

**CROTON LITTLE LEAGUE  
AMENDED AND RESTATED BY-LAWS**

**PROVISION I - OPERATING RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The Official Little League Baseball Rulebook of Regulations, Playing Rules and Operating Policies for the current year and the Official Little League Softball Handbook of Regulations, Playing Rules, an Operating Policies for the current year as published by Little League Baseball, Inc., Williamsport, Pennsylvania, shall be binding on this League, unless in direct conflict with matters addressed in Croton Little League's Constitution or Croton Little League's By-Laws. In the event of such a conflict, Croton Little League's Constitution and/or Croton Little Leagues By-Laws shall control.

**PROVISION II - DEFINITIONS**

A. The Age Determination Date for a Little League Baseball player will be determined according to the Official Little League age chart for baseball and softball for the current year.

**PROVISION III -- LEAGUE STRUCTURE**

Subject to Provision VI procedures (outlined below) which set forth how Major League players and rosters shall be determined and the limited exceptions embodied in Provision IV (outlined below), the Croton Little League shall be structured as follows:

Majors Division: LL age 12; Provision VI players (LL ages 11 &10) or in grades 5 or 6. \*

Minors AAA Division: LL age 10 or in grade 4. \*

Minors AA Division: LL age 9, 8, 7 or in grades 2 or 3. \*

Rookie Ball Division: LL age 7, 6 or in grades 1 or 2. \*

Tee Ball Division: LL age 6, 5, or in kindergarten or pre-school. \*

Softball Majors Division: LL age 12, 11, 10 or in grades 5, 6 or 7.\*

Softball Minors Division: LL age 9, 8, or in grades 3 or 4. \*

Challengers Division: LL age 5 thru 19 years old and up to 22 if still enrolled in school.

\* League structure may be altered as necessary based upon registration enrollment.

## **PROVISION IV -- ALLOCATION OF PLAYERS**

GENERAL RULE: ALL players are to be placed in Divisions in accordance with their Little League age as determined by the Official Little League Age Chart for the current year.

### **EXCEPTIONS:**

(1) Players may seek permission to play "down;" that is play in a Division one level lower than would ordinarily be dictated by their LL age, in an effort to play with players in their grade or with players of a comparable skill level. In the event a player is granted permission to play "down" one Division, that player will be eligible for post-season tournament play, but only with their LL age-appropriate team. Permission to play "down" shall be requested at registration. The Player Agent shall decide whether to grant the request and his/her decision shall be final.

(2) Players Little League age 12 (as determined by the Official Little League Age Chart for the current year) may participate in the Minors Division under certain circumstances.

## **PROVISION V - MANAGERS AND COACHES**

A. Managers for teams at all levels shall be selected by the VP of each respective division of play, nominated to the Board of Directors and President and thereafter approved by the Board of Directors. Coaches shall be appointed by the respective team managers and/or Division VP, and thereafter approved by the Board of Directors. All votes and discussions surrounding nominations (including - coach qualifications, past performance, adherence to league policies and rules, and sportsmanship) and subsequent approval and/or non-approval of any manager or coach for any reason will be kept strictly confidential by CLL Board of Directors.

If removal for cause of any manager or coach is contemplated, the matter shall be discussed with all interested parties, as determined by the President, or in his or her absence, the Vice President, and the Board of Directors. Thereafter, removal can only be accomplished by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

B. Any and all Board Members, Officers, including the President, and Committee Members may manage, coach, or umpire in any Division of play. The only exception to this rule is that the Vice President of the Majors Division may not be a manager in that division except only upon extraordinary circumstances and by approval of Board of Directors. Umpires may not umpire games in divisions in which they act as CLL agent in any other capacity other than umpire so as to avoid potential conflicts of interest.

C. To be considered for the position of manager or coach, an individual must be a Member in good standing of Croton Little League and must submit his or her name to the Division VP.

D. All managers and coaches must attend the CLL Safety Course and Coaches Clinic or a comparable course which provides safety instruction and certification. Proof of attendance at a comparable course not offered or administered by Croton Little League must be presented to the Division VP and Board of Directors.

