

Article I - Name/Title

This organization shall be known as **Saddle Brook Little League, Incorporated.**

Article II - Purpose

The purpose of the Saddle Brook Little League, Incorporated (hereby the league), shall be to implant in the youth of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect for authority, so that they may be well adjusted, stronger and happier children and will grow to be decent, healthy and trustworthy adults.

To achieve this objective, the league shall provide a supervised program of competitive baseball games under the rules and regulations of Little League Baseball, Incorporated, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

Officers and members shall bear in mind that stressing exceptional athletic skills or winning of games is secondary, and that the type of leadership extended is of prime importance.

The league is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the teaching of safety and fair play to the youth of Saddle Brook, NJ. All proceeds from contributions, donations, sponsorships, and fees collected in the name of the league shall be used to perpetuate the overall program. None of the net earnings of the league shall be used for the benefit of individual members.

Article III – Affiliation

The league shall annually apply for a charter from Little League Baseball, Incorporated, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and shall do all things necessary to obtain and maintain such charter. The league shall devote its entire energies to the activities authorized by such charter and shall not be affiliated with any other program or organization or operate any other program.

The Official Playing Rules and Regulations as published by Little League Baseball, Incorporated, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, shall be binding on the league. The local rules of the league shall be adopted by the Board of Directors (hereby the Executive Board) at a meeting to be held not less than one month previous to the first scheduled game of the season, but shall in no way conflict with the Rules and regulations of Little League Baseball, Incorporated.

Article IV - Membership

Any person actively interested in furthering the objectives of the league may apply for membership. Members shall not be required to be affiliated with another organization or group to qualify as a member of the league.

All officers, coaches, and managers should be members in good standing. Members in good standing are members who have attended at least 50% of the General Membership Meetings prior to the September Meeting (three meetings minimum for new members joining the league February or later of the current year).

Executive Board Members must attend at least 50% of the total combined scheduled Executive Board and General Membership Meetings to be a member in good standing.

Annually, all Board Members, Managers, Coaches, and other volunteers or hired workers who provide regular service to the league and/or who have repetitive access to or contact with players or teams, must fill out a Little League Volunteer Application. Based upon this information, the league is required to conduct a background check on each individual prior to the individual being allowed access to the league facilities.

Article V – Meetings

Meetings shall be held on the third Friday of every month except with the exception of July and December. The Executive Board Member's meeting will begin at 7:00 PM and the General Membership's meeting will begin at 8:00 PM.

Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings, except where it conflicts with the Constitution or By-Laws of the league.

Only members in good standing shall be entitled to vote at any General Membership Meeting of the league. Attendance of at least 50% of the year's meetings is required to vote. New members are eligible when they have attended their third meeting of their first year. If an Appointed Position or Executive Board Member resigns prior to their full term being served, then he or she will forfeit their right to vote at all remaining Executive and or League meetings for that year. If extenuating circumstances require said resignation to be rendered, then the Executive Board will review the situation and determine if voting rights will remain in place or not.

The September General meeting shall be the first meeting of the New Year.

All members must sign an attendance list at each meeting. The trustees present at the meeting shall verify the names. The names shall be turned over to the secretary and recorded for public inspection at the next General Membership meeting. All challenges to the attendance records must be made by the affected party no later than the next General Membership Meeting they are in attendance.

Article VI - Election Rules

The election committee (all three trustees) shall report to the Executive Board, the names of those members seeking election, at the September Executive Board Meeting.

Executive Board elections shall be held every year at the September General Membership Meeting.

Candidates running for office (president, executive vice-president, secretary, treasurer, player agent and trustees) must be members in good standing.

Eligibility for the position of trustee shall require a minimum of three years as a member in good standing before running for the position.

All voting for elections shall be on written ballot. Candidates need only a simple majority of the votes to win. Ballots shall be counted by each trustee and retained for a period of one-week following the election. The election results may be challenged up to one week following the election.

For the expressed purpose of accommodating a member in good standing who cannot be in attendance for the executive Board election, an absentee ballot may be requested and obtained from the secretary of the league. The absentee ballot shall be properly completed, signed and returned in a sealed envelope to the secretary prior to the date of the Executive Board election. The secretary shall present all absentee ballots to the trustees on the date of the September General Membership Meeting prior to conducting the election process.

The newly elected Executive Board shall be sworn in at the October Executive Board Meeting by the outgoing president, and shall assume full authority at the October General Membership Meeting.

Article VII - Executive Board

The management of the property and affairs of the league shall be vested in the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall, upon election or appointment, immediately enter into the performance of their duties and shall continue in office until their successors have been duly elected or appointed.

