

**West Brownsville Little League  
League ID Number 3432403  
By-Laws, Local Rules, and Ground Rules  
2021 Season**

**SECTION I  
PURPOSE**

**ARTICLE I – MISSION STATEMENT**

The purpose of the West Brownsville Little League, (WBLL), is to implant in our youth the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect for authority (leadership).

**ARTICLE II – AUTHORITY AND VALIDITY**

The West Brownsville Little League Board of Directors shall be governed by the Constitution of the WBLL on record with the Little League Southwest Region in Waco, Texas. The WBLL Operating Rules and Bylaws shall be approved by a majority vote of the WBLL Board of Directors. Following the adoption of these rules by the Board of Directors, they may only be changed upon the concurring vote of a majority of the Board of Directors. These rules pertain to West Brownsville Little League.

**ARTICLE III – CONSTRUCTION OF THE RULES**

The WBLL operating rules shall be constructed in such a manner and with the intent to conform to the Operating Manual and Official Regulations and Playing Rules of Little League Baseball. WBLL is a chartered component of Little League Baseball (LLB) and intends to continue as such.

1. Wherever these rules stand silent, the regulations and playing rules of LLB shall be followed. Wherever these rules conflict with LLB's Operating Manual and/or Official Regulations and Playing Rules, LLB's Operating Manual / Official Regulations and Playing Rules shall prevail.
2. Whenever WBLL engages in regular-season interleague play with another chartered little league, the division involved shall play by interleague rules as may be negotiated with the other league and approved by the Board of Directors. Interleague Rules shall take precedence over these Operating Rules.

The Bylaws, Local Rules, and Ground Rules of West Brownsville Little League shall continue in effect until they are changed upon the concurring vote of a majority of the Board of Directors. These Bylaws, Local Rules, and Ground Rules shall be reviewed by the Board yearly. The Bylaws, Local Rules, and Ground Rules are not considered part of the West Brownsville Little League Constitution.

**SECTION II  
FEES**

**ARTICLE I – PARTICIPATION FEES**

A reasonable Little League participation fee of \$50 may be assessed as a parental obligation to assure the operational continuity of the West Brownsville Little League. A second player (brother/sister) from the same family shall pay a fee of \$40. A third player (brother/sister) from the same family shall pay a fee of

\$30. There shall be a \$120 maximum fee per family having three or more players (brothers/sisters) register. The participation fees shall be determined yearly by the Board of Directors and shall be approved yearly by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE II – FUNDRAISER**

It is recommended that every Board Member, Manager, Coach, and Registered Players Parents in West Brownsville Little League participate in the league fundraiser to assist in defraying the costs of running the league. The fundraiser shall be determined each year by the WBLL Board of Directors. WBLL Board of Directors shall only use the funds collected for league purposes and not for any other purpose.

## **ARTICLE III – WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE**

If the league's expenditures are greater than its expected income a Ways and Means Committee shall be formed from the ranks of the parents to determine how additional income can be generated and or the excess expenditures reduced. It would be a legitimate goal for the league to maintain, at all times, a cash reserve as determined by the Board of Directors.

# **SECTION III WBLL BOARD MEMBERS, MANAGERS, COACHES, AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS**

## **ARTICLE I – LITTLE LEAGUE VOLUNTEER APPLICATION**

All Members of WBLL's Board of Directors, Managers, Coaches, and Any Other Persons, Volunteers, or Hired Workers, who provide regular service to WBLL and/or have repetitive access to, or contact with players or teams, **must** complete, and submit an official "Little League Volunteer Application" to the Safety Officer or President and satisfactorily complete a background check. Refusal or failure to submit a fully completed "Little League Volunteer Application" will result in the immediate dismissal of the individual from the League. Volunteers can include but are not limited to umpires, team moms, concession workers, and parents who assist at practice.

## **ARTICLE II – MANAGER AND COACH SELECTION**

The President selects and appoints, managers, coaches, umpires, and committees. All appointments are subject to the approval of WBLL's Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE III – MANAGER AND COACH FIELD RESPONSIBILITIES**

All managers and coaches are responsible to help on announced workdays and to clean, rake, drag, mark, and/or sweep the field before and following their respective games. Managers and coaches from both teams should work on these duties and be responsible for cleaning out all trash from their respective dugouts after each game while returning equipment and bases to the storage room after games.

