

Calhoun County Little League Bylaws 2024-2025



P.O BOX 1369 Port Lavaca, Texas 77979 Tax ID 74-2271576

Section 1- The League

- a. Calhoun County Little League shall hereafter be referred to as CCLL.
- b. All amendments to the bylaws, rules, or policies of CCLL must be passed by a majority of the present Board of Directors at any general meeting.
- c. The latest version of the updated bylaws will be presented to the board of directors for a vote and adoption during the annual board meeting prior to the upcoming spring season.
- d. The CCLL fiscal year is September 1st to August 31st.
- e. The International Little League Rulebook is the governing set of official organizational rules. CCLL Bylaws cannot supersede the LL Rulebook. The bylaws are meant to supplement, clarify, or detail league-specific rules and operations where the LL Rulebook either allows local options or is lacking clarification.
- f. CCLL shall be organized into the following leagues to provide a system in which youth of proper league age may play organized baseball or softball.
 - o Major League will consist of one or two division(s) with intra-league play determined by the Board of Directors.
 - o Minor League will consist of one or two division(s) with intra-league play determined by the Board of Directors.
 - o Peewee League (Coach Pitch) will consist of one or two divisions(s) with intra-league play determined by the Board of Directors.
 - o Tee Ball League will consist of one division with intra-league play determined by the Board of Directors.
 - o Challenger League will consist of one division with intra-league play determined by the Board of Directors.
 - o The Junior/Senior League will consist of one division with intra-league play determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2 - League Boundaries

- a. Anyone who is between the ages of 4 and 16 (consult International Little League age chart), and residing or attending school within the boundaries of Calhoun County will be able to participate in CCLL. Always consult International LL Regulations for specifics that govern a player's residence and age eligibility.
- b. Any member of the Board of Directors may request a player's proof of residency or age verification, for any reason.

Section 3 - The Teams

- a. Teams will be formed in each league according to the registration collected before the draft. Due to field availability, the total number of teams in any given year may be limited. Leagues may have multiple divisions based on annual enrollment (ex. Peewee may be 7-8 year olds combined or split into 7s and 8s depending on the amount of those registered). Minor League (Minor, Peewee, Tee Ball), and Major League teams shall consist of a maximum of 12 players.
- b. For divisions with combined ages (ex. Minors 7-9 year olds), at no time shall a team have on its roster more than 8 players of any age group (assuming equal distribution of registered players between the age groups). If a disproportionate number of registered players are of one age, then there shall be at least 3 players from each age division on a team. A 'play-up' player (ex. 8-year-old playing up into Minors 7-9 years old) counts towards the lower age group.
- c. For more specifics on 'Teams', refer to the International Little League Regulation III.

Section 4 - Players

- a. The Major League shall consist of players between the league age of 10 and 12. All 12-year-old players are required to play on a Major League team and cannot 'play down' unless approved by the Board of Directors and by the District Administrator.
- b. The Minor League organization shall consist of players between league ages 7 and 9.
- c. The Peewee (Coach Pitch) League shall consist of players whose league ages are between 5 and 7.
- d. 'Play-up' players (ones requesting to play in a division higher than their age) are discussed further in Section 13(f).
- e. The Tee Ball League shall consist of players whose league ages are 4 and 5.

- f. The Junior/Senior League shall consist of players whose league ages are 13 to 16.
- g. The Challenger League shall consist of players whose league ages are 6 to 22 with special needs.
- h. For more specifics on 'Players', refer to International Little League Regulation IV.

Section 5 - Games

- a. Please refer to the International LL Rulebook, and CCLL Ground Rules for all regulations pertaining to games.

Section 6 - Managers

- a. Managers are responsible for any action their team or fans take during the game.
- b. Managers or coaches may not participate in any Little League activity while under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or any other intoxicating substances. The umpire and a member of the Board of Directors will make the decision of sobriety.
- c. All coaches and managers will be selected at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will review and approve the final selection of all managers and head coaches of all leagues. All managers, head coaches, and assistant head coaches are responsible for learning the official Little League Rules and CCLL Bylaws.
- d. All managers and head coaches automatically resign at the end of the regular season and must reapply for the position the following year.
- e. All managers, assistant coaches, and team moms of a team must complete LL International training protocol and courses prior to the beginning of practice. (Abuse Awareness Certification & JDP Background Check)
- f. Coaching and Directors clinics may be scheduled at the discretion of the Board of Directors. All managers and head coaches may be required to attend.
- g. All managers and head coaches must remain in the dugout during the play of the game (except when acting as base coaches). If during play a manager or coach not on base exits the dugout, the umpire will immediately halt play by calling time. The proper approach for a coach or manager is to ask for time to be called prior to leaving the dugout.

