, they must show up to the assessment. If they fail to show up, they will automatically be placed on a team in the lower Division.
- c) At any time, a player's abilities can be reassessed by the Board of Directors and placed where the skills level is appropriate, no matter the age, if Little League International rules are being followed.

### **SECTION 3**

## **Team Formation**

Teams will be formed in accordance with Little League Rules and Regulations, in softball and baseball divisions.

- a) Player members in Tee-Ball will be given the opportunity to make requests to be placed on specific teams.
- b) Player members in Tee-Ball will be formed on a geographic basis after requests are fulfilled.
- c) Teams will be formed by a draft in the following divisions: Coach Pitch, Minor, Major, 50/70, Junior and Senior for Baseball and Minor, Major and JR/SR for Softball.

## **Article VI – League Rules**

### **SECTION 1**

#### **General League Rules.**

The general League rules of FCALL shall be in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of Little League Baseball, Inc.

### **SECTION 2**

#### **FCALL Game Rules.**

The local rules of FCALL have been designed and adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors. These rules in no way supersede or conflict with the Rules and Regulations of Little League Baseball, Inc.

- a) Tee-Ball
  - a. General Division Rules
    - i. Teeball is strictly an instructional division. There will be no scorekeeping.
    - ii. The only non-players allowed on the field are those who have completed the background check and required paperwork and been approved by the Board of Directors.
    - iii. One manager, two coaches, and team parent are allowed in the dugout/field during games. Assistant coaches are allowed during practices to help with organizing small groups.
    - iv. Managers and coaches must umpire their own games.
    - v. Absolutely no talking on cell phones or texting while on the field.
    - vi. A roster sheet with each player batting and field positions must be completed for each game and must be turned in to the Teeball Division Representative. Email is the approved methods of turning in roster sheets.
    - vii. Every team must select a team parent.
    - viii. Games will be scheduled to a one-and-a-half-hour time block with games lasting between 45 minutes to 1 hour and 15 minutes or 4 Innings.
    - ix. Managers and coaches cannot cancel games.
    - x. All players are to have their shirts tucked in.



- xi. The Board of Directors shall issue the official Little League Teeball Program Guide to all managers.
- b. Practice schedules:
  - i. There will be two practices per week prior to the start of the season
  - ii. After the start of the season, there shall be a minimum of one practice per week.
- c. Playing Rules:
  - i. Offense
    - 1. The batting order should rotate every inning, per Little League's Teeball Program Guide. See Page 7 for example.
    - 2. When batting off the tee, managers and coaches are to instruct players to not swing until the coach says, "play ball". They are also to be taught not to throw their bats.
    - 3. Coach pitching shall only be used in the second half of the season. When in use, players are to receive three pitches. If contact is not made resulting in the ball being hit into fair territory, the ball shall be placed on the tee for subsequence attempts. First year players are encouraged to use the tee all year unless deemed appropriate by the manager and coaches.
    - 4. Runners who are thrown out or tagged out shall return to the dugout.
    - 5. When the last batter comes to the plate, the manager must tell the other team. All runners advance until they reach home plate. The fielding team may attempt to perform a tag at home only if the catcher is instructed to be fully out of the runner's path and the tag applied at the belt.
    - 6. There shall be no sliding.
  - ii. Defense
    - 1. All players are to be positioned in the field each defensive inning so as no player is in the dugout when the team is on defense.
    - 2. Infield positions will be true infield positions and only the proper numbers of infielders are allowed in the infield.
    - 3. Each player must play an infield position in every game. The maximum innings at each position is two per game, but not in consecutive innings.
- b) Coach Pitch
  - a. General Division Rules
    - i. Coach Pitch is a bridge between Teeball and Minor League. Emphasis shall remain on instructional play, but a scorebook shall be filled out and kept for each game.
    - ii. All players shall be equipped according to Little League rules.
    - iii. Little League Minor League rules shall be in place, except for the noted changes in this document.

