

SEEKONK LITTLE LEAGUE

LITTLE LEAGUE CHARTER #2210613

BYLAWS GOVERNING THE OPERATION OF SEEKONK LITTLE LEAGUE

I. General League Policy

- a. Regular Members/Board of Directors
 - i. Regular members must be in good standing to participate in annual voting of the Board of the Directors. Good Standing is defined as any individual that has completed the necessary steps to become an approved volunteer of the league outlined in Section 6.
 - ii. Board members that miss three meetings during the year, will be subject to removal from the board based on a majority vote of the board.
 - iii. Board members are expected to actively participate in all aspects of the operations of the league including, but not limited to meetings, Opening Day, field maintenance, concession operations, hosting All Star games, hosting tournaments, closing ceremonies.
 - iv. Conflict of Interest - A person having an economic interest in transactions with Seekonk Little League and in a position to influence the financial activities of Seekonk Little League is required to disclose such interest to the board of directors. If the board of directors, based on a majority vote of at least two-thirds of the board, deems that such activity results in a conflict of interest, the party will be required to divest himself/herself of such interest or withdraw from his/her position in Seekonk Little League
- b. Permits and Insurance
 - i. Seekonk Little League will secure the proper permits for the fields and facilities (restrooms/concession stand/sheds) each season and pay the required fees to the town.
 - ii. Seekonk Little League will afford all its players and adult volunteers maximum insurance coverage as offered by Little League International.
- c. Financial
 - i. All purchases made by Seekonk Little League to operate the league should be supported by vendors' invoices or statements. However, in the case of umpire fees, such fees may be supported by a calculation made by the president or his representative of such fees based on the number of games played during the season (including play- offs) at the stated rate per game.
 - ii. All purchases over \$ 250.00 must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Purchases under \$250.00 should be

approved by the President and Treasurer prior to purchase. Lack of proper approval could result in purchases not being reimbursed.

- iii. Major purchases (defined as purchases in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of any one good or service or multiple goods or services of like kind) are not to be made without first obtaining at least three (3) quotes from non-related vendors for goods or services of like quality. Routine purchases do not need to be bid annually, but should be periodically evaluated. The vendor will be selected based on a majority vote.
- iv. Seekonk Little League will award scholarship annually, the number of scholarships and/or amount can be will be determined by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Applicants must meet minimum criteria and will provide an essay that will be reviewed by the board or a subcommittee of the board. Scholarships will be awarded based on a vote of the essay reviewers.

d. Uniforms/Equipment

i. Uniforms

1. Spring

- a. All Players will receive a hat and shirt.
- b. Each team will receive three hats for Coaches.

2. All Stars/Summer

- a. All Players will receive a hat and shirt.
 - i. District Tournament team shirts will have a Little League Patch and players will receive pants.
- b. 3 Coaches will receive a hat and Polo shirt.

3. Fall

- a. All Players will receive a hat and shirt.
- b. Each team will receive three hats for Coaches.

ii. Equipment

- 1. Each coach will receive a bag at the beginning of the season that includes:
 - a. Helmets
 - b. Bats
 - c. Catchers Equipment (Excluding Tee Ball)
 - d. First Aid Kit
 - e. Balls
- 2. The bag should be turned in at the end of the season to the Equipment Manager
- 3. In the shed at North School and Water Lane there will be:
 - a. AED machine
 - b. Ice Packs

II. Player participation/conduct

- a. Players must register through the league website. Minor and Majors players must be registered by the date of tryouts.
- b. Financial hardship will not prevent participation in the activities of the league. Hardships will be awarded based upon financial need and subject to the review of the President.
- c. Any player who is ejected from a game by an umpire is automatically suspended and cannot participate in the next game played by his/her team.
- d. If a player is ejected from a game by an umpire a second time during the same season, he/she is suspended for all future games until the board of directors may determine the proper disciplinary action at its next meeting. Such action could result in an individual's dismissal from participating in Seekonk Little League for the remainder of the season and there will be no refund for that individual.