The Executive Board shall be responsive to all suggestions made by the General membership. All business conducted at Executive Board meeting shall be reported by the secretary at the next General membership meeting.

The Executive Board shall consist of eight elected officers as follows; President, Executive Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Player Agent and three (3) Trustees.

The Executive Board shall consist of eleven appointed positions (made by the President) as follows; five (5) Division Vice Presidents (Challenger, Tee-Ball, Instructional, Minors and Majors), one Umpire-In-Chief, Safety Officer, one LIO (League Information Officer), one LCC (League Coaching Coordinator), one Equipment Chairman, one Refreshment Stand Chairman.

Manager / Coach Representation on the Executive Board (ideally) shall not exceed a minority. Executive Board members missing three consecutive executive Board meetings, or not carrying out their duties, may be asked to resign by the Executive Board.

No member shall hold more than one Executive Board position at the same time. If an emergency arises where one member must perform the duties of two positions, the vacancy must be filled as soon as possible by another member in good standing.

Six members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum necessary for the transaction of business.

The Executive Board shall have the authority to make decisions regarding the operation of the league. These decisions shall include the following; approval of Manager and Coach selections, purchasing of equipment and supplies, insurance, payment of bills, fund raising activities, fees (registration, sponsors, refreshments, etc.), hiring of contractors and league structure. The General membership shall be informed of all decisions regarding league operations.

The Executive Board shall have the authority to make decisions regarding All-Star / Tournament Play / Fall Ball (tournament play includes Little League Baseball District Games and other summer baseball tournaments). If the Executive Board recommends that there be no tournament play in either district or other summer tournaments, an opportunity shall be given to the General Membership to vote by simple majority for participation in one or both tournaments. The Executive Board shall make tournament play decisions no later than the April Executive Board Meeting. The General Membership shall be informed of all decisions regarding tournament play.

The Executive Board shall have the power to appoint committees and delegate the necessary powers required to accomplish certain tasks as need arises.

The Executive Board shall have the power, by a majority vote of those present at any regular or special meeting of the Executive Board, to discipline, suspend or remove any officer, manager, coach or member of the league. The person involved shall be notified of such meeting, informed of general charges and given an opportunity to appear at the meeting and answer such charges. No member can be relieved of his or her duties without just cause. If the person involved in a disciplinary action review meeting is an Executive Board Member, they shall not be entitled to vote in said meeting.

All Expenditures of \$1,000 or more must be approved by the General Membership (other than day to day expenses).

Article VIII – Officer’s Duties and Powers

President

1. Serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the league and conducts the affairs of the league.
2. Conducts all meetings.
3. Executes policies established by the Executive Board.
4. Selects all Managers and Coaches.
5. Selects all Appointed Positions to the Executive Board.
6. Conducts the background review process and will be responsible for the storing of all league Volunteer Applications.
7. Serves a primary contact person for Little League
8. The President may choose to appoint an Executive Board member to conduct duties of the President during his/her absence.

Executive Vice-President

1. Responsible for all fund-raising activities.
2. Responsible for coordinating team pictures.
3. Responsible for team and sign sponsorship.

Secretary

1. Records and retains all minutes of the Executive Board, General Membership and Special Meetings.
2. Handles all correspondence regarding the league.
3. Records and retains all attendance records for all meetings and posts same on league bulletin board.

Treasurer

1. Responsible for all financial records of the league.
2. Payment of all bills.
3. Financial Reports to the Executive Board and General Membership Meetings.
4. Responsible for the league’s annual tax filing.

Player Agent

1. Schedules and conducts player registration, tryouts, player transfers and the team selection process. All decisions regarding these matters shall be made by the Player Agent and may be overruled only by a majority vote of the Executive Board.
2. Records the team rosters and prepares them for submission to Little League Baseball, Williamsport, PA.
3. Responsible for the placement of all players after teams have been selected (late and/or new registrations).
4. Responsible for the calling up of a player to an upper league team, on a game by game basis.

Trustees

1. Conduct all elections.
2. Verifications of all attendance records at all meetings.
3. Maintains the continuity of league matters during the transition of a new Executive Board.
4. Assists all officers in any and all matters concerning the operations of the league.
5. Assists all league Vice-Presidents in the operation of their respective leagues.
6. Must be knowledgeable of the Official Regulations and Playing Rules of Little League Baseball and our Local League Constitution, Local League Rules and By-Laws.

