



## CACTUS HORIZON LITTLE LEAGUE 2018 ALL-STAR & TOPS POLICY

Policy	All-Star & TOPS Eligibility and Selection
Date last updated	April 30, 2018
Board approval date	May 1, 2018

### Policy Overview

Little Leagues select All-Star teams on an annual basis to participate in Little League International sponsored Tournaments. The four groups that are selected are: Juniors Division, 10/11/12 Year-Old (Majors) Division, 9/10/11 Year-Old Division, and 8/9/10 Year-Old Division. Cactus Horizon Little League also hosts a post season Tournament (Tournament of Players - TOPS) for 8 and 9 year olds.

Little League's objective during the regular season is to include all Players with a primary focus on skills development. In the post season, the focus shifts to a more limited number of Players selected to All-Star / Tournament teams for Tournament play. Tournament play introduces the challenge of competition with the primary focus being to advance in Tournament play. Positive sportsmanship is expected of Players, Coaches and all spectators during the regular and post seasons.

In All-Star Tournament Play, the mandatory play rules are different and vary depending on the roster size from a minimum of six outs in the field and one at bat to just one at bat and no field play required. It is the All-Star Manager's responsibility to field the best possible team, for the most innings, to win games and advance in the All-Star Tournaments.

This All-Star Policy was developed to be transparent to the Cactus Horizon Little League (CHLL) community as to how CHLL selects its All-Star teams. As summarized below, CHLL's All-Star Player and Manager selection process is a collaborative effort between CHLL's All-Star Committee, regular season Managers and a Player vote (Majors and AAA only). In addition, regular season performance statistics are considered.

CHLL's All-Star Committee has the ultimate responsibility to identify and recommend the All-Star Players and Managers to CHLL's Board of Directors for approval.

All rules that pertain to All-Star Tournament play at any level that are outlined by Little League Baseball, Inc., either in the Official Regulations & Playing Rules, the Operations Manual, or any other Official Publication, will supersede any policy. The following policy outlines the eligibility and selection criteria for Players and Managers and the selection process for both.

### Player Eligibility

1. A Player must have played in at least 60% of the scheduled games during the season to be eligible (i.e. a Player who joined the team mid-season, or who was ill or injured and did not play in at least 60% of the games, would not be eligible). The league may make exceptions for injuries that are verified by a Doctor's note and were the reason for games missed.
2. Parents and Players must sign the "All-Star Commitment Form" prior to a Player being considered for the All-Star team. Parents and Players must commit to be available for practices and games from June 1 through July 31 (or until the team completes tournament play).
3. A Player must not have two or more formal disciplinary actions during the season (i.e. ejected from a game by an Official, benched by a Manager for unsportsmanlike conduct). The Division Coordinator will ensure that this rule is strictly enforced.
4. The Parent's code of conduct applies throughout the season including playoffs and All-Star Tournaments. A violation of the Parent's code of conduct may be grounds for a Player to be ineligible for selection.
5. Ages / division experience:

- a. Juniors Division All-Star Team – must have played on a Juniors team during the current season.
  - b. 10/11/12 Year-Old (Majors) Division All-Star Team – must have played on a Majors team during current season and must be league age 10, 11 or 12.
  - c. 9/10/11 Year-Old Division All-Star Team – must be league age 9, 10 or 11 during the season.
  - d. 8/9/10 Year-Old Division All-Star Team – must be league age 8, 9 or 10 during the season.
  - e. TOPS – must be league age 8 or 9 during the season.

*NOTE: A Player may be considered for more than one of the above teams, but a Player may only play on one team.*
6. Mandatory documentation requirements due upon request by CHLL include but may not be limited to: :
  - a. A valid original birth certificate AND
  - b. Three proofs of residency within league boundaries OR
  - c. Approved school boundary waiver OR
  - d. District Administrator approved II(d) waiver

### **Specific All-Star Teams**

1. CHLL will field All-Star teams in the following age groups at the conclusion of the regular season:
  - a. Juniors All-Star Team
  - b. 10/11/12 Year Old (Majors) All-Star Team
  - c. 9/10/11 Year-Old All-Star Team
  - d. 8/9/10 Year-Old All-Star Team
  - e. Tournament of Players (TOPS)
2. Composition of Teams
 

The number of players on each All-Star Team shall be determined during the selection process by the All-Star Selection Committee (see Committee composition below) with the number ranging from 11-14.
3. Statement of Purpose/Obligation of All-Star Managers
 

The goal of the All-Star Managers is to manage All-Star teams at each age group for the purpose of winning as many games as possible in the All-Star Tournaments while creating a positive experience for all Players. It is the obligation and responsibility of the All-Star Manager at each age group to manage the group of Players selected by CHLL to achieve the goal of advancing as far as possible in a positive and confidence building environment.

