

Arlington Rec Council

General Organization Rules

As approved by Council on January 22, 2002.

The General Organization Rules enclosed herein shall apply to both baseball and softball leagues governed by Arlington Rec Council.

All managers and coaches are urged to familiarize themselves with the Rule Book applicable to their respective league and those variations established by the Council.

The Arlington Rec Council is the sole body charged with interpretation of these rules and/or variations, and their decision is final.

The General Organization Rules may be altered from time-to-time, as is deemed necessary by the Arlington Rec Council.

I. LEAGUE DEFINITIONS

A. Baseball

1. Ages for league purposes are determined by the actual age of the players on **August 1st** of the year they are playing.
2. The Coach Pitch League shall consist of players 6,7 and 8 years of age.
3. The Minor League shall consist of players aged 8, 9 and 10 years of age.
4. The Junior Pony League consist of players aged 11 and 12 years of age.
5. The Pony League shall consist of players aged 13, 14 and 15 years of age.

B. Softball

1. Ages for slow-pitch league purposes are determined by the actual age of the players on **June 1st** of the year they are playing. Ages for fast-pitch league purposes are determined by the actual age of the players on **January 1st** of the year they are playing.
2. The Coach Pitch League shall consist of players 6,7 and 8 years of age.
3. The Bantam League shall consist of players aged 9, 10 and 11 years of age.
4. The Junior League shall consist of players aged 12, 13 and 14 years of age.
5. The Senior League shall consist of players aged 15, 16, 17 and 18 years of age.

II. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- A. All eligible players must either reside within the Arlington Local School District or be registered to attend the Arlington Local School District.

I. **SOFTBALL/BASEBALL DRAFT RULES.**

- A. The child of a manager will go to their parents team without the cost of a draft pick. No assistant coach will be permitted to have their child assigned to a specific team.
- B. Any brother/sister of players already assigned to a team in a particular age group will automatically go to that team, and their draft position will be assigned after an evaluation by the Baseball or Softball Commissioner. If multiple sisters/brothers enter same draft, once the first one is chosen, their sister(s)/Brother(s) count as next round(s) pick. The only deviation would be a written request prior to the draft from a parent which would then be ruled on by the Arlington Rec Council.
- C. Pre-draft considerations
 - 1. The Arlington Rec Council shall decide prior to the season the number of teams needed in each division and get the basis for any drafting that needs to be done.
 - 2. This shall be determined by a minimum number of players per team and those minimums are 11 players for baseball and fastpitch and 12 players for slowpitch softball. For illustrative purposes an age group in baseball with 32 players signed up would require 2 teams of 16 players each. If 33 players signed up, 3 teams of 11 players would be required.
- D. Regular Draft
 - 1. The draft will be conducted by the respective league commissioner.
 - 2. The draft order shall be determined by reversing the finishing order of each team the previous year (regular season won-loss record). Should a tie exist between 2 or more teams, a coin toss shall decide the order of draft.
 - 3. Tryouts will be held for all players to be drafted. If a player cannot attend the tryout they will be drafted regardless.
 - 4. The Commissioner will monitor the draft in an attempt to have each team have an equal number of players on their roster and hopefully an equal representation of each age group.
 - 5. A manager can not pass on a draft choice except in the final round of the draft in which a manager may pass once.
 - 6. All teams will draft 4 rounds before teams with fewer number of players get multiple picks to start evening out rosters.

7. Should the occasion arise that for some legitimate reason, a manager wished to ensure that a particular player not be assigned to his/her team, he/she must notify the League Commissioner and secure approval prior to the beginning of the draft. Requests after the commencement of the draft will not be honored. Potential players also have said option once per lifetime.
8. Subject to the review and approval of the commissioner, coaches may establish different rules for the draft if they agree to do so unanimously.

A. Expansion Draft

1. Expansion Draft rules will be used in place of Regular Draft rules in those years in which new teams are added to a league. This draft will be conducted by the respective league commissioner.
2. The draft order will be determined by having the expansion teams drafting first, followed by the prior teams determined by reversing the finishing order of each team the previous year (regular season won-loss record), in accordance with the regular draft rules. In case two or more expansion teams are added, the criteria to determine which expansion team will draft first, will be decided by a coin toss or other reasonable method of chance determined by the respective league commissioner.
3. Expansion team(s) receive bonus pick first 2 rounds – all teams draft 4 rounds before teams with fewer players get multiple picks to start evening out rosters.

