

BASEBALL DRAFT PROCEDURE AND RULES

Huguenot National League ID # 03460506

Updated January 2020

DRAFT PROCEDURES

Player Registration

Before we draft we need to talk about the pool of players that players are drafted from and how they are formed. We believe that the divisions run best when they are based on players with common skills and not just a player's League Age. When players register for a division based on their League Age it is as follows:

Baseball Division	League Age
Tee Ball	4-5
Coach Pitch	6
Machine Pitch	7-8
Minors	9-10
Majors	11-12
Intermediate (50/70)	12-13
Juniors	13-14
Seniors	15-16

Player Requests

- Coach Pitch, League Age 6 players may **request** to play up to Machine Pitch provided they have played one year of tee ball.
- Machine Pitch, League Age 8, may **request** to play up to Minors AA
- Minors, may **request** to play up in Majors

Setting up the Divisions

Division Targets

In our ByLaws HLL has defined target ages and team sizes that we believe create the best experience for our players.

Division	Target Team Size	Target Size of Age Group
Tee Ball	8-10	Even Distribution
Coach Pitch Tee Ball	8-10	Even Distribution
Machine Pitch	12	Even Distribution
Minor League	12	Minors AAA 8 league age 10 and 11 players per team
Major League	12	Majors 8 league age 12 players per team
Intermediate 50/70	12-14	Even Distribution
Junior League	12 - 15	Even Distribution
Senior League	12 - 15	Even Distribution

Majors Teams

The league shall determine the number of teams in each league/division. In Majors, the number of teams is determined by the number of League Age 12 players registered for the draft. To the extent possible, our goal is to establish teams with eight (8) League Age twelve (12) players per team. The remaining roster positions to fill the teams will come from the Majors/Minors assessed players. This is not a hard and fast rule and is solely meant as a guide for sizing the league.

Minors Teams

Minors teams will be formed to align as best possible to the team sized principles of the league and is calculated by the number of players predicted to be in the draft pool for that division at the time the draft occurs. This should take into account estimates of players moving up and down divisions.

Division Draft Pool

The division draft pools are influenced by the number of teams targeted for each division. The draft represents the players that will be eligible to be drafted at a division draft as well as where players must be drafted due to age.

- Intermediate consists of all League Age 11, 12 and 13 registered for the division
- Majors draft pool is made from
 - Registered League Age 11 and 12 players
 - Any Intermediate 11 or 12 not drafted (can happen with numbers game)
 - Any registered Minors players requesting to play up
- Minors draft pool is consisted of
 - Minors Registered Players League Age 9 and 10
 - Machine Pitch Registered Players, League Age 8, that are requesting they play up
 - All Majors Registered players League Age 11 that were not drafted in Majors
 - Minors draft will draft all available League Age 11 players in Minors AAA
- Machine Pitch
 - All registered Machine Pitch Players League Age 7 and 8
 - All registered Coach Pitch Players League Age 6 requesting to play up
 - Any registered Machine Pitch players League Age 9 requesting to play down

Player Assessments (“Tryouts”)

Once we know our registration numbers we can develop draft pools which will determine how players are

scheduled for assessments. Players making requests to play up or play down will be required to assess in both divisions.

- Players will be assessed in terms of the level of play relative to others in the division
- Assessment grading is strictly confidential and should only be shared and discussed with those involved in the assessment and drafting process
- Players requesting division change (up or down) must assess in both their registered division and the division requested.
- Assessment grades are assigned by managers and board members present during assessments in terms of speed, hitting, fielding, throwing, etc. on a scale of 1-5 where 1 is the weakest and 5 is the strongest
- Player agent works with baseball and softball administrators to determine categories of rating and rating scale for player assessments
- All scores are aggregated and distributed to managers prior to the draft
- Assessments are generally held in mid to late February and the draft follows assessments as soon as practicable
- The assessments will be organized by Draft Pools as described above

The Draft

Both Huguenot Little League **Baseball and Softball** operate player selection in accordance with Plan B - Redraft method as stated in the LOCAL LEAGUE DRAFT METHODS of the Little League Operating Policies.