### **All-Star Selection Committees**

1. All-Star Selection Committees shall be formed for each age group's All-Star team and shall be comprised of some or all of the following persons:
  - a. President
  - b. Vice-Presidents
  - c. Treasurer
  - d. Secretary
  - e. Division Coordinators
  - f. Player Agent(s)
  - g. Coaching Coordinator
  - h. Board Member
2. Conflict of Interest: Any CHLL Board Member or Committee member who is also a candidate for an All-Star Manager or Coach position may not vote in the specific election in which he/she is a candidate or be present for any discussion debate on his/her candidacy. Any person (excluding the President) with a Player under consideration for an All-Star Team or TOPS may not be a member of the All-Star Committee for the team that the Player is under consideration.
3. Commitment Forms
  - a. Every Player, Manager and Coach who desires to be eligible for selection onto an All-Star team must sign an All-Star Commitment Form which will be distributed to the Players in the league prior to the conclusion of the regular season. The Commitment Form must be returned by the specified date.

- b. Any Player, Manager and Coach who cannot adhere to the commitment requirements may be considered for eligibility to be selected for an All-Star team on a case by case basis by a majority vote of the All-Star Selection Committee of the appropriate age group.

### **All-Star Managers and Coaches Selection**

1. Qualifications
  - a. Candidates for Manager and Coaches of All-Star teams must sign Commitment forms and fulfill Little League requirements. The Commitment form is due back by the date specified with commitment requiring that Managers and Coaches will be available for all (or as approved by CHLL All-Star Selection Committee) practices and games from June 1 through July 31 (or until the team completes Tournament play). Each candidate shall declare which age group(s) he/she is available to serve as a Manager or Coach.
  - b. The Manager and Coaches of all All-Star teams will be selected from the qualified Managers and Coaches in the Juniors, Majors or Minors division. Managers will be asked to attend an interview with the All-Star Selection Committee.
  - c. League Presidents may be eligible to be selected as Tournament team Manager or Coach with written approval from their respective District Administrator.
2. All-Star Manager Selection Process
  - a. The All-Star Selection Committee for the Juniors, 10/11/12 Year-Old (Majors), 9/10/11 Year-Old, 8/9/10 Year-Old and TOPS All-Star Teams shall, by majority vote, after discussion, select the Managers of these All-Star Teams.
  - b. A pool of Coaches will then be selected from the remaining pool of candidates by the CHLL All-Star Committee and following player selection, the Manager will nominate 2 Coaches to the CHLL All-Star Committee for approval.
  - c. The All-Star Selection Committee shall, by majority vote, after discussion, approve the nominations submitted by the Managers for the available Coaching positions (2 per team).

### **All-Star Team Player Selection Process**

The selection of Players for All-Star teams will be the final decision of the All-Star Committee and can utilize input from various sources including: Player vote (Majors/AAA only), Manager and Coach rankings and season statistics.

1. Majors/AAA Players and Majors/AAA Managers and Coaches will vote for a specified number of Players in their division of play. The ballot for the Players vote will include all eligible players from the Majors/AAA Divisions. All ballots will be returned to the Player Agent or designated representative on a specified voting night in May. Ballot voting will request:
  - a. Managers and Coaches to rank their top 12 players in the respective league age group and/or division.
  - b. Players to select (no ranking) 10 players from their division.
2. CHLL understands that Little League International has a stated preference to include as many Players as possible in the All-Star experience and has adjusted rules in recent years to make this more accommodating to managing successful teams.
3. A selection meeting will be held in late May with the All-Star Selection Committee to select all teams:
  - a. Team will be selected in the following order:
    - a. Juniors
    - b. 10/11/12 Year-Old (Majors)
    - c. 8/9/10 Year-Old and 9/10/11 Year-Old (concurrently)
    - d. TOPS
  - b. For the 10/11/12 Year-Old (Majors) All-Star team, the top 6 Players from the Majors Player's vote (% of ballots named) will be added to the 10/11/12 Year-Old (Majors) All-Star Team. If there is a tie for 6 place, the Manager will recommend the tie breaker to the All-Star Committee for final approval.

