



Little League® University

Live Webinar Series

Divisions, Drafts and Draft Options



objectives

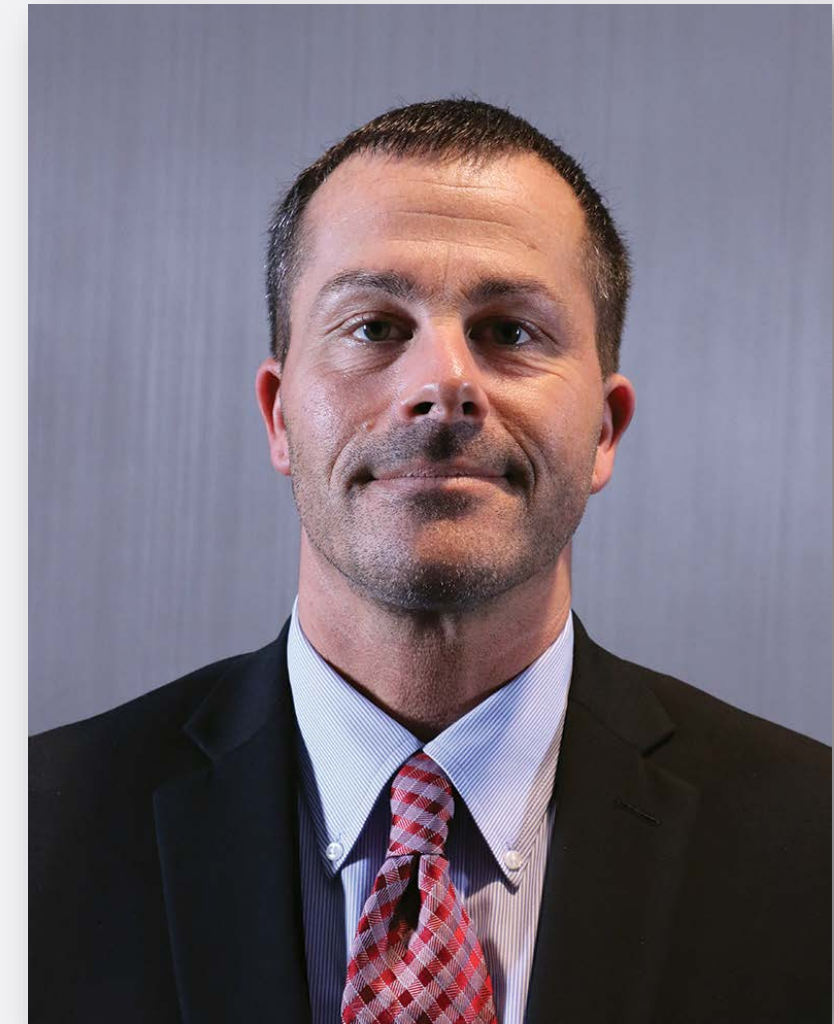
| Discuss Divisions - Tryouts

| Discuss the when and what divisions require a draft

| Why drafts are important

| Review the three approved Draft procedures

| Discuss Draft Options



Corey Wright
East Region Director

pre-season planning

age eligibility

| Age determination date for SOFTBALL is December 31

- The player's 'league age' for the current season is the age she was on December 31

| Age determination date for BASEBALL is August 31

- The player's 'league age' for the current season is the age he/she is on August 31

| Each player must present proper proof of age documentation prior to participation with the league

- Original Birth Record
- Or one of four other available options

pre-season planning

division eligibility

Each Board of Directors determines the age structure per division based on the range of ages available

Players participating in the Major division or above may participate in up to two divisions

- Players may not play in more than one league
- Does permit player to participate in both baseball and softball within league
- Player may only be selected to one Tournament team



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division eligibility

- | 12-year-olds may participate in Minor League under specific circumstances
- | 15-year-olds may only participate in Junior League with Little League approval

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softball division eligibility

Softball League Age	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Tee Ball	X	X	X	X									
Minor Coach/Machine Pitch		X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Minor Player Pitch				X	X	X	X	X	X				
Major						X	X	X	X				
Junior									X	X	X	X	
Senior										X	X	X	X

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baseball division eligibility

Baseball League Age	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Tee Ball	X	X	X	X									
Minor Coach/Machine Pitch		X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Minor Player Pitch				X	X	X	X	X	X				
Major						X	X	X	X				
Intermediate								X	X	X			
Junior									X	X	X	X	
Senior										X	X	X	X

pre-season planning tryouts

- | League may determine how it will conduct tryouts
- | Multiple dates permitted
 - o Regulation IV (f) must be considered
 - All players in the Major division and above failing to attend 50% of tryouts forfeit league eligibility
 - Players eligible for the Major division and above must tryout
 - Local league may excuse a player from attending if a written excuse is provided and approved by the Board of Directors



pre-season planning tryouts

| Non-league facilities may be used

- Need to be approved by the Board of Directors for use
- If facility requires league to add it as additional insured, Board must complete in advance

| All safety precautions must be taken



pre-season planning

recommended tryouts plan

- ✓ Consider calling it “skills assessment”
- ✓ Make sure parents and players are aware of the tryout plan
- ✓ Keep the tryouts equal to all players
- ✓ Be respectful to all players
- ✓ Allow for multiples dates
- ✓ Consider separate age-specific dates
- ✓ Provide a walk-up, on-site registration option