# **SECTION IV DISCIPLINE**

## **ARTICLE I – MANAGERS, COACHES AND VOLUNTEER CONDUCT**

Any Board of Director, Manager, Coach, Volunteer, Umpire, Contract Worker, or Hired Worker who is arrested for any felony offense or any offense involving a minor after they have been approved by the Board of Directors to be a volunteer shall report the arrest to the President within 72 hours of the arrest. Any volunteer who is convicted pleads guilty or no contest or receives deferred adjudication for such an offense shall also report that event to the President within 72 hours. The President will bring such offense and or

violation before the Board of Directors within 48 hours. The Board of Directors may take disciplinary action against the volunteer, including but not limited to immediate dismissal from the league.

Managers will be responsible for the conduct of themselves, their coaches, team players, and parents/fans of team members. Managers and coaches will abide by the Coaches Code of Conduct.

An ejection from a game or league complex of a player, manager, coach, volunteer, parent, and/or fan due to unsportsmanlike conduct will be followed up and brought to the attention of the Board of Directors. The meeting will consist of the Board of Directors, manager, coach, volunteer, parents, fan, and/or player and legal guardian of persons involved on a case-by-case basis for status review. Upon review of any league violation and/or of unsportsmanlike conduct, any individual and/or player associated with the West Brownsville Little League can have action taken by the Board of Directors.

Any person in violation of any of the Official Little League Regulations and Playing Rules and/or Rules established in these By-Laws may result in disciplinary action by the Board of Directors, per Little League Rules. Additional penalties may be levied by the Board. As stated, violations will be brought to the attention of the Board within 48 hours after the President has been notified; however, at the Board's discretion, serious infractions reported after the 48-hour limitation may be reviewed. Anonymous allegations will be discarded unless they can be documented or corroborated in writing through independent means.

Action levels to be taken by West Brownsville's Board of Directors include but are not limited to:

- (1) Consultation by the League President.
- (2) Letter of Reprimand from the Board of Directors.
- (3) Suspension as Manager or Coach for one game.
- (4) Suspension as Manager or Coach for any part of the remainder of the season.
- (5) Not favorably considered for future Little League appointments.
- (6) Dismissal from ALL West Brownsville Little League activities.

## **ARTICLE II – PLAYER CONDUCT**

Players are expected to adhere to the Little League's Code of Conduct for sportsmanship and conduct. Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action for player misconduct is covered in the Little League Player / Parent Code of Conduct.

All levied actions to players, coaches, and/or managers will be made a matter of record by the WBLI Secretary. Chronic offenders of minor infractions will be dealt with more severely as the violations accumulate at the discretion of the West Brownsville Little League Executive Board.

## **SECTION V UMPIRES**

### **ARTICLE I – UMPIRES**

Umpiring is one of the most important and often overlooked aspects of the Little League program. The volunteer umpire is as much a part of Little League as the volunteer manager, coach or concession stand worker. According to Little League Baseball, there is no sound reason for paying umpires or any other person whose services should be provided on a volunteer basis.

While West Brownsville Little League's Board of Directors may or may not have agreed with Little League International that there may truly be no valid reason to pay umpires, there is a need during the season to pay a reasonable fee to the home plate and base umpire. The Board of Directors has given authority to the

League President and/or Umpire-in-Chief to determine a reasonable fee to be paid. A reasonable fee may be paid for umpires when volunteer services cannot be met. Umpires will only be paid when they are in full uniform and have/use their equipment.

The Umpire-in-Chief will make the umpiring assignments for all games. Only West Brownsville Little League approved umpires recommended by the Umpire-in-Chief will be allowed to umpire both the home plate and bases, provided they have submitted a fully completed "Little League Volunteer Application," a photocopy of a government-issued photo ID, and consented to the required background check.