- iv. The only non-players allowed on the field are those who have completed the background check and required paperwork and been approved by the Board of Directors.
- v. One manager, two coaches, and the team parent are allowed in the dugout/field during games. Assistant coaches are allowed during practices to help with organizing small groups. Every team must select a team parent.
- vi. FCALL will attempt to find Umpires for Coach Pitch games. If no umpire can be found, Managers and coaches must umpire their own games.
- vii. Absolutely no talking on cell phones or texting while on the field.
- viii. After each game, a copy of the scorebook shall be turned in to the Baseball or Teeball/Coach Pitch Division Representative. Approved methods of turning in the scorebook are sending an email containing a picture of the paper scorebook, or a screenshot of a digital scorebook.
- ix. Games will be scheduled to a one-and-a-half-hour time block with games lasting between 1 hour and 15 minutes and 1 hour and 45 minutes or 6 Innings.
  - x. Managers and coaches CANNOT cancel games.
  - xi. All players are to have their shirts tucked in.
  - xii. The ball used shall be the 5 series ball (this is not the tee ball, nor the minor/major ball).
  - xiii. The field will have a 16' circle around the pitcher's mound or 38ft for baseball, 27ft for softball from home plate. There will be a hash mark on the field between all bases except for home and first base.
- b. Practice schedules:
  - i. There shall be two practices per week prior to the start of the season.
  - ii. After the start of the season, a minimum of one practice per week
- c. Playing Rules
  - i. Offense
    - 1. A continuous batting order shall be used and given to the other team for scorebook tracking.
    - 2. Teams are not permitted to bunt.
    - 3. There shall be no attempts to steal bases.
    - 4. Batter shall receive no more than five pitches or three swinging strikes. If the fifth pitch is a foul, the batter remains at bat until a passed ball occurs or the ball is put into play. A fifth or subsequent pitch not swung on or that results in a passed ball is an out.
    - 5. Any hit that remains in front of the infielders (inside the diamond) will be considered a single unless the runner is put out or there is an overthrow or passed ball to first base. If there is an overthrow on the first throw from an infielder to the first baseman following a hit, runners may advance no more than one base.
    - 6. On a throw from an outfielder, if any infielder (first baseman, second baseman, shortstop, third baseman or pitcher) has control

of the ball inside the diamond (inside the baseline, not just in the dirt), base runners not yet to the hash mark are to return to the previous base.

7. Three coaches are allowed on the field while on offense. Two base coaches and the Coach Pitcher.
8. Coach pitcher must start the delivery from anywhere within the circle. Upon completion of pitch, there may be one foot outside of circle.
9. Coach Pitcher may instruct batter in batter's box, but cannot direct play or coach base runners.
10. Coach Pitcher must attempt to avoid all contact with a live baseball and a fielder trying to make play on the ball. Ideally, the Coach Pitcher retreats to foul territory once the ball is hit.
11. Managers and Coaches will refrain from interfering with the opposing team while the ball is in play (i.e., distracting players to attempt to advance runners).

ii. Defense

1. Both teams shall play with the number of fielders the smaller team can field. Ideally, all players are to be positioned in the field each defensive inning so as no player is in the dugout when the team is on defense.
  - a. Teams will set players in traditional baseball positioning in the infield and only the proper numbers of infielders are allowed in the infield.
  - b. Each team is to field a catcher.
  - c. Teams may field more than 3 outfielders.
2. All players shall be given equal playing time.
  - a. i. Each player will play a minimum of three innings per game defensively.
  - b. Each player must play an infield position in every game.
  - c. Players may only play the same position for two consecutive innings.
  - d. A mix of playing time in infield and outfield positions is required for each player within the season.
3. Once an infielder has positive control of the ball within the diamond the play is ruled dead. Positive control is when the infielder has ball in hand and/or glove, not once the ball hits the infield dirt.
4. The infielder who has control of the ball inside the diamond shall make an attempt to return the ball to the pitcher. Base runners may NOT advance on an overthrow from an infielder with control of the ball inside the diamond to the pitcher if the pitcher is standing inside the circle.