Two Part Division Draft

Division	Part 1	Part 2
Intermediate / Junior / Senior	Draft oldest age in draft pool	Draft Remaining Players
Majors	Draft all league age 12 AND returning Majors Players from Majors Draft Pool	Draft league age 11 players and any Minors requesting to play up from the Majors Draft Pool
Minors		
Minors AAA	Draft all league age 11 players not selected for Majors from the Minors Draft Pool	Draft from Minors registered players from the Minors Draft Pool
Minors AA	Draft all remaining Minors registered league age 10 and 11 players from the Minors Draft Pool	Draft remaining league age 9 players and any Machine Pitch players requesting to play up from the Minors Draft Pool
Machine Pitch	Draft all league age 8 players from the Machine Pitch Draft Pool.	Draft all league age 7 players and any Coach Pitch players requesting to play up from the Machine Pitch Draft Pool

Play Up Draft Rule

Ability to play up is defined in [Rule 7.0](#)

Operating the Draft

Preparation

- At the beginning of the draft, the Player Agent will describe the process and address any questions

- At the beginning of the draft, teams and their managers should be known and recorded as they are needed to operate the draft.
- For each unassessed player place their name on an individual piece of paper to represent the pool of players to be selected by random selection (hat pick). Before the draft the Player Agent will review the draft pool for players that did not assess to gain understanding about players without assessment scores. Players where a valid assessment score and target round cannot be determined will not be able to be selected by name and will be placed into the pool of random selection.
- Coaches, Managers, Board Members, and other individuals participating in the draft selection process must keep the draft result strictly confidential. Disclosure of draft rounds is prohibited.

Forced Players

A forced player is a draft pick that must be made and occurs for managers and coach children, siblings of drafted players. Unless otherwise stated, HLL adopts the policy that you pick a same-division sibling as well. In Majors and above, the Little League Green Book determines the requirements regarding which draft round a coach's child must be selected. This is based on the division and the players age. Managers in all divisions are permitted to request in writing to the player agent the assignment of one adult registered volunteer as coach for the season.

- The Player Agent and Managers will, to the best of their ability, align managers' children, coach's children and all siblings to an appropriate projected draft round based upon assessments.
- All **children of managers and coaches** will be identified prior to the draft and be forced on the respective manager's team in their respective draft round. The appropriate draft round(s) will be assigned to such children of managers and siblings to promote fairness amongst team distribution as defined in [Rule 3.0](#) and [Rule 4.0](#).
- Managers and coaches children that do not attend assessments are considered first round rating for drafts unless approved by the Player Agent.

Draft Order

- Managers in each league/division will be randomly drawn for draft order
- Draft order is serpentine (ex: 1,2,3,3,2,1).
- The team that picks first in round 1 of Part 1 picks last in round 1 of Part 2.

Draft Pick / Player Selection

- A manager must adhere to any forced pick determined by sibling selection, manager children or coaches children.
- Manager may select players by name if they assessed or were assigned assessment scores prior to the draft selection OR they may elect to pick a name from the hat.

Part I

- Select Player - Draft pick goes to first manager to select from the draft pool eligible for Part 1
- Manager announces player by registration number and name to have the pick recorded
- Draft administrator will confirm the pick has been recorded
- Pick continues on the serpentine draft until all players eligible in Part 1 have been selected to a team
- Player agent reviews Part 1 results with managers for alignment before moving to Part 2

Part II

- The number of open positions based for play up should be known and discussed prior to beginning Part 2
- The Player Agent should note the selection requirement for players requesting to play up

- Player Agent should announce at the beginning of the 4th round that it is the final round to select play up
- Select Player - Draft pick goes to first manager, if manager has a forced pick they must pick the forced player otherwise they are free to select from the draft pool eligible for Part 2
- Manager announces player by registration number and name to have the pick recorded
- Draft administrator will confirm the pick has been recorded
- Pick continues on the serpentine draft until the final roster position that is recorded as eligible in Part 2 has been selected to a team

Draft Review

- Player Agent reviews the teams with the Managers to confirm alignment
- Player Agent requests that any concerns with the process or results be raised for discussion
- Player Agent should address any concerns before moving forward

Trades

- Player Agent discusses the trade process with the Managers
- Player Agent calls for Trades and records the following for any trade request
 - Division
 - Requestor
 - Player Name
 - Team Name
 - Manager Name
 - Drafted Round
 - Assessment Ratings
 - Reason for the trade
 - Requestee
 - Player Name
 - Team Name
 - Manager Name
 - Drafted Round
 - Assessment Ratings
- Once all trades are recorded they are reviewed by the Player Agent with all Managers

Closing the Draft

- Reiterate confidentiality
- Review process to get trades and rosters approved
- Communicate expected timeframe to get rosters available in the system and when they can notify teams

DRAFTING RULES

1.0 Return to Draft

All eligible players in all Divisions will return to the draft each year and will be considered a free agent and can be drafted by any team.

2.0 Draft Order Trades

Draft orders may be traded but team names will go with the draft pick.

3.0 Manager's and Coach's Children

Machine Pitch

Manager's and Coach's children get slotted in the 2nd Round (if such children are assessed in the 4th Round or higher) or slotted in the 4th Round (if such children are assessed in the 4th Round or lower) for their age group.

Minors

Manager's and Coach's children will be assigned to the Manager's and Coach's team and will be counted as that team's draft selection in the actual Round in which the player(s) assessed, or should have assessed.