All Board Members, Umpires, Managers, and Coaches will adhere to the following guidelines:

1. A qualified umpire knows the rules (West Brownsville's Ground Rules and Little League Official Rules and Regulations) and can conduct themselves per Little League Rules and Regulations. Managers will be given copies of each before the season and are expected to read over them, study them, and know them.
2. All WBLL Board Members, Managers, and Coaches (T-Ball through Big Leagues) are encouraged to attend an Umpire / Rules Clinic, when available.
  - a. T-Ball Division – This is an instructional league. Umpires will not be utilized.
  - b. Coach Pitch Division – This is an instructional league. It is recommended that there be one (1) Umpire at this level.
  - c. Minors Division – It is recommended that there be two (1) Umpire per game at this level.
  - d. Majors Division – It is recommended that there be two (2) Umpires at this level.
3. VERIFICATION OF THE BASEBALL PITCH COUNT RULE WILL BE CONFIRMED BY THE UMPIRES WITH THE OFFICIAL / HOME TEAMS SCOREKEEPER IN THE MIDDLE OF EACH INNING, AND UPON THE REMOVAL / CHANGE / RETIRE OF EACH PITCHER. THIS APPLIES TO THE MINOR DIVISIONS AND ABOVE. (The manager will still be the responsible party to ensure pitch count is accurate). The "Home Team" Manager and/or Coaches are responsible for keeping the "Official Scorebook" and "Pitch Count" when not kept in the press box.

## **SECTION VI DIVISION ALIGNMENT**

### **ARTICLE I – DIVISION ALIGNMENT**

**NOTE: Divisions are based on the Age Chart, Operating Manual, and Official Playing Rules and Regulations for the current year for Baseball and Softball.**

#### **A. DIVISION ALIGNMENT (May be adjusted depending upon the registration numbers)**

##### **1. TEE BALL BASEBALL DIVISION**

Tee Ball Boys & Girls 4, 5 & 6-Year-Olds (7-Year-Olds by Special Exception)

##### **2. SOFTBALL DIVISION**

Minor Softball Girls

Coach Pitch 7 & 8-Year-Olds (6-Year-Olds by Special Exception)

Player Pitch 9, 10, & 11-Year-Olds (8 & 12-Year-Olds by Special Exception)

Major Softball Girls 10, 11 & 12-Year-Olds

Junior Softball Girls 12, 13 & 14-Year-Olds (15-Year-Olds by Special Exception)

##### **3. BASEBALL DIVISION**

Minor Baseball Boys

Coach Pitch 7 & 8-Year-Olds (6-Year-Olds by Special Exception)

Player Pitch 9, 10, & 11-Year-Olds (8 & 12-Year-Olds by Special Exception)

Major (AA & AAA) Baseball Boys 10, 11 & 12-Year-Olds (13-Year-Olds by Special Exception)

Junior Baseball Boys 13 & 14-Year-Olds (15-Year-Olds by Special Exception)

## **ARTICLE II – WAIVERS**

In the event of a special circumstance requiring a waiver from Little League International, the request must first be submitted in writing with all accompanying documents to the league President who brings the request before the league Board of Directors. Once approved by the local Board of Directors the request is forwarded to the District Administrator, who will forward it with his / her recommendations to the Regional Director in Waco, Texas. The Regional Director will present the request to the Charter Committee in Williamsport, Pennsylvania for a decision. No other person or group has the authority to approve waivers of ANY of Little Leagues Rules or Regulations.

## **ARTICLE III – TRYOUTS**

Tryouts and Player Selection (Draft) will be conducted according to the 2021 Operating Manual and Official Regulations and Playing Rules for Baseball and Softball as approved yearly by the WBLL Board of Directors. Times and dates will be set by the Player Agent(s) with Board approval. The Player Agent and Vice President(s) for Baseball and Softball will be responsible for conducting tryouts for their respective divisions. West Brownsville Little League Board of Directors and Managers reserve the right to place all players in the appropriate division based on age and skill level. Although our system may assign players to a specific division based on age, WBLL retains the right to make adjustments as necessary after tryout sessions and evaluations have been completed.