III. Volunteer participation/conduct!

- a. All coaches/volunteers must register through the website to become a coach/volunteer of the league. As part of the application process the following items will need to be provided/completed:
 - i. Valid form of identification
 - ii. MA CORI application
 - iii. Abuse Training Course – (Provided by Little League International)
 - iv. JDP Background check
- b. A coach/volunteer will not be allowed to participate in any activities with players until they have been approved by the Safety Officer and added to the official list of approved volunteers.
- c. The board of directors will assign head coaches to each team in each division based on need.
- d. It is expected that each manager, coach and scorer will be able to attend at least seventy-five percent (75%) of his/her team's scheduled games and practices. An individual's inability to participate at this level will be grounds for replacement of the individual by the board of directors. This replacement may be made during the season if deemed necessary by the board of directors.
- e. A member of a coaching staff who is ejected from a game by an umpire is automatically suspended from performing his/her on-field duties and cannot participate in any capacity, including pre-game practice, in the next game played by his/her team.
- f. A member of a coaching staff who is ejected from a game by an umpire a second time during the same season is suspended for all future games until the board of directors may determine the proper disciplinary action

to be taken at its next meeting. Such action could result in the individual's dismissal from participating in Seekonk Little League in any capacity.

- g. The visiting team coaching staff is required to prepare the fields for play for before all games and shall rake the field after games, especially home plate and pitching mound.

IV. Division Structure and Team Selection

a. Spring

i. Tee Ball and Coach Pitch

1. Age:

- a. **Tee Ball** – 4 and 5 Year Olds (Baseball Age)
- b. **Coach Pitch** – 6 and 7 Year Olds (Baseball Age)
- c. Exceptions:
 - i. Players Baseball Age 7 may attend Tryouts for the Minor division, the parent must contact the Player Agent prior to the tryout.
 - ii. Players that have played 1 year of Tee Ball may elect to move to Coach Pitch prior to 6 years old. The parent must contact the Player Agent to execute this option.

2. Team Assignment

- a. Players will be randomly assigned to teams.
- b. Parent requests for a specific coach or for certain players to be together will be honored where possible.

3. Practices/Games

- a. Practices will be a minimum of 1 night per week which will be agreed upon between the coach and Board of Directors.
- b. Games will be on Saturday Mornings
 - i. Tee Ball – 9:00
 - ii. Coach Pitch 10:30

ii. Minors and Majors

1. Age

- a. Minors – 8 and 9 Year Olds (Baseball Age)
- b. Majors – 10 – 12 Year Olds (Baseball Age)
- c. Exceptions:
 - i. Players Baseball age of 9 may attend tryouts for the Major division, the parent must contact the Player Agent prior to the tryout. The player will still need to attend the Minor tryout as well.
 - ii. Players in the Minor and Major division may be move down a division if there is a concern

of safety or playing ability.

2. Team Assignment

a. Tryouts

- i. All players in these divisions will be required to attend a Tryout prior to the start of the season.
- ii. Players who do not attend tryouts and are new to the league and/or did not play in Seekonk Little League in the previous season will be randomly placed on a team at the end of the draft, they cannot be selected to a team during normal draft rounds.
- iii. Parent requests for a specific coach or players to stay together will not be honored in these divisions. If extenuating circumstances exist, the parent should submit a formal request to the President, and it will be discussed by the Board.
- iv. There must be a majority vote of at least two-thirds of the board of directors only in extreme circumstances to allow a child to be moved from one team to another. This action is not to be considered precedent setting, and any subsequent situation will be considered and ruled upon based solely on the circumstances of that particular situation.

b. Draft

- i. Seekonk Little League will adopt "Plan B – Alternate Method" - redraft as set forth in the little league operating manual for its method of conducting the Major and Minor league drafts.
- ii. Options one through four (1 -4) as covered in the operating manual will be allowed with the following modifications:
- iii. All such options must be exercised unless specifically requested to the contrary by a parent. It will be the responsibility of the president to determine parent/sibling relationships for the purpose of exercising options.
- iv. Written submission of an option request is waived.
- v. All players covered by the aforementioned

options will be placed on teams **solely** on the basis of playing ability. Such player will be placed on a team in the same round of the draft in which players of similar try-out ratings would be expected to be drafted.

