

BYLAWS

Forest City Cal Ripken League

ARTICLE I - ASSOCIATION NAME

This organization shall be known as the Forest City Cal Ripken League and referred to as the FCCRL. The FCCRL exists for the educational benefit of the children in that every child will be given the opportunity to play regardless of ability and will refer to the Cal Ripken guidelines.

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES

A. The objectives of the FCCRL are to implant firmly in the youth of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, and teamwork so they may grow to be well adjusted, physically fit, respectable, fair-minded adults. The FCCRL shall teach the game of baseball/ softball to our youth while improving skill levels by providing instruction in all aspects of the game.

B. These objectives will be achieved by providing supervised competitive practices and games. The attainment of exceptional athletic skill or the winning of games is secondary to the prime objective of molding character.

ARTICLE III – HARDSHIPS

A. All youth of the FCCRL shall be given the opportunity to play regardless of the ability to pay. The Executive Board retains the authority to make arrangements with parents/ guardians of youth who are financially unable to afford the registration fee. Such arrangements shall be maintained in confidence.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership of the FCCRL consists of all Executive Board members, General Board members, team parents/guardians, players, and sponsors.

ARTICLE V – EXECUTIVE BOARD

A. The Executive Board shall consist of:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- **Baseball** Commissioner
- **Softball Commissioner**

B. **President will abstain from voting; in the event of a tie he/she will then cast the deciding vote.** All Executive Board members will have voting privileges for the purpose of presenting and transacting business not handled by the Bylaws. Unless unavailable to do so, (vacation, illness) all Executive Board members will vote. Telephone voting may be conducted to obtain votes. The majority of the Executive Board must be available to conduct a vote on FCCRL issues.

C. All positions are filled by election. In December of each year an announcement will be sent to all FCCRL members via email calling for a general meeting to be held in the first two weeks of January. At that time the announcement will include offices up for re-election according to the below chart. If the incumbent is seeking re-election that will also be noted. Nominations may be made by email, or in person at the meeting. A ballot will be distributed at the meeting and a vote taken on each position opening in the order they are listed below. All positions will be held for the following terms beginning in January:

1. President will hold office for a term of two years. An election for President will be held on odd numbered years.
2. Vice President will hold office for a term of two years. An election for Vice President will be held on even numbered years.
3. Treasurer will hold office for a term of two years. An election for Treasurer will be held on odd numbered years.
4. Secretary will hold office for a term of two years. An election for Secretary will be held on even numbered years.
5. **FCLL Baseball and Softball Commissioners** will hold office for a term of two years. Election for the **FCLL Baseball and Softball Commissioners** will be held on even years.
6. All General Board positions will be filled on a yearly basis by appointment by the Executive Board.
7. All elected and appointed positions may be held for consecutive terms.
8. Refer to the Code of Conduct for provisions to remove an individual from a position.

D. In the event that positions become vacant after the yearly election has been held, the Executive Board will fill vacancies by appointment of approved volunteers as deemed

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necessary. Positions will be filled within 30 days of the vacancy and will be held for the remainder of the term.

E. Ideally an elected official should hold only one office. In the event that an office cannot be filled, an individual may hold more than one position

F. Should an Executive Board member desire to manage a team, it is allowable. Any complaints properly executed in writing regarding conduct due to the potential conflict of interest, will be referred through the disciplinary process according to the Code of Conduct Section. The full board will decide what if any sanctions will be imposed.

G. To be eligible for an office the candidate must be a member in good standing with the FCCRL and the community.

ARTICLE VI – DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

A. Set policy and conduct the business of the FCCRL consistent with these Bylaws as may be amended by majority vote. The Executive Board shall manage and oversee all business of the FCCRL.

B. Be responsible for league protests and disputes.

C. Report to the President any known rule infraction or disagreement. All rule infractions and/or disagreements must be submitted to any Executive Board member.

D. Review finances with the Treasurer.

E. The President shall:

1. Represent the FCCRL as a senior board member.
2. Preside over all meetings.
3. Have the authority to temporarily restrict the use of a field for maintenance and/or safety consideration.
4. Assume responsibility for the operation of the FCCRL.
5. See that the League Coordinators adhere to the rules, regulations and policies of Cal Ripken Baseball.
6. Designate other Officers if necessary, to have power to make and execute for and in the name of the FCCRL after which prior approval has been granted by the Executive Board.
7. Make themselves available, as necessary, to promote the general welfare of the league.
8. Act in accordance with Cal Ripken rules and regulations.