### **TRYOUTS**

1. All players age 9-15 years old (8-year-olds by special exception) will be eligible for the Minor, Major, and Junior Division drafts as outlined in ARTICLE I. See PLAYER SELECTION for returning Minor and Major Division Players.
2. The tryouts for the Minor and Major Levels will occur on the same days. All managers for these two divisions should be present for tryouts.
3. There will be no tryouts for the T-Ball and Coach Pitch Divisions. However, players age 6 years old wishing to play at the Coach Pitch level must have played one (1) year of T-ball.
4. Requests to hold any player down in a lower division or move them up to a higher division are discouraged. However, requests will be considered, on a case-by-case basis, upon request from a parent or guardian to the Player Agent before tryouts. Any player making this request must attend tryouts. The President of the league shall appoint an assessment committee to evaluate the skill level of the player under review. The committee will have the responsibility of making a recommendation regarding the parent/guardian's request to the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE IV – PLAYER SELECTION (DRAFT)**

### **A. PLAYER SELECTION (DRAFT)**

1. All players who played in the Majors Division the previous year, who remain age-eligible for that division, will be placed back into the Majors Division on the same team they were assigned to the previous year without being drafted.
2. For 2021 only, all incoming 9-10-year-old players who played in the Minors Division the previous year will be placed back in the Minors Division on the same team they were assigned to the previous year without being drafted. However, 10-year-olds may opt to try out to be considered for the Majors Division draft. Eleven-year-olds who entered the Majors Division draft, but went undrafted, may be placed back on their previous Minors Division team.

3. The draft for the Major and Minor Baseball and Softball Levels will occur as follows according to the Little League Operations Manual, Player Selection Systems, Methods for Existing Leagues, Plan A, p. 58.
  - (a) **Major Division** - The Majors Division will draft first. For baseball, Majors AAA Division will draft before the Majors AA Division. The Major teams will fill a minimum of 12 places on each team roster. All teams will draft according to position selected by random draw. More than 8 players of one age group shall be allowed on any team for 2021 only. All 12-year-old players must be drafted into the Majors Divisions except for 12-year-old players that have been approved by the Board of Directors to play in the Minor Division as per Section A. Tryout 6, above.
  - (b) **Minor Division** – The Minors Division will draft after the Majors Division. Teams will fill a minimum of 12 places on each team roster. All teams will draft according to position selected by random draw. More than 8 players of one age group shall be allowed on any team for 2021 only.
4. The Draft for the Junior, Major, and Minor Softball Division will follow the same format as the Major and Minor Baseball Division with Junior Division drafting first followed by the Majors Division and then the Minors Division.
5. Players not making at least one tryout will not be eligible for tournament play.
6. It will be WBLL Board’s discretion to allow any player 9-12 years old that does not attend at least one tryout to be eligible to play in the Major League at any time during the season. The player may be put on a roster for player replacement.
7. Any Major League Player can request a release or trade by submitting a letter of request to the Player Agent at registration before tryouts. If a release is requested and granted, a tryout must be made by that player requesting a release and the player may then be drafted by any team except the one he was released from. If a trade is requested, then a tryout will not be required if the managers involved can work a trade (Player for Player ONLY).
8. It will be at the discretion of the President and/or the Player Agent if any trade or release will be granted.

**ARTICLE V – REPLACEMENT OF PLAYERS (REGULAR SEASON)**  
**REPLACEMENT OF PLAYERS (REGULAR SEASON)**

The Minor League program is an integral part of Little League and its purpose is to provide training and instruction for those candidates who because of age and other factors do not qualify for selection in the Major League division during the initial league draft.

1. All Major League teams shall consist of a minimum of 12 players. Managers will maintain 12 players per the following Little League rules:  
 When a player is lost to a team during the playing season for any of the following reasons:
  - a) He/she moves to another city or state too distant to commute for practice and play.
  - b) He/she is injured and will not be able to return to play within 50% or more remaining games.
  - c) He/she has for personal reasons decided to terminate his / her association with the team.
  - d) Any other justifiable reason was reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors.
  - e) The effective date for losing the player will be the date of original notification by the parents and/or player. The manager of the team losing a player shall notify the Player Agent within 24 hours of such loss.
2. The vacancy shall be filled according to Regulation III (d) per Board approval.
3. Upon Board notification and approval of a vacancy, the manager shall have 48 hours to select a replacement player.