- vi. It will be the responsibility of the president to monitor the rating of such players to assure that these players are fairly rated.

c. Practices/Games

- i. Practices will be a minimum of 1 night per week which will be agreed upon between the coach and Board of Directors.
- ii. Games will be 2 nights per week at 5:30 PM. This will be established each season by the Board of Directors.

b. All Star/Tournament Teams

- i. Seekonk Little League will, at a minimum, enter a team in the "Williamsport tournament" district play-offs in the Little League major division (12U). Teams may also be entered into the 10U and 11U divisions based on a vote of the Board of Directors.
- ii. Seekonk Little League will fund 2 local tournaments outside of Districts.
- iii. Children will be selected to play on tournament teams representing Seekonk Little League, based solely on ability, based on a combination of a try out and vote by the managers.
- iv. A player who has been ejected from a game twice in the same season is not eligible to participate on a tournament team representing Seekonk Little League.
- v. Teams will be based on Little League baseball age and will be formed as followed. Players can only be selected for one All Star/Tournament Team.
 - 1. 8 year old players can only be selected to the 8 year old team.
 - 2. .9 year old players can only be selected to the 9 year old team.
 - 3. 10 year old players can only be selected to the 10 year old team.
 - 4. 11 year old players can be selected to either the 11 and 12 year old team.
 - 5. If there are not enough players in a specific age group to field a team, it will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors to determine if that age will not have a team or if age groups will be combined.
- vi. Players on tournament teams are to be selected based on a combination of a tryout and manager vote:

1. Tryout
 - a. A try-out will be held in which any player who would like to be part of a tournament team must attend. Players will be scored based on a variety of skills.
2. Manager Vote
 - a. Each manager shall nominate players from the regular season league roster who are truly deserving of being an all star. Players should be nominated with the intent of competing at the highest level in each age group.
 - b. All nominations will be compiled into one official ballot.
 - i. Each manager will award points based on the number of players to be assigned to the team. If a team will have 12 players, 12 points will be awarded to the best player (in his/her opinion), and the twelfth best player-1 point.
3. The scores from the Tryout and the Manager Vote will be combined to determine the players on each respective team.
 - a. In the event of a tie for the last remaining roster position(s): the roster position(s) **in** question will be revoted on by all managers.
4. Two alternates will also be selected and will have received the next highest scores the team has been selected. In the event of a tie for the alternate roster position(s) a revote will take place by all managers. Managers cannot vote for players on their current league roster.
5. Any replacement players on the official roster must be selected from the list of alternate players and approved by the board of directors.
- vii. Coaching positions on tournament teams are to be assigned as follows:
 1. Any individual interested in managing a particular All Star team must submit his/her intention in writing to the president (email is valid).
 2. Based upon all star manager interest, the board of directors shall have sole authority in selecting the all star manager and must approve his/her assistants coaches for each age group.
 3. If no such intention is made by a coach to become a manager for a particular all star age group, the board of directors shall have the authority to select a manager.

4. Any manager or coach who has been ejected from a game by an umpire twice during the regular season is not eligible to participate on the coaching staff of a tournament team.
- c. Fall Ball
 - i. Team structure will be determined based on the league that Seekonk Little League participates in.

V. Game Operations

- a. Weekday games will begin at 5:30 PM
- b. No inning should start past 7:30 PM on regardless of start time. An inning may go past 7:30 PM as long as it was started prior to 7:30 PM.
 - i. If an inning goes past 7:30 PM and the umpire calls the game due to darkness, the game will revert back to the last full inning of play for records.
- c. There will be a separate document for each division with any division specific rules established by the Board of Directors and any important Little League rules. Coaches should still review the Little League rulebook app in addition to these documents. These documents will be reviewed annually as part of the by law review.

**ADOPTED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON
January 14, 2025**

Keri Podgorski
Keri Podgorski, PRESIDENT

01/14/2025
DATE