



Understanding the FCLL Player Evaluation and Draft Processes

January 10, 2020

AGENDA

- » Introductions
- » Online references
- » Why use a player evaluation and draft?
- » Important Preseason Dates for Spring 2020
- » The Player Evaluation
- » The Player Draft

REFERENCES

- » <http://fcll.org/Site/FCLL-Home/About-FCLL/Board-of-Directors/FCLL-Bylaws>
- » <http://fcll.org/Site/Officials-Area/Division-Rules/Majors-Rules>
- » <http://fcll.org/Site/Officials-Area/Division-Rules/AAA-Rules>

WHY DOES FCLL USE PLAYER EVALS AND DRAFTS?

- » In the upper divisions, FCLL uses annual player evaluations and full team redrafts to balance the teams
- » The intent is to create a positive environment for the players
 - Games should be competitive, not blowouts
 - Each team should go into the season expecting to win about half their games

IMPORTANT PRESEASON DATES FOR SPRING 2020

Event	Date
Optional Mock Player Evaluation Session (players only)	Jan 4
Upper Division Player Evaluation Dates	Jan 11-12
Player Rankings due to FCLL	After evaluation, before draft
Draft Day	Jan 25

THE PLAYER EVALUATION

- » **Not a tryout.** FCLL is an 'everybody plays' league, so each player will make a team.
 - No player is going to be cut.
 - Based on the draft results, some players may not be placed into the division that they request; however, the process gets the players where FCLL believes they should play

- » The purposes of the player evaluations include:
 - Offering the coaches the opportunity to observe the players' baseball skills
 - 'Slotting' the coach option players
 - Offering the league the opportunity to identify players who may not be ready for the typical age & division match

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE PLAYER EVALUATION?

- » Each player will undertake a set of drills designed to demonstrate his tools
 - Who can name the 5 tools?
 - Traditionally, the stations have included hitting and baserunning, fielding ground balls and throwing to 1B, catching fly balls in the outfield and throwing to the cutoff and to home
- » We offered an optional preview on Jan 4th
- » Players League Age 10,11, and 12 are required to attend a player eval
- » League Age 9 players must attend a player eval if they desire to play in AAA

PLAYER EVALUATION NOTES

- » Keep in mind that the players are nervous.
- » Some have not picked up a baseball in months. Their mid-season performance could be much different than what you see during the evaluation session

The best outcome is that the players demonstrate their true skill levels, so that coaches and administrators can make good decisions

PLAYER RANKINGS & DRAFT DAY

- » FCLL will assign a time and location for each upper division player evaluation, and will assign a manager/coach pair for each upper division team
- » Coaches and managers are invited to attend the player evaluations— this is for your benefit
- » Each upper division team must send their player rankings to FCLL after the player evaluations

- » Based on the feedback from the teams, the player agent and division rep will stack rank each player who participated in the division player eval, slot the coach option players into the rounds where they were ranked, and set the draft order in each division.

- » The divisional player rankings distributed by the league are confidential and will be collected at the end of the draft. **Discussing the player rankings or draft position with those who are not already privileged with that information as part of their role in the league is a serious offense.**

THE DRAFT

- » Major draft happens before the AAA draft. All must-draft Majors players will be assigned to a Majors team.
- » Players not drafted onto a Majors team will enter the AAA Division draft.

- » Each team selects their players until the rosters are filled.
- » Trades are optional and must be completed before the division rep/player agent releases the managers from the draft room. Rosters are final once the managers leave the draft room.
- » Trades must involve equal numbers of players. The teams will have the number of players specified in the bylaws: 11 in AAA and 12 in Majors
- » The division rep/player agent will notify the teams when they may contact the players. The league will provide the players' contact info to each team.

WHAT IS A COACH OPTION PLAYER?

- » A coach option is a player who is assigned to the same team as his parent/coach.
- » A player may elect to not be assigned to the same team as his parent/coach. In this situation, the player is eligible to be selected by any team in the division.

WHAT IS A BROTHER OPTION?

- » **More appropriately, it's a sibling option**
- » If two siblings are eligible to play in the same division, the parents may request that they be placed on the same team.
 - The intent is to simplify the parents' logistics for FCLL activities
- » When a team drafts one of the siblings, the other sibling is automatically placed on that team, and the team will be considered to have used the appropriate draft slot on the 2nd sibling
 - If the team doesn't have a draft choice in the round appropriate to the 2nd sibling, or a draft choice in an earlier round, then that team cannot draft either player.
- » The sibling option is limited to immediate family members, but there's no limit on the number of siblings. It is possible to have >2 siblings on the same team.

WHAT IS A MUST-DRAFT PLAYER?

- » A must-draft is a player who must be placed on a team in a specific division
- » For example:
 - All league age 12 players must play in the Majors division, unless FCLL grants an exception.
 - If a player has played one full season in AAA, he must play in AAA the next season unless drafted onto a Majors team (cannot play in AAA and then drop back to AA)
 - If a league-age 10 player has played two full seasons in AA, he must play in AAA or Majors the next season (cannot play three seasons in AA)
- » The following situation may become important during the draft.
 - Let's assume that there are 4 teams in the AAA division, and there are 8 must-draft players remaining in the pool as we enter the 10th round. Each team has 2 open roster spots.
 - Selecting in order, the teams must pick these 8 players to complete their 10th and 11th positions on the 11-player roster.
 - Each team must pick from amongst the 8 must-draft players even though there may be another draft-eligible player the team prefers.
 - The player agent and division rep will ensure that all the must-draft players are selected

PRACTICAL EXERCISE

- » Assume 4 teams in AAA: Iron Pigs, Hot Rods, Bees, and River Bandits
- » Coaching pairs:
 - Iron Pigs: Ruth & Koufax parents
 - Hot Rods: Dimaggio & Williams parents
 - Bees: Ryan & Rivera parents
 - River Bandits: Trout & Brown parents
- » 11 players per team
- » 50 players registered
 - 10 coach option players
 - 26 additional must draft players
 - 6 sibling option players
- » Player rankings as attached
- » Draft grid as attached

DRAFT GRID

	Iron Pigs	RiverBandits	Bees	HotRods
Round 1	Coach option	Coach option	Coach option	Coach option
Round 2	Coach option		Coach option	
Round 3				Coach option
Round 4				Coach option
Round 5				
Round 6				
Round 7				
Round 8				
Round 9				
Round 10		Coach option		
Round 11		Coach option		