Section 7 - Disciplinary Action

- a. Any disciplinary action taken against a coach or manager will be made by a nominated Disciplinary Committee.
- b. An appointment of a Disciplinary Committee will be made when a conflict with a player or manager arises at the selection of the Safety Officer, to be approved by the board.
- c. Any coach or manager who is ejected from a game or determined to behave in a manner of serious misconduct determined by the field supervising board member will automatically be suspended from their team's next physically played game and must immediately leave the field where the game is being held and may not sit in the stands. Generally, this should be interpreted to mean the manager or coach should not be on CCLL property while the game is in progress.
- d. A second offense will result in the suspension of the manager or coach for an indefinite time pending a review by the Disciplinary Action Committee or reinstatement by the Board of Directors. The second offense should be considered a very serious matter and removal of the offender from their position will be considered.
- e. Any disciplinary action taken against a player by the manager or coach will be done only with the approval of CCLL. The manager is required to warn the player and his/her parents prior to seeking disciplinary action. Written records of discussions concerning disciplinary issues must be kept.
- f. Any special team rules involving discipline that a manager wishes to use must be approved by the Board of Directors and issued in writing to the parents prior to placing the rule into effect.
- g. Any member of the Board of Directors may ask a player, manager, coach, parent, umpire, or spectator on Little League property to immediately leave the premises, should the situation warrant such action.
- h. Repeated violations of any rule by a manager, coach, player, or spectator will be forwarded to the Board of Directors for action. Disciplinary action shall be handled according to the severity of the infraction and not limited to full and complete termination of membership association with CCLL.
- i. Abusive behavior and foul language toward umpires, players, managers, coaches, board members, or fans will not be tolerated in any way and will be dealt with by the Board of Directors. Managers are reminded that they are ultimately responsible for the behavior of their coaches, players, parents, and spectators. Incidents should be reported to the League President as soon as possible. An ejection of a player, parent, or spectator may also include the manager being ejected as well.
- j. Spectators, parents, managers, coaches, and/or players of one team shall NOT yell, strike, swing, or make other remarks towards players of the opposing team or umpire. Stomping feet, cadence counting and clapping hands for the obvious intent of distracting the other team will NOT be permitted. The umpires and field supervising board members have the

right to rule on any noise they feel is distracting. Noise makers such as bells, sirens, whistles, boom boxes, etc. are NOT permitted.

NOTE: Walk up music is permitted but must be deemed appropriate.

Section 8 - Umpires

- a. CCLL and the Umpire-In-Chief (UIC) shall be responsible for providing umpires either by assigning paid umpires, volunteer umpires, or requiring CCLL teams to provide umpires as designated by the League Director.
- b. An umpire's decision, which involves judgment, is final. No protest of a judgment call will be considered.
- c. Each umpire has the authority to eject any player, coach, or manager from the playing field and/or premises for objecting to an umpire's decision in an inappropriate manner, including unsportsmanlike conduct or abusive language.
- d. The local league will attempt to provide two (2) umpires per game for Peewee (Coach Pitch), Minor and Major League games. Umpires are not required for Tee Ball games. If for some reason there are not enough umpires for each league to have two (2) umpires per game, then the highest age league will be re-assigned two (2) umpires. A volunteer (that has had a background check processed) can be the base umpire for any division except if they are associated with that division. Ex: You cannot umpire for the game your child plays in.
- e. Umpires will be issued a shirt, belt, and clicker prior to the start of the season. Lost or misplaced items issued after the first set can be provided at cost.
- f. The UIC is responsible for making sure all umpires know the International LL Rules and CCLL Bylaws.