5. If the player pitcher leaves the circle with control of the ball, the play is live and all runners may attempt to advance. This does NOT include overthrows from an infielder who was already inside the diamond.
6. Outfielders may not run or roll the ball into the infield. They shall throw the ball to infielders in an attempt to make a play or return the ball to play pitcher.
  - a. Infielders may run the ball into the diamond to stop runners from advancing, but if an attempt is made on a runner, play is live.
7. Three coaches are allowed on the field while on defense. All coaches shall make every effort to avoid contact with the ball. If the ball touches any coach at any time, it is a dead ball, to follow normal obstruction rules. All runners advance to the next base.
8. Facemasks are strongly recommended to all players in the Coach Pitch Softball division.

iii. Scoring

1. If umpires are not available, First Base Coach will make all safe/out calls at first base. Third Base Coach will make all calls at third base. Identified defensive field coaches will make all calls at home plate and second base.
2. There shall be no more than five runs scored in each of the first five innings. An inning is complete and the ball is dead once the fifth run in any inning crosses the plate.
3. The sixth inning shall allow for unlimited runs.
4. Slaughter rule shall be in place: 15 runs after three complete innings or 10 runs after four complete innings. The home team shall not bat in the bottom half of any inning in which they are ahead and the slaughter rule is in effect.

c) Minor to Senior League Baseball and Softball (see Section D for additional 50/70 requirements).

a. General Division Rules

- i. Minor and above shall play for wins and losses with an emphasis on instruction. A scorebook shall be filled out and kept for each game.
- ii. The only non-players allowed on the field are those who have completed the background check and required paperwork and been approved by the Board of Directors.
- iii. One manager and two coaches are allowed in the dugout/field during games. Assistant coaches are allowed during practices to help with organizing small groups.
- iv. Umpires shall be provided by the league.
- v. Absolutely no talking on cell phones or texting while on the field.

- vi. Scorebooks may be digitally kept via an approved app or via a paper scorebook.
- vii. After each game, a copy of the scorebook shall be turned in to the Baseball or Softball Division Representative. Approved methods of turning in the scorebook are sending an email containing a picture of the paper scorebook, or a screenshot of a digital scorebook.
- viii. Scores shall be posted to the league website. Post season tournament rankings shall be developed off these scores. Failure to turn in a scorebook for each game shall be captured as a loss.
- ix. All players are to have their shirts tucked in.
- x. Pitchers in all softball divisions shall wear facemasks.
- xi. Pitchers in baseball division of 50/70, Junior, and Senior shall wear non-metal cleats or sneakers when pitching from a portable mound.
- xii. Minor and Major division games shall be played to a two-hour time limit or 6 innings.
- xiii. 50/70 and above division games shall be played to a three-hour time limit or 7 innings.
- xiv. Managers and coaches cannot cancel games.
- xv. All games shall adhere to the playing rules written in the Little League Rulebooks.
- xvi. No player may refuse a draft appointment at any time.
- xvii. No manager or coaches may stand inside the field fence or sit on buckets inside of the field fence during a game. The game will be stopped until the party returns to their dugout.
- xviii. Weekday Game Times:
  - 1. 6:00 p.m. (no new inning to start after 7:45 p.m., at 8:00 p.m. the game is over if the game is an official game)
    - a. **EXCEPTION:** If there is no game scheduled after, the game will be played until completion.
  - 2. 8:00 p.m. (no new inning to start after 9:30 p.m., at 10:00 p.m. the game is over, if the game is an official game)
  - 3. If an 8:00 p.m. game does not begin at or before 9:00 p.m.; it is up to the Board Member on Duty to decide.
  - 4. If the game is not considered an official game, the Managers must contact the Division Reps to make arrangements with the Scheduler to complete the game.
- xix. Weekend Game Times:
  - 1. No new innings after 2 hours unless it is a tie ball game, or more time is needed to get the minimum innings played. Unless it is the last game of the day then there is no time limit.
- xx. Practice Schedules:
  - 1. Minor, Major, 50/70, Jr. and Senior Divisions have two practices per week prior to the start of the season if field space is available.