Majors and Above

Manager's and Coach's child will be counted as that team's draft selection in the lowest round applicable based on the round in which the player assessed or the Draft Round identified in the table below.

Little League Draft Rounds (pursuant to LL Operating Policies) Baseball & Softball				
Draft Round	Majors	Intermediate Baseball / Softball	Junior	Senior
5	9-10	11 / 12	12	14, 13
4	11	12 / 13	13	15
3	12	13 / 14	14	16

Assessment of Managers' Children

The manager's child/children should assess with all other players. During the assessment and draft process, they will be placed on respective ranked draft sheets in the round where they would likely be drafted by assessment. If the manager's child is assessed as a first rounder, the child will count as the team's first round pick. If the child is assessed as a fourth rounder at League Age 12 in Majors (according to the diagram above), the child will count as the team's third round pick. At the draft, a manager's child or children will be forced in accordance with the following:

- A manager's child who assesses later than the round indicated above will be forced at the draft round as indicated in the Rule 3 diagram.
- A manager's child who assesses earlier than the round indicated above will be forced at the draft round equivalent to the assessed skill rating.
- A manager's child who is not present for player assessments will automatically become the 1st round draft selection for their respective team unless ALL managers and Player Agent agree on an assessment. If ALL managers do not agree, the Player Agent will make a determination based on the discussion with

- the managers.
- Siblings will be forced in their assessed rounds.

Manager with Multiple Children

A manager/coach with more than one (1) child eligible to play in Majors must adhere to no later than draft round rule identified above, however in Minors and below may have differential assessed rounds.

4.0 Siblings within the same Division

HLL's policy is that unless families have requested separation, a manager drafting one sibling must draft the other sibling(s) in the round such other siblings would reasonably assess as agreed upon by the managers prior to the start of the draft, provided such other siblings are within the same Division. If the managers do not agree, the Player Agent will make a determination based on the discussion with the managers.

5.0 Player Assessment Requirement

Any player (except current JV & Varsity) that does not attend the required assessment will not be eligible to be drafted by name. The players that were not assessed may be assigned by hat pick during the draft.

6.0 Player Trades

All player trades should take place within 24 hours of the draft and must be approved by the Player Agent for that respective level of play. Player trades can only be made within 3 draft rounds, one up, the same round or one down. No player is to be notified by a manager of his or her selection until 24 hours after the draft has concluded.

7.0 Play Up

Players requesting to play up must be drafted by Round 4 of Part 2 of the Division draft they are requesting. If not drafted by Round 4, players must play in their assigned division. ***Play up requests are never guaranteed!***

8.0 Play Down

Our goal at HLL is to provide the best experience for our players and sometimes this means allowing players to play down a level. Players will need to assess in their League Age-appropriate target division and request to play down. Play down requests must be approved by the Board or its designee. There are many reasons that could drive this type of request so these are treated on a case by case basis. Players wishing to play down must attend both their default assessment and the level they wish to play. Managers at both levels will advise the Board on the assessment and recommendation for that player.

9.0 Assessment Scoring/Sheets

All managers must submit a verified copy of their draft assessment scores at the end of the player assessments, complete with the players' identification numbers and scores. Only managers submitting assessment scores will participate in the force ranking of players. Assessment scores must remain confidential.

10.0 Time Limit

There is a 2-minute time limit for each manager to make his or her draft selection when it is his or her turn in the draft. If a manager exceeds the time limit, the Board member running the draft (or the Player Agent) will notify the next team that it is free to make its selection. The manager who exceeded the time limit can make his or her selection as soon as he or she is ready. If said manager is not ready when it is time for the following team to select its pick, the process continues.

11.0 Waitlist Drafting Procedure

In order to give players who sign up AFTER the Assessments and Player Drafts a chance to play baseball, HLL will use the following process in an attempt to be fair to the teams and players.

- When a registered player that was not drafted is eligible to be placed on a team they are placed on the team by first filling teams that lost players after the draft (to even out the roster size across the division) OR by using the draft order established and placing players in accordance with the drafting order operated during the division draft.
- No new teams can form after drafts are complete to accommodate new teams therefore waitlisted players can only be placed on existing teams unless the roster size exceeds Little League Maximum Team Size.
- Wait List Players will only be placed onto a team in the two weeks following opening day, unless approved by the Player Agent.
- In all cases, placement of players is contingent upon available space at the player's specific level of play. Under NO circumstances will a player be placed at a level higher than their prescribed playing age without written approval from the Player Agent and respective Vice President.
- Any late registrations not placed after the final rosters will be provided a refund.
- This process applies ONLY to those levels where players are selected via the draft. For any levels (Coach Pitch or lower, for example) where players are placed by the level coordinator without a draft, Wait List players may be placed by name as they register until all teams are full or the date when all levels will be placed on "shutdown" accepting no more registrations.