4. When a team roster falls below 12 players and the manager has been approved to find a replacement player, they will choose the first age-eligible player a player off the roster from the division immediately below their respective division. Minors If there are no players on the standby list, then a Minor League player may be called up to a Major League team to fill that vacant position. The Minor League player, if called up, must be at least league age 10 or older on the roster. If that player refuses to join that team, the player will forfeit further eligibility in the Major League for the rest of the regular season.
5. Major League teams with less than 12 players during the last 2 weeks of the regular minor league season play are prohibited from calling up a replacement from the Minor League.
6. Managers who fail to notify the Player Agent as required and/or fail to call up a player when required may be disciplined by the Board and will forfeit that position for the remainder of the season.
7. All WBLL players must be in the uniform provided by the League. (Shirt and cap)

## **SECTION VII LOCAL GROUND RULES**

West Brownsville Little League will operate its 2021 season under the Official Regulations and Playing Rules for all divisions. The Board of Directors has voted to approve the following exceptions.

### **ARTICLE I – RULES APPLYING TO ALL DIVISIONS**

The 2021 Official Regulations and Playing Rules for Little League Baseball & Softball shall apply, and be followed, in all Divisions except as amended or stated in these Local League Rules. The Local League Rules DO NOT APPLY TO POSTSEASON TOURNAMENT PLAY.

#### **A. GAMEPLAY**

1. In all Leagues, activity or practice is defined when 4 or more players from the same team meet for an organized event in which baseball or softball is practiced, played, or discussed between a manager and/or coach and the players.
2. In all T-Ball, Coach Pitch, and Minor League Divisions, the time limit will constitute a complete game regardless of the number of innings played. (If an inning is started within the time limit, it must be completed). Minor league division may end as a win, loss, or tied game.
3. In all Coach Pitch/Minor League Divisions where the 5-run rule per inning is applied, the “home team” shall have its last at-bat even if there is no possibility of a win.
4. In all Coach Pitch/Minor League Divisions where the continuous batting order is utilized, the starting 9 defensive players shall be listed as the first 9 batters in the batting lineup. When the third out is recorded before the final batter taking their turn at the plate the bases shall be emptied.
5. Coach Pitch/Minor League Division games ending in a tie will be recorded as a tied game.
6. The umpire will designate the official start of the game in the Minor League and Major League Divisions. This should be the same as the scheduled start time.
7. Complaints or protests of any nature must be in writing and signed to be considered. The complaint or protest should be submitted within the required 24 hours to the League President, who shall investigate as the circumstances warrant.
8. The 10-run rule will be utilized in the Minor League Divisions and above. This rule will be used as described in the Little League Rule Book for the appropriate Division. There is no 10-run mercy rule in Coach Pitch due to the continuous batting order.
9. All Minors, Majors, and Junior Division games may start with eight players. However, if the ninth player is absent when their at-bat is up, the absence will count as an out.
10. The five-run rule will apply to all levels of softball play and Minor’s baseball.

**A. SCOREBOOK / FIELD MAINTENANCE**

1. The “Home Team” Manager and/or Coaches are responsible for keeping the “Official Scorebook” and “Pitch Count” when not kept in the press box.
2. The “Home Team” Managers and/or Coaches are responsible for marking and preparing the field before each game by adding or removing the pitcher’s mound and pitching plate, and for dragging and marking the foul lines and home plate, as may be applicable depending on the field.
3. The Manager of each team is responsible for ensuring that ALL trash is removed from their dugout after each game.

**ARTICLE II – RULES APPLYING TO SPECIFIC DIVISIONS**

**A. T-BALL**

The head umpire or a committee designated by the Board shall propose Rules for the T-Ball Division. The proposed rules must be approved by the Board before the start of the regular season.

