

Little League Baseball®,

Overview of Duties and Policies relating to the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the local league is elected from and by the league Membership. Upon election, the Board of Directors assumes all duties and responsibilities of operating the local league, including electing officers of the Board which shall include a President, Vice President(s), Secretary, Treasurer, Safety Officer, Information Officer, and Player Agent(s).

Duties Referenced by REGULATION:

1. **Regulation I (b):** They govern (run) the league. They are required to approve/disapprove the president's appointment of volunteer personnel to manage, coach and umpire.
2. **Regulation I (c) 1:** They are required to prepare, adopt and submit to Little League Headquarters, a current constitution consistent with all rules, regulations and policies of Little League Baseball, Incorporated. (Refer also, to sample constitution in the Operating Manual.) The constitution of the league and amendments to the constitution of the league, MUST be approved by Little League, AND by the MEMBERSHIP of the league at the annual meeting or any special meeting of the MEMBERSHIP called for that purpose. **THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING COPIES OF THE LEAGUE CONSTITUTION AVAILABLE TO THE MEMBERSHIP.**
3. **Regulation I (c) 7:** They are required to provide accident insurance coverage for all players on regular and minor league rosters as well as for managers, coaches, and volunteer umpires. Coverage is mandatory.
4. **Regulation I (c) 4 & Regulation II (a):** They are responsible for league boundaries and limiting participation to only those candidates who legally reside within those boundaries or who specifically reside within those boundaries or who specifically qualify for exemption under Regulation II (d) and Regulation IV (h). **NO OTHER EXCEPTIONS MAY BE MADE WITHOUT WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER COMMITTEE IN WILLIAMSPORT, PA.**
5. **Regulation II (d) and Regulation IV (h):** They are required to approve/disapprove a player's request to continue playing in their league under Regulation II (d) or the child or children of an authorized adult who meets the requirements of Regulation IV (h). Claims under Regulation II (d) and Regulation IV (h) when approved by the Board of Directors are for the CURRENT SEASON ONLY and must be reported on the appropriate form.
6. **Regulation III (d) & (e):** They are required to approve/disapprove a manager's request for a replacement player.
7. **Regulation IV (f):** They are required to approve/disapprove a player's excuse for failing to attend at least 50% of the spring tryout sessions. If not approved, the player forfeits eligibility in the league for the current season (can not play in the major division, or senior division if the league has a 13-14 year old Junior program AND a 14, 15, and/or 16 year old Senior program.)
8. **Regulation VII:** They are required to approve ALL SCHEDULES, including practice, replayed, continued and rescheduled games.
9. **Regulation VIII Note:** They should establish, approve and distribute, at the time of registration and/or tryouts, a policy regarding players who decline to move up to a major league team.

Responsibility by Little League POLICY

1. They may not move any motion adverse to the Little League program. When a board takes any action which violates policy, that Board of Directors no longer represents the membership.
2. They are required to select and publish how league champions are determined prior to the start of the season.
3. No Board Member shall, at the same time, hold office or be a member of the Board of Directors of any other youth baseball or softball program, or function as a representative of such a program.

Responsibility by Little League RULE

1. **Rule 4.10 (e) Note:** They are required to rule on the application of the 10 run rule, prior to the season.
2. **Rule 4.04:** They are required to rule on the application of batting the roster during the regular season, prior to the start of the season.
3. **Rule 4.07:** Must adopt a policy to inform the managers, coaches and players that in the event they are removed from a game, it is now a Little League Rule that it is now MANDATORY that they are suspended from the next scheduled game. NO ONE may revoke the suspension.
4. **Rule 4.16 and Rule 4.17:** They are required to review and rule on any forfeit requests, where a team is unable to field nine players.
5. **Rule 4.19 Note 1:** They are required to consider and rule on violations of field decorum (Regulation XIV) or actions of league personnel or spectators.
6. **Rule 9.05 (c):** They are required to review, interview and impose such penalty, as they feel justified, when a manager, coach or player is disqualified from a game.
7. **Tournament Rules & Guidelines:** They are required to establish the method utilized in selecting All Star Players, Managers, and Coaches.

Responsibility by Little League CONSTITUTION (Refer to the sample constitution in the Little League Operating Manual.)

1. **Article III Section 2 (b):** They are required to be ACTIVE REGULAR MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING.
2. **Article III Section 2 (c):** They MAY elect honorary membership to an individual in recognition of exemplary service to the local league.
3. **Article III Section 2 (d):** The MAY elect sustaining membership to an individual in recognition of financial or other contributions to the local league.
4. **Article III Section 4:** They have the right to discipline, suspend or terminate the membership of any member of any class when the conduct of such person is considered detrimental to the best interest of the local league or to Little League Baseball. IN TAKING SUCH ACTION, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MUST PROVIDE DUE PROCESS, TO THE MEMBER AS STATED IN THE SECTION.
5. **Article IV Section 1:** The may set dues for membership in the organization.
6. **Article V Section 7:** They may call special meetings of the members at their discretion. Upon written request of a specified number of members, they **shall** call a special meeting to consider a specific subject.
7. **Article VI Section 3:** They may fill vacancies on the Board of Directors.
8. **Article IX Section 11:** They may annually appoint an Auditing Committee to review financial aspects of the program and validate the annual financial statement, which **MUST BE PUBLISHED**. The president, treasurer and signatories of checks are not eligible to sit on this committee.
9. **Article X Section 3:** They may adopt local rules that in no way conflict with the Rules & Regulations of Little League Baseball, Incorporated. (Also refer to Minor League and Tee-Ball Regulation VIII.)
10. **Article XI Section 1:** They are required to decide all matters pertaining to the finances of the local league and place ALL income, including Auxiliary funds, in a common league treasury. They are required to direct the expenditure of ALL funds in such manner as will give no individual or team and advantage over those in competition with such individual or team.

Basic Legal Duties of BOARD MEMBERS

OBEDIENCE – Must abide by the laws and the terms of an organization Constitution and By-Laws.

DILIGENCE – Must act with care of a reasonably prudent person.

LOYALTY – Refrain from engaging in activities that injure or take advantage of the organization.

WHO SHOULD BE ON THE BOARD?

People who qualify under the organization’s Constitution and By-Laws.

People who are independent; with no conflicts of interest.

People with time to serve.

People who are interested in the organization.

People who represent different activities within the organization.

People with specific areas of expertise.

MEETINGS

Frequent attendance should be mandatory.

Regular meeting dates should be established.

Written agendas should be prepared.

Should allow adequate time to thoroughly discuss all issues.

Information should be distributed to Board members well ahead of the meeting.

Open discussions should be encouraged.

What takes place at the meeting “stays” at the meeting

President of the league should remain as neutral as possible during the discussions.

Minutes should be accurate and completely documented.

ACTIONS BY DIRECTORS

Should be as the result of a well-documented facts or a discussion which considers all relevant facts.

SITUATIONS THAT CAN GIVE RISE TO DIRECTORS AND OFFIERS LIABILITY CLAIMS

Eligibility, Discrimination, Failure to address the Rules and Regulations, Denial of Coaching opportunities, Dismissal of Umpire, Manager, Coach, Player or Member, Breach of Contract.

Little League Baseball does no limit participation in its activities on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, national origin, gender, sexual preference or religious preference.