

# Bylaws of the Greater Wildwood Little League

Adopted April 5, 2007

## ARTICLE I.

The following rules, regulations and procedures set forth are considered the bylaws of the Greater Wildwood Little League, herein referred to as “the league” or “local league.”

1. The bylaws of the league shall be adopted annually, and amended as needed, by the GWLL Board of Directors after review and revision.
2. All rules, regulations, policies and procedures herein must comply with the rules of Little League Baseball.
3. Where permitted by Little League Baseball, rules pertaining to baseball and softball may be modified to accommodate the local league. EXCEPTION: Mandates by Little League national headquarters.
4. This league shall operate a Tee-ball League, Minor League, Major League, Softball League, Junior League and Senior League.
5. When and if the Greater Wildwood Little League shall dissolve, all funds shall be turned over to the recreation departments of each municipality in the Wildwoods.

## ARTICLE II. : STATEMENT OF PURPOSES

### Section A General Purposes

1. To inspire youth regardless of race, creed or color. To practice the ideals of Sportsmanship, scholarship and physical fitness.
2. To bring youth closer together through the means of a common interest in Sportsmanship, scholarship, fellowship and athletic competition.
3. To encourage adults to behave in an exemplary manner when supervising youth.
4. To keep the welfare of the youth foremost and free from any adult compulsion for power and glory.

### Section B Specific Purposes

1. To promote safety first with controls over ages, equipment and behavior of adults, coaches, players and spectators.
2. To acquaint boys and girls with such fundamentals as throwing, hitting, batting, Fielding and of maintaining a sound physical, mental and moral condition.

## ARTICLE III: BOARD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. No bylaws affecting the way in which games are played in any league may take effect if the bylaw is adopted or changed during a current playing season, with the exception that the health, safety and welfare of players is at risk. Such changes, amendments or added bylaws will take effect the following playing season.
2. Any change in by-laws or league rules shall be brought up for discussion at a regular meeting and brought up for vote at the next regular meeting.
3. All Board members not present when the change is proposed and discussed shall be informed in writing of all proposed changes prior to the meeting when the proposed change is to be voted upon.
4. The president of the local league shall nominate, and the board shall approve, all coaches and managers, including T-ball, minor league, junior league, senior league and major league baseball and softball.
5. Prior to the nomination of managers and coaches, all names and applications of interested volunteers will be provided to the managers committee.
  - a. The managers committee will rely on a formalized standard of review, which may include (but is not limited to): past volunteer work or community involvement, manager/coach experience, familiarity with baseball, absence of complaints, availability of time, etc.;
  - b. The managers committee will provide the president with a list of recommendations, which she

or he may accept, reject or modify.

c. Prior to the presentation of coach/manager nominees by the president, the managers committee will present its findings and reveal its criteria for recommendation.

#### **ARTICLE IV: FIELD REGULATIONS**

1. There will be no climbing on backstops, fences or dugouts.
2. Home teams are responsible for lining the field. Visitors are responsible for storage of bases at the conclusion of the game.
3. Each team must have a parent work in the concession stand for games at Higbee Field or the scorer's/press box. The home team is responsible for having a parent work in the concession stand and the visiting team is responsible for a parent to work the scorer's/press box. No children will be permitted in the above area (s) without a parent or guardian. Under no circumstances will children be permitted to remain in the area without adult supervision.
4. Each league's coordinator should attempt to devise a schedule when the field will be available for practice. The initial schedule of times/days of practice implemented by the league coordinator shall determine use
5. In the event that two or more teams attempt to use an available field at the same time when the no team was scheduled for practice, the team that arrived first (a manager or coach present) has the right to use the field.
6. All managers, coaches, umpires and players will follow the regulations established in the GWLL Safety Manual.

#### **ARTICLE V: ALL-STAR or TOURNAMENT TEAMS**

1. All-star or tournament teams will be chosen by a poll of managers for each particular division. The top 10 players receiving the greatest number of votes will be given the option to play for an all-star/tournament team. The manager of that particular all-star team shall name the remaining two players from the list of candidates who received votes in manager polling.
2. The all-star or tournament managers' assignments will be made after approval by the board. The league president will solicit letters of interest from interested managers and present letters to an all-star/tournament committee.
3. The league shall have an all-star/tournament team committee comprised of coordinators from each league, managers of each league, and a board member familiar with the league. The committee shall develop a list of criteria for selection of the all-star or tournament team managers that includes, but is not limited to, experience, ability, availability and conduct on the field.
4. In the event that a player ceases to play for an all-star or tournament team, a player garnering votes from the original manager's poll will be selected by the all-star/tournament team manager.
5. League all-star or tournament teams will comply with regulations in the Little League Rule Book.

