

## CLAREMONT LITTLE LEAGUE ALL STAR SELECTION PROCESS

### I. OVERVIEW

This procedure is intended to identify and select managers and players who will best represent Claremont Little League (CLL) in postseason tournaments. The intent is for the process to be transparent, effective and equitable. Player and manager skill, knowledge, effort, attitude, commitment and demeanor should all be considered in the voting processes.

The Player Agent (PA) and All Star Coordinator (ASC) will run the All Star selection process for all divisions. It is important that the PA and ASC not have a child in consideration for selection to an All Star team nor have a family member who is a manager or coach in the Division for which players are being selected. In the event of a conflict, a designated replacement from the CLL Board shall be named for the division in which the conflict exists.

### II. SUMMARY

The process outlined in detail below can be summarized as follows:

1. Players vote for other players in their division and the top vote getters are nominated for their respective all star team.
2. Prior to the all-star selection process, the CLL Executive Board meets and selects a manager and approves coach candidates for each all star team.
3. Managers for each division meet and vote by ballot in multiple rounds until 10 players are selected.
4. The previously approved manager finalizes the roster (making the final 1 - 4 picks) among the remaining nominated players, as ranked by all managers.

Note: This process requires creating a new position on an annual basis: that of the All Star Coordinator (ASC). The primary responsibility of the ASC is to ensure the process proposed herein is carried out according to the rules below. The ASC should be a Board Member appointed by the president who is well versed in the process below.

### III. BALLOT PREPARATION

The PA will prepare ballots that all players will use to vote for their fellow players. The ballots need to separate the players into the following age groups: 12 year-olds, 11 year-olds, 10 year-olds and 9 year-olds (note: there will be no player voting for 8 year-olds or 7 year-olds). The PA should conduct player voting among Major, Minor and JV division teams during the end of the regular season of play.

### IV. PLAYER VOTING

The PA will arrange to meet with all teams in the Majors, Minors and JV divisions so players can vote. The voting should take place at a convenient location, such as before or after a practice or game. Voting will be done one team at a time and in the absence of coaches and parents. The PA will pass out the ballots to the players and explain the criteria. Players vote for 5 players in each age group and shall not vote for players on their own team. When the players finish voting, they turn in their ballots to the PA who ensures that the votes are clear and 5 players per age group were nominated. Prior to the all-star selection meeting, the PA will tabulate the votes for each age group and make a list of the top five vote-getters. If the PA has a child or family member in a particular age group, the ASC will count votes for that group.

### V. MANAGER SELECTION

After the first half of the season, all rostered managers and coaches will be notified that CLL is accepting applications for the positions of Manager and Coach for All Star Teams. Such notification will also be posted on the website and via email. The deadline for submission will be determined on an annual basis.

Applicants are to submit an application/resume to the League President and/or Division Representative for their respective team. All applicants must be a manager or rostered coach. In his/her submission, the applicant should demonstrate strengths in the following areas by answering questions provided to them:

- Knowledge of both the game and regular-season and tournament rules

- Time to dedicate to practice and play
- Ability to communicate with the kids
- Ability to communicate with the parents, the league, and other coaches
- Game management during a competitive All Star Tournament
- Ability to represent the CLL and its families well

The following will be considered:

- Past Coaching Evaluations
- Peer Evaluation
- Division Representative Recommendation
- Board Discussion
- League Standings

The Board will be given the opportunity to review the applications and each candidate will be discussed by the CLL Board at a set meeting. However, if a Board Member or family member of a Board Member is applying for an All Star Manager position, he/she will not review applications, offer input or vote for the Manager position for that respective All Star Team. The executive board will then vote and by majority, decide which manager applicant will be the all star manager for each All Star team. If a manager candidate is not selected to be the manager for the All Star team to which he/she applied, the Board will decide whether to approve that applicant as a coach (if the candidate elected to be so considered on his/her application). Similarly, the executive board will then vote and by majority, decide whether to approve each coach applicant for the position applied.

After notifying the candidate that he/she has been selected as All Star Manager, the All Star Manager will then complete the roster at the All Star draft as outlined below. The All Star Manager for each team will be able to select his/her coaches from any approved rostered manager or coach, subject to Board approval.

## VI. ALL-STAR SELECTION MEETING

Player selection will generally follow Method 1 below. In cases where there is a possibility that an all-star team will be comprised by players from more than one regular season division, the President, ASC and PA will decide, with the approval of the board of directors, to use Method 2 and then announce 72 hours before the draft begins the method selected. As a general rule, when players of a single age are split among multiple divisions, if there are not at least 16 players of that age in the higher division, Method 2 should be considered.

### METHOD 1:

#### A. Player Selection

All managers in the Majors, Minors, JV and Farm (if CLL elects to field a 7 year-old All Star Team) Divisions shall be present at any all-star selection meeting in which that manager has at least one player in that age group on his/her team. The Board may

make an exception and not require managers from a lower division to be present at a draft where there are at least 16 eligible players of the same age playing in a higher division. If a manager is unable to attend, he/she must identify a rostered coach (or other assistant coach with Executive Board approval), as a replacement.

