



Bellevue Thunderbird Little League

Operations Manual

Revised December 2012 (ver. 11.0)

Bellevue Thunderbird Little League (BTLL, or League) is governed by the following rules and regulations, which take precedence in the order presented:

1. Official Regulations and Playing Rules for all Divisions of Little League Baseball and Softball (also referred to as "Green Book" for baseball and "Orange Book" for softball).
2. Operating Manual of Little League Baseball
3. District 9 Administrator's Interpretation and Rules
4. BTLL League Constitution
5. BTLL Local League Rules for Baseball and Softball

BTLL shall institute no rules or policies that conflict with rules and regulations outlined in the publications listed here.

Inquiries, questions or complaints by parents, players, managers, coaches or any interested party shall be directed, in writing, to the League President who will in turn direct the inquiry to the appropriate Player Agent and/or League Officer. Members of the Board of Directors of Bellevue Thunderbird Little League and the District Administrator (or the responsible Assistant District Administrator) shall be contacted, if necessary, after the appropriate Player Agent and League Officers have been informed of the facts and are given an opportunity to resolve the inquiry to the satisfaction of the parties involved.

Note that disputes taken directly to Little League headquarters in Williamsport, or to the Western Regional Center in San Bernardino, are automatically referred back to the District Administrator for our local District 9, and in turn back to our BTLL League administrators.

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SECTION 1 – PLAYERS

1.1 Registration

All players must be duly registered with Bellevue Thunderbird Little League (BTLL, or League). On-line registration normally begins December 1 and runs through late January. Online registration is encouraged and highly preferred. Players can also register in person during player evaluations, but a late charge may apply.

Players who register *after* player evaluations but prior to the season's Opening Day are placed on a waiting list in the order of registration and will be assigned to teams on an as-available basis. However, there is no guarantee that players who register late will be assigned to a team.

If all positions in any particular league or division are full and a waiting list is established, the first player on the waiting list is assigned to the team with the first opening. Assigning is to be completed by the Player Agent and the Baseball or Softball Division VP. If a player refuses to go to the first available team, the player will be dropped from the waiting list.

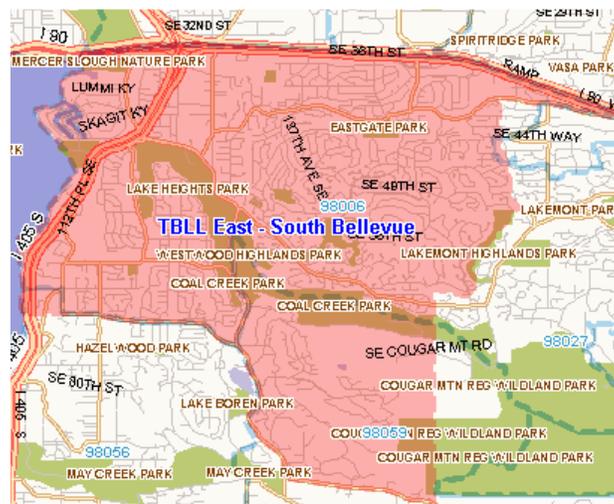
Scholarships are available for players with a financial hardship. Contact the League President to qualify for a scholarship.

All registration forms, including medical release and other required forms, must be completed and signed by the player's parent(s) or guardian and be in the possession of the manager or coach before any player is allowed to practice or play in a game.

1.2 League Boundary

Any player who is eligible by age and boundary rules will can register to play in BTLL. Generally, a player must reside within the BTLL boundaries and not merely attend a school within the BTLL boundaries to qualify to play in this League. However, some exceptions are available for players who move outside the boundary after they have been placed on a BTLL team, or if a sibling is such a player. If any doubt exists about eligibility, please contact the Player Agent or the League President.

Note: League boundary rules are specified in *Official Regulations and Playing Rules* (Green Book), Regulation II.



Bellevue Thunderbird encompasses the area as follows:

- **North Boundary** - Interstate -90
- **West Boundary** - Lake Washington
- **South Boundary** - SE 68th to SE 69th, SE 69th to Coal Creek Parkway, Coal Creek Parkway to May Valley Road, May Valley Road to approximately 181st Ave SE.
- **East Boundary** - 181st Ave SE and 182nd Ave SE (down the West side of the lots along this street) to Coal Creek, Coal Creek to Newcastle-Coal Creek road, Newcastle-Coal Creek Road to 145th SE. 145th SE to a spot between SE 64th and SE 65th (middle of Coal Creek Gully), middle of gully east to Lakemont Blvd SE, North on Blvd to Lakemont Highland Park, Middle of Lakemont Highland Park North to approximately SE 52nd, East to 164th Ave SE, North on 164th SE 44th Way, then west on 44th Way to middle of gully at approximately 160th SE and follow middle of gully all the way to SE 40th, east on SE 40th to Interstate 90.

1.3 League Age and Proof of Player Eligibility

Player eligibility is established by the location of the player's primary residence, and by his or her "league age." Regulations and guidelines for establishing and documenting player eligibility are presented in the *Official Regulations and Playing Rules for Little League Baseball* (Green Book), pages 14-19.

A player's **League Age** is as follows (note that baseball and softball differ):

Baseball: A player's league age is the age that he or she has attained on April 30 of the *current* year (that is, the year in which that baseball season is taking place).

Softball: A player's league age is the age that he or she has attained on December 31 of the *previous* year (that is, the December prior to the current season).

1.4 Provisions for Player Release

Bellevue Thunderbird Little League reserves the right to release a player for cause. Following is a list of reasons that can be grounds for releasing a player:

1. Health or injury.
2. Disciplinary issues.
3. Personal safety.
4. Poor attendance at practices and games.

When a team manager encounters one or more of these issues with a player, the manager should provide the player with a warning about the issue and should also contact their division Player Agent. The Player Agent will direct the issue to the appropriate Board member or Board committee.

Any player who is released may not return to play in BTLL for the remainder of the season in which he or she was released.

1.5 Replacement of Players on Baseball and Softball Teams

In the event that a team loses players over the course of the season to the point that its ability to field a full team is in jeopardy, the Little League Official Regulations and Player

Rules (Green Book) provides for the promotion of replacement players. The Player Agent for division of the affected team shall manage all aspects of replacement player selection.

The procedures for the Player Agent to select a replacement player are outlined in the Green Book, Regulation III(d).

1.6 Loaner Player Pool

At the discretion of the Board, a loaner player pool may be formed for the purpose of providing temporary substitute players for teams that are unable to field a full roster for a specific game.

Note that the loaner player pool is for single-game, temporary replacement players, whereas the guidelines for replacement players in the section above pertains to permanent replacement players.

1. The Loaner Pool of players shall be administered and run by the Player Agent.
 - a. The Player Agent shall maintain a roster of players who volunteer to be available to play as a replacement player when needed.
 - b. The roster of Loaner Pool players should be organized in such a way that the Player Agent can move from player to player in a pre-established order; this is to randomize the process and prevent the selection of replacement players from considering player quality. Whether the order is alphabetical, by order in which the players volunteer, or by some other arbitrary means, is up to the Player Agent.
 - c. Loaner Pool players for Major League teams must be eleven (11) years old.
 - d. Loaner players must be drawn from the division below that for which the player is loaned. That is, loaner players for Majors must be AAA players, etc.
 - e. When need arises for a Loaner player, the team manager shall advise the Player Agent **and** the manager of the opposing team. In turn, once a Loaner player is selected, the Player Agent shall notify the managers of **both** teams with the player's name and age.
2. The Loaner Pool is in effect for regular-season games only.
3. Loaner players **must play nine consecutive outs and have at least one at-bat**. This is stipulated by Green Book.
4. Loaner players **may not pitch**.
5. Loaner players **cannot** be assigned to a game on a day when the team they are actually assigned to is scheduled to play. Specifically, players **cannot** play two games in one day, nor can they skip a scheduled game with their own team in order to play as a loaner player.