#### **ARTICLE VI COACHES AND OFFICIALS**

##### **Section A Manager/Coaching Requirements**

1. All coaching staff must be 18 years of age and be approved by the league board. Coaching staff includes the manager (head coach), coach (assistant) and scorekeeper (coach).
2. All managers and coaches must agree to and sign a code of conduct. Those refusing to do so will not be permitted to continue in their positions.
3. All coaching staff changes must be approved by the league board before the change becomes effective.
4. Each coach must show satisfactory character and sincerity of purpose to be a proper influence upon his team and players.

5. Each coach must attend a CPR or First Aid class offered by the league.
6. Each coach will abide by the following:
  - a. Refrain from criticizing players in front of spectators.
  - b. Never use profanity.
  - c. Accept decisions of officials on the field as being fair and called to the best of their ability.
  - d. Not permit players to re-enter the game after being badly bruised or injured.
  - e. All coaching staff must remain in the dugout until permitted to leave by an umpire time-out.
  - f. Refrain from running up the score at any time.
7. Any infraction of the above rules by the coaching staff or any other misconduct will be reported to the league board. The board and the umpire representative will hear complaints about umpires.
8. No one shall hold more than 1 manager/coach position at any given time.
9. Managers are responsible for the conduct of all players on his or her team.
10. Parents/spectators are expected to behave in a manner that reflects Little League sportsmanship. A parent who is abusive toward any manager or coach, umpire or player may be ejected from the field and surrounding areas by an umpire.
11. Any manager or coach ejected from three or more games during a single regular season forfeits his or her rights and abilities to continue in that position. A manager or coach ejected from one game will be penalized according to official Little League rules. A second ejection will result in suspension of two games.
12. Discipline of a manager or coach shall be subject to the following process: the managers' committee of the local league must receive a complaint, signed and in writing, from a witness to the event. This includes, but is not limited to, players, umpires, parents, board members. The manager or coach shall be provided a letter denoting the nature of the complaint and stating the time and place of a meeting of the managers' committee, which will be held within one week of the date the complaint was received. After an investigation of the complaint, the managers committee will make a recommendation to the entire board at its next meeting or special meeting for disciplinary action.
13. If ejected from a game, a coach or manager may not attempt to communicate with his or her team, through cell phone, walkie talkie, or any other electronic device or messenger.
14. The local league board shall establish a Protest Committee, which may not include any manager or coach.
15. Each manager shall be provided with a copy of GWLL bylaws.
16. Each manager shall provide players with a copy of the game schedule and, if permissible, practice schedule. Players must notify managers when not able to attend a practice or a game. Repeated unexcused absences from practices or games must be reported to the league president by the manager. The president shall contact the player's parents or guardians to warn of consequences of further absences.
17. Managers should be familiar with the little league rules for baseball/softball.
18. Managers must wait, or designate a coach or another adult volunteer in his or her stead, to remain at the field until all players have been picked up from practices or games.

#### Section B Game Umpire

1. The league president, with the approval of the board of directors, shall appoint all league umpires.
2. All plate umpires must be at least 18 years old.
3. All field umpires that are of minor age must present a league volunteer form that is co-signed by a parent or guardian.
3. At least 1 umpire will be present at each game.
4. Umpires are requested to report misconduct of players, coaches and fans to the league board and chief umpire.