F. The Vice President shall:

1. Represent the FCCRL as a senior board member.
2. Preside over all meetings/business in the event that the President is unavailable to do so. When acting as President, the Vice President shall have all the powers and responsibilities of the office of President.
3. Make themselves available, as necessary, to promote the general welfare of the league.
4. Schedule umpires for all divisions requiring one. Refer to umpire coordinator; Article VII (J).
5. For instances not addressed in these Bylaws, will act in accordance with Cal Ripken rules.

G. The Treasurer shall:

1. Present all budgets and proposals for expenditures to both the Executive and General Boards.
2. Maintain a two signature checking account with any two Executive Board signatures.
3. Prepare and sign all checks.
4. Receive all monies and securities, and deposit same in a depository approved by the Executive Board.

5. DISBURSEMENTS

- a. Keep records for the receipt and disbursement of all monies and securities of the FCCRL, approve all payments from allocated funds and draw checks therefore in agreement with policy. Amount exceeding \$250.00 must meet the approval of the Executive Board.

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- b. Reimburse all Executive and General Members for out of pocket expenses, within reason.
- 6. Prepare an annual financial report to be submitted to General and Executive Boards at the annual meeting held in January.
- 7. Act as league insurance coordinator.
- 8. Report to the Executive Board anything not covered in the Bylaws.
- H. The Secretary shall:**
 - 1. Conduct official correspondence on behalf of the FCCRL. Correspondence will be proof read and approved by another Executive Board member.
 - 2. Upon approval, record and forward the minutes to the web master and provide hardcopies at meetings.
 - 3. Retain the official file of the FCCRL Bylaws including amendments.
 - 4. Sends notices of regular and special meetings.
 - 5. Maintains an official record of the league's activities.
 - 6. Submits official rosters and all documents to Cal Ripken headquarters.
 - 7. Have available at all times records of all league business.
 - 8. Submit uniform orders to the uniform manager
 - 9. Maintain well organized files to be turned over to his/her successor.
 - 10. Oversee media attention, promotional activities, and ensure that sponsors and contributors receive proper acknowledgements for their charitable deeds.
 - 11. The Secretary shall report to the Executive Board anything not covered in the Bylaws.
- I. The Baseball and Softball Commissioners shall:**
 - 1. Provide the Executive Board, Division Managers, and Team Managers a copy of league rules.
 - 2. Interpret and ensure enforcement of and compliance of these Bylaws.
 - 3. Participate in arbitrating disagreements.
 - 4. Compile, maintain, and submit team rosters to the Executive Board and the Division and Team Managers.
 - 5. Participate in annual league registration.
 - 6. Preside over player selection meetings.
 - 7. Report all business of the FCCRL to the Executive Board members for final approval.
 - 8. Preside over All Star Team selection and ensure that all members of the All Star Team are qualified to be on the team.
 - 9. Ensures that all Cal Ripken and Valley Petunia are followed unless amended by the FCCRL.
 - 10. Coordinate practice, game, and field schedules.
 - 11. Collect player evaluations from the Team Manager prior to Player Selection meeting.
 - 12. Be present at Cal Ripken and Valley Petunia meetings when necessary.
 - 13. Receive complaints and rule infractions in writing and report to the Executive Board.
 - 14. Distribute and familiarize the Team Managers with Cal Ripken and Valley Petunia rules.
 - 15. Set specifications for the fields.

ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF THE GENERAL BOARD

- A.** The General Board will consist of all Division Managers, Fund Raising Coordinator, Sponsorship Coordinator, Equipment Manager, Concessions Stand Manager, Concessions Trailer Manager, Picture Coordinator, Web Master, Umpire Coordinator, Field Maintenance, Bylaws, and Election Committees.
- B.** Attend all mandatory meetings.
- C.** Division Managers shall:
 - 1. Schedule all games under the direct supervision of the Baseball and Softball Commissioners.
 - 2. Compile and submit final game/practice schedules to the Commissioners for review.
 - 3. Report to the Commissioners all activities of the division.
- D.** Fundraising Coordinator shall:
 - 1. Manage all fundraising activities including set up, pick up, and distribution to the Team Managers or Team Parent.
 - 2. Submit money and receipts to the Treasurer.
 - 3. Report all discrepancies and business regarding fundraising to the Treasurer.