2. A member of the Board of Directors will periodically attend practices to make sure they are going well.
3. Warm-ups and stretching a must at practices
- b. Failure to comply with these rules will fall under the guidelines of the official rules and regulations for FCALL.
- d) **50/70 Baseball**
  - a. Players that register to play 50/70 are also eligible to play in other divisions.
    - i. 11-year-old players are eligible to play down in the Majors Division
    - ii. 12-year-old players are eligible to play down in the Major Division
    - iii. 13-year-old players are eligible to play up in the Junior Division and Senior Division
  - b. An additional \$40.00 fee will be required for registration on the 2<sup>nd</sup> team.

## **Article VII – All-Stars**

### **SECTION 1**

#### **All Star Manager Selection Procedure.**

- a) Tee Ball Division
  - a. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to hold a teeball All-Star game.
- b) Manager and Coach Selection for Coach Pitch, Minor, Major Junior, and Senior League Baseball and Softball
  - a. One All-Star ballot will be prepared to include names for Managers.
  - b. Each Division Representative will prepare this ballot to include the names of all Regular Season Managers or Coaches that want to manage or coach an All-Star team.
  - c. Division Representative will present the ballots to the Board of Directors.
  - d. Board of Directors will vote on the same ballot.
  - e. Any ballot marked with more than 1 name for a manager will be discarded and will not count as a vote.
  - f. The Board of Directors will collect and add these ballot totals to the totals from the managers.
  - g. The top vote receiver in the Manager category will be selected as the All-Star Manager.
  - h. If that person withdraws their name, the second highest vote receiver will be selected. That process will continue until an All-Star Manager is selected and accepts the position.
  - i. If all Managers withdraw, no All-Star Team will be selected.
  - j. Once an All-Star Manager has been selected, he/she may select two individuals from either the approved Manager or Coach's list to be their All-Star Coaches.
  - k. If only one manager elects to participate in All-Stars, no ballot is required.

### **SECTION 2**

### **Tournament Team Selection Procedure.**

- a) Player Selection for Coach Pitch, Minor, Major, 50/70, Junior, and Senior League Baseball and Softball
  - a. After an All-Star Manager is selected, all regular season managers will meet with the selected All Star Manager, Division Representative and Vice President.
  - b. Each regular season manager will bring names of players that they are recommending and are committed to playing to be selected for the All-Star team. In addition, the manager will bring the players shirt and pants size and the players 3 numbers they would like on their shirts.
  - c. Recommendations and discussions will be held until an All-Star team comprising a minimum of 12 but not exceeding 14 players (a maximum of 16 players for Senior League) are selected.
  - d. A registration fee will be determined by the Board of Directors and is required for a player to participate in All Stars.
- b) All-star Commitment Letter - At Managers Discretion
  - a. Each Manager will prepare a Commitment Letter for board approval to be distributed to the players and parents of any eligible child wishing to participate in the All-Star Tournament. This letter will state the following:
    - i. That a team of 12 to 14 (16 for Senior League) All-Star players will be selected in accordance with Article V, Section 2, depending on the division involved.
    - ii. The expected and possible duration of the All-Star Season.
    - iii. The date the commitment letter must be returned.
    - iv. A commitment to attend 80% of practices and 100% of games. Absences allowed for illness or family emergency.
    - v. The need for a certified, original birth certificate that will be required by the first practice session, along with (3) proofs of residency.
    - vi. Signature lines for both the player and parent/guardian.
    - vii. Each player that agrees to the letter, signs and returns it by the designated time will be placed on the All-Star ballot.
    - viii. Failure to comply with the commitment letter may result in removal from the All-Star team (upon Board approval).

## **SECTION 3**

### **Tournament Uniform Procedure.**

New uniforms are ordered each year with the player's last name and number on the back. Each player is able to select their top three number choices for their jersey. At the discretion of the board, players may be asked for a fee to help with uniform costs.