League Vice-Presidents

1. Preparation of game and umpire schedules for their respective league.
2. Are appointed by the League President.
3. Rescheduling of rainout games and notification of same to the Umpire-in-Chief.
4. Submission of names of prospective team managers and coaches to the President.
5. Conduct meetings with their respective managers and coaches, prior to and during the season to inform them of any changes or improvements that may be required.
6. Observes managers and coaches during games or practices. Responsible for notifying any manager or coach of improper conduct. Second offense will require direct Executive Board notification for possible disciplinary action.

Safety Officer

1. Arranges and conducts safety clinics for managers and coaches.
2. Coordinates all safety activities and ensures the safety in player training and playing conditions.
3. Coordinates the reporting and prevention of injuries.
4. Actively solicits suggestions for making conditions safer for players and spectators.
5. Reports safety recommendations and suggestions to league President for review.
6. Responsible for updating the (As Safe as Possible) filing on an annual basis.

Umpire-in-Chief

1. Responsible for obtaining, monitoring and scheduling umpires for all leagues play, including regular season, Opening Day, in-town All-Stars and Traveling All-Stars.

Refreshment Stand Chairpersons

1. Responsible for the overall operation of both refreshment stands.
2. Maintains all supplies and equipment required for the stands to operate during the complete baseball season.

Equipment Chairperson

1. Will be responsible for the organization and maintenance of league equipment.
2. Will work closely with the Safety Officer, inspecting all equipment for its safety condition.
3. Will be responsible for ordering replacement uniforms and equipment.
4. Will actively review equipment costs and recommend purchase options.
5. Will be responsible for having ALL uniforms available prior to Opening Day.
6. Will notify team Managers of equipment and uniform pick-up dates and times.
7. Will notify team Managers of equipment and uniform turn-in dates and times.
8. Will hold all team equipment issuance records.

League Internet/Information Officer

1. Manages the league's "Official Home Page".
2. Assigns administrative rights to league volunteers and teams.
3. Ensures that league news and scores are updated on a regular basis.
4. Collects, posts, and distributes important information on league activities.

League Coaching Coordinator

1. Represents the Managers and Coaches of the league.
2. Serves as the contact person for Little League's Manager/Coach education program.
3. Reviews the league training requirements and presents a Manager/Coach training budget to the Executive Board.
4. Gains the support and funds necessary to implement a league-wide training program.
5. Orders and distributes training material to players, Managers and Coaches.
6. Coordinates mini-clinics as necessary.

Article IX - Financial and Accounting

The league fiscal year shall start on October 1st and end on September 30th of each year.

The Executive Board shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of the league and shall place all income in two league treasury accounts (**General Account & Lottery Account**) to be placed in whatever federally insured bank deemed appropriate by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall direct the expenditures of same for the sole purpose of conducting the financial affairs of the league. All disbursements shall be by check. Each check must be signed by the treasurer and one of two authorized board members, either the President or Vice President.

The Executive Board shall not permit the collection or contribution of funds or property to individual persons, teams or divisions, thereby discouraging any favoritism.

The Executive Board shall not permit the solicitations of funds in the name of Little League Baseball, unless all funds are placed in the league treasury.

No officer and/or member shall receive directly or indirectly, any salary, compensation or gratuity from the league for their time spent as an Officer or General Member of the league.

Upon dissolution of the league and after all debts and claims have been satisfied, the Executive Board shall distribute the remaining assets (if any) to such other organizations, maintaining objectives similar to that of the league set forth herein, which are, or may be, entitled to exemption under section 501© (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or any future corresponding provision.

Article X - Amendments

This Constitution may be amended, repealed or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote at any duly organized meeting of the General Membership, provided notice of the proposed change is included in the notice of such meeting. Draft of all proposed amendments must be submitted to Little League Baseball Incorporated Regional Headquarters (Bristol, Conn.), for approval prior to its instatement.

All motions shall require a simple vote of those members in good standing present at any regular meeting of the General Membership. Any active member in good standing, at any General Membership meeting may submit any motion regarding local rule changes. Adoption of such changes, **following a vote of the Executive Board membership**, shall remain in effect for the remainder of the year.

The Local Rules and Bylaws are developed, maintained and approved **ANNUALLY by the League Executive Board**, and ARE NOT considered part of the League Constitution. Local rules, ground rules and Bylaws EXPIRE each year, unlike the Constitution.