1.7 Medical Reinstatement

Any player who misses more than seven (7) calendar days of the season due to illness or injury, must provide a written medical release from their physician or accredited medical provider stating the reason the player experienced the absence and attesting to the player's fitness to return to play.

1.8 Refund Policy

If a player withdraws from the program, refunds will be provided as follows:

- Withdrawal prior to player evaluations – 100% of registration fee less a \$25 administrative fee
- Withdrawal after player evaluations – 50% of the registration fee
- Withdrawal after team selection – NO REFUND

Refund(s) for player withdrawal due to unforeseen circumstance (for example, due to injury or relocation) will be considered by the BTLL Board on a case-by-case basis. All refunds will be issued by June 1st in the form of a refund to the credit card used to register the player.

Any requests for registration refunds must be submitted by the Registrar to the Treasurer on the Refund Form (see Exhibit A) or through an e-mail request to treasurer@bellevuethunderbird.com.

1.9 Player Evaluations

League volunteers will evaluate each player in running, throwing, fielding, and batting. Evaluations for pitching is optional. Player evaluations are conducted to ensure the proper placement (by playing division) of each player, and to help balance skill levels across teams of each division.

At the time of registration, all baseball players of league age 9, 10, 11, or 12 (for AAA, Coast and Majors), league age 13-14 (for Juniors), league age 15-16 (for Seniors), and league age 17-18 (for Big League), will be notified of dates, times and locations for the player skills evaluation. All softball division players league age 9-14 will be notified of the player skill evaluation dates, times and locations.

Every player must attend the evaluations before they can be assigned to a Juniors, Majors, Coast or AAA baseball team, or to a Juniors, Majors, Coast or AAA softball team. Players not attending the evaluation may not be placed on a team unless an excuse is presented which is accepted by the Player Agent. Such players may be placed on the waiting list.

At the conclusion of the playing season, coaches should provide player ratings on each player on their team. These ratings may inform the selection process during player evaluations the following season. The coach may provide a recommendation to advance or not advance a given player to the next level. Coach evaluations shall begin with players from the AA Division advancing to AAA.

1.10 Team Selection Process

Teams are formed each year based on player age and ability as determined by player evaluations. See Exhibit D for a full description of the BTLL player selection process.

Every attempt is made to ensure that all players who register on or before the player selection date are placed on a team. However, it may be necessary to make changes after team selections at the discretion of the Player Agent.

Parents may submit a request to the Player Agent to have siblings play on the same team. Every effort will be made to place those siblings on the same team, subject to the restrictions listed in the Level of Play Policy.

1.11 Player Trades

Trading of players previously assigned to a team will not be allowed except under exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the Player Agent, Division VP, and the League President.

1.12 Tournament Team Selection

An explanation of Tournament Team Selection and selection of Tournament team manager and coaches is attached as Exhibit E.

1.13 Confidentiality

BTLL maintains a policy of strict confidentiality with respect to player evaluations and team placements, as well as for vote counts for tournament team selection. Players and parents shall never be told their evaluation score nor the position in which they are selected, nor the number of votes received in Tournament Team Selection.

Warning: Violation of the confidentiality rule is taken very seriously, and violators of this rule may be ejected from the league.

1.14 Baseball Divisions

Baseball in BTLL is offered in up to nine age divisions, which are listed below. In addition to Big Leagues, Seniors, Juniors, and Majors divisions, BTLL may provide up to five minor or instructional divisions.

Note that players of specified ages can “play-up” by petition to a division above their normal age range. To be eligible, a player must score in the applicable percentage for the age group for which he wishes to advance in that year’s player evaluation. Furthermore, such promotions will be granted only if space is available.

To be considered for promotion, the player’s parent must provide a written request to the division Player Agent prior to player evaluations. Following evaluations and at the time of player selection, the petition is submitted for League approval.

Note: A player’s “league age” for baseball is determined by a player’s age on April 30th of the current year.

Also, note that all players who register for AA, AAA and Majors will be evaluated and assigned to a division based on age and ability, and then assigned to a team to achieve evenly balanced teams within each division. Petitions to “play up” require that the parent provide a written request to the Player Agent. Approval is subject to review by the BTLL board and is subject to space availability.

Table: Bellevue Thunderbird LLBaseball Divisions

Division	League Age	Notes & Description
Big Leagues	17-18 A 16-year-old can petition to play up to Seniors, but must attend the 17-year-old player evaluations and must score in the top 10% of 17-year-olds evaluations. All players who register for Big Leagues will be evaluated and assigned based on	~ Players use a conventional 90-foot diamond with a pitching distance of 60 feet, 6 inches. Teams interlock with other District 9 Big League teams for regular season play. ~ Post-season District and State All-Star Tournaments. Regional

	age and ability, and then assigned to a team to achieve evenly balanced teams within each division.	Tournament and the Big League Baseball World Series (players must play in 60% of regular season league games to be eligible for All-Stars)
Seniors	<p>15 – 16</p> <p>A 14-year-old can petition to play up to Seniors, but must attend the 15-year-old player evaluations and must score in the top 10% of 15-year-olds evaluations.</p> <p>All players who register for Seniors will be evaluated and assigned based on age and ability, and then assigned to a team to achieve evenly balanced teams within each division.</p>	<p>~ Players use a conventional 90-foot diamond with a pitching distance of 60 feet, 6 inches. Teams interlock with other District 9 Seniors teams for regular season play.</p> <p>~ Post-season District and State All-Star Tournaments. Regional Tournament and the Senior League Baseball World Series (players must play in 60% of regular season league games to be eligible for All-Stars)</p>
Juniors	<p>13 – 14</p> <p>A 12-year-old can petition to play up to Juniors, but must attend the 13-year-old player evaluations and must score in the top 10% of 13-year-olds evaluations.</p> <p>All players who register for Juniors will be evaluated and assigned based on age and ability, and then assigned to a team to achieve evenly balanced teams within each division.</p>	<p>~ Players use a conventional 90-foot diamond with a pitching distance of 60 feet, 6 inches. Teams interlock with other District 9 Juniors teams for regular season play.</p> <p>~ Includes Junior Championship Tournament and Post-season District and State All-Star Tournaments, Regional tournament and the Junior League Baseball World Series (players must play in 60% of regular season league games to be eligible for All-stars).</p>
Majors	<p>11 – 12</p> <p>A 10-year-old can petition to play up to Majors, but must attend the 11-year-old player evaluations and must score in the top 10% of 11-year-olds evaluations.</p> <p>12-year-olds must play Majors.</p>	<p>~ Player pitch; 2 games/week.</p> <p>~ End of season league tournament (double elimination).</p> <p>~ End of season Bellevue City tournament .</p> <p>~ Post-season District and State All-star tournaments for 11- and 12-year-olds; Regional tournament and LL World Series for 11- and 12-year-olds.</p> <p>~ Players must play in 60% of regular season league games to be eligible for All-Stars.</p>
Coast	<p>10 – 11</p> <p>A 9-year-old can petition to play up to Coast division, but must attend the 10-year-old player evaluations and must score in the top 25% of 10-year-olds evaluations.</p> <p>All 10-year-olds will play Coast unless a parent petitions Player Agent to “play down” to AAA. Assignment to AAA requires BTLL Board approval and is granted based on safety considerations and space availability</p>	<p>~ Player pitch; 2 games/week.</p> <p>~ End of season league tournament (double elimination).</p> <p>~ End of season Bellevue City tournament.</p> <p>~ Post-season District and State All-star tournaments for 10-year-olds and for 11-year-olds.</p> <p>~ Players must play in 60% of regular season league games to be eligible for post-season play.</p>
AAA	9	~ Player pitch; 2 games/week.