E. Sponsorship Coordinator shall:

1. Obtain sponsorships for the Association.
2. Compile sponsorship agreements and submit them to the Secretary.
3. Collect sponsorship fees and submit them to the Treasurer.
4. Compile field advertisement order forms, collect fees, and submit to the appropriate Board Member.

F. Equipment Manager shall:

1. Provide Team Managers with first aid supplies.
2. Place equipment orders as needed and in a timely manner.
3. Maintains an inventory of all equipment and the whereabouts.
4. Ensures that the equipment is maintained in good, working, usable, and safe condition.
5. Distributes and collects keys to the equipment shed at the beginning and end of each season.
6. Distributes and collects equipment at the beginning and end of each season.
7. Will secure the necessary equipment and supplies to maintain the fields.
8. Reports all equipment related business to the Executive Board.

G. Concessions Managers shall:

1. Secure enough personnel for operation of the concession stand/trailer.
2. Secure necessary supplies for the stand/trailer.
3. Maintain weekly records of purchases.
4. Maintains concession equipment.
5. Follows the written guidelines for the concessions stand/trailer with regard to the money practices, which will be an attachment to these bylaws. Arranges transport of the stand/trailer to and from the fields.
6. Reports all business of the concession stand/trailer directly to the Executive Board.
7. Keep a record of umpire fees obtained from the concession stand/trailer.

H. Picture Coordinator shall:

1. Schedule picture day with the photographer early in the spring before game schedules are made. Notify the Baseball and Softball Commissioners as to the date of picture day for game scheduling purposes.
2. Present to the Executive Committee any proposals for a new photographer.
3. Secure a location for the photos.
4. Distribute picture packets to Team Managers or Team Parent as soon as they are received.
5. Schedule the teams for pictures.
6. Make self-available on picture day to keep the schedule moving in a timely fashion.
7. Report directly to the Executive Board all business regarding picture day.

I. The Web Master shall:

1. Maintain an up-to-date web site.
2. Report to the Executive Board all business regarding the web site.

J. The Umpire Coordinator (Vice President) shall:

1. Schedule umpires for all home games and tournaments.
2. Keep an up-to-date schedule for all games.
3. Communicate with the Team Managers any changes to the schedules.
4. The umpire will be paid a minimum of \$25.00 per game.
5. Umpire fees will be paid from the concession stand/trailer.
6. The home team will run a 50/50. All money generated from this will be submitted to the concession stand/trailer after every game. The amount to be noted in the logbook of the stand, according to the written guidelines for the concession stand/trailer.

K. All members of the FCCRL should:

1. Be responsible for maintenance and upkeep of all fields and participate in work parties.
2. Participate in the fund raiser or opt out for a fee.
3. Be available to run a concession/trailer stand for at least one game.
4. Be actively involved in the nomination and election meetings.

ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES

A. Bylaws and Rules Committee:

1. Presided over by the President, the Bylaws Committee will include all Executive and General Board Members.
 2. The Bylaws are a matter of public record and will be posted at all times on the website. The Bylaws will be distributed to all individuals in attendance at the annual January election meeting.
 3. At the second meeting held in January for organization purposes the Bylaws will be read and any adjustments proposed and voted on. There must be a full board majority to make a change in the Bylaws present and a majority vote required to make a change.
 4. The Bylaws will be approved after the final reading in January by posting online and email giving one week for any discrepancies to be resolved.
- B. Field Maintenance Committee:**
1. The Field Maintenance Committee shall consist of all Members of the FCCRL and will be overseen by the Committee Chair or the Executive Board.
 2. Field Maintenance workdays will be scheduled by the Chair or Executive Board periodically prior to and throughout the season. Workdays should be attended by all Members. The Executive Board will secure adequate help for the work sessions.
 3. It is the Team Managers responsibility to ensure the fields are lined properly for games.
 4. Submit receipts to the Treasurer in a timely manner.
 5. Report all business to the **Baseball and Softball** Commissioners.
- C. Tournaments and Special Events:**
1. The **Baseball and Softball** Commissioners, Managers, and Coaches will oversee the scheduling of all Tournaments and activities such as Camps and the Home Run Derby.