Article XI – Managers and Coaches

1. Are to assume complete responsibility for the players on their team.
 2. Must possess leadership ability and the know-how to work with young children.
 3. Must complete the "Little League Volunteer Application and pass the background check that is mandated by Little League Inc., Williamsport, Pa.
 4. Are to practice and teach all the safety features possible and must attend Safety Clinics.
 5. Must be able to teach the fundamentals of teamwork and discipline.
 6. Are to teach good sportsmanship at ALL times and correct any player's criticizing any other player or team.
 7. Are required to attend meetings to keep informed of league related business.
 8. Should be Members-in-Good-Standing before attaining or maintaining Manager Status.
 9. Are required to assist the league by umpiring games within the league.
 10. Are to read and become knowledgeable concerning the Little League Baseball Official Regulations and Playing Rules and the leagues Constitution, By-Laws and Local League Rules.
 11. Are required to sign for equipment and uniforms and will return equipment and uniforms no later than two weeks after the season end. Managers and Coaches may be held financially responsible for lost or missing equipment or uniforms.
 12. The winning team Manager's in the Major & Minor league division must submit the game scores to the League Information Officer, within 24 hours of the game's completion.
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Local League Rules

1. Continuous batting order in all leagues.
2. All players must play at least three innings defensively.
3. All teams must shake hands at home plate after each game.
4. Managers and Coaches may not warm up pitchers between innings.
5. Headfirst slides are not allowed when advancing to any base or home plate. However, the runner is allowed to slide headfirst if returning to a base to avoid being tagged out. The penalty is: The runner is out.
6. Unnecessary roughness (umpire's judgment) by any player during a game;
1st offense- out of the game
2nd offense- out of the league.
7. The throwing of the bat is unacceptable and the team will be penalized as follows;
1st offense – warning to player and team manager.
2nd offense – player is out...dead ball.
3rd offense – player is out and ejected from the game...dead ball.
8. No player shall play in more than two games per day.
9. All players must wear athletic supporters with a protective cup.
10. All pitchers must wear a protective heart guard at practices and games.
11. It is highly recommended that all players wear a protective heart guard at practices and games.
12. All requests for players to allow a team to field nine players for a game must be through the Player Agent. If the Player Agent cannot be contacted, the Manager or Coach must first contact the respective League Vice-President that the player is being called up from. If the League Vice-President is not obtainable, contact the President (NO EXCEPTIONS).
13. A player brought up from another league in order for a team to field nine players must play at least three innings defensively. The player is not allowed to pitch and shall not start the game defensively before another regular team player.
14. Managers & Coaches ejected from games must leave the field. In addition, any Manager or Coach ejected from one or more games may be subjected to disciplinary review by the Elected Executive Board.
15. Saddle Brook Little League meetings will take place the third Friday of each month. The Executive Board will meet at 7pm. The General Membership will meet at 8pm.
16. Regulations prohibit on-deck batters. This means no player should handle a bat, even while in an enclosure, until it is his/her time at bat. This applies only to Little League Majors, Minor League, Instructional, and Tee Ball.
17. Players who are ejected, ill or injured should remain under supervision until released to the parent or guardian.

18. All Minor & Major League game results must be submitted via e-mail to League Informational Officer (LIO) within 24 hours by the **winning manager**.
19. All players must be released to an appropriate parent/ guardian.

Minor League Rules

1. The infield fly rule does not apply to the Minor League.
2. Two adults (manager and/or coach) are permitted to be base coaches.
3. Each team is permitted to successfully steal home two times per inning.
4. A maximum of 5 runs can be scored in each inning except for the last inning where there is no limit.
5. Stealing second and third base is permissible for the entire game.
6. A player can only advance one base at a time. The player also can't advance on an over throw.
7. The game length shall be limited to 2 hours, when there is a subsequent scheduled game to follow.
8. Little League pitching rules on pitch-count apply

Instructional League Rules

1. Little League pitching rules on pitch-count apply.
2. There are no stolen bases.
3. The walk rule applies: When two consecutive batters receive a base on balls in any given inning, the next batter cannot advance to first base by a walk but must reach base via a hit ball or make an out. For the batter who is up after two consecutive walks, the umpire shall not call any "balls", only "strikes" shall be called. When this batter's time at bat has been completed, the next batter can receive a base on balls if applicable. It is important to note that a batter "hit by a pitch" counts as a walk. This special walk rule only applies to the Instructional 8 Division.
4. The pitching distance shall be reduced to 40 feet.
5. The game length shall be limited to two hours when there is a subsequent scheduled game to follow.
6. Batting & Pitching Rule –
 - Batting line ups will be separated by age. All 8's will bat together first. After all 8's have batted, then all 7's will bat together.
 - Age 8's batters will be player pitched. Balls and strikes will be called. An 8's batter can walk, strike out, or hit the ball in play.
 - A 7's batter CAN NOT walk or strike out. He bats until he hits a ball in play.
 - A 7's batter will receive 3 player pitched balls. If he fails to get a hit from player pitched balls a coach will then pitch to the batter. The batter will get 3 swinging strikes from the coach pitching. If he fails to get a hit from coach pitched balls then a Tee will be used until a ball is hit in play. Note that once a ball has been hit in play it should be fielded as a live ball.
7. A continuous batting order DOES APPLY to the instructional 8's / 7's league. Each inning will consist of 3 outs.
8. All other Minor League Rules and Local Rules apply except as noted above.
9. All 8 year-old players must be present at tryouts. Any son or daughter of the Manager or First Coach that is not present will automatically be that teams 1st and 2nd round pick.
10. A pitcher that hits 2 batters in the same inning or 3 batters in 1 game must be removed as a pitcher. That player can play other positions that game.
11. During the draft, assigned league raters will select 2 players / team as pitchers. These players MUST be chosen the first 2 rounds of the draft.