Section 9 - Field Maintenance

- a. Each team, league directors, and board members are required to attend scheduled "work days" at their league's playing field upon the request of the league director. One adult representing each team must attend a workday. It is suggested that this duty be rotated among the parents of the players so as not to burden the manager and coach with this responsibility solely. Failure to comply with this rule could result in disciplinary action against the manager and head coach including a one game suspension and consideration for future manager or coaching positions.
- b. League Directors and managers/coaches are encouraged to help on workdays by maintaining and cleaning the fields that they play on.

Section 10 - Concession Stand

- a. The concession stand is under the operation of the Concessions Stand Director with the assistance of all The Board Members. The Board of Directors may elect to operate the concession stands using volunteers or paid coordinator and workforce or lease the operation on a sealed bid basis.
- b. If the Board of Directors elects to lease the operation, at least two bids will be required, and the best bid will be awarded the lease for the forthcoming season unless special circumstances arise, or the bids do not meet the minimum requirements.
- c. If the Board of Directors elects to have the concession stand operated by volunteers during the season, a schedule will be made following the release of games' schedules.
- d. Each team will be required to submit a list of commitments volunteers prior to the start of the season (only those who have submitted background checks and completed LL training requirements). Volunteer shifts will be scheduled between 5:30 PM to 9:30 PM with 6 volunteers present each shift.
- e. Failure to meet these requirements, or to get coverage through high school volunteers, board members, or rescheduling with another team within 48 hours prior to a volunteer shift may result in disciplinary action of the team manager or coach.
- f. A \$200.00 concession buy-out is available for teams that cannot, or do not want to participate in the scheduled volunteer concession duties. Notice to a Board Member of buy-out must be given 48 hours prior to volunteer shift.
- g. A board member must be present in the concession stand at all times during open hours 5:30 PM to 9:30 PM. A concession schedule will be released for teams, and board members for the entire season prior to opening games.

Section 11 - Scorekeeping and Announcing

- a. The Umpire in Chief (UIC) is responsible for making sure all scorekeepers know the LL International Rules, CCLL Bylaws, CCLL Ground Rules for that division, and that the score book is returned to the umpire room upon game completion.

Section 12 - Game Preparation and Clean-up

Both teams will work together to see that the playing field is ready to begin play and cleaned up following the game. As a guideline the following assignments have been made; however, both teams should assist each other to perform the activities necessary

regardless of the assignments. Pre-game activities shall be completed 10 minutes prior to the start of the first scheduled game. The Board of Directors will have access to lighting and scoreboards.

- a. The home team will perform the following assignments:
 - Mark the field and perform any necessary field maintenance.
 - Install their team's communications equipment to the official book.
 - Clean out their dugout and bleacher area after the game
 - (If necessary) keep scorebook and sign the scorebook/pitch log after the game e. Put away any checked-out equipment (ex: chalk box, templates, racks, pitching machine & scorebox)
 - Provide an official scorekeeper (if necessary).
- b. The visiting team will perform the following assignments:
 - a. Rake and water the field after the game.
 - b. Install their team's communications equipment to the scoreboard.
 - c. Clean out their dugout and bleacher area after the game
 - d. (If necessary) keep the pitch log and sign the pitch log/scorebook after the game e. Put away any checked-out equipment (ex: chalk box, templates, racks, pitching machine & scorebox)
- c. In addition to this, teams will have access to the batting cages prior to the game on a first come first serve basis.