	An 8 year old can petition to play up to AAA division, but must attend the 9-year-old player evaluations and must score in the top 50% of 9-year-olds evaluations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ End of season league tournament. ~ End of season Bellevue City tournament. ~ AAA Division championship team plays in the District 9 Coast Tournament.
AA	8 A 7 year old can petition to play up to AA division, subject to the agreement of the Player Agent, and may rely on knowledge of the player’s abilities obtained from prior years’ participation in the league.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Machine Pitch. Two games/week-6 innings/5 run limit/inning, but unlimited runs in last inning. No more than one practice per week after games start. ~ End of season league tournament.
A	7 A 6 year old with one season of Tee-Ball can petition to play the Rookies division.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Machine Pitch. Two games/week-6 innings/5 run limit/inning, but unlimited runs in last inning. No more than one practice per week after games start. ~ 4 strikes/out, or 10 hittable pitches; 3 outs retires the side. There is an end-of-season tournament ~ Team assignment by the system. Parents register for a division based on age and preference, and players may request a specified buddy and will be assigned to a team clustered by school.
Tee Ball	5 - 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Two days per week (one week day and Saturday games). Your player will attend a station to station skills development camp. Fundamental baseball and softball skills will be taught with fun games and drills. Extensive training will be provided for Coaches. ~ Team assignment by the buddy system. Parents register for a division based on age and preference, and players may request a specified buddy and will be assigned to a team clustered by school.

1.15 Softball Divisions

Softball in BTLL is offered in six age divisions, which are listed below. Following are regulations and guidelines for player placement in these divisions. In addition to Seniors, Juniors, and Majors divisions, BTLL provides three minor or instructional divisions.

Note that players of specified ages can “play-up” by petition to a division above their normal age range. To be eligible, a player must score in the applicable percentage for the age group for which she intends to play up to in that year’s player evaluation. Furthermore, such promotions will be granted only if space is available. To be considered for promotion, the

player’s parent must provide a written request to the division Player Agent. This petition is subject to approval by the BTLL Board of Directors.

Note: A player's "league age" for softball is determined by the player's age on December 31st prior to the current season.

Table: Bellevue Thunderbird LL Softball Divisions

Division	League Age	Notes & Description
Seniors	15 – 16 A 14-year-old can petition to play-up to the Seniors division. The player must achieve a ranking equivalent to the top 10% of those in the 15-year-old evaluations. Girls must attend player/skill evaluations as scheduled by the BTLL BOD. Team assignments are based on skill evaluations and are intended to balance the teams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Player pitch; 2 games/week ~ Interlock with other District 9 leagues for regular and post season play. ~ Stealing, bunting, sliding allowed. ~ Pitch from 40 feet and use a 12- inch softball. ~ Game scores are kept, but no league standings. ~ End of season Bellevue City tournament.
Juniors	13 – 14 A 12-year-old can petition to play-up to the Juniors division. The player must achieve a ranking equivalent to the top 10% of those in the 13-year-old evaluations. Girls must attend player/skill evaluations as scheduled by the BTLL BOD. Team assignments are based on skill evaluations and are intended to balance the teams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Player pitch; 2 games/week ~ Interlock with other District 9 leagues for regular and post season play. ~ Stealing, bunting, sliding allowed. ~ Pitch from 40 feet and use a 12- inch softball. ~ Game scores are kept, but no league standings. ~ Post-season District and State All-Star Tournaments. Regional Tournament and the Junior League Softball World Series (players must play in 60% of regular season league games to be eligible for All-Stars).
Majors	11 – 12 A 10-year-old can petition to play-up to the Majors division. The player must achieve a ranking equivalent to the top 10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Player pitch; 2 games/week ~ Interlock with other District 9 leagues for regular and post season play. ~ Stealing, bunting, sliding allowed. ~ Pitch from 40 feet and use a 12- inch softball.

	<p>of those in the 11-year-old evaluations. 12-year-olds must play Majors unless parent requests play-down to Coast division. Requires BTLL board approval, and will be granted solely on the basis of safety considerations Girls must attend player/skill evaluations as scheduled by the BTLL BOD. Team assignments are based on skill evaluations and are intended to balance the teams.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Game scores are kept, but no league standings. ~ Post-season District and State All-star tournaments for 11 and 12 year olds (players must play in 60% of regular season league games to be eligible for All-stars).
<p>Coast</p>	<p>10-11 A 9-year-old can petition to play-up to the Coast division. Player must participate in evaluations for 10-year-olds and must score in the top 25% of that age group.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Primarily a player pitch with limited coach pitching early in the season. ~ During the first month, players do limited pitching, pitching to batters until count is either 3 strikes or 4 balls. On ball four, that batter's Coach takes over bit keeps the player's existing count. There are unlimited balls, but strikes continue to be called. ~ After the first month, players pitch exclusively. Standard "walk" and "strike out" rules apply. Bunting and sliding are permitted. ~ Game scores are kept, but no league standings. ~ Pitch from 35 feet and use an 11-inch softball. ~ 2 games/week ~ Interlock with other District 9 leagues for regular and post season play. ~ Stealing, bunting, sliding allowed. ~ End of season Bellevue City tournament. ~ Post-season District and State All-star tournaments for 10 and 11 year olds (players must play in 60% of regular season league games to be eligible for All-stars).
<p>89'rs</p>	<p>8 – 9 A 7-year-old with one season of Tee-Ball can</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Two games per week. ~ Coach Pitch in first portion of the season In the later portion of the season,

	<p>petition to play-up to the 89'rs division. There are no skill evaluations at this level so placement of a seven-year-old is on the basis of ability, safety, and space availability.</p>	<p>players begin limited pitching. The first four batters in each half inning face a player pitcher. Players pitch until count reaches either 3 strikes or 4 balls. At ball four, that batter's coach takes over but keeps the player's count. Unlimited balls, but the umpire continues calling strikes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Girls will pitch from a 30 feet and use a safety "incrediball" softball ~ Interlock with other District 9 leagues for regular and post season play ~ 4 run limit/inning, but unlimited runs in the sixth inning. ~ 3 strikes/out, or 10 pitches ~ 3 outs retires the side ~ End of season league tournament –TBD ~ Team assignment by the buddy system. Parents register for a division based on age and preference, and players may request a specified buddy (request from both players). Effort made to cluster teams by school.
<p>Tee Ball - Spring Training League</p>	<p>5 - 7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Two days per week (one week day and Saturday games). Players attend station to station skills development camp. Fundamental baseball and softball skills will be taught with fun games and drills. Extensive training will be provided for Coaches ~ Team assignment by the buddy system. Parents register for a division based on age and preference, and players may request a specified buddy (request from both players). Effort made to cluster teams by school.