## **ARTICLE VII: LEAGUE RULES**

### **Section A Rules**

1. The play week runs from Monday-Sunday.
2. All games must be played as scheduled unless the weather or field conditions will not permit play.
3. Before the umpire takes control of the game. The League president can cancel the game due to weather or unsafe field conditions. All games must be made up with in the week.
4. The umpire is responsible for keeping spectators off the playing field.
5. Only team members and coaching staff are permitted in the dugout.
6. The umpire has the right to call the game and render a decision if fans of one or both teams are acting in an unsportsmanlike manner.
7. A team will not refuse to play on a scheduled field unless the umpire decides the field is unsafe.
8. When a player is injured, at least one team or league official will accompany the player to the hospital if a parent is not available.
9. All coaches MUST attend a pre-season meeting.
10. All managers and coaches must follow the schedule handed out. The only cancelled or rescheduled games are done because of weather, poor field conditions, or a school-related activity. There is no exception to this rule. Anyone who doesn't follow this rule will be suspended from attending the next scheduled game. NO EXCEPTION

### **Section B League Requirements**

1. No new players can be added to replace a lost player after the draft without player agent approval.
2. A maximum of 15 children will comprise a Little League team with board approval.
3. All new softball players are required to attend 1 of the 2 days of scheduled try-outs.
4. All new Little League players ages 11 & 12 are required to attend 1 of 2 days of scheduled tryouts.
5. At no time shall a team have on its roster more than 6 players whose league age is 12.
6. Age requirements shall conform to official Little League rules.

## **ARTICLE VII: SCHEDULES**

### **Section A Practices**

1. Team managers will comply with any practices schedule designed by their respective coordinator.
2. No pre-season games until after one week of practice has taken place.
3. The number of practices will be determined by the team manager and will not exceed the following:
  - a. There must be a minimum of 1 practice per week.
  - b. The Board shall reserve the right to limit practices depending upon the availability of practice area.
  - c. The Board shall designate approved practice areas

### **Section B Games**

1. The player agent or league coordinator will draw up a playing schedule on a home and away basis.
2. Each manager will be given a copy of the schedule prior to the start of the season.
3. The home team is listed on the right side of the schedule.
4. The visiting team shall sit in the right (parallel to Atlantic Avenue) side dugout, adjacent to the concession stand. The home team shall sit in the left side dugout (parallel to Aster Road).

## **ARTICLE VIII: SOFTBALL**

1. All teams shall play a schedule that consists of 12 games. All games on the schedule will be played, regardless of playoff standings.
2. Games may only be rescheduled in the event of rain or other unfavorable weather or field conditions; or a school-related activity.

3. The manager of the home team for the originally scheduled game is responsible for notifying the softball coordinator of the change, and the rescheduled date.
4. The softball coordinator or president will be responsible for umpire arrangements for all rescheduled games.
5. The maximum amount of runs a team may score in any inning is limited to 5 runs, except in the sixth (final) inning.
6. Playing positions shall consist of pitcher, catcher, first baseman, second baseman, third baseman, shortstop, short field, left field, right field, center field.
7. Each player will play at least two innings defensively and there will be a continuous batting order for all regular season games.
8. During playoffs and World Series games, rule will be according to the Little League softball rule book: The 10-run rule will apply. It will be mandatory for each player to have 2 innings in field and one at bat.

#### **ARTICLE IX: BASEBALL**

1. All teams shall play a schedule that consists of a minimum of 14 games. All games on the schedule will be played, regardless of playoff standings.
2. Games may only be rescheduled in the event of rain or other unfavorable weather or field conditions; or a school-related activity. In the event of rain, poor field conditions, lightning, etc., the game umpire will make the decision on whether the game will be played.
3. The manager of the home team for the originally scheduled game is responsible for notifying the baseball coordinator of the change, and the rescheduled date.
4. The baseball coordinator will be responsible for contacting the chief umpire to make umpire arrangements for all rescheduled games.
5. A two-hour time limit be imposed on all games. No new inning may start after two hours have passed since the start of the game.
6. All baseball managers are responsible for filling out and signing the Pitcher Eligibility Tracking Form at the conclusion of each game. The form will be kept in the concession stand.

#### **ARTICLE X: PENALTIES**

- ANY TEAM VIOLATING ANY PART OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE GREATER WILDWOOD LITTLE LEAGUE WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN BY THE LEAGUE BOARD AS THEY DEEM NECESSARY, AFTER AN OFFICIAL HEARING.
- THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR A MANAGER, COACH, OR SCOREKEEPER IS IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL FROM THE LEAGUE.
- THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR A TEAM IS A FORFEIT OF THE GAME (S) DURING WHICH THE INFRACTION (S) TOOK PLACE.
- THE MINIMUM PENALTY FOR A MANAGER, COACH, SCOREKEEPER OR TEAM IS A VERBAL WARNING FOR AN INFRACTION.