Section 13 - Player Draft

- A. CCLL will use a Total Re-draft alternate method.
- B. No players shall be registered after the scheduled Draft Day of that year's playing season.
- C. The draft will follow the SNAKE DRAFT format, oldest to youngest as described below (9).
- D. Managers drafting order will be at random from a hat pick.
- E. No draft requests: (Parents may request that their child not be drafted by a coach or manager)
 1. All requests must identify the Coach/Manager by name and must provide a specific reason(s) for the request. Requests will be reviewed by the Board, who will only honor in good faith, reasonable and legitimate requests. The requests will remain confidential.
 2. If a manager or coach of record has 5 or more non-coaching requests, his right to coach will be forfeited for the season. This can be brought to the Executive Board for appeal if the Manager or Coach deems appropriate.
- E. Personnel allowed in draft rooms: One Coach or Manager from a team is allowed to be present during the Majors, Minors, Tee Ball and Coach Pitch draft. In the event that the Coach or Manager is unavailable for the draft, a fill-in person must be approved beforehand by the director.
- F. Play-ups: Any player choosing to participate in a higher division than their league age MUST do the following (this does not apply to coach holds):
 - a. Be within one (1) year of division he/she is requesting to play up into. EXAMPLE: League age 8 may play up to Minors division but league age 9 CANNOT play up to Majors 11-12.
 1. Request to play up during registration via written communication to Player Agent.
 2. Play-up players must be drafted by round 9.
- G. Sibling Option:
 1. Siblings that are of league age in the same division, are required to be on the same team unless parental permission allows a split of siblings. These siblings MUST be drafted in back-to-back rounds.
 2. How sibling play-ups are handled will be based on a vote by the Player Agent, division managers & coaches, assigned board members, and assigned divisions coordinators (collectively referred to as Draft Committee), if one is elected, during a discussion immediately preceding the draft.
 - i. If a majority of the Draft Committee agree that the play-up sibling is a round 5 pick or better, the manager MUST select the younger sibling by round 5 if they choose the older sibling.
 - ii. If the majority of the Draft Committee agree that the play-up sibling is NOT a round 5 pick or better, the manager that selects the older sibling HAS THE OPTION to choose the younger sibling by round 9. If not selected by round 9, the player is sent back down to the normal division.
 - iii. If the play-up sibling is picked before the older sibling, the siblings are required to be drafted in back-to-back rounds.
- H. Coach Hold:
 - a. The following applies only to coach holds during the draft. For all other children this drafting rule does not apply. The coach's child(ren) or family member(s), if the only child(ren) they have on the team, must be drafted within the appropriate rounds and are protected until that round has passed.

1. Majors, Minors, and Peewee (Coach Pitch) Divisions: are allowed one coach hold. The only exception is if a single coach has two or three children in the same division, then they must be selected in rounds 1-3.
2. In accordance with the Sibling rule (15.7), sibling coach holds CANNOT be split up and must be declared as the exception two to three coach holds.
3. TeeBall Divisions: are allowed three coach holds.

b. Coach holds must be selected by round(s) according to the following: Must be selected in the 2nd and 3rd round.

I. Snake Draft Image Example:

| TEAM | ROUND 1 | ROUND 2 | ROUND 3 | ROUND 4 | ROUND 5 | ROUND 6 | ROUND 7 |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| TEAM A | Pick 1 | Pick 10 | 11 | 20 | 21 | 30 | 31 |
| TEAM B | Pick 2 | Pick 9 | 12 | 19 | 22 | 29 | 32 |
| TEAM C | Pick 3 | Pick 8 | 13 | 18 | 23 | 28 | 33 |
| TEAM D | Pick 4 | Pick 7 | 14 | 17 | 24 | 27 | 34 |
| TEAM E | Pick 5 | Pick 6 | 15 | 16 | 25 | 26 | 35 |

Trading and Releasing Players

J. Trading of drafted players will be allowed in a 10-minute window immediately following the draft with the approval of the Player Agent, Coaching Coordinator, Division Coordinator and both Managers. All trades must be completed before anyone leaves the facility. After that time, no further trades will be allowed unless approved by the Board of Directors and Player Agent.

K. No player that is a hat pick is eligible for trades.

L. No sibling option is available for trades once placed on a team. TeeBall Divisions (including Junior TBall) No tryouts will be held for TeeBall divisions.

M. CCLL will use Plan C-Blind draft method for TeeBall divisions: The draft will follow the SNAKE DRAFT format (15.10) and (15.3)

N. Trading and Releasing players: Only one trade per team is allowed.

O. Head Coach and one Assistant Coach's players are protected for Rounds 1-2.

Section 14 - All-Stars

The All-Star Season is a completely separate season from the regular season. It is an opportunity for a significantly higher level of play within the regional Little League system. Players will have a significantly higher level of commitment, and will receive a higher level of instruction, and will compete against other All-Star teams.

When it comes to All-Star teams, it is the intent of the CCLL Board to field a team that will best represent our league in competition and character. CCLL believes that it is important that the process be transparent and fair to all kids.