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recommended tryouts plan

- ✓ Allow players to participate in the following skills
 - Batting/bunting
 - Fielding fly balls
 - Fielding ground balls
 - Throwing
 - Running

- ✓ You may hold multiple tryouts, with different windows/days for ages

pre-season planning conducting draft

Major Divisions and above MUST
conduct a draft from approved methods

- Tee Ball, Minor, and Machine/Coach Pitch need to assign players, but may use alternative method
- A different method may be used per division of play



pre-season planning

conducting draft

- | Providing parity within league will provide an enjoyable experience for all teams and players
- | Drafts come after a tryout evaluation
- | Tee Ball and Minor League teams must be disbanded annually



pre-season planning

draft plan a

- | Eligible players will return to their teams of previous season
- | Teams will then fill remaining roster spots from new division candidates
- | Teams will select in reverse order of standing from the past season
 - o Draft order is same for each round
 - o Under a four-team division, the fourth-place manager selects the first player in each round
 - o The process repeats until all rosters are complete
 - Teams will drop out of draft once they reach at least 12-14 players

pre-season planning

draft plan b

| Typically known as ‘redraft”

| Draft is completed in two parts

| Players do not automatically return to their teams of the past season

| Part one of draft includes:

- Returning players from a team in the same division, AND;
- Have registered for the current season

| Part one must be completed until part two begins

- All players meeting part one criteria must be drafted

pre-season planning

draft plan b

Part two includes all new division candidates that have met the requirements for selection

Draft order can be one of two methods

- Reverse order of finish from previous season
- Managers may draw to determine draft order

Serpentine draft, with the order flipping each round

- Last place team would draft first, eighth, ninth, 16th and so on in a four-team league

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draft plan b

Draft Plan B has an alternate method

- Players from parts one and two may be combined into the same pool
- All returning players must be selected to teams
 - Player Agent has to monitor remaining returning candidates to ensure they are drafted before draft ends

pre-season planning

draft plan c

Known as the blind draft method

- Determining how many teams are in a division will have based on number of eligible players
- Managers randomly provided a team name
- 12-year-olds are placed into a container and each manager randomly selects a player until all are selected
- 11-year-olds are placed into a container and each manager randomly selects a player until all are selected or team rosters are full
- Same procedure is used for 10 and 9-year-olds until rosters are full

pre-season planning player options

Four available draft options allow players to be retained by a certain team

- Brother/Sister Option
- Brother/Sister of player currently on team
- Sons/Daughters of Managers
- Sons/Daughters of Coaches

Options 2, 3, and 4 must be submitted in writing to the Player Agent no later than 48 hours prior to draft



pre-season planning

player options

01

Brother/Sister Option

- Two or more siblings in the draft – first brother or sister is drafted
- Manager automatically has the option to draft the other brother or sister on the next turn
- Failure to exercise option makes the second sibling available to be drafted by any team

02

Brother/Sister Option of Player Currently on a Team

- Manager may submit an option on a draftee if the player candidate's brother or sister is a member of the manager's team
- If an option is submitted, the Manager **MUST** draft the sibling within the first three draft selections

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player options

03

Sons/Daughters of Managers

- If a manager has son/daughter eligible for the draft
- Manager must exercise option at or before specified round
- Parent/Manager option takes priority over any other option
- **NOTE:** Provisions also apply for managers having eligible brothers / sisters in the draft

04

Sons/Daughters of Coaches

- New coaches shall not be appointed nor approved until after draft
- Returning coach may exercise option through manager provided:
 - Coach has served as a coach or manager (at any level) for the past two years, **AND**
 - Coach is returning to the same major league team as last year

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player options – draft rounds

If an option is submitted in writing for the son and or/daughter of a manager or coach, such candidate must be drafted in or before

Baseball Draft Round	Little League	Intermediate	Junior	Senior
5	9-10	11	12	13-14
4	11	12	13	15
3	12	13	14	16

Softball Draft Round	Little League	Junior	Senior
5	9-10	12	13-14
4	11	13	15
3	12	14	16

pre-season planning trades

- | Manager may trade a player up to 14 days after the first scheduled game
- | All trades must be through, and with the approval of, the Player Agent
 - o Minor League players may not be traded for Major League players
 - o All trades must be player for player
 - o Trades involving a player for draft choices are not permitted
- | All trades must be for a justifiable reason and approved by the local Board of Directors



pre-season planning

Join us Next Week...

When:

February 22, 2018 at Noon Eastern

Topic:

Parents, Volunteers and Appointments



Jen Colvin,
Southeast
Region Director

Questions ?

Thank you!