E. By submitting their names to be considered as managers and/or coaches, all managers and coaches agree to adhere to a course of conduct and comply with all Croton Little League rules, regulations, and policies. This agreement will further provide that violations of the agreement will subject the manager and/or coach to discipline, including but not limited to, removal from his/her position as manager or coach.

F. If a manager of a team resigns, or is declared ineligible, or is otherwise deemed unable to manage, his or her manager's position shall be considered open, and a new manager will be selected by the Vice President of the Division and thereafter approved by the Board of Directors. In the event this occurs, the new selection may immediately assume his or her duties as manager while awaiting approval by the Board of Directors.

G. All managers, coaches, members of the Board of Directors, and any adult volunteer who is in regular contact with any players and/or teams in Croton Little League in any official capacity as agent of Croton Little League, must undergo a criminal background check, and be checked against the national database of registered sex offenders, in compliance with Little League International's rules and guidelines regarding the background check process. Any volunteer who fails to adhere to this policy and/or fails to provide full and/or accurate information so that a complete criminal background check may be obtained in compliance with Little League International policy, will have their name removed from consideration as a candidate and will not be permitted to serve in the function nominated for and or requested.

## **PROVISION VI - SELECTION OF MAJOR LEAGUE PLAYERS**

A. General. Majors Division Rosters shall be made up solely of players selected from the "Pool of Major League Players." The "Pool of Major League Players" will consist of a finite number of players selected by the Major League Managers in accordance with the procedure outlined below. All players placed in the "Pool of Major League Players" ("Pool") will be placed on a Major League roster.

B. Eligible Candidates. Players falling into one of the following three categories are eligible to be considered for Majors Division play ("Eligible Players").

Category One:	(LL 12s)	Little League age 12
Category Two:	(LL 11s)	Little League age 11
Category Three:	(LL 10s)	Little League age 10

C. Qualifying for Consideration. All Eligible Players in Categories Two and Three, outlined in Provision VI (B) qualify for consideration for the Pool by registering to play in

Croton Little League and attending a Player Evaluation Session prior to the start of their Majors Division Eligibility; all other players Category One players outlined in Provision VI (B) will automatically qualify by renewing their registration for the current season and being placed onto a Majors team roster as set out in this Provision. Exception: If a Category One eligible candidate has not played in the Majors Division prior to the current season the candidate must attend a Player Evaluation Session in order to qualify for consideration for the Pool.

D. Pool Size. The number of teams and players per team in the Majors Division will be adjusted each year based on the actual number of players that are Eligible and Qualified.

E. Pool Players. The Pool of Major League Players will include:

- (1) Eligible and Qualified LL 12s (Spots reserved for All Players);
- (2) Eligible and Qualified LL 11s (Spots reserved for All Players);
- (3) Eligible and Qualified LL 10s; The Majors Division VP and the Player Agent will make the determination whether 10s will be placed in the Majors Division based upon the numbers of eligible and qualified candidates for the current season).

F. Determining the Pool. Following the Player Evaluation Sessions, the number of Major League Teams and the size of their rosters (11 or 12) will be determined. These determinations will yield the final size of the Pool, or the "Total Roster Spots." The Player Agent will determine the number of Eligible and Qualified LL 11s and, if necessary, the Eligible and Qualified 10s needed to fill roster spots by subtracting the total number of Eligible and Qualified 12s from the Total Roster Spots ("Sub LL 12 Roster Spots"). The Sub LL 12 Roster Spots will be filled first from the pool of Eligible and Qualified LL 11s. If the pool of Eligible and Qualified LL 11s exceed the Sub LL 12 Roster Spots, the Major League Managers will determine the most deserving Eligible and Qualified LL 11s to fill the Sub LL 12 Roster Spots. If there are not enough players in the group of Eligible and Qualified LL 11s to fill the Sub 12s Roster Spots, the Majors Division VP will determine the most deserving Eligible and Qualified LL 10s to fill the Sub LL Roster Spots. The Eligible and Qualified 12s plus the Sub LL 12 Roster Spots shall equal the Pool of Major League Players from which the Division VP shall select the Major League Teams.

G. Draft. If the Majors Division VP employs a draft to create teams for that specific season, the Division VP must use one of the approved Local League Draft Methods as outlined in the Official Little League Baseball Rulebook for the current season. However, it is strongly recommended that the Division VP utilizes the Serpentine draft plan as described in the Official Little League Baseball Rulebook for the current season.