ARTICLE IX – Changing of Officers

- A.** Elections will be held for the following Executive Board positions:
1. President: An election for President will be held on odd numbered years.
 2. Vice President: An election for Vice President will be held on even numbered years.
 3. Treasurer: An election for Treasurer will be held on odd numbered years.
 4. Secretary: An election for Secretary will be held on even numbered years.
 5. **Baseball and Softball** Commissioners: An election for Commissioners will be held on even numbered years.
- B.** After the elections have been held in January, the newly elected officials will receive a copy of the Bylaws in preparation for the January Organizational meeting.
1. The newly elected officials will familiarize themselves with the Bylaws in preparation for the reading of the Bylaws for January's Organizational meeting.
 2. The out-going official will transfer all records to the newly elected official in a timely manner.
 3. The out-going official will familiarize the newly elected official with their responsibilities, prior to the re-organizational meeting to be held in January.
- C.** Refer to the Code of Conduct for provisions to remove an elected official from office.
- D.** Applications for vacancies on the General Board will be taken after elections are held. And will be filled in the January Organizational meeting by a vote of those in attendance. A majority of the Full Board must be in attendance.

ARTICLE X – MANDATORY MEETINGS

- A.** Held annually in January, Vote for officers, re-organizational meeting, and last reading of the Bylaws.
- B.** Held in February, the Player Selection meeting will be held.
- C.** Held in March, a preseason review and approval of rosters, and selection of team managers.
- D.** Held in April, coaches meeting.
- E.** .

ARTICLE XI – CODE OF CONDUCT

- A.** The FCCRL has the right to make and enforce its own laws. The FCCRL has a Zero

Tolerance Policy with regard to instances of player, parent, coach, fan, and umpire abuse. Confirmed negative behavior will be grounds for penalties. Any offending member may be warned or banned from attending meetings, games, practices, and/or other functions sponsored by the FCCRL.

1. Individuals subject to disciplinary action for confirmed negative behavior include: all members of the Executive Board, General Board, Committee Chairs, Committee Members, Manager, Coaches, Players, Parent/Guardians, Umpires, and Fans.
- B.** Examples of negative behavior include, but are not limited to berating of a member conducted in a loud, threatening, irrational, or violent manner; repeated complaints, or failure to follow the objectives as set up by the Bylaws.
- C.** Any member can report significant or recurring instances of negative behavior to any member of the Executive Board in writing within 48 hours of the offense. All reports must be signed by the individual requesting an investigation into the matter.
- D.** To sustain and promote a safe organized environment the Executive Board has the right to investigate an incident.
- E.** All charges/complaints will be investigated by the Executive Board.
 1. The Executive Board will report findings and recommendations, in a timely manner upon receipt of the written complaint.
 2. The Executive Board will hear the facts and take action, in a timely manner upon receipt of the findings and recommendations.
 3. By majority vote the Executive Board will determine the severity of the disciplinary action to be taken. The Executive Board may warn, suspend, or expel any individual deemed to have committed negative behavior violations.
- F.** Notification of Disciplinary Action:
 1. An individual accused of negative behavior violations will be notified in writing of the accusations and disciplinary action to be taken in a timely manner.
 2. The individual might be asked to appear before the Executive Board to appeal the accusations and disciplinary action.
 3. A majority vote of the Executive Board will be necessary to reverse the original ruling.
 4. Failure of the accused to cooperate will result in the decision being final.
 5. If necessary, a special meeting will be scheduled to include members of the General Board.
- G.** Meetings:
 1. An individual may be asked not to remain in the room in the event that he/she becomes a distraction by exhibiting, negative, irrational behavior leading to a disruption of order. It is the responsibility of the President to enforce this rule of order.

ARTICLE XII – PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITY

- A.** Parents/guardians shall:
 1. Be responsible for transportation to and from practices and games. The coach must be informed when special arrangements have been made. The coach is not responsible or liable for player transportation.
 2. Be on site during scheduled dates and times for supervision of the players.
 3. Be prompt.
 4. Notify the Team Manager or Coach in a timely manner prior to an event when a player will not attend a scheduled practice, game, or special event. The absence of players could result in changes to plans.
 5. Maintain a clean and complete uniform for the player; appropriate shoes, glove, and water bottle, no metal spikes.
 6. Demonstrate positive, respectful, and encouraging behavior. As parents/guardians you will model sportsmanship and control emotions during competition and practices. You must enforce respectful behavior from the player toward all coaches, players, umpires, and spectators.
 7. Understand that the Team Manager and Coach is the designated representative of the team and will address any and all concerns toward officials. Umpire abuse will not be tolerated.