## **Article VIII – Fall Ball**

FCALL offers a Fall Ball (Second Season) League. The primary goal of the Fall Ball program is instructional play. No standings are kept, and no ends of season tournaments are held. Coaches are allowed on the field for instructional purposes. This program is especially beneficial for those players moving up from the Minor Division and for those players moving on to the larger field in the Junior Division. Both Baseball and Softball will be offered in the Fall Ball program. Fall Ball is open to member players who will be league age 4-16 in the following spring season (please see current age bracket in the Little League rule book).

## **SECTION 1**

### **Registration.**

- a) Fall Ball registration will be held ~~in~~ from June to August.
- b) All member households who have eligible players will receive, by e-mail, a flier with registration information at least 1 week prior to the scheduled registration date.

## **SECTION 2**

### **Team Formation**

- a) The number of teams will be determined by the number of players registered in each of the above age groups and if there are other teams to play against.
- b) If the player is to move up a division in the Spring, it is recommended that they play in the division or a higher division they will play the next spring. The player cannot play down to a lower division. Unless skill assessment deems that the player cannot play up.
- c) The managers and League Fall Ball Director will divide players among the teams with every effort made to balance player skills among the teams.

## **SECTION 3**

### **Games Schedule – Location**

- a) Game schedules will be based upon the Frederick County Youth Sponsorship Program and Inter-league scheduling.
- b) The Scheduler sets the schedule and games will be played at any or all of the participating leagues' fields.

## **ARTICLE IX – Miscellaneous Rules**

### **SECTION 1**

#### **Field Cleanup.**

Following each game, members of both teams and spectators shall pick up paper and food containers around the fields, playing areas, dugouts and bleachers.

### **SECTION 2**



**Scorekeeper.**

All Minor League teams and above shall be responsible for providing two volunteers who will attend training for scorekeeping. Responsibility of the baseball scorekeeper includes keeping track of the official pitch count.

**SECTION 4****Concession Schedule.**

All teams will abide by the concession stand schedule.

**SECTION 5****Park Rules.**

FCALL follows all Stonewall Ballpark rules.

**SECTION 6****Drug, Alcohol, Cigarette, and Vape Use.**

There shall be no use of drugs and/or alcohol while participating or attending any FCALL game or external function. Smoking/Vaping is prohibited in school fields. Smoking/Vaping is prohibited during practice or games at Stonewall Ballpark. Smoking/Vaping is prohibited near ballfields and must be contained within the parking lot areas.

**SECTION 7****Complaints.**

All complaints must be in writing, signed, and sent to the appropriate Board Member. Emails will also be accepted with the President and Secretary copied. The Board will maintain anonymity.

No verbal/oral complaints will be taken into consideration.

If the appropriate Board Member cannot resolve the issue immediately, then the following steps will be taken.

- a) Each letter must be given or emailed to a Board Member.
- b) Each letter will be discussed at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. It will be determined at that time if further steps need to be taken. All Board members present will have a vote in making this determination.
- c) If further action is to be taken, the appropriate Board member will notify the person(s) involved that a letter of complaint has been received. At the pre-determined Board meeting, where the contents of the complaint will be discussed, the parties involved will be given the opportunity to present their sides.
- d) If the Board determines that disciplinary action is to be taken, it will be done as quickly as possible.

- e) This letter will become part of the league's official records and be kept on file for five years.
- f) The appropriate Board Member with the findings will notify the parties involved.

## **SECTION 8**

### **Establishing a Waiting List.**

- a) A list of players who register with the league after tryouts are finalized and teams are established will be maintained for each division. The player will be picked from the waiting list in which they were placed on the list. The list will not be made available to Managers and coaches.
- b) The Player Agent will keep and maintain the waiting list.
- c) There will be no waiting lists until teams have twelve (12) players each Majors and above and ten (10) players each Minor and below.

## **SECTION 9**

### **Make Up Games.**

Rained out or postponed games may be re-scheduled by the Scheduler. The Manager should contact their Division Representative to let them know that the game was cancelled. The teams involved will forfeit scheduled practice time to the teams losing practice time (on the field) due to the make-up games. Games in the Fall are not rescheduled.