1.16 Policy for the Use of Waivered Composite Bats

Little League International (LLI) has instituted a policy that prohibits the use of "composite" bats at *all levels and divisions of Little League baseball*. This policy does not apply to softball divisions. The announcement of the decision as it pertains to Majors and Minors divisions was released on December 30th, 2010, and can be reviewed at the Little League International website:

http://www.littleleague.org/Little_League_Online.htm

The announcement of the decision as it pertains to the Juniors, Seniors and Big League divisions was released on September 1, 2010 and updated on September 29, 2010, can also be viewed at the LLI website.

Under the policy, no composite bat may be used during any Little League baseball game or practice unless LLI has issued a waiver for the bat from the moratorium.

However, LLI has issued waivers for some composite bats (and will presumably continue to issue waivers). These waived bats will be allowed to be used in Little League baseball games so long as they meet existing requirements for bats as specified in Rule 1.10.

Little League International maintains a list of composite bats that have received waivers and are allowed to be used in Little League games. The list is updated periodically and is located on the Little League International website (link above).

It is the policy of Bellevue Thunderbird Little League that implementation of this policy shall be in effect as follows:

- For umpired divisions (AAA and above), bats and helmets will be inspected ten minutes prior to game time. All bats and helmets shall be lined up outside the team dugout at this time. Nonconforming helmets and bats (including all composite bats) shall be removed from the dugout and prohibited for use in the game.
- Any composite bat that has been removed from play may be reinstated at such time as the owner of the bat provides written documentation that the bat has received a waiver. The printed list of waived bats that is provided by LLI (link above) is acceptable documentation.
- The umpire's determination of the suitability of bats and helmets for use in the game is final.
- For non-umpired divisions (AA and below), team managers are responsible for ensuring that the bats in use by players on their teams are legal in all respects.

SECTION 2 – MANAGERS & COACHES

2.1 Managers/Coaches Eligibility

As a condition of service, all managers and coaches must annually complete and submit an official "Little League Volunteer Application" to the BTLL. Annual background screenings must be completed prior to the applicant assuming his/her duties for the current season. Refusal or failure to submit a fully completed "Little League Volunteer Application" will result in the immediate dismissal of the individual from the BTLL.

2.2 Required Forms

Managers must collect fully completed forms that are required by Little League Baseball and by BTLL. The following forms are required:

The official "Little League Baseball and Softball Medical Release," signed by a parent and/or guardian, for each player on his/her roster before the player is allowed to participate in any practice or game. Managers or their designees must retain such forms for the full duration of the season, including any post-season tournaments, and have them available at each practice and game.

A copy of the Coaches Code of Conduct for each coach and the manager that has been signed to signify that it has been read and fully understood and agreed to.

Managers must ensure that any adult volunteer has completed and submitted to BTLL a "Little League Volunteer Application." A completed Volunteer Application must be obtained from every person who will be in the dugout, who will assist in coaching, or who will otherwise have repetitive access to or contact with players, before permitting such person to have contact with players.

Managers must provide a team volunteer sign-up sheet that lists team-level volunteer responsibilities (field setup, umpire coordinator, Picture Day coordinator, etc.) and ensure that volunteers are secured for each position.

2.3 Commitment

Managers and coaches must attend coaching development and umpire training sessions and league meetings when requested, participate in BTLL functions, i.e., Player Evaluations, Opening Day Ceremonies, fundraising, work parties, picture day, and be willing and able to spend the time necessary with the team at practice and games.

2.4 Rules and Regulations

Managers and coaches must familiarize themselves with and abide by the Official Regulations and Playing Rules set forth in the Green Book and with the BTLL's local league rules and policies. Managers and coaches should be particularly observant of the Field Decorum requirements set forth in Part XIV of the Official Regulations.

2.5 Use of Unauthorized Players

Any BTLL manager, coach or league official who allows an unauthorized player from another regular season team to play in a tournament, play-off, league championship, or other special game, will be immediately dismissed from BTLL. Such stacking of teams will not be allowed under any circumstances. If a team is unable to field the minimum number of players then that game will be forfeited, postponed or rescheduled, as appropriate. A team that is short of players may draw upon the loaner players pool, as set forth in these local league rules.

2.6 Dugout Attendance

During games the manager and up to two coaches may be in the dugout, with at least one adult in the dugout at all times. If the manager or a coach is absent, a team parent is allowed in the dugout as an alternate adult.

2.7 Manager/Coach Term and Termination

Managers and Coaches serve on a year-to-year basis. Any person interested in managing or coaching should notify the division Vice President. The BTLL Board will review a candidates' ability and experience and present recommendations to the President. The BTLL President will approve or disapprove a candidate.

Any manager or coach who intentionally violates the letter or the spirit of the rules and regulations of Little League Baseball, or otherwise exhibits poor sportsmanship, or who violates guidelines and responsibilities for Managers and Coaches as established by BTLL, may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

SECTION 3 - Umpires

3.1 BTLL Umpire Program

BTLL supports an umpire program to officiate BTLL games in divisions AAA, Coast, Majors, Juniors, and Seniors through the regular season. Administration of the BTLL umpire program shall be vested in the Umpire-in-Chief, who should be put forward as a candidate for a position on the Board of Directors.

The BTLL program relies on a two-tiered system. The bulk of the League umpires shall be members of the BTLL Junior Umpire program. Additionally, a select number of adult volunteers shall serve as umpires, division umpire coordinators, and team umpire coordinators.

3.2 Umpire-in-Chief

The Umpire-in-Chief (UIC) shall administrate the BTLL umpire program and report regularly to the Board of Directors on program status. The duties and responsibilities of the UIC shall include the following:

- Annually recruit new and returning umpires for the upcoming season.
- Organize and provide umpire training for new and returning umpires in advance of the season.
- Manage the inventory of League umpire equipment and order equipment and uniforms as needed.
- Coordinate the distribution, accounting, and recovery of League equipment.
- Ensure the selection and coordinate the activity of division umpire coordinators for AAA, Coast, Majors, Junior/Senior, and corresponding Softball divisions. Provide guidance and training for division coordinators.
- Ensure the appointment of team umpire coordinators and provide guidelines for their duties and responsibilities at the team level.
- Administer the scheduling League umpire scheduling system (TheArbiter.net)
- Maintain relations with District 9 umpire organization
- Attend advanced umpire rules and mechanics training, when available.
- Chair the BTLL Rules Committee to annually review and revise League rules, as necessary.

3.3 Umpire Coordinators

There are two layers of adult umpire coordinators. There is one Divisional Umpire Coordinator each for the AAA, Coast, Majors, Juniors/Seniors, and corresponding Softball divisions, and there shall be one Team Umpire Coordinator for each team in the AAA, Coast, and Majors baseball divisions.

1. Divisional Umpire Coordinators

The UIC shall recruit volunteers to perform in the role of Divisional Umpire Coordinator for AAA Baseball, Coast Baseball, Majors Baseball, Junior/Seniors Baseball, and Softball. The DUC shall report to the UIC. Duties and responsibilities for each Divisional Coordinator include the following:

- a. Serve as a backup resource for the Team Coordinators in your division.