8. Address all concerns after competitions or practices, in private, and in a calm and respectful manner.
 9. Submit all concerns requiring the attention of the Executive Board in writing to any Executive Board member within 48 hours of an incident.
 10. Know that the use of foul language, alcohol, and tobacco products is prohibited at all FCCRL events.
 11. Will be available to participate in field maintenance.
 12. Will be available to work the concession stand/trailer for an event.
 13. Know that jewelry is prohibited by all players during any FCCRL event, with the exception of Medical Alert and/or certain religious items. Medical Alert/religious items will be taped securely during practices, games, tournaments, and special events so as not to cause a hazard to the player.
 14. Know that with the approval of the Executive Board, the Team Manager may add to these responsibilities any provisions that will aid him/her in managing the team effectively.
 15. If a player has an injury requiring professional medical attention and preventing the player from participating in practices or games, you will be required to provide the FCCRL with medical clearance from a physician prior to returning to FCCRL activities.
 16. Player participation in fundraisers or the buyout option is required.
- B.** Parents/guardians will receive a copy of the responsibilities on the day of registration and will abide by these responsibilities as set up by the FCCRL. The Parent/Guardian will verify that they understand and agree to these responsibilities by signing the registration form.

ARTICLE XIII – SELECTION OF TEAM MANAGERS

- A.** The **Baseball and Softball** Commissioners shall be responsible for presenting a list of all individuals who have expressed an interest in being a Team Manager to the Executive Board for consideration. Candidates for the Team Manager position will be handled through the Executive Board. Team Managers will complete the sign up form to be put on file with the league Secretary prior to the start of the season. Both the Executive and General Boards will screen each candidate as to his/her ability to teach and demonstrate sportsmanship. Team Managers, Coaches, and Assistant Coaches are required to have a criminal background check through the Pennsylvania State Police. Forms will be provided to these individuals by the FCCRL. It's their responsibility to fill it out the form and return it to the league. The FCCRL will mail the forms and pay the fees associated with the background check. Individuals are required to apply only once. A copy of the background check will be maintained on file with the FCCRL.
- B.** The Team Manager must be at least 18 years of age.
- C.** Consideration for Team Manager may include, but not be limited to factors such as:
- Prior coaching experience.
 - Reputation within the Association.
 - Willingness to volunteer their time to be a Team Manager.
 - General knowledge of the game.
 - Prior selection as a Team Manager is not a guarantee of future selection.

ARTICLE XIV – THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TEAM MANAGER

- A.** Team Managers shall conduct their actions and language, and control the actions and language of any parent, player, spectator, or assistant in a manner consistent with the stated objectives of the FCCRL.
- B.** Team Managers, or someone appointed by him/her, such as a team parent shall be responsible for collection of fundraising monies and will submit funds to any Executive Board member.
1. Managers or someone appointed by him/her will report directly to the Treasurer any non-payment of fundraising monies.
- C.** Team Manager or someone appointed by him/her, such as a team parent shall be responsible for contacting all players on their rosters with regard to practices, games, picture day, fundraising deadlines, parades, the Home Run Derby, or any other event that directly affects their team.
- D.** Team Managers shall be responsible to assist and carry out any other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the FCCRL Executive Board.

E. Team Managers, Coaches, Assistant Coaches shall be as fair as possible.

F. The Team Manager will be responsible for appointing someone such as a team parent to conduct a 50/50 drawing at every home game. Funds collected will be submitted to the concession stand/trailer as one of the league's annual fundraisers

1. The Team manager will submit the funds into the collection box with an appropriate deposit slip as indicated in the Concessions guidelines.

G. Direct all calls and inquiries to the President.

H. Do not make phone calls to the Forest City School regarding FCCRL business.

K. At the beginning of the year the condition of the fields will be the determining factor as to when practices may begin. None of the Team Managers will schedule a game or practice until the President gives his/her approval for the use of the fields.

L. Rescheduled practices and games must be scheduled on the FCCRL google calendar. Each team manager will be given access to make changes on the calendar, any FCCRL member may have view only access to the site.

