



LAKE WORTH YOUTH ASSOCIATION

BASEBALL STANDING RULES

*Revised & Adopted as of 3/7/2023

Mission Statement

It is the purpose of the Lake Worth Youth Association, Inc. (LWYA) to provide organized baseball to all children in our area who want a chance to play and to give each of those children an opportunity to gain self-confidence, learn teamwork and sportsmanship and learn the fundamental of each of the sports listed above.

Conduct Code

Managers, coaches, players, parents and spectators are expected to behave in a sportsmanlike manner. They shall not use abusive language, alcohol, and tobacco or illegal drugs while representing the LWYA in a baseball game. Anyone abusing the rules of conduct may be removed from the game and/or park grounds or dismissed from team play or forfeit that game. Anyone abusing these expectations may also be suspended from future games. Also see Section 15 Conduct & Section 16 Discipline, LWYA's Bylaws.

Application To Coach or Volunteer

All Coaches and Volunteer will be required to complete a form online www.lwya.info located under tab "Forms" "Registration" "Application To Coach or Volunteer" fill out form and "submit form" and "checkout" and then email as listed on the form a copy of their State Approved ID for a criminal background check.

Division Age Appropriateness

Players shall be of appropriate age for their team as listed in the "PONY Baseball League Age Key". Player's age prior to May 1st of the current year.

Head coaches shall be a minimum of 18 years of age (Business Manager must be at least 21 years of age). Managers and Coaches must be in good standing with the Association in order to be considered and pass a criminal background check.

Pony Rules

All teams shall play by “Pony Rules and Regulations” except where changes have been noted in the “LWYA Baseball Standing Rules”

Selection of Managers for Both Seasons of Play

Managers shall be assigned to a team in this order by the commissioner of that sport. That Commissioner will take into consideration a manager with the most coaching experience during this process of assigning a manager to the teams. To be either a returning coach or a moving up coach they must have a minimum of 5 players. A first time manager will not be eligible to coach all-stars unless the other manager(s) decline to coach the all-star season. They may be selected to assist coach the team if ask to by manager.

1st Managers returning to that division of play;
2nd Managers moving up from the division below; then
3rd New Managers:

Team Structure

Protected players are those whose parent, stepparent, grandparent, aunt, uncle or other relatives of the manager or coaching staff will be considered a “Protected Player” if request by Manager. And players who played most recent prior season(s) with a team and have not been dropped and/or released (in writing) back into the draft by the Manager to whom they are protected to. These players will automatically return to that Team (15 player maximum). We Do Not Accept Ride Share Protects except with board approval

Parent/guardian may in writing request a manager, if the manager accepts the request that player will be consider a protected player from draft.

Parent/guardian may in writing request a release, if manager accepts that release the player will be released and is not protected from draft.

If a manager does not return to coach in a division and one of the returning assistant coaches wishes to coach as the manager, the commissioner of that sport may assign them as the manager for those returning players.

A Manager with a whole team of 10 or more players may request to play for LWYA and that team will be considered protected from draft. These players will be eligible for all-star play however the manager will not be eligible to manage the all-star team for their first year with LWYA but, will be eligible to assist coach the team if ask to by manager.

The Draft

The Commissioner will provide a typed list to each manager of all players signed up by the draft date to include protected players and to which manager they are protected, considering there is more than one team.

Manager with the lowest number of players will have the first draft choice. After the first pick, the coaches will alternate picks until rosters are complete and all players have been assigned to a team. In addition, each Manager may have their first assistance coach present during the voting to consult with on player selections.

All players **not** signed up by the draft date will be assigned to a team by the Commissioner in accordance with the team which in the draft would have had the next draft pick unless that manager inserts a pass then the player will be assigned to the next manager in drafting order until assigned to a team.

Shetland and Pinto need a minimum of 13 players (If applicable) and shall not exceed 15.

Mustang, Bronco, Pony need not exceed 12 players. (If applicable)

Any team may pick-up additional players if their number of players drops below 10. However, during spring, the player picked up might not be eligible for all-star play depending on if they were registered with Pony at the start of the spring season.

Coaches Responsibilities

Each coach, as a representative of LWYA is expected to be responsible for their actions toward players, parents, umpires and league officials. Each coach's objective should be to teach each player, teamwork, sportsmanship and the fundamentals of baseball. Mutual respect is expected between players and coaches. During any team event, profanity, abusive language or any other verbal or physical maltreatment of players will not be tolerated and is subject to disciplinary action as described in LWYA By-Laws. The Manager is responsible for notifying the Commissioner as soon as possible to any injuries, safety concerns or issues that could cause player harm. The manager should also be present at the majority of games and practices, if the commitment cannot be kept, the manager may be removed or demoted by the commissioner.