**B. COACH PITCH**

1. Each team can have 1 Manager and 3 Coaches maximum in the dugout provided each is 18 years old or older and have turned in a fully completed Volunteer Application, a photocopy of a valid government-issued photo ID, and submitted to the required background check.
2. Each team is allowed a maximum of 4 activities per week.
3. Two coaches may be on the field of play when their team goes on defense.
4. Substitution rules will apply as each player must play a minimum of 2 innings or 6 defensive outs, but managers may substitute after 3 defensive outs.
5. All players on the roster will bat in a continuous batting order as listed by the manager.
6. A maximum of 5 runs can be scored per inning.
7. Teams may play with less than 9 players since this is an instructional division.
8. Each batter can receive 6 pitches, but 3 misses is a strikeout, and the batter is out. However, if the sixth or subsequent pitch is batted foul, the at-bat will continue until the following pitch is taken, missed, or batted fair.
9. The batter will not receive a walk if hit by a pitch from the coach-pitcher. Pitches thrown from the coach in the dirt or over the batter’s head will be counted toward the six pitches.
10. Base runners advance at their own risk. Base runners may not advance past the base they were running to when the ball became dead. A live ball shall be declared dead when it has been returned to the pitcher. “Returned to the pitcher” shall be defined as when an infielder has released the ball in his or her throwing motion toward the player pitcher or coach pitcher.
11. Base stealing is not allowed.
12. Bunting is not allowed.
13. Outfielders must play on the outfield grass, and infielders must play their regular positions.
14. The player pitcher must remain to the right or left of the coach-pitcher with one foot in the dirt circle until the batter swings at the ball. The player pitcher will be even with the pitching rubber for the respective division.
15. Coaches may pitch from anywhere in front of the pitcher’s plate but must remain on the dirt circle. When using a pitching machine, the coach/pitcher shall feed the ball into the machine the same way for all hitters.
16. The Board shall decide to determine if a pitching machine may be used instead of having a coach pitch for the first half of the season or the complete season.
17. A batted ball that hits a pitching screen, a pitching machine, if used, or a coach in fair territory shall be considered live and played accordingly.
18. Coaches shall make every effort to get out of the way of a hit or thrown ball and not interfere with play.
19. Each game will have a time limit of 1 hour 15 minutes beginning from the scheduled game time or 6 innings, whichever comes first.

20. For interleague play, ground rules and exceptions of the home team shall be observed, and these should be discussed by both managers before the game.
21. No official league scores or standings will be recorded.

**C. MINOR LEAGUES – By Official Little League Regulations & Playing Rules with exceptions.**

1. Each team can have 1 Manager and 2 Coaches maximum in the dugout provided each is 18 years old or older and has submitted a fully completed Volunteer Application, a photocopy of a valid government-issued photo ID, and submitted to the required background check.
2. Each team is allowed a maximum of 5 activities per week.
3. All players on the roster will bat in a continuous batting order as listed by the manager.
4. A maximum of 5 runs can be scored per inning.
5. The Special Pinch Runner Rule no longer applies at this level since all players are in the game.
6. All games will have a time limit of 1 hour 30 minutes starting from the scheduled game time.
7. For interleague play, ground rules and exceptions of the home team shall be observed, and these should be discussed by both managers before the game.

**D. MAJOR LEAGUES – By Official Little League Regulations & Playing Rules with exceptions.**

1. Each team can have 1 Manager and 2 Coaches maximum in the dugout provided each is 18 years old or older and has submitted a fully completed Volunteer Application, a photocopy of a valid government-issued photo ID, and submitted to the required background check.
2. Each team may have a maximum of 5 activities per week.
3. All games will have a 2-hour time limit. All games called by time limit will be official if 4 innings have been completed. Major division games cannot end in a tie. If the game ends in a tie due to time constraints, it will resume under Rule 4.11(e) at the earliest possible date and time.
4. For interleague play, ground rules and exceptions of the home team shall be observed, and these should be discussed by both managers before the game.

**E. INTERMEDIATE, JUNIOR, AND SENIOR LEAGUES – By Official Little League Regulations & Playing Rules with exceptions.**

1. Each team can have 1 Manager and 2 Coaches maximum in the dugout provided each is 18 years old or older and has submitted a fully completed Volunteer Application, a photocopy of a valid government-issued photo ID, and submitted to the required background check.
2. All games will have a 2-hour time limit. All games called by the time limit will be official if 5 innings have been completed. Games cannot end in a tie. If the game ends in a tie due to time constraints, it will resume under Rule 4.11(e) at the earliest possible date and time.
3. Each team may have a maximum of 5 activities per week.