M. The Team Manager and coaches will attend the annual FCCRL Coaches Meeting.

N. It is the responsibility of the Team Manager to select a capable score keeper for home games. The individual must be able to keep accurate stats.

1. The home game score keeper will be the official score keeper for that game.
2. The home team Manager is responsible for turning game results into the President or his/her Designee so results can be posted.

O. The Team Manager will select the Assistant Coaches. These individuals will fill out a Coaches Application. The applications will be reviewed by the Executive Board for final approval. All Assistants must complete the Criminal Background Check form. The FCCRL will mail and pay the fees associated with all background checks. The assistant need only apply once. The coach application and background check will be maintained on file.

P. The Team Manager, in the event that a player requires his/her supervision will do so in the presence of another adult or player. A Team Manager should not be put in the position to be left alone with any minor aged player.

Q. The Team Manager will have available the necessary First Aid supplies at all FCCRL events.

R. The use of tobacco products, alcohol, and foul language by Team Managers and Coaches is prohibited at all FCCRL events.

S. The Team Manager will ensure that the field be properly lined prior to a game. The Team Manager can select reliable volunteers from his/her team to assist or carry out the responsibility.

ARTICLE XV – PLAYERS AND ROSTERS

A. Any youth meeting the following requirements may participate in a program of the FCCRL:

- Must reside in the Forest City Regional School District
- A resident from another school district may play if there is not a program available in their district.
- The age cutoff date for Cal Ripken Baseball is May 1st.
- T-Ball Any youth ages 4-5-6
- Rookie Any youth ages 6-8
- Minors Youth ages 8-11
- Majors Youth ages of 9-12

ARTICLE XVI – TEAM COMPOSITION

A. Team composition will be contingent on enrollment and will be adjusted accordingly, possibly on a yearly basis.

B. Enrollment into the Tee Ball division will determine the total number of players per roster. Returning players will be placed on the same team as the previous year. All siblings will be placed on the same team. The children of a coach will be placed on his/her team. All other new players will be assigned by the Tee Ball Manager ensuring that all teams are balanced. The rosters will then be reviewed for final approval by the Executive Board.

C. The number of Rookie Teams will be contingent on enrollment. Returning players will be placed on the same team as the previous year. All siblings will be placed on the same team. The children of a coach will be placed on his/her team. All other new players will be assigned by the Rookie Manager ensuring that all teams are balanced. The rosters will then be reviewed for final approval by the Executive Board.

D. Each Minor/Major team shall consist of no less than 11 players and not more than 15 players. Returning players will be placed on the same team as the previous year. All siblings will be placed on the same team. The children of a coach will be placed on his/her team. All other new players will be assigned via the Player Selection system.

E. Should the **Baseball and Softball** Commissioners have to drop any players to conform to the Cal Ripken or FCCRL rules pertaining to the number of players, the player's name will appear on the Player Selection list.

F. With the consent of the parent/guardian and the player, he/she may be advanced to the next division during the season in the event that a team does not have enough players to finish out the season. The team must have 11 or less on the roster before requesting another player. This player will not be permitted to move back down.

G. In the event that a roster position becomes vacant the Team Manager will make an effort to fill the position within 14 days of the vacancy.

1. A player that has advanced will be considered property of that team and will remain on the roster until the end of the season, and will be placed on the Player Selection list for the next season.
2. If a position opens on a team in any division during the regular season, the Team Manager will select from a list of eligible players.
3. If a player requesting advancement is offered the opportunity to advance and declines the offer, he/she will not be asked again for the remainder of the season.
4. Advancement to the next level of play will occur only after it's been determined that the need is present and that the team at the lower level has enough remaining players to support the move. This determination will be made by the Commissioner and Division Manager.

ARTICLE XVII – MAJOR AND MINOR DIVISION PLAYER SELECTION

A. The Player Selection Meeting will be presided over by the Executive Board and Division Managers and is open to the current Team Managers as well as one named assistant coach from each team.

B. Players returning to the same division shall remain on the team that he/she previously played on.

C. To be eligible for Player Selection, registration forms must be complete, signed, and submitted to the Registrar prior to the Player Selection Meeting.

D. Players registering after the Player Selection Meeting will be placed on a roster by the Board. In the event that a vacancy does not exist, the player will be placed on a waiting list.