- a. All players in good standing are eligible for their respective age group All- Star teams. For those that are not selected for the team the details regarding their candidacy shall be held in the strictest of confidence and remain private. All selection decisions regarding All-Star teams need to be made with these Board approved ideals in mind.
- b. Several characteristics permeate our selection process for players and managers for the All-Star team. These include: skill-level and ability to compete, attitude, hustle, team spirit, team leadership, and overall character, integrity, and sportsmanship.

Team Definitions & Age Groups

CCLL has several post-season teams. 'All-Stars' are the traditional teams affiliated with Little League and consist of the best players in the age groups 10U, 11U, and 12U. For age groups that do not have an LL all-star team, CCLL fields teams that play in local post-season tournaments. This is also the case for the 10U-12U age groups where there are sufficient players to make more than one team.

As a general rule, players will be on the team of their age group. Play-ups will be discouraged that will require CCLL Board approval after careful consideration of what is good for all post-season teams. This is aligned with the goal of the CCLL All-Stars

program to develop a winning culture. The only exception that does not require board approval is players that were division play-ups in the regular season. This would be a 6-year-old playing in Coach Pitch, and 8-year-old playing in Minors, or a 10-year-old playing in Majors.

General Selection Process, Timing & Commitment

The All-Stars team selection process is strictly governed by the International Little League. Other post-season team selection processes are not. CCLL starts the post-season team selection process (including All-Stars teams) in April. Postseason practices will generally begin late April, even though the All-Star team cannot be announced any earlier than is prescribed by International Little League rules each year, usually mid May. Practices usually run 2 to 3 hours per day and can be (this is at the discretion of the manager) up to 7 days a week. The All-Star Tournaments typically begin the third week of June. The other post-season tournaments typically begin in late May or early June.

Players who are selected to participate in the program are expected to attend all practice sessions and games unless they have received permission from the manager for a valid reason such as illness, injury, family crisis. Once a child is chosen for the All-Star team, one of their parents or guardians will be asked to sign a commitment form indicating their understanding and agreement with the commitment. A child who cannot meet this commitment because of repeated absences may be removed from the team at the request of the manager, with the Board of Directors approval.

Post-Season Team Manager Selection

Any Major/Minor League manager, head coach, or assistant coach in CCLL and in good standing shall be eligible for the position of managing an All-star team. Any Major/Minor/Coach Pitch League manager, head coach, or assistant coach in CCLL and in good standing shall be eligible for the position of managing any other post-season team. Only those managers and head coaches who have not received any disciplinary action against them by the Board are eligible. Interested candidates for these positions shall notify the League Director in writing no later than the deadline set forth by the Board of Directors (around April 1). Notification shall specify which team (7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12) the candidate is interested in managing.. The manager shall be selected by the Board of Directors by way of a private, written vote. Unlike in past years, managers will not be selected until after rosters are finalized. All coaches will be asked to participate in the player selection process. Selected managers must submit their coaching staff to the Board of Directors for their approval prior to the beginning of practice.

Post-Season Team Player Selection

The process for selecting post-season teams will involve several steps. Each interested player will submit their name for consideration by completing the All-Star Commitment Form. Anyone may nominate a player for an All-Star team. All All-Star nomination forms are due to the director before All-Star selection.

Balloting

Any players who have indicated interest in being considered for post-season team voting shall be placed on the ballot as a candidate. This involves submitting a signed eligibility /release /commitment form, typically administered by the managers in early-April. Every manager will solicit all of the players on their team to identify those that are interested in having their name considered for the ballots. Every player that completes a commitment/eligibility form will have their name placed on the ballots as eligible for the post-season teams.

Coach Input & Voting

All coaches in a division will be asked for their input on the candidates. In the past years, this was done in a few different ways. The ballot may be sent to all coaches for voting. In addition, managers and coaches in a division that are interested in having input into the postseason selection process may be asked to attend a meeting where players are discussed then voted on. In either case, up to half of the roster may be decided by this method. Pursuant to the approval of the CCLL Board, the top 6 vote getters receiving more than 2/3 of the total ballots can be placed on the roster of the corresponding post-season team.

Tryouts & Evaluations

When deemed necessary, CCLL Board of Directors may call for tryouts to manage issues surrounding fielding the most competitive team(s).

