



FARMINGTON LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL BY-LAWS AND LOCAL RULES 2026

The following are the by-laws and local rules of the Farmington Little League Baseball and Softball (hereinafter referred to as “FLL”) as approved by the FLL Executive Board of Directors on March 14, 2026:

1. Tournament Team Selection

(a) District Team Selection (Baseball only)

- i. The method for selection of players to the 9 – 11 and the 10 - 12 District teams shall be as follows (Baseball only):

At or around the end of the regular season, ballots will be prepared with all of the age appropriate players listed. A player must play in a minimum of eight (8) games in the Majors Division to be eligible for selection. The Manager from each team in the Majors Division will vote for all twelve (12) players from the Majors Division. If there are five (5) or more teams in the Majors Division, Managers will not be allowed to vote for players on their team.

The number of votes for each player will be compiled by the Player Agent. The players receiving the top twelve (12) number of votes will be placed on the team. If exactly twelve (12) players cannot be determined due to ties, the Executive Board (President, Vice President of Baseball, Vice President of Softball, Treasurer, Secretary and Player Agent) shall consult and assign the top twelve (12). If a Major Division Manager is on the Executive Board, they are not allowed to vote (but can be present for the discussion). The Executive Board’s ruling shall be final in determining the twelve (12) players. The Player Agent will then announce the team.

Once the top twelve (12) picks have been finalized, the next two (2) players with the highest vote totals shall be selected using the same process as outlined above. If one or more of the top twelve (12) decline their participation on the district team, then the Executive Board will select the remaining players from the next two (2) highest vote totals.

ii. The method of selection for the 8 - 10 District team shall be as follows (Baseball only):

A panel of not less than six (6) raters (no Coach or Manager may be utilized as a rater if their child is participating in the tryout) shall be appointed by the Player Agent. All eligible players in the Majors Division and the Minors Division will attend an evaluation. The evaluation will be held near the completion of the regular season. The assigned raters will produce a score for each eligible player. These scores will be brought to the Player Agent. The Player Agent will then compile the ratings.

After the compilation of the ratings, the Managers in the Majors Division and Minors Division will meet and provide feedback on all eligible players. They will use the ratings as a guide (which only the Player Agent and Managers of Majors and Minors Divisions will see). However, the ratings are not the sole factor in the selection of the team. A player's season performance and division in which they played should be strongly considered and given considerable weight as well. Each Majors and Minors Manager will then select twelve (12) players from the eligible player pool. The Managers of the Majors and Minors Divisions will select the 8- 10 district team.

(b) The players receiving the top twelve (12) number of votes will be placed on the team. The Player Agent will then announce the team. If the top twelve (12) vote receivers cannot be determined due to ties, then the Executive Board shall consult and assign the top twelve (12). If a Manager is on the Executive Board, they are not allowed to vote (but can be present for the discussion). The Executive Board's ruling shall be final in determining the twelve (12) picks.

(c) Once the top twelve (12) picks have been finalized, the next two (2) players with the highest vote totals shall be selected using the same process as outlined above. If one or more of the top twelve (12) decline their participation on the district team, then the Executive Board will select the remaining players from the next two (2) highest vote totals.

(d) Efforts will be made so that player selection ballots are kept confidential and will be submitted by Managers of the Majors and Minors Divisions as near to simultaneously as possible. Ballots will be on paper only and handed directly to the Managers.

(e) The Board of Directors will select the Managers for all district teams on or around the June board meeting.

(f) The Player Agent will ensure that this process is done according to these by-laws.

2. Draft Method

FLL has incorporated a "Re -Draft" annually for each returning player in the major league division, in addition to the typical "snake" design of the draft. The draft will be conducted utilizing the following additional criteria:

(a) Placement of Manager's Child in Major, Minor and Machine League Draft

For all leagues, the children of Managers and Coaches shall be placed on teams in this manner: the resulting score from the tryout will dictate the round that child will be placed on the team. Any gross discrepancies in a score, or if there is no score for that child, then the Player Agent, in consultation with the Managers, shall assign the round that the player shall be taken.