## **PROVISION VII - SELECTION OF MINORS PLAYERS.**

A. Minors AAA - Every player registered for Little League who is Little League age 10, unless granted an exception pursuant to Provision IV, or selected to play in the Majors

pursuant to Provision VI, shall be a member of the Minors AAA Player Pool. Every player registered for Little League who is Little League age 9, unless granted an exception pursuant to Provision IV, shall be a member of the Minors AAA Player Pool. Team rosters will be determined based on the total player pool. The Minors Division VP and the Player Agent will determine teams based upon player eligibility, outcome of the Player Evaluation Session, and with an effort to make teams fairly balanced and equally competitive as possible. The number of teams and players per team in the Minors AAA Division will be adjusted each year based on the actual number of players that are eligible and qualified to play in the division.

B. Minors AA - Every player registered for Little League who is Little League age 7, 8 or 9 shall be a member of the Minors AA Player Pool. The Minors Division VP and the Player Agent will determine rosters in effort to make teams as fairly balanced and equally competitive as possible. The number of teams and players per team in the Minors AA Division will be adjusted each year based on the actual number of players that are eligible and qualified to play in the division.

### **PROVISION VIII - SELECTION AND PLACEMENT OF PLAYERS IN ROOKIE BALL, T-BALL, AND CHALLENGERS BASEBALL DIVISIONS**

A. The Vice President of each division shall be responsible for the selection and/or allocation of the players among the teams. The Vice President of each division shall endeavor to make the teams as equal and balanced as possible. A formal draft is discouraged for these divisions.

B. Parental Requests: Requests by parents and/or guardians to place their child on a specific team, with specific friends or classmates or with a particular manager, should be honored unless there is a compelling reason not to do so. In the event a dispute arises concerning a specific request and the Vice President is unable to resolve the dispute, the matter should be brought to the attention of the Player Agent for resolution. The Player Agent's decision on the issue(s) in dispute shall be final.

### **PROVISION IX - PLAYOFFS**

The playoff format for the Baseball Majors, Minors AAA and Softball Majors Divisions shall be determined by the Division VPs, weather and time permitting. All playoff formats must be approved by the President of CLL. Regardless of the format chosen, it is highly encouraged but not mandatory that all teams participate in the post-season playoffs.

All Minors AA, Rookie Ball and T-Ball Divisions: There are to be no playoffs held or conducted for any of these Divisions.

## PROVISION X - TOURNAMENT PLAY SELECTIONS

A. Manager Selection. The tournament manager(s) for all teams(s) at every level shall be selected by the Board of Directors (majority vote) from among the managers of each respective Division. In the event there is not a regular season manager available to manage a tournament team, the President shall appoint a manager for the tournament team. To be considered an eligible manager a candidate must be a member of Croton Little League and a coach in good standing in the division for which his or her candidacy is being considered. This selection is subject to Board approval.

B. Player Selection. No player will be granted an automatic position on any tournament team. Selection of players to a Tournament Team shall be based on:

- (1) Eligibility
- (2) Availability
- (3) Ability

C. Eligibility of Players. Players are eligible for Tournament Play, provided they meet the criteria established by Little League "Residency and School Attendance Player Eligibility Requirement," "Player Participation in Other Programs," per LLI tournament rules and guidelines, which, in the event of any conflict herewith shall govern. In addition:

(1) Only Little League age twelve (12) year old players (LL 12s) who play in the Majors and who have participated as an eligible player in 60 percent (60%) of the regular season games by the start of Tournament Play are eligible for selection to the Major League age 12 Tournament Team(s). \*

(2) Only Little League age eleven (11) year old players (LL 11s) who play in the Majors and who have participated as an eligible player in 60 percent (60%) of the regular season games by the start of Tournament Play are eligible for selection to the Major League age 11 Tournament Team(s). \*

(3) Only Little League age ten (10) year old players (LL 10s) who play in the Majors or Minors AAA Division and who have participated as an eligible player in 60 percent (60%) of the regular season games by the start of Tournament Play are eligible for selection to CLL Age 10 Tournament Team(s).\*

(4) Only Little League age nine (9) players (LL 9s) who play in Minors AAA Division and who have participated as an eligible player in 60 percent (60%) of the regular season games by the start of Tournament Play are eligible for selection to the CLL 9 Tournament Team(s).\*

\*EXCEPTION: The local league Board of Directors may permit a player to be eligible for selection, who does not meet the 60 percent (60%) requirement, if they provide a physician's note documenting an injury or illness prior to or during the current season

prohibiting his/her participation and such note releases the player for the balance of the Regular Season and/or Tournament Play.