Final Team Configurations

Manager candidates, assigned board members, and assigned division coordinators (collectively referred to as All-Star Committee) will meet together to determine the final roster of players. Players are evaluated on multiple criteria including the player's performance, attitude, sportsmanship and teamwork. The team is completed on the basis of these criteria and on the needs of the All-Star team (i.e. will there be an adequate number of catchers and pitchers as well as other key positions). Once the All-Star Committee has completed their deliberations, the final recommended slate of players for each team is submitted to the board and President for final approval. The CCLL President (or board representative) shall be involved in the Committee deliberations and shall make the final decision to accept the Committee recommended roster on behalf of the CCLL Board, unless the President feels that there is sufficient enough reason to call for a Board meeting to resolve an issue.

Confidentiality & Oversight

The process and meetings are facilitated by the League President and assisted by the Player Agent. The selection result (number of votes, selection order, etc.) and Committee Deliberations about the prospective players are strictly confidential.

Player Notification

Players for the other post-season teams will be notified as soon as possible following the final roster decisions. The All-Star Team managers are asked to notify all team members as promptly as possible on May 15th (this date is subject to change according to the current year's Little League Tournament Dates). Players not chosen will be notified of those players as soon as possible following the announcement of the roster.

Section 15 - Practice

- a. Please refer to International Little League Rules for specifics on age group weekly practice time limits.
- b. Practice may commence only after all managers and assistant coaches of a team have completed LL International training protocol (Abuse Awareness Certification & JDP Background Check).
- c. Weekend practice sessions may be held but must be strictly optional and without any disciplinary consequences for lack of attendance.
- d. Practice sessions over spring break may be held but must be strictly optional and without any disciplinary consequences for lack of attendance. Practice sessions on other generally accepted holidays should be avoided. Limit the practice sessions held during STAAR testing days. Practice on these days must be completed by 8:00 PM.

Section 16 - Rules

- a. All coaches/managers please reference CCLL ground rules given for each individual division.

Section 17 - Board Member Conduct

- a. The Board of Directors can discipline, suspend, or terminate the membership of any member, including board members, if their conduct is considered detrimental to the league's best interests or inconsistent with Little League values. The board can take this action by a two-thirds vote at any regular or special meeting, but the constitution requires due process. The member will be notified of the meeting, given a chance to answer charges, and informed of the general nature of the charges.
- b. All Board Members are an integral part of our local community and organization. It is imperative that all Board Members conduct themselves professionally, in a positive manner, and with respect to children and others during the season, during off-season, in person and online. Any criminal misconduct or behavior deemed inappropriate and not favorable to the positive representation of board members in our community may be subject to internal investigation and potential disciplinary action. No Board Member may have a pending investigation, charges, convictions, guilty plea, no contest plea or admissions to any crime involving or against a minor. This will automatically disqualify participation.
- c. CCLL will not be able to host private or select teams, games/practices without an agreement and donation to CCLL, or compensation to Calhoun County. Any CCLL director may not also hold a director position within any other baseball or softball outside private organizations. CCLL may not advertise, host, or promote tryouts for any private/select organization.
- d. Board Members in good standing shall consist of a member who has participated in CCLL with a clear background check, and is in compliance with the required Little League International Safety Programs. A board member's status and voting rights will be terminated in the event of (3) excused or unexcused absences in a CCLL fiscal year. An excused absence is an absence in which notice is given, regardless of the circumstance. Notice of absence must be given in a written method of communication to the Secretary before the meeting begins. Attendance will be taken at each meeting.
- e. GroupMe will be utilized for board communication. Communication is to be kept to votes, and notifications only. Discussions regarding board activity must be communicated through phone, email, text to other board members or submitted to the Secretary for inclusion at the next board meeting.
- f. Treasurer's Reports, and CCLL expenditure and receipt logs are available for public view upon request. Most current treasury reports are available at monthly board meetings.
- g. Secretary minutes and logs of league activities are available for public view upon request. Meeting minutes will be provided to Board Members and the public no later than 14 days past a Board Meeting. Most current meeting minutes will be posted on the CCLL concession bulletin board during the season, and on the CCLL website once approved by the Board of Directors.