The Manager with the first game is responsible for making sure the field is setting up correctly for that league age of play to include: Placing the base and pitching rubber at correct distances, (Note – even a late game may be the first game played.) picking up the trash inside and outside the field area at the end of your game. The Manager that has the last game of the day is

responsible for picking up and putting up all equipment (chalkier) that is remaining on the fields. All managers shall pick up the trash inside and outside the field area at the end of their game.

The Manager is to select that team's coaching staff and submit to the Board your selection for approval and criminal background check.

Player's playtime shall be at least ½ of the scheduled game time. If a player does not get ½ of the scheduled game, that player shall start the following game and play at least ½ of the time limit. Failure to comply with this rule could become cause to forfeit the game or suspend the coach for repeats. Commissioner must be notified 24 hours prior to involuntary removal of player from line up or "Benching" of any player. Removal of players from game play for attendance reasons must have prior written board approval for all age groups. If a coach wishes to bench or remove a player for breaking the code of conduct, the commissioner must be notified. If a coach wishes to have a player removed from the team, the commissioner must be notified and will be taken to the board of directors for review.

The Home Team will be responsible for furnishing the official scorekeeper. The Visiting Team will be responsible for furnishing the scoreboard operator. The Manager of any player pitched game will submit player pitching stats to the Commissioner within 24 hours of completion of the game. Failure to turn in stats will be grounds for disciplinary action.

Teams wishing to wear attire other than what is league provided must submit uniform design to Commissioner and have it approved prior to placing any order regardless of who purchases uniform. Uniform must also be visually approved by the Commissioner once received and prior to wearing in any team event.

Player's Responsibilities

Maximum effort should be made by players to attend practice. If practices are repeatedly missed without notification via a phone call, text message or email to the Coach, then the Coach may take playing time away. The rules regarding attendance must be the same for all players on the team regardless of the player's talent level.

All players are required to participate in the Association's fundraisers and make their best efforts to raise money to offset the operational cost.

Spectator Responsibilities

You must remain off the field of the play at all times, unless the Umpire or Manager requests your presence for a player injury and only after the Umpire calls a time out. In addition, spectators shall remain away from dugouts unless requested by coaching staff. No conflicts

between spectators and coaching staff will be tolerated during games. Failure to comply may result in a spectator being ejected from the game and/or the park.

Selection of a Manager for All Star Play

All Managers considered as an All Star Manager must be in good standings with LWYA to be considered for management of an All Star Team. First time coaches may not be considered for manager unless the other manager declines to coach the All-star team.

All Star Manager for that league age is to be selected by:

1st Managers with the best win/loss record of just LWYA games.

2nd If 1st Manager doesn't wish to participate, then next best win/loss record of just LWYA games.

3rd If 2nd Manager doesn't wish to participate, then next best win/loss record of just LWYA games.

This selection is to take place at the end of the regular season.

The Manager shall select their First Assistant Coach and the Business Manager for Mustang up and one additional Second Assistant Coach for T-Ball and Pinto. The Business Manager must be 21 years of age; all others must be 18 years of age.

Selection of All Star Players

The first place Manager shall be responsible for communicating to the Baseball Commissioner their intent to take the All Star team to All Star Play or pass it down to next Manager in line, see "Selection of a Manager for All Star Play".

The Manager chosen by the Baseball Commissioner to take the All Star team shall obtain a list of players from the other Managers to be considered for selection to the All Star team. It is recommended that the All Star Manger review and discuss these player considerations with the other Mangers/Assistants.

The All Star Manger must select at least twelve (12) eligible players from the players that played for our association; obtain birth certificates, signed medical releases proved by LWYA and provide a copy to the Baseball Commissioner for approval. Alternates are highly recommended along with birth certificates, signed medical releases. It is recommended to have at least fourteen (14) eligible players listed on your paperwork.

It is the responsibility of the All Star Manager to notify the players/parents whom made the team and set up a parent meeting to discuss the added cost of uniforms and tournament fees as these costs can go as high as \$1,000 per player and require a lot of road travel and time commitment from parents and players alike. Notifying the players whom did not make the team is Managers option.

All Star uniforms are the responsibility of each All Star team to order and pay for. LWYA can provide a list of companies we use.

It is highly recommended each Manager watch at least three (3) games to evaluate players from the other teams and those games should not include the games where you are playing that team.