- b. Use the Arbiter system to check umpire assignments and schedules so you can see problem games well in advance. Be sure that your Team Coordinators are aware of problems well in advance.
- c. Take reports about umpire-related issues that come up during the game. Provide both positive and negative feedback, and be sure to report all instances of inappropriate or unruly behavior by managers, coaches, or parents – or umpires.
- d. Forward all reports and relevant information to the Umpire-in-Chief.
- e. Assist the Umpire-in-Chief in calling and recruiting umpires for the upcoming season, as needed.

2. **Team Umpire Coordinators**

Team managers for every team in AAA, Coast, and Majors baseball shall recruit one parent volunteer to serve in the role of Team Umpire Coordinator (TUC).

Duties and responsibilities for each Team Coordinator include the following:

- a. Ensure that two umpires (one for the plate, and one on the bases) are scheduled to work your **home** games. When two umpires are not scheduled, you will need to help locate and schedule an umpire for your home games.
- b. Sign off on the volunteer community service form for Junior Umpires, when requested.
- c. Ensure that home plate umpires for home games have their protective equipment. You will have a "team" set of plate gear that either you or your coach can carry to each game in the unlikely event that your umpires don't have their assigned gear.
- d. Communicate with your Divisional Umpire Coordinators about any umpire-related issues that come up. Provide both positive and negative feedback, and be sure to report all instances of inappropriate or unruly behavior by managers, coaches, or parents – or umpires.

SECTION 4 - PARENTS

4.1 Guidelines for Parents Meeting

Each team at each level of play should have a parent meeting to cover the following points as well as other information the manager feels is important to their team having a successful season.

Parents must demonstrate responsibility and take the initiative to make our program successful. Parents are responsible for making sure that their children are brought to practices and games on time and are picked up after practices and games on time.

4.2 Expectations of Parents

Help coaches prepare the field, i.e., raking the field and chalking the foul lines.

Little League is a volunteer organization and it is everyone's responsibility to contribute to the success of the team by making yourself available for one of the team volunteer slots.

Become acquainted with the philosophy, rules and regulations of Little League Baseball, Inc. and BTLL Local rules.

You must be responsible for transporting your children to and from practices and games. This means getting the kids to the field, fully outfitted and ready to play, at the time requested by the team manager. And most importantly, ***you must be at the field to pick up your child at the conclusion of the game or practice.*** You must never cause a coach or manager to wait with your child by arriving late.

Be a good sport. Support all umpires, managers, coaches and players. BTLL does not allow "booing" or verbal abuse of umpires, managers, coaches or ball players from anyone in or near the stands.

SECTION 5 - SAFETY CODE

Following is the BTLL Safety Code:

1. All managers, coaches, board members and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, who provide regular services to the league and/or have repetitive access to or contact with players or teams must fill out a Volunteer Application and provide a government issued photo identification for ID verification each year that authorizes the League to perform a "Background Check" on them as required by Regulation I(c)(8-9) of Little League Baseball, Inc.
2. The responsibility for safety procedures should be that of all adult members of BTLL.
3. Arrangements should be made in advance of all games and practices for emergency medical services.
4. Managers, coaches and umpires should have some training in first-aid. First Aid kits are issued to each manager and are required to be available at all practices and games.
5. No games or practices should be held when weather or field conditions are unsafe, or when lighting is inadequate.
6. Playing area should be inspected prior to games or practices for holes, stones, glass and other foreign objects.
7. All team equipment should be stored within the team dugout, or behind screens, and not within the area defined by the umpires as "in play".
8. Only players, managers, coaches and umpires are permitted on the field of play or in the dugout during games and practices.
9. Equipment should be inspected regularly, especially for cracked or damaged helmets. Helmets should also be checked for proper fit.
10. Establish a procedure for retrieving foul balls batted out of the playing area.
11. Ensure that during practice and games, players remain alert and watch the batter on each pitch.
12. During warm-up drills players should be spaced so that no one is endangered by wild throws or missed catches.
13. Ensure that players and coaches keep bats and loose equipment off the playing field and away from practice areas.
14. Batters must wear Little League approved helmets when batting during practices as well as games.
15. Catchers must wear approved gear (catcher's helmets, throat guard, long model chest protector, shin guards) while acting as a catcher in games or practices. Baseball catchers must wear a protective supporter and cup (males). NO EXCEPTIONS. Managers should encourage ALL male players to wear protective cups and supporters.
16. Except when a base runner is returning to a base, headfirst slides are not allowed. Runner is out, per 7.08(a)(4).
17. During sliding practice, bases should not be strapped down or anchored.
18. At no time should horse play be permitted on the field or in the dugout.
19. Parents of players who wear glasses should be encouraged to provide safety glasses.
20. Players must not wear watches, rings, pins or metallic items during games and practices. A medical alert bracelet is allowed, but must be covered with tape or gauze.

21. The catcher must wear catcher's helmet and mask with throat guard in warming up pitchers. This applies between innings and in the bull-pen during a game and also during practices.
22. On-deck batters are not permitted (except in the Juniors and Seniors divisions).
23. All pre-game warm-ups should be performed within the confines of the playing field and not within areas that are frequented by, and thus endanger spectators (i.e., playing catch, pepper, swinging bats, etc.)
24. Common sense regarding safety prevails in any situation not covered in this BTLL Safety Code.

SECTION 6 - DISCIPLINE POLICY

Bellevue Thunderbird Little League has the right to impose discipline on any person associated with the league. Excluding suspension or termination, which are governed by the BTLL constitution, disciplinary matters regarding any player, manager, coach, umpire or member shall be resolved by the Executive Committee of the Board. There shall be no appeal from the decision of the Executive Committee on any such disciplinary matter. Disciplinary matters involving any member of the Board, the Executive Committee, or any other league committee, shall be resolved by the Board.

6.1 The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee members include the League President and may include, Umpire in Chief, respective Player Agent, respective Vice President, and Coaching Coordinator.

The Executive Committee shall have the right to impose any or all of the following as discipline:

- Recommend termination to the Board of the person from Bellevue Thunderbird Little League.
- Recommend suspension to the Board of the person from league activities for a specified period of time and/or a specified number of games and/or from specific league positions (such as manager, coach or umpire.
- Caution or censure of the person.

Any decision may contain conditions for continued involvement or may contain steps to be completed to remedy the problem giving rise to the violation.

6.2 Discipline of player, manager, coach, umpire, or member

Any issue that may require disciplinary action against a player, manager, coach, umpire, or other League or Board member, can be brought to the attention of the League by any person. The President shall initially handle any such referral (except if the President is the subject of the potential discipline, in which case the referral shall be handled at all points by the Player Agent).

The President shall initially determine if the referral has an adequate basis in fact for a hearing on potential discipline. The President may choose to conduct an investigation and/or to consult with others in making this determination.

If the President determines that there is an adequate basis for a hearing, the President shall promptly schedule a meeting of the Executive Committee to consider the matter. The hearing will be held by the Executive Committee as soon as practicable.

At least five (5) days' notice of the hearing shall be provided to the person who is the subject of the potential discipline; such notice may be provided by email, and shall be also provided either by hand delivery or certified mail, return receipt requested. Notice will be deemed to have been provided when the email is sent to the affected person.

The President or others at his direction may at any time investigate the issues relating to the referral. In conducting this investigation, the President may contact the person who is the subject of the referral and potential discipline or any other persons with knowledge of matters relating to the issues presented. The President shall present any information gathered to the Executive Committee during any hearing which is conducted.