**SECTION VIII  
TOURNAMENT TEAMS**

**ARTICLE I – TOURNAMENT TEAM**

**A. MANAGER SELECTION**

1. The tournament team manager shall be chosen based on a combination of qualifications including place of finish for the regular season, level of knowledge of Little League rules, recruitment of sponsorships, and overall helpfulness with league endeavors, including but not limited to league fundraisers. Winning first place during the regular season, however, does not guarantee selection since there are other important factors to be considered.

2. The President of the league shall make the selection for each team and recommend approval of the board. Once approved, the manager may select his / her coach or coaches, who must be approved by the Board of Directors, depending on the number of players on the roster.
3. Based on the number of qualified player candidates nominated by managers, the board shall declare and vote on the number of Tournament Teams that will be formed.
4. The President will nominate the Tournament Team Managers to the Board. The Board by a two-thirds majority vote of those present at a valid meeting shall elect the Tournament Manager.

**B. TEAM SELECTION**

1. The Board of Directors has the option on the number of teams to charter in each age division.
2. The tournament team manager for each minor and major division tournament team will be allowed to have a minimum of 12 players on their roster.

**ARTICLE II – TOURNAMENT TEAM PLAYER SELECTION – MINOR LEAGUE THROUGH BIG LEAGUE**

Players for the tournament teams will be chosen as follows:

1. The Player Agent shall provide each manager with a complete list of all qualified player candidate nominees no later than 72 hours in advance of the meeting where votes will be cast. Late addition exceptions will be considered.
2. The Board may allow tryouts for players nominated to the tournament team(s). If tryouts are authorized, tryouts are to be held before voting. Nominated players that cannot attend the tryout will not be removed from the tournament team ballot.
3. Before voting, the President shall announce the order that each team shall fill its roster. Generally, the team competing in the oldest division shall be voted upon first, with the next oldest group going next, and so forth. If more than one team will be competing in the same division, the President shall nominate the manager of which team approved by the board, will manage the first team being voted on.
4. Tournament players shall be selected in stages with the intent of fielding the ablest and most deserving players to represent WBL. Regulations about player eligibility, selection, and practice dates as per Regulation XVII and current District 24 policies are to be strictly adhered to.
5. (Alternates / Replacements) If a player or players cannot participate in the tournament due to injury or personal reasons, the player agent shall select the next player in line from amongst those receiving the greatest number of votes during the last round of voting, but who were not selected.
6. The Executive Committee shall have the right by a two-thirds majority to add or remove player candidates to or from the ballot before the selection meeting.
7. Only the President, Vice President, Player Agent, and Major League Managers shall attend. If any manager cannot attend, he or she may file an absentee ballot (for 14 Players) with the Player Agent or send one approved coach with a signed proxy statement.
8. The first round of voting shall have each manager cast eight (8) votes by secret ballot from which the six (6) players with the most votes will be elected to the tournament team. The Vice President of Baseball and Softball may vote at their option. Any tie will be decided by the officers present.
9. Next, each manager shall be allowed up to three (3) minutes to promote his or her choices for the remaining eight (6) positions. Unused time may be yielded to another.
10. The second round of voting shall have each manager cast eight (8) votes by secret ballot from which five (5) shall be elected to the tournament team. Any absentee ballots will be counted ONLY in the second round. The Vice President of Baseball and Softball may vote at their option. Any tie will be decided by the officers present.
11. Team Managers shall elect 11 players for the team. Tournament managers shall pick the 12<sup>th</sup> player from among players that were nominated and not chosen. They shall also have the option to pick a 13<sup>th</sup> player from among those players nominated and not chosen.

12. Lastly, the Tournament Manager shall announce at this time who his or her two (2) coaches will be and what if any assistance he or she would accept or hope to receive from other Local League Managers and/or Coaches.

### **ARTICLE III – TOURNAMENT TEAM SPONSORSHIP, FUNDRAISING, AND UNIFORMS**

The Manager and Coaches of ANY tournament team shall make their tournament team uniform and equipment arrangements. Uniforms, equipment, and/or other perceived necessities will be provided for by the procurement of sponsorships solicited by the respective team manager, coaches, and player parents. Any costs over and above the funding collected shall be covered by the parents of the players on the respective Tournament Team. West Brownsville Little League WILL NOT be responsible for providing Tournament Team uniforms, equipment, or other perceived necessities in any of the Divisions.