D. Availability. Playing on a Tournament team is a commitment and it must be determined if the player candidate will be able to practice and play with the team. It must be determined if the player candidate will be away on vacation and/or for some other reason during some or all practices/games. If a player candidate will miss some or all practices/games, it will be the discretion of Croton Little League to remove that player candidate from consideration for the Tournament Team.

E. Ability. It is suggested that the opinions of those making the selections to the Tournament Team be not based primarily on statistical evidence, however, a voter can vote for any eligible player for any reason.

F. Player Selection Meeting. The tournament teams shall be selected at a meeting of the Division Managers and Board Members. The meeting shall be conducted by the Vice President of the Division. Each manager shall vote on players deserving of consideration for a roster of approximately 12 players. Each manager shall be given the opportunity to explain why they have nominated a particular player. The managers, the Board Members, and the Vice President shall discuss the nominees and then vote on who they believe should be on the tournament roster. Up to 12 players receiving the most votes shall be granted a spot on the roster. After all votes are cast, if roster spots remain and/or ties have occurred so that more than 12 players would receive roster spots, i.e. roster spot 10 is filled by a player who received three votes, and more than two of the remaining players on the ballot have received two votes, subsequent ballots of all remaining players receiving votes shall be conducted with each manager casting votes equal to the number of roster spots which remain, i.e., if two spots remain, each manager casts two votes. This process is to be repeated until the roster is complete. The League President may elect to choose a "President's Pick" to each Tournament roster.

G. Voting Results. All voting results are to be kept confidential among those present at the meeting. A violation of this confidentiality rule may subject a member to discipline by the board. The announcement of the Tournament Team cannot be made before the date specified in the Official Little League Tournament Rules and Guidelines. (For 2018 Tournament Teams may not be announced prior to June 1 for divisions above 8-10 years old). If conducted, tryouts for the Tournament Team cannot begin before that date.

## **PROVISION XI - FIELD MAINTENANCE**

Prior to the commencement of each game, Managers and coaches shall rake, line and prep the fields for all games as needed. The home team shall install the bases and chalk the home plate area and the base lines. Both teams are responsible for raking the field (infield) and policing after each game. Both teams will be expected to cooperate and aid the other when the situation may warrant such assistance.

## **PROVISION XII - RULES OF PLAY**

Unless otherwise specified, CLL follows all rules and regulations as defined in the current Official Little League Baseball Inc. Regulations and Playing Rules and in the current Official Little League Softball Regulations and Playing Rules. Some of the rules have been modified at the local level with prior approval of the CLL Board of Directors and in accordance with guidelines presented by Little League International Inc. to all of local organizations. Rules modifications are only considered and approved as they pertain to facilitating efficient use of limited local field space by speeding up games, to enhance player safety, to enhance spectator safety and enjoyment, and/or to facilitate player development and enjoyment. All local game rules and practice guidelines shall be distributed to each team in each division prior to the start of season play. All rules interpretations that are to be discussed are done so outside of the game setting away from players and spectators. Division VP, after consultation and vote by Board of Directors, has final say in any deviation from locally published rules. Waivers for such would be granted only to permit player development and safety in a safe and responsible manner in accordance with all CLL and LLI safety, training and coaching guidelines.

Local Division grounds rules should be discussed by each team manager before the start of game play at the field. If no umpire is present to interpret or enforce grounds rules, then a pregame agreed upon interpretation of local ground rule(s) should be arrived at by each team manager(s) or acting manager(s). Disputes will be settled by Division VP and, if necessary, Board of Directors.

## **PROVISION XIII - AMENDMENTS**

These By-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

These By-Laws were adopted by a majority of the Directors at a Meeting of the Board of Directors on May 16, 2018.