The President may determine that any referral of potential discipline should not be considered by the full Executive Committee because of insufficient grounds to impose discipline or to pursue the matter further. In that event, the President shall promptly inform

the entire Executive Committee of his or her decision in writing. If three or more members of the Executive Committee provide written notice to the President within five days of receipt of the President's notice of the decision not to proceed that they wish to have the matter considered at a hearing, a hearing will be conducted notwithstanding the President's decision not to proceed.

6.3 Emergency Disciplinary Action

Prior to the hearing, the President shall have the power to temporarily suspend any player, manager, coach, umpire or member on an interim basis. The President is to use this interim power sparingly, and only in situations where the safety of any person might be placed at risk, where there may have been a violation of law, or where there has apparently been a flagrant violation of league rules. The President will take such interim action by providing email notice and a telephone message to the person who is the subject of the potential dispute. The Executive Committee shall have the power to revoke any interim suspension at any time.

6.4 Hearing Procedure

All hearings shall be conducted in an informal, yet orderly fashion. The person who is the subject of the disciplinary hearing shall have the right to attend the presentation of all evidence to be considered; shall have the right to have counsel present; and shall have the right to present evidence. The President shall preside over the hearing. The league shall have the right to have counsel present. No one other than the Executive Committee, counsel to the league, and the subject and his or her counsel shall have the right to attend the hearing or to hear the testimony of any witness. In any hearing involving a minor, the minor shall have the right to have his/her parents or legal guardians present.

Any hearing on discipline and any interim suspension may be terminated by the President upon receipt of written notice from the person affected by the hearing/suspension that the person has voluntarily resigned his or her position and/or terminated his or her membership in Bellevue Thunderbird Little League.

6.5 Request for Reinstatement

The disciplinary decision of the board hearing shall be final and shall not be subject to appeal. A disciplined individual may, however, submit in writing a request for early termination of disciplinary sanction, including a request for reinstatement in all Bellevue Thunderbird Little League activities.

6.6 Special Note

Any member or player in the league found vandalizing, destroying, defacing, stealing or attempting to break into BTLL property, writing graffiti, etc. on BTLL facilities or facilities used by BTLL by either league officials, parents, neighbors, King County Police or anyone else, will be immediately suspended from the league pending a hearing for possible dismissal from the league by the BTLL Board of Directors. The penalties may be suspension or dismissal from the League or prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.

Bellevue Thunderbird Little League prides itself in providing all players, parents and family members a clean and wholesome environment in which to play ball games and practice. A reminder to all League personnel, managers, coaches, umpires, parents and any other interested parties are encouraged to report any suspicious behavior or any unidentifiable persons or strangers frequenting or loitering around a ball park or practice field to the local law enforcement agency or to any Bellevue Thunderbird Little League board member.

Bellevue Thunderbird Little League does not allow any rowdies or anyone suspected of any violation of law, consumers of alcoholic beverages, drug users, etc. to remain on the grounds of any of the Little League facilities. Bellevue Thunderbird Little League shall take whatever steps are necessary to see that this type of activity does not happen.

APPENDIX: EXHIBITS

- Exhibit A: Registration Refund Request Form
- Exhibit B: Player Evaluation Guidelines
- Exhibit C: Manager and Coach Responsibilities
- Exhibit D: Team Selection
- Exhibit E: Selection of Tournament Teams
- Exhibit F: Roster Replacement Policy
- Exhibit G: BTLL Executive Committee
- Exhibit H: Sportsmanship
 - Sportsmanship Code of Conduct for Managers and Coaches
 - Sportsmanship Code of Conduct for Parents
 - Sportsmanship Code of Conduct for Players

Exhibit A: Registration Refund Request Form

Date _____

Player Name _____

Division / Team _____

Requesting Parent/Guardian _____

Address of Requestor _____

Email address of Requestor _____

Reason for Refund Request _____

Date of Approval _____

Refund Amount _____

Form of Payment _____

Board President (signature) _____

Board Treasurer (signature) _____

Refund Policy:

In the event a player withdraws from the program, refunds will be provided as follows:

- Withdrawal prior to player evaluations – 100% of registration fee less a \$15 administrative fee
- Player withdrawal after player evaluations – 50% of the registration fee
- Player withdrawal after team selection – NO REFUND

Refund(s) for player withdrawal due to unforeseen circumstance (injury, moving) will be considered by the BTLL Board on an individual basis. All refunds will occur by June 1st in the form of a check from BTLL.

Exhibit B: Player Evaluation Guidelines

Players will check in at the registration table and will be given a badge/sticker with a unique number and their league age (pre-assigned, see master list). Players will place their number on their upper left chest for identification that is visible throughout the evaluations. All grading of players will be accomplished through this number only.

Note: The following steps are recommended for organizing and evaluation and do not need to be followed verbatim.

BTLL Player evaluations will follow a consistent grading system. All volunteer “evaluators” will follow this system. We will have 5 stations (running, hitting, infield, outfield, throwing) and use a 5 point grading system. Pitching is an optional station for the players.

We will use a 5 point grading system - with 5 being the highest and 1 being the lowest. USE NO ½ POINTS. There will also be a section for comments. Please feel free to write short comments that would be helpful at team selection for a particular player.

Evaluate carefully and accurately and make sure there is a clear distinction in your grading. Evaluating everyone as a 3 or 4 does nothing for our objective to obtain a distribution of equal talent among the teams during the team selection process. If you are not giving a range of 1-5 in your evaluation, then you are not getting the job done!

As needed, we encourage you to write quick comments in the Comments Section.

Point System

- 5** Perfect mechanics and form
- 4** Above average
- 3** Average
- 2** Needs Work
- 1** Overwhelmed

When grading players, remember it has been 6 months since some of them have played baseball. Look for form and proper mechanics. If you see one player with great mechanics and form but he misses 5 out of 10 pitches at the cage – give him a higher grade than someone who misses 5 out of 10 with bad mechanics. When evaluating/grading look for:

Hitting station – 7 swings (not hits)

Preparation-balance, proper stance, weight on back foot and holding bat correctly

Weight shift-70% of weight on back foot, hands trigger and stride begins, weight transfer to front foot

Transition stage – hip rotation, bottom hand driving the bat towards the ball

Acceleration & eyes – tracking the ball, head down, weight transfer complete and eyes on the ball.