(b) Placement of Siblings in Major Minor and Machine League Draft

During the draft, once the sibling of higher playing ability is selected by a team, the other sibling will be placed in his/her round by that same team. That round is determined by the score from the tryout. If that round has been filled by another player, then the sibling will be placed in the next available round.

Siblings must be placed on the same team if they are drafted in the same division. The Manager who drafts the first sibling will have the option to select the other sibling at that time or send the sibling down to the Minors or Machine Pitch draft.

Siblings in the Machine Pitch draft must be selected to the same team. Once the first sibling is drafted, the second will be placed on the same team in the round his/her evaluation score dictates.

3. Ten Run Rule

The 10-run rule will be in effect for all divisions. See Rule 4.10 (e).

4. Player Out of the Lineup

Any player who is out of the lineup for more than six (6) games is subject to being removed from his/her team by action of the Board of Directors. However, the board of Directors reserves the right to allow such player to remain on the roster. Managers must make the Player Agent aware if any player misses more than three (3) consecutive games for any reason. Failure to do so will be cause for corrective action against the Manager. (See Regulation III (d))

If a player has been removed from a team, the following is the selection process to fill that roster spot for each division.

- A. For the Majors Division, the player must come from the Minors Division. A pool of players will be provided by the Player Agent for that Manager to select from.
- B. For the Minors Division, the player must come from the Machine Pitch Division. A pool of players will be provided by the Player Agent for that Manager to select from.

5. No Call-Ups the Last Two Weeks of Season

No player will be called up from the Minor League to a Major League team or Machine Pitch League to a Minor League team in the last two weeks of the regular season. (See Regulation III (d) 2). There will be no roster changes in the final two weeks of the season.

6. Major, Minor and Machine Pitch League Regular Season and Playoff Format

(a) Regular Season. In all Leagues, the length of the regular season shall be determined by the League President, in consultation with the Board of Directors, prior to the start of the first game of the regular season, but in no case shall the season be shorter than twelve (12) games.

$$\text{Winning \%} = \frac{[\# \text{ of wins} + (\# \text{ of ties} * 0.5)]}{\text{Total number of completed games that a team has played}}$$

For the purposes of standings and/or seeding, the following method will be used if winning percentage results in a tie between two or more teams.

1. Head to head.
2. Lowest runs against divided by number of games played.
3. Coin flip

In the case of three (or more) teams with equal winning percentage, then the above method shall be used to determine the higher seed. The remaining seed /standing determination will begin again step 1, Head to head.

(b) Playoff Format. The playoff format for each division will be at the discretion of the assigned Division Commissioner. In no event, will there be re-seeding in any round for any division. If there is a need for a bye format due to the number of teams, the bye(s) will go to the highest ranked teams.

7. Division Alignment

The FLL Board of Directors reserves the right to set the alignment of teams in all divisions in accordance with the rules set forth in the Little League Baseball Operations Manual. The following is a guideline set forth, subject to exceptions from year to year, dictated by the FLL President and/or the Board of Directors:

(a) Tee Ball Baseball Division: 4 – 6 year olds. Players must be four (4) years old by August 31st of the playing season.

(b) Coach Pitch Baseball Division: A level established primarily for 5 – 8 year old boys and girls. Emphasis is on learning the fundamentals of baseball, excluding pitching.

Games typically are played on Saturdays at the Little League Fields. Teams are typically formed according to neighborhood residence and school attendance.

(c) **Machine Pitch Baseball Division:** A competitive, machine pitching level for boys and girls with baseball ages 6 – 9 who do not have experience to play in the Minor nor Major Leagues. Teams are determined by draft based on tryout ratings of independent evaluators. Games are typically played on Thursdays and Saturdays.

(d) **Minor League Baseball Division:** A level for the more experienced 7 – 12 year old boys and girls. Teams are determined by a draft based on tryout ratings of independent evaluators. Games typically are played on Tuesdays and Saturdays at the Little League fields, and there is a continuous batting order. Twelve (12) year olds are not allowed to pitch at the Minor League level. If a player younger than eight (8) years old signs up for Minors, they may attend tryouts. However, in order to be eligible for the draft, this player must finish in the top 20% of all players rated based on the overall ratings compiled.