E. Rules for selection of Major League players:

1. The last place team of the previous regular season will have the first pick in every round of Player Selection using the criteria outlined in the Player Selection Policy.
2. The order will continue in the reverse order of the standings from the previous year for the first round and all subsequent rounds.
3. After the 2nd round, each team should have at least 7 players. Keeping the same order, teams that do not have at least 7 players on the roster will receive a bonus pick at the end of round two.
4. After the 3rd round, each team should have at least 8 players. Again, keeping the same order, teams that don't have at least 8 players will receive a bonus pick at the end of round three.

5. After the 4th round, each team should have at least 9 players. Again, keeping the same order, teams that don't have at least 9 players will receive a bonus pick at the end of round four.
 6. After the 2nd round, teams with a roster of 9 will no longer draft until all other teams have reached a roster of 9.
 7. Players will be selected based on ability and not necessarily according to age, with the exception of 11 year olds.
 8. All 11 year olds must be selected prior to the conclusion of the Player Selection meeting, unless the 11-year-old player and parents requests to remain in the Minors.
- F. Rules for Selection of Minor League players:**
1. Team Managers will select eligible players including those remaining from the Major League Player Selection Meeting.
 2. The order will continue in the reverse order of the standings from the previous year for the first round and all subsequent rounds.
 3. Minor League Player Selection will follow the same procedure as the Major League Selection Policy described above.
 4. All players that have not been selected will be placed on a Rookie League team by the President and the Rookie Division Manager.
 5. All players 9 years old and older must be selected prior to the conclusion of the Player Selection Meeting. Players 9 years old and older are ineligible for the Rookie Division.
- ARTICLE XVIII - PLAYER SELECTION POLICY**
- A.** First year Team Managers will be allowed to name one assistant coach before the Player Selection Meeting.
- B.** Protected players are the manager's child or children, the named assistant coach's child or children, and siblings of existing team members.
- C.** Each Team Manager is required to select his/her child by their 4th pick. The assistant coach's child is also required to be selected by their 4th pick. The assistant coach named will be the assistant coach of record as long as his/her child is eligible to play in the given division. Basically, a Team Manager can't name a different assistant coach every year so that they can protect certain players from being drafted by another team.
- D.** Team Managers are also required to select team member siblings by their 4th pick. When the first sibling is selected and a second sibling of the same division is also eligible, the second sibling will be selected before the conclusion of the Player Selection Meeting.
- E.** A Team Manager should not be required to select 3 or more players by their 4th pick, thereby reducing or eliminating free picks. If a Team Manager has 3 protected players in the draft, he / she must pick the protected players by their 5th pick. If a Team Manager has 4 protected players in the draft, he/she must pick the protected players by their 6th pick, etc.
- F.** Player selection meetings will be confidential. The positions in which a player was chosen will not be discussed outside of the meeting. Violation of this rule will result in disciplinary action by the Executive Board.
- G.** If the Executive Board finds evidence that a Team Manager manipulates these procedures in any way, (example: names an assistant coach and that assistant coach does not participate as a coach during the regular season), the Executive Board reserves the right to take disciplinary action against the Team Manager and may also take away future draft picks.
- H.** Best record will be determined using the following criteria in this order:
1. Overall record
 2. Head-to-head
 3. Common opponents
 4. Coin flip

ARTICLE XIX - EXPANSION

- A.** At such time the Executive Board determines that additional teams should be added to the FCCRL, the teams will be formed as follows:
1. The teams will remain balanced. Each existing team is granted the right to protect a certain number of players from each age group. The number of protected players will be derived by looking at the team in the division with the smallest number of returning players. That then will be the number that each team may protect. The child of the Team Manager & the child of the one assistant coach must be included in the group of protected players. The remainder will enter the expansion pool.
 2. The expansion Team Manager may select players from the expansion pool. He/she must select an even number of players from each existing team.
 3. The expansion Team Manager's child as well as the assistant coach's child will each count as one selection.

4. The regular player selection meeting will begin after the expansion Team Manager has chosen enough players from the expansion pool to make his/her roster equal to the team with the least amount of players. The Executive Board will determine the size of the expansion pool.
5. The expansion Team Manager will select prior to the start of the regular Player Selection Meeting. The expansion team will get the 1st choice in each round of the regular team selection.
6. The Executive Board reserves the right to redraft all teams to maintain a balanced league. It is the intention of this policy to create as best as possible evenly balanced teams for the purposes of healthy competition.