- c. Regular season Managers from the Majors and Minors divisions will be asked to present their eligible Players to the Committee to discuss their season performance (observed and statistical), skill sets and which team they would help the best. Managers are required to make all season statistics available to the committee and to bring those to the selection meeting.
  - d. Based on all of the above input, the All-Star Selection Committee will then select the next 4-6 Players for the Majors team and 10-12 players for the other teams.
  - e. The All-Star and TOPS Managers will then make a recommendation for the final roster size (12, 13 or 14) and the names of the final two (or three if 14 on roster) Players to the Committee for review and approval.
4. The All-Star Committee will be responsible for reviewing all input and recommendations to make the final selection and approval of the teams. All decisions from the All-Star Committee will be final.

#### **Removal of a Tournament Player**

1. The All-Star Manager has the right to remove a Player from the All-Star team, only under certain circumstances. The Manager should establish and distribute to all Players those rules that pertain to his team. Failure of a Player to conform to these rules can be grounds for removal from the team.
2. Violation of the parent's code of conduct by a parent may be grounds to remove a Player from his team.
3. Should a Manager feel it necessary to remove a Player from the team he must inform the League President, Division Coordinator, and Board of Directors in writing. Manager shall list all pertinent details, and reasons for requesting removal. Upon review and approval by the CHLL All-Star Committee, a member of the Committee will notify the Manager. The Division Coordinator and/or Manager will inform the Player.

#### **Family Volunteer Commitment**

Each season Cactus Horizon Little League offers to host one or more tournaments at Grayhawk Field and or Desert Shadows Fields. To date the TOPS tournament is based at Grayhawk and often one of the Little League tournaments is also hosted by CHLL. A part of the commitment process is for the families of Players on any All-Star team to volunteer their services for at least one game during hosted tournaments at Grayhawk or Desert Shadows. This may include: scorekeeping, pitch count, concessions or field setup / cleanup. After teams are announced a volunteer signup process will begin with each family signing up for a minimum of one game.

#### **Fees**

A \$145 fee will be requested from each Player selected to the All-Star Team to cover costs of uniforms (specific items to be determined). Additional All-Star related items may be available for purchase to Players and families (prices to be determined when available). A \$100 fee for Players in the TOPS tournament will also be requested.

**Consistent with Little League policy, the inability to pay these fees will not prohibit a player from participating on the All-Star team.**

#### **President's Vote**

In any situation that calls for a vote by either the entire CHLL Board of Directors or a committee thereof and the original vote (which includes the President's vote) results in a tie, then the President's vote shall be the tie breaking vote.

**Timeline (all dates approximate and subject to change):**

**COMMITMENT FORMS DUE**

May 7, 2018 – All-Star Team Managers and Coaches submit form

May 7, 2018 – Players submit commitment letters and required documentation

**TEAM ANNOUNCEMENTS**

June 1, 2018

**TOURNAMENT DATES (Subject to change - VERY TENTATIVE!!!!)**

- TOPS – June 11-17, 2018
- 8/9/10 Year-Old – June 18-28, 2018
- 9/10/11 Year-Old – June 18-June 28, 2018
- 10/11/12 Year-Old (Majors) – July 1-11, 2018
- Juniors – July 1-9, 2018

**Selection Criteria**

Players and Managers are selected based on criteria that allows for the best possible representation of Cactus Horizon Little League in the All-Star tournaments. Selection criteria are based not only on performance but on character, commitment and team dynamics. The below chart is the guidance used in selecting teams:

Criteria	Players	Managers	Coaches
Performance	Batting statistics during season. Pitching statistics during season.	Parent evaluations including the number of responses received and number of positive responses. Won/loss percentage during the regular season will <b>not</b> be considered.	Parent evaluations including the number of responses received and number of positive responses.
Behavior / Attitude	Manager feedback on behavior during the season.	Parent and Player feedback on behavior and attitude during season.	Parent and Player feedback on behavior and attitude during season.
	Suspension or multiple ejections can eliminate a Player from consideration. Violations of the parent code of conduct may eliminate a Player from consideration.	Suspension or multiple ejections can eliminate a Manager from consideration.	Suspension or multiple ejections can eliminate a Manager from consideration.
Availability / Commitment	Practice and game attendance during Season. Commitment letter submitted.	Commitment letter Submitted.	Commitment letter Submitted. Attendance record as a Coach during the season.
Tenure / Experience	Years in the league. Experience in a competitive	Years as a Manager or Coach. Previous All-Star or	Years as a Manager or Coach. Previous All-Star or

	environment	competitive baseball Management experience. Service to the league in any capacity.	competitive baseball Management experience. Service to the league in any capacity.
Role / Position	Manager discretion based on composition of team and team strategy (i.e. speed, position Player).	n/a	n/a