12. It is a manager's discretion to insert a 7 year old in the 8 year old portion of the batting line up.
13. Scores and team records will NOT be kept for this division.

Tee Ball 4, 5, & 6 Rules

1. The "Home Team" is responsible for supplying the game ball, bases and the batting tee.
2. The ball shall be placed on the batting tee on home plate. It shall be the Plate Manager/Coach's responsibility to remove the tee to allow the runner to cross home plate and for plays to be made.
3. There will be NO strikeouts. Each batter MUST hit the ball.
4. No player shall change his or her defensive position during an inning unless a player sustains an injury or illness.
5. The game length shall be three innings. The inning length shall be one rotation through the batting order of both teams.
6. Scores or wins and losses records will NOT be kept or recorded.
7. All T-4 players should remain in T-4 or T-5, until eligible by age to play T-6.

6 Year-old Coach Pitch

1. The 6-year-olds will have a maximum of 8 pitches from their Manager or Coach. After 8 attempts to hit the ball, the player will be required to hit the ball off of the batter tee.

Local Draft Rules

1. All Manager or First Coaches' children who are eligible for either the Instructional or Minor League draft MUST try out. A team of "Raters", appointed by the President, will rate all of the Manager's and Coaches' children, to determine which round would be best and most fair to be selected in. For example: A Manager's son may be rated by the team of "raters" as a first round pick; this means that in the opinion of the "raters", this child should be selected in the first round. The Manager MUST select his child as his first round pick. If the child was rated as a sixth round pick, that child MUST be selected in the sixth round.
RATERS: Two or three "raters" will comprise the rating team. Their qualifications should include; knowledge, experience and an understanding of the fundamentals of Little League baseball and a familiarity with the children currently participating in Little League. It is also understood that the "raters" would have some knowledge of the incoming 9-year olds as well as a working knowledge of the existing Minor League participants. The Player Agent will preside over any ties between the "raters". The decision of the "raters" will be final and all coaches must agree to support the rating team's decision as fair. Any son or daughter of the Manager or First Coach that is not present will automatically be that teams 1st and 2nd round pick.
2. It shall be mandatory that Minor and Instructional League Managers draft brothers or sisters of players drafted on that Manager's team. That player will become the last round pick. This rule does not apply when there is a parental or guardian request to draft the siblings onto different teams.
3. Requests by parents or guardians to keep their child in the Minor League shall be honored if the parent or guardian signs the hold-down letter. If a player is held down, that player must complete the season in the Minor League.
4. Players returned to the Minor League (parental/guardian request, safety, etc.) prior to the Minor League picks shall be returned to the player pool. The Major League Team involved shall have the right to pick any eligible Minor League player from the player pool. After the Minor League picks, the Major League team shall play short. The Major league Team that lost a player shall have the right to bring up a player on a game-to-game basis, utilizing the Player Agent.
5. Major League order of picks shall be in reverse order of finish of the previous season. The Minor and Instructional Leagues' order of pick shall be random selection drawn on the day of the picks.
6. ALL twelve year-old players MUST be drafted by a Major league Team, unless said player has been signed down to the Minor League or registers to play after the Major League Teams have been picked. Twelve year-olds, moving up with modifications in place, can be signed down by parents, but cannot pitch, also requires Executive Board approval.
7. Nine year-old players cannot be drafted by a Major League Team, but can be called-up to play in a Major's game if a team is short players.
8. ALL eight year-old players must be drafted onto an Instructional League Team.

Traveling/All-Star Team Selection Process

1. The Manager of the Traveling / All-Star and Fall Ball Team shall be responsible for selecting the players to complete the team roster.
2. All players selected to a Traveling Team are ineligible to participate on the in-town All-Star Teams.
3. Selection of the in-town All-Star players shall be open to ANY player not chosen on a Traveling All-Star Team.
4. In-town All-Star players shall be picked by their respective Managers and Coaches and placed on the team in their division.