At the outset of the meeting, for ages 9 – 12, the five players receiving the most votes during the player voting process are nominated for the all-star team for their respective age group. The managers of those players may then briefly discuss the merits of each. Each manager will then nominate however many players they wish and again briefly identify the reasons why each player is deserving of all-star recognition. The names will be written down on a sheet of paper or white board for all to see. Once all managers have nominated players, the PA or ASC should ask if there are any additional nominations not previously made.<sup>1</sup>

Thereafter, the voting process begins. The voting occurs over a series of rounds until a total of ten (10) players are selected to the roster. Managers are provided ballots and in the first round are instructed to vote for five (5) players from the list of nominations. Managers may not vote for players on their own team and ballots should identify the name of each voting manager. The PA and ASC will collect and count the ballots. Any player receiving unanimous votes from all eligible<sup>2</sup> managers are selected to the all-star roster for their age group. The rest of the players' names are returned to the list of nominated players and the ballots are retained by the PA/ASC. This is the end of the first round of voting. In the event no players receive unanimous votes, the top three (3) vote-getters<sup>3</sup> are selected to the all-star team and the remainder of the names are returned to the nomination list.

Managers then repeat the voting process among the remaining nominated players and vote for five (5) players. Again, players who receive unanimous votes from eligible managers are selected. If no player receives votes from all eligible managers, any player receiving votes from all but one eligible manager are selected to the team.

In the third round of voting, managers vote for three (3) players. Players receiving unanimous votes are added to the team roster. If no player receives votes from all eligible managers, any player receiving votes from all but one eligible manager is

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<sup>1</sup> To ensure adequate options for the manager, it is recommended at least 16 players be nominated before voting begins.

<sup>2</sup> An eligible manager is any manager able to vote for a player, i.e. all managers but the player's own manager.

<sup>3</sup> If ties would result in more than five players being selected, the PA/ASC have the discretion to select only the top one or two vote-getters. The goal is to select no more than 5 players during this round.

selected. If no player receives votes from all but one eligible manager, then any player receiving votes from all but two eligible managers are selected.

In fourth and subsequent rounds of voting, managers vote for three (3) players and the same rules from the third round apply. In the fourth and subsequent rounds, the PA/ASC have discretion to reduce the unanimity required<sup>4</sup> in order to achieve the selection of 10 total players, so long as every player chosen received a vote from at least 50% of eligible voting managers.

In any round of player voting, an 11th player may be added to the roster only in the event it is needed to break a tie between two players. If there is a tie between more than two players in any round of voting which would produce more than 11 players on the roster, managers will rank those tied players and the highest vote-getter(s) will be selected to the roster. In such case, the roster shall consist of 10 players.

Once 10 players (or 11, if necessary) have made the team, the process will stop. The PA and ASC will then have each manager rank, in writing, all of the remaining nominated players in order from most to least deserving. The PA and ASC will collect the votes and create a single consolidated list of player rankings based on the lists submitted by managers. Each remaining player's highest and lowest ranking will be discarded.

#### B. Completing the Roster

The all-star manager will decide whether to carry 11, 12, 13 or 14 players on the team. The manager will then select those additional players from the list provided by the PA and ASC ranking the players who were not previously selected to the roster. If selecting one or two additional players, the manager must choose among the top four (4) ranked players. If selecting three additional players, the manager must choose among the top five (5) ranked players. If selecting four additional players, the manager must choose among the top six (6) ranked players.

After the team has been selected, if a player is injured or removed from the team for any reason, the manager will select a replacement from the consolidated ranked list consistent with the process above.

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<sup>4</sup> There is no need to revote if no players meet the required unanimity for the round considering the managers would simply regurgitate the same list of players in a subsequent revote. In such a case, their preferences are still honored but the required number of votes is simply reduced to ensure at least one player is selected.

## METHOD 2:

### A. Creating a Ranked List

The PA and ASC will have each manager rank, in writing, all of the nominated players in order from most to least deserving from the division in which the manager coached. The PA and ASC will collect the votes and create consolidated lists of player rankings based on the lists submitted by managers from each division. Each player's highest and lowest ranking will be discarded. In consultation with the all star manager, the ASC and PA will then merge the lists into a single, consolidated ranking. The merging process entails the ranked players from the lower division being slotted into the ranked list from the higher division where the all star manager deems most appropriate. A player's ranking relative to other players within his/her own division must remain intact.

The all-star manager will then decide whether to carry 11, 12, 13 or 14 players on the team. If selecting 11 or 12 players, the manager must select from top 14 ranked players. If selecting 13 players, the manager must select from the top 15 ranked players. If selecting 14 players, the manager must select from the top 16 ranked players.

## VII. ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

"PLAYING UP" - It is recommended that Executive Board approval should be required for a player to play on an all star team above his/her league age. It is strongly recommended that no player age 9 or lower be allowed to play up. It is also recommended that both of the conditions below be met in order to approve a player to play up:

- 1) The team the younger player is moved up to is expected to advance as far or farther in postseason play than the team corresponding to the player's league age; and
- 2) The younger player is expected to exceed the minimum play requirements.

In any event, the CLL Executive Board should make a final determination on the issue on a case-by-case basis based on what is best for Claremont Little League at large.

ALTERNATE PROCESS - In any divisions with a limited number of teams<sup>6</sup> - typically Juniors - the CLL Executive Board should decide whether to employ the process described above or institute a modified process. The alternate process should require the Division managers, Division Representative, ASC and PA to come to a consensus regarding the roster. It is recommended to use a ranking system similar to that

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<sup>6</sup> Defined as fewer than 5 teams.

implemented at the end of the process outlined above. The recommendations would then be presented to the Executive Board for final approval (and tie breaking, if needed).