B. Disbandment of Existing Teams

1. If it is determined that an existing team can not compete in the league or that a previous team's players are to be disbanded for whatever reason, the disbandment of such teams will be handled in the following manner:
 - a). If it is determined that the team is to be disbanded prior to the regular or expansion draft, all players on the affected team will be entered into the try-out draft for selection in the drafting process.
 - b). If it is determined that the team is to be disbanded after the regular or expansion draft has taken place, all players on the affected teams will be selected by other teams as an extension of the previous draft order established at the regular or expansion draft.

- c). Criteria used in consideration will be which coaches are coming back from a previous season. If a team does not have a returning coach they are the most likely candidate. A previously created expansion team may also be a consideration.
- d). Attempts will be made to decide what team is to be disbanded by obtaining consensus among the coaches using the above criteria. However, if a consensus cannot be reached, the Commissioner shall make the final decision.

I. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY RULES

- A. No player shall play in any league games until he/she is listed on a final team roster, his/her player fee has been paid, age verified and all records submitted to the league commissioner and their waiver/consent form is signed.
- B. No team may cut a player.
- C. There will be no trading of players among the teams with one exception. Coaches may trade newly drafted players on the night of the draft only. No players may be traded who previously played on one of the teams and no player may be traded who has already been informed of the team onto which he/she has been drafted.

V. MANAGER GUIDELINES

- A. All managers must maintain a proper score book.
- C. Throwing of bats, helmets, etc., or otherwise mistreating equipment in temper or disgust will not be tolerated. Offending players will be ejected from the game without warning. It is the managers duty to advise his/her players of this rule.
- D. The head coach shall establish a fair and equitable method by which All Star participants are selected. If alternates are selected, they cannot participate in the All Star game unless one or more of the selected players are not present.
- E. In order to promote interest in baseball/softball by both players and parents, a guideline for practices is strongly suggested:
 - 1). Pre-Season-Limit 3 per week/2 hours long.
 - 2). Season-Limit 2 per week/2 hours long.

VI GROUND RULES AND EQUIPMENT

- A. It is recommended that all extra equipment is to be kept inside the dugout. Bats may not be stuck in fence.
- A. Although it is recommended, it is not a requirement that all male players wear athletic supporters.
- B. All catchers are required to wear proper equipment while catching, baseball face mask with a throat protector, chest protector, a set of shin guards, and an athletic supporter with a protective cup. A face mask is also required for softball.
- C. All batters are required to wear a batting helmet. The minor league will have the option of wearing a batting helmet with a face guard. At least two will be made available to each minor league team.

VII. MICELLANEOUS RULES

- A. Player fees are not refundable.
- B. Tobacco products and alcohol are prohibited on the playing field, in the dugout or while in game uniform. One season's suspension is the penalty for violation of the above.
- C. All complaints regarding the handling of Arlington Recreation Council matters must be made in **writing** to the President of the Arlington Recreation Council and must contain the specifics of the complaint and contain the signature of the compaintee and be dated. No action will be taken on verbal complaints. Written complaints will be discussed and acted upon at the next scheduled Rec council meeting. Arlington Rec Council matters include but are not limited to the following:
 - 1. Fees
 - 1. Funds expenditure
 - 2. Coaches
 - 3. Equipment
 - 4. Scheduling
 - 5. Uniforms
 - 6. Team Rosters
 - 7. Umpires
 - 8.

VIII. MIDGET CHEERLEADERS AND POMPOM GIRLS

- A. Rec Council, during Midget football season will make available activities for girls in the 4th 5th and 6th grades. These activities will consist of a Pom Pom squad to perform at Midget football games and cheerleaders to provide support. All girls in grades 4, 5 and 6 are eligible and encouraged to participate.
- B. All girls in the 6th grade and only 6th grade girls will make up the cheerleading squad. There will be no cuts or selecting of girls. All who want to participate will make the squad.
- C. All 4th and 5th grade girls will form the Pom Pom squad. Again, all girls who go out are eligible to participate.