(e) **Major League Baseball Division:** A level for the more experienced 9 – 12 year old boys and girls. You must play at least one year at the Machine Pitch Division or Minors Division before applying for the Majors Division. If a player younger than ten (10) years old signs up for Majors, they may attend tryouts. However, in order to be eligible for the draft, this player must finish in the top 20% of all players rated based on the overall ratings compiled.

Nine (9) players play in the field, and there is a continuous batting order. Teams are determined by a draft based on player tryout ratings. Players are re-drafted each year in all Divisions of FLL. The Major League Division is governed by these by-laws, the rules of Little League Baseball International's Green Book and Baseball Operating Manual.

(f) **Coach Pitch Softball:** 5 – 8 year olds. Teams numbers to be determined each season by the FLL President in consultation with the Vice President for Softball Operations.

(g) **Minor League Softball:** 7 – 12 year olds. Teams numbers to be determined each season by the FLL President in consultation with the Vice President for Softball Operations. If a player younger than eight (8) years old signs up for Minors Softball, they may attend tryouts. However, in order to be eligible, this player must finish in the top 20% of all players rated based on the overall ratings compiled.

(h) **Major League Softball:** 9– 12 year olds. Teams numbers to be determined each season by the FLL President in consultation with the Vice President for Softball Operations. If a player younger than ten (10) years old signs up for Majors Softball, they may attend tryouts. However, in order to be eligible, this player must finish in the top 20% of all players rated based on the overall ratings compiled.

8. Hometown Little League Local Rules

- All players who register to Machine Pitch, Minors Division or Majors Division will be evaluated with other players at that same level. After the evaluation, a draft at each respective Division will be held to select teams. If a player is not selected in the draft of the division that the player was evaluated in, that player will be dropped to the next level below, as follows:
- If not selected for a Major Division team at Major Division tryouts, the player will be placed in the Minors Division.
- If not selected for a Minor Division team at Minor Division tryouts, the player will be placed in the Machine Pitch Division.
- If not selected for a Machine Pitch Division team at Machine Pitch Division tryouts, the player will be placed in the Coach Pitch Division.
- No player will be required to attend more than one evaluation.

Optional rules and regulations for Coach Pitch/Tee Ball divisions are:

- There is a 60-minute time limit on Tee Ball games and a 90-minute time limit on Coach Pitch games.
- Coach Pitch and Tee Ball games. Managers and Coaches are allowed on the field in Tee Ball and Coach Pitch games. (See Regulation VIII) The number of Managers and Coaches in this level shall not exceed four (4).
- Adults (offensive team Manager or Coach) will pitch in the Coach Pitch Division.

9. Executive Board Discretion

The Executive Board reserves the right to make changes and amend the by-laws by majority vote of the Board of Directors. The Executive Board may act, by majority vote of the Executive Board, to amend or clarify non-substantive matters not defined in these by-laws.

The Executive Board and Board of Directors recognizes that FLL is a recreational baseball league designed to encompass all level of skill and playing ability. All decisions made by the Executive Board and Board of Directors shall be made with this in mind.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- All trash must be removed from dugouts after games. Both Managers are responsible for this. Additional items regarding field protocol can be found on the FLL website under the documents section.

- All Managers, Coaches and Umpires should attend a clinic sponsored by the District Administrator or Little League Baseball, Incorporated, prior to the start of the season. The Commissioner of each division is responsible for giving information on clinics to the Managers and Coaches. The umpire-in- chief is responsible for giving information to the umpires and conducting the pre-season Umpire clinic.
- The Safety officer shall coordinate a pre-season Safety clinic that shall be attended by all Managers and Coaches.
- All Hometown Little League volunteers must complete a volunteer application and satisfactorily complete the screening process.
- All Managers and Coaches shall reflect the best attitude and professionalism possible at all times. Teaching, building confidence and good sportsmanship shall be the main priority at FLL.
- No smoking or the use of alcohol shall be permitted within the boundaries of the Little League Complex.

2025 - 2026 Executive Board

President: Paul Nanos

Vice President, Baseball: Rocco Guerrera

Vice President, Softball: Travis McCann

Secretary: Morgan Marshall

Treasurer: Paul Nanos and Rocco Guerrera

Player Agent: Craig Lovely