Contact – hitting the ball

Infield station – 5 ground balls

Ready position – knees bent (not waist), hands out front (not on knees)

Charge the ball – look for shuffle and crossover steps, aggressively going after the ball

Square shoulders – proper fielding stance, butt down, legs bent, head up

Accurate throw – Elbow above shoulder, follow through, accuracy

Outfield station – 5 pop flies

Proper stance – knees bent, arms out front (not on knees), feet shoulder width apart

Footwork – drop step (no crossover step)

Anticipation – reaching to flight of the ball, turning back towards ball and running to a spot

Catching the ball – using two hands to catch ball, weight moving forward

Throwing ball – release and accuracy of hitting cut-off man

Throwing station – 5 throws (not pitching)

Stance – weight equally distributed, hands relaxed, body relaxed

Balance – head over back foot, free leg at highest point before forward movement

Motion – smooth weight transfer

Release – elbow above shoulder, feet ending up parallel

Accuracy – hitting the person catching the ball in the chest

Running station – running 60'

Good start and acceleration

Run through base

Exhibit C: Manager and Coach Responsibilities

The Manager responsibilities include the following:

- Conduct a parent’s meeting before the first regular season game. Your coaching philosophy, player expectations, schedules, practices, attendance expectations, and volunteer needs should be discussed. Parent volunteers include: Parent Coach (3rd adult in dugout), Umpire Scheduler, Opening Day Coordinator, Team Parent, Mariner’s Night Coordinator, Scorekeeper, Field Preparations and Team Photographer.
- Ensure that the BTLL Safety Code is followed and make corrections whenever necessary. Report injuries sustained by player, manager, coach, or spectator during BTLL activities to the Safety Officer immediately. Manager or designated person (e.g., a team safety officer) should periodically inspect the team first aid kit to ensure that it is in good condition and that all required supplies are on hand. The first aid kit must be available at all games and practices. Attend appropriate training at the direction of the League Safety officer.
- Managers are responsible for assuring that all players meet minimum mandatory play requirements, as outlined in Regulation IV(i). Managers are responsible for assuring that pitchers are in compliance with pitching regulations, as outlined in Regulation VI. Play and pitch records are to be kept in the team’s scorebook, and must be available for viewing by League officials as deemed necessary.
- In event of an injury to a player at a practice or game, ensure that the injury is reported to the League safety officer within 48 hours of the injury. If necessary, be available to inform parents about League insurance.
- Familiarize parents with Little League rules and make yourself available to address parent or player concerns about the interpretation or application of said rules.
- Provide parents with BTLL contact information including President, VPs, Player Agent, Safety Officer, and Umpire in Chief.
- Coordinate parent help in preparing the game field. Manager and Coaches should be preparing the players for the game and not preparing the field.
- Get authorization from BTLL Board of Directors for purchasing equipment.
- Managers and Coaches may not do any of the following:
 - Enter the playing field unless granted time out and signaled by an umpire.
 - Leave the playing field or dugout unless absolutely necessary.
 - Use abusive language.
 - Consume alcoholic beverages.
 - Allow un-sportsman-like conduct from players or spectators.
 - Warm up the pitcher, nor allow any adult to warm up a pitcher.
 - Allow catchers to play or warm-up without a protective cup and and required protective equipment.

Exhibit D: Team Selection

The team selection process is a two-step process; players are first evaluated in a comprehensive skill evaluation and then teams are formed based on the composite scores from the evaluation as well as manager evaluations from the previous season. All divisions AAA, Coast, Majors, Junior, Senior and Big Leagues Baseball, and AAA, Coast, Majors and Junior (Softball) will use the same skill evaluation scoring system for consistency. Separate Draft Meetings are held with the Player Agent, Division VP and Managers for each division.

1. All data from the skill evaluations will be entered by skill and will end with a single composite numeric score (based on a special algorithm that converts running to be comparable to the other skills) for each player. Player scores will be placed in rank order from highest to lowest and separated by league age. This information is confidential and not shared with players or parents of players.
2. The number of Majors teams will be computed based on the number of registered 12-year-old players based on the stipulation that each Majors team can have a minimum of six and a maximum of eight 12-year-old players. Divide the total number of 12-year-olds by eight, then round up to the next whole number to obtain the total number of Majors teams. Generally, all 12-year-olds will be placed on a Majors team. However, at this point in the process, the Player Agent must consider any 12-year-olds that should be placed in the Coast division for safety reasons or at the request of that player's parents.
3. Also at this time, petitions will be considered from league age 10-year olds requesting to play in the Majors division, 9-year-olds requesting to play in the Coast division and 8-year olds requesting to play in the AAA division (see Level of Play Policy-Exhibit C).
4. Players will be placed on teams in a serpentine draft according to their league age and the rank order of their composite scores by the Player Agent and the Division VP. Teams are referred to by number at this point in the player placement process, not MLB names. Player names and pitcher/catcher information, if any, will be listed on the team formation matrix.
5. 12-year-olds will be placed first in the Majors division team matrix. The player with the highest composite score will be placed on Team 1; the player with the second highest composite score will be placed on Team 2; and so on until all 12-year-old players have been placed on a team.
6. 11-year-olds will be placed next in the Majors division team matrix in **reverse** serpentine draft order with the highest ranked 11-year-old following the lowest ranked 12-year-old. The purpose of this process is to balance out the first round of 12-year-old players with the first round of 11-year-old players.
7. Any 10-year-olds with approved petitions to play at the Majors division will be included with the 11-year-olds and placed in the matrix according to their evaluation composite score. All other 11-year-olds will be placed in the Coast division team matrix. The Coast division matrix will be laid out in a similar fashion, with the 11-year-olds placed in the matrix first, and then the 10-year-olds in reverse order. All 9-year-old players approved to play at Coast will be placed in the matrix according to their composite score and ranked with the 10-year-old players.
8. No two players in the first round (top row) will be on the same team. This rule could possibly break up a manager-coach combination. The top ranked players in each age group may not be moved from the first row, however, they may be moved within the first row if necessary.

9. Player changes are made to balance teams for pitching and catching distribution. Any player selected to an All-Star team the previous year shall be identified. Player changes will be made within rows to balance the teams as well as is possible for pitching and catching, All-Stars and any other factors to be considered necessary to create balance among teams.
10. Managers will then randomly draw a team number from a hat. Changes will be made for the manager/player and one coach/player for each team. Additional adjustments may be made at this time if a consensus of the managers agrees to the change to balance the teams. Player Agent, Division VP and Managers should bear in mind that the first 4 rows of the oldest age group and the first two rows of the next age group are the most important in terms of ensuring balance among teams. Player changes within these rows should be limited if possible. Final review and approval of the team selection by the Player Agent, Division VP and Managers is made at this time.
11. Finally, the Managers will randomly draw a MLB team name from a hat. Trades of team names can be done by agreement of the two managers involved.
12. Discussions held during the draft/team selection shall be kept in the strictest confidence and the results of the team selection shall be kept exclusively confidential until the date that the players are notified.

Exhibit E: Selection of Tournament Teams

There are three steps to the selection of All-Star teams: the selection of All-Star player nominees; the player nominee practice sessions, and the selection of the All-Star Tournament team roster from the player nominees. In addition, this document addresses selection of the managers and coaches for All-Stars.

Player Nominee Selection

There will be three sets of votes considered in the selection of the All-Star player nominees. All-Star player nominees will be selected by players, managers and coaches voting by ballot. The Player Agent will be responsible for providing each Manager with a ballot of players by team/division approximately June 1. In the event that a team has more than one Assistant Coach, only one of these assistants will be designated to provide a vote. Managers and Coaches may vote for their own child and players may vote for themselves. All voting will be done by secret ballot. Managers should not be concerned about player availability at this time. The ballots will be returned to the player agent approximately June 7th. The results of the voting process will be kept confidential.

The Player Agent will be responsible for tallying the votes. The Player Agent and Division VP will hold a meeting with the team Managers and the vote information is reviewed. Based upon the input of players, managers & coaches a roster of up to 22 player nominees is selected. This allows the manager to field a team that has a competitive balance of skills and allows the manager to select players that can fulfill the practice and game commitments.

The nominated players will be notified with a practice schedule. Practices can not start until June 15th. Any player nominated to the roster must turn in a commitment letter signed by the player and parents in order to participate in the practices and to be considered for the All-Star Tournament team.