ARTICLE XX - CONTRACTION

- A.** If the number of teams within a division must be reduced, the Executive Board will determine which team will be deleted.
1. All affected players will be reassigned at a preliminary Player Selection Meeting attended by Executive Board members and Team Managers only, prior to the regular season Player Selection Meeting involving new candidates.
 2. The order of selection will be in the reverse order of the finish from the previous season.

ARTICLE XXI – DISTRICT 5 ALL-STAR BASEBALL

- A.** The Cal Ripken All-Star Teams shall be named the Forest City Foresters, with the uniform color being Purple.
- B.** The All Star Managers will be chosen by the Executive Board from a list of interested applicants who've applied in writing. The manager of the team with the best regular season record at the end on May will be given preference if he or she is interested in the All-Star manager position. All-Star Managers will select his or her assistants from any managers or coaches listed on the regular season rosters.
- C.** There will be 12 players on an All-Star roster, with no alternates.
- D.** The All-Star selection process will be as follows:
1. All players eligible for each team will be listed on ballot regardless of ability.
 2. Each team will receive 3 ballots, One for the manager & two for the assistant coaches.
 3. Managers & coaches will meet and present statistics for each of their players on the team, statistics should include Batting Average, On Base percentage, and ERA for pitchers. This meeting will be presided over by the President of the league. A unified ballot will be composed including the stats. Then the Managers and Coaches will vote for 12 players on the ballot. Bring scorebooks to back up the numbers. **Scoring applications are highly recommended.
 4. Managers votes are worth 2 points & assistant coaches' votes are worth 1 point.
 5. Top 12 point getters will be named to the team; ties will be broken by batting average.
- E.** The All Star Manager will announce the All-Star Selections to the players.
- G.** In the event that the Executive Board determines that this method of All-Star selection has been conducted in an unfair manner, the Board reserves the right to strike the entire process and another method of All-Star selection will be used.

ARTICLE XXIII – GENERAL POLICY

- A.** The officers and members of the FCCRL shall serve without monetary compensation.
- B.** The FCCRL shall purchase annually such insurance that will adequately cover all players.
- C.** Parents of youths enrolled in the FCCRL shall be required to contribute an annual registration fee as designated by the Executive Committee.

- D.** Appropriate shoes, glove, and personal protective equipment, and pants are the responsibility of the parent. Hats, Jerseys, and Socks will be provided by the league.
- E.** If fund-raising monies, registration fees, or any fees owed to the FCCRL have not been turned in by the parents of a player before the end of the season the Executive Board will meet and discuss the situation to determine the action to be taken based on the circumstance.
- F.** There will be no refunds to anyone in the event that a player desires to leave his/her assigned team.
- G.** Any player desiring to leave a team after the final rosters have been compiled will not be placed on another team. This should be explained to the individual prior to his/her final decision. The individual may register for the next season and will be listed on the Player Selection list.
- H.** In the event that a game or practice is cancelled due to inclement weather the coach must first check with the Google calendar prior to rescheduling for field availability. All games and practices will be postponed or stopped immediately in the event of severe weather. **If thunder/lightning can be seen or heard it is too close.** Stop play, walk to shelter staying away from metal fencing, trees, or water. Play may resume only when the danger has safely passed.
- I.** Any individual may file a grievance. Grievances will be submitted to any member of the Executive Board in writing within 48 hours of the incident. The Board will take appropriate action in accordance with Article XI.
- J.** A copy of the players' birth certificate will be provided to the FCCRL on the day of registration to be maintained on file.
- K.** Regarding missed practice and games: It is up to the discretion of the FCCRL (Team Managers and the Executive Board) to disallow player participation in games or playoffs due to repeated unexcused absences of a player.
1. The Team Manager can excuse an absence with notification by the parent or guardian due to illness, injury, or vacations.
 2. Players must participate in 80% of practices and games to be eligible to play in regular season and playoff games.

ARTICLE XXIV - SPECIAL NOTE:

- A.** The Executive Board reserves the right to re-examine the procedures outlined above on a yearly basis & make changes if it is deemed in the best interest of the league.

Awards for Season 2015 Agreed by Full Board Vote:

T-Ball and Rookies will receive a participation Ribbon or Trophy.
Minors, Majors, and Softball teams will only be recognized for achievement when placing in the top three of the league in which they participate.