The Tournament Team Manager and Coaches shall be solely responsible for the management of any funds acquired by any means, (cash, check, electronic, or otherwise), for the purchase of Tournament Team uniforms, equipment, or other perceived necessities in any of the Divisions.

## **SECTION IX ALTERNATE METHOD OF REGULAR SEASON OPERATION**

### **ARTICLE I – ALTERNATE METHOD OF REGULAR SEASON OPERATION**

To aid divisions that are having a difficult time getting enough players for their regular season teams the player agent may employ the pool player option. A pool of players from existing regular season teams shall be created with players that are willing to participate in extra games during the regular season when teams face a shortage of rostered players for a regular-season game.

Guidelines:

1. The league's Player Agent will create and run the pool. The league's Player Agent will use the pool to assign players to teams that are short of players on a rotating basis.
2. Managers and/or coaches will not have the right to randomly pick and choose players from the pool.
3. Players used from the pool will not be allowed to pitch, except during the player's own regular scheduled game.
4. Pool players that are called and show up at the game site must play at least nine consecutive defensive outs and bat once.

For details on age alignments for Junior, Senior, and Big League, see Regulation IV of the Official Little League Regulations and Playing Rules.

## **SECTION X EQUIPMENT**

### **ARTICLE I – ISSUED EQUIPMENT**

*All equipment issued by WBLL is the property of WBLL and is for WBLL use only. Team managers will sign out and be responsible for the proper care, maintenance, safekeeping, and return of all equipment issued to his or her team. No WBLL equipment will be given to players. All managers will return their equipment on the day or night of their last regular-season game. This includes managers for Tournament teams.*

### **ARTICLE II – MISUSED, LOST, AND STOLEN EQUIPMENT**

*In the event issued equipment is damaged due to misuse, is lost or stolen it is the responsibility of the team manager, coaches, and player parents to reimburse the league for the lost or stolen items.*

**SECTION XI  
MAKE-UP GAMES AND ORDER OF FINISH**

**ARTICLE I – MAKE-UP GAMES**

1. The deadline for make-up games for this season will be May 31, 2021, for baseball, and June 3, 2021, for softball. The Competition Committee may extend this deadline if necessary.
2. The Player Agent shall make every attempt to have make-up games played as soon as possible. The player agent shall schedule all make-up games for the first day available on the calendar, subject to any limitations to the number of games a team can play for the week.
3. The Player Agent shall employ the use of pool players whenever the situation necessitates to play or finish a pending game when a team’s regular players are not available.

**ARTICLE II – ORDER OF FINISH**

1. The President shall declare the order of finish for the regular season for the top three teams of each division, except for T-ball and Coach-Pitch.
2. A set value for the games won, games lost, games played, and games tied will be used as follows:  
Win = 1 point, Lost = 0, Games played = 1, and Tied games = ½.
3. Final finish placement will be determined by the highest calculated point total.
4. TIEBREAKERS:
  - a. In the event of a tie to the method described above, the finish shall be determined by the order of highest to lowest winning percentage, calculated by dividing games won by games played amongst all games played.
  - b. If a winner still cannot be determined, the winner shall be determined by head-to-head competition from those teams tied. The team with the most net runs scored in head-to-head games shall be determined the winner, calculated by total runs scored minus total runs allowed.
  - c. If a tie still exists, a game shall be played between the two tied teams, but only if the competition committee deems there to be sufficient time for the game to be played. If there is no time for a game to be played, a coin flip will determine the winner.

**SECTION XII  
COVID PROTOCOLS AND GUIDELINES**

West Brownsville Little League accepted the responsibility of reopening league activities while the COVID-19 pandemic is still in effect. As such, our league has agreed to employ certain guidelines to keep our players, coaches, umpires, and fans as safe as reasonably possible. Those protocols and guidelines are outlined in a separate document titled 2021 Re-Opening Guidelines, which can be found on our website. All coaches and league personnel have agreed to be bound by these conditions.