Player Nominee Practices

The practice process and the format of each practice is at the discretion of the All-Star Manager, yet will generally focus on allowing the manager and coaches to judge the individual nominee's skill sets. It is important that the player nominees understand their performance during the practice is only one factor that will be considered in the selection of the team and that the manager and coaches may consider current season long performance in a variety of areas. Such areas may include whether the player can pitch or hit at the All-Star level, whether the player is a positive role model on and off the field as a teammate, whether the player's skills contribute a needed role to the team (such as speed), and other factors.

All-Star Tournament Team Selection

The All-Star Tournament Team can have up to 14 players and is generally made up of a 12 player roster with up to 2 alternates. Every player on a tournament team game roster must participate for a minimum of three consecutive defensive outs AND must bat at least one time. All-Stars bat nine players.

Selection of All-Star Managers:

Any regular season Manager or Coach may be considered to be selected as All-Star Manager. The division Vice President is responsible for choosing the All-Star Team Manager after requesting input from division team Managers. The All-Star Team Manager will select two coaches. These individuals must be named on a regular roster as team Manager or Assistant Coach.

Exhibit F: Roster Replacement Policy

Coast and Majors (Baseball and Softball)

In the event of an injury or family relocation outside the boundaries of the Bellevue Thunderbird Little League that would vacate the roster spot for the remainder of the season, the following steps should occur when a replacement player is needed:

1. The Coast or Majors Manager should notify their respective Player Agent and VP of the upcoming vacancy, the reason for the vacancy and the date of the opening as soon as they are made aware of the change.
2. If the opening is at the Majors level and there is a 12-year old on the wait list, the 12-year-old will take priority in consideration to fill the vacancy. In the event that the team with the vacancy already has a full allotment of 12-year-old players, the Player Agent will consider if the replacement will create an unfair advantage prior to making a final decision. Only players who are league age 11 will be considered to serve as a replacement at the Majors level unless there are no 11 year old players willing to move up. If that is the case the Player Agent may start with 10 year old players. If the opening occurs at the Coast level, we will look at the Coast wait list for both the 11 and 10 year olds before bringing up a player from AAA. If there is not a player available on the wait list, only players who are league age 10 will be considered to serve as a replacement unless there are no 10 year olds willing to move up. If that is the case, the Player Agent may start with the 9 year old players.
3. The Player Agent will involve the VP of both the division with the vacancy and the VP of the division of which the replacement player will be drawn from to discuss candidates.
4. The final decision on the nomination of the replacement player will be the responsibility of the Player Agent.
5. Any player whose roster spot is replaced through this process will not be allowed to resume his/her roster spot in the event of a change in moving plans, quick recovery from injury, etc. If a player is replaced and is later eligible to resume play, he will be put on the waiting list and considered as any other player would in the process.
6. Any player approved by BTLL as a replacement player will be removed from the roster of the lower level team and permanently placed on the roster of the higher level team.
7. No request for replacement players will be considered after game #11 of the regular season.

Exhibit G: BTLL Executive Committee

Pursuant to the League's Constitution, the Board of Directors may appoint a limited number of members of the board to form an Executive Committee on an annual basis. The Executive Committee shall have the powers specified in the Constitution and Local Rules. In addition, the Executive Committee shall have the power to act for the Board of Directors on an interim basis regarding any issue that might properly be decided by the Board, subject to the right of the Board as a whole to approve or disapprove the actions of the Executive Committee at the Board's next regularly scheduled meeting. The purpose of this provision is to allow the Executive Committee to act for the Board in a timely fashion when a particular issue needs quick resolution.

The members of the Executive Committee shall consist of not less than three (3) nor more than five (5) Directors. Generally, the Executive Committee members include the League President and may include, Umpire in Chief, respective Player Agent, respective Vice President, and Coaching Coordinator.

Exhibit H: Sportsmanship

Sportsmanship is about character, values, fairness, respect for rules, personal responsibility, learning how to win and how to lose graciously, and how to control frustration and anger.

Bellevue Thunderbird Little League expects all participants, coaches, parents, and players alike to strive for the highest standards and conduct, both on and off the field. True sportsmanship develops from a spirit of respect: respect for the game, respect for oneself, respect for coaches, respect for officials, respect for teammates, and respect for opponents.

All Managers/Coaches, Parents and Players are required to adhere to the BTLL Sportsmanship Code of Conduct to further encourage good sportsmanship at all Bellevue Thunderbird Little League games and events.

Sportsmanship Code of Conduct for Managers and Coaches

I agree to:

- Exhibit respectful and ethical behavior and leadership and act with an awareness that young people learn best by example.
- Know the rules. Abide by and teach the rules of the game. The spirit of good sportsmanship depends on conformance to a rule's intent as well as to the letter of a given rule.
- Respect the integrity and personality of the individual player.
- Be a positive role model and example for players and spectators to follow-refrain from arguments in front of players and spectators; no gestures which indicate an official or opposing coach does not know what he or she is doing or talking about; no throwing of any object in disgust. Do not use profanity, obscene language or improper actions.
- Develop team respect and appreciation for the ability of opponents and for the judgment of umpires and opposing coaches.
- Ensure that your players' baseball experience is one of fun and enjoyment (winning is only part of it). Players should never be yelled at or ridiculed for making mistakes or losing a game.
- Set a good example and be generous with your praise when it is deserved. Players need a coach they can respect.
- Enlist the support of your team's parents in your efforts to instill the proper attitudes and values in the players and to make sportsmanship the number one priority.
- Win and lose graciously and never blame officials for a loss.
- Encourage good sportsmanship at all times. Good sportsmanship requires as much work as any play or skill you will teach a player during the season.

Sportsmanship Code of Conduct for Parents

I/we agree:

- To remember that children participate to have fun and the game is for youth, not adults.
- To learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
- To be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or event.
- Not to engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike behavior with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profanity or obscene gestures.
- To teach my child to always play by the rules.
- To teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning.
- To emphasize skill development and practices and how this benefits my child over winning. I will deemphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
- To never ridicule or yell at my child or other player for making a mistake or for losing a game.
- To promote the physical and emotional well-being of all players ahead of any personal desire I have for my child to win.
- To demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all events.
- To respect the league officials during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field and will take time to speak with coaches as an agreed upon time and place.
- To refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.
- To retain perspective, there are no major league scouts in the stands.

Sportsmanship Code of Conduct for Players

I agree:

- To attend practices and games and notify the coach if I am unable to do so.
- To play by BTLL rules and learn the rules of the game and discuss them with coaches, parents and other players.
- To never argue with or complain about umpire calls or decisions.
- To concentrate on playing baseball and on affecting the outcome of the game with my best effort. Work equally hard for my team as for myself.
- To control my temper on and off the field.
- To never bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
- To practice good sportsmanship by cheering all good plays, whether it is my team or an opposing team.
- To wish opponents good luck before the game and congratulate them in a courteous manner following a victory or defeat.
- To treat my coaches, other players, officials and fans with respect and I will expect to be treated accordingly.
- To encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity because it is important to me.
- To encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches and parents at every game and practice by demonstrating good sportsmanship at all times.

I agree to abide by these conduct guidelines and behavior expectations:

Manager: _____

Date: _____

Coach: _____

Date: _____

Parent(s): _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Player: _____

Date: _____