

# Mattawan Little League

Draft Process for Baseball & Softball  
As Approved January 16, 2014  
Attachment 4

Draft Night will be held on a designated date to be determined and announced by the Board of Directors.

The Player Agents are responsible for conducting the draft and shall attend each draft session.

At least one week prior to Draft Night, the respective Player Agents will notify each Director of the time scheduled for their respective draft session. Directors are responsible for notifying Managers of their designated times. Managers are responsible for notifying one Coach from their team.

All Divisions will participate in Draft Night with the exception of T-Ball. The Player Agents will make the distribution of T-Ball players. Player Agents will take into consideration parent requests.

Each team will be represented on Draft Night by: 1) The Team Manager and, 2) one Coach designated by the Team Manager (known later in this document as "the Coach"). Team Managers unable to attend Draft Night may be represented by the Coach, provided prior notification is made by the Manager to their Director. The Director shall also notify the Player Agent of this substitution prior to Draft Night. Background checks must be completed and approvals must be given to all Managers and Coaches prior to draft night. NO EXCEPTIONS.

The Player Agents will receive from the League Information Officer at least one day prior to Draft Night a listing of all players who have signed up and duly registered for participation in the upcoming Mattawan Little League season. In addition, each player's rating information from the prior season and parent's requests will be provided. No player shall be included on the listing unless they have signed up and paid for participation in Mattawan Little League.

*Authorization by the Player Agent is required for any parent seeking approval for their child to play in a Division as a first year player in the Division. See Attachment 3, Mattawan Little League "Policy for Advancement of Players"*

Requests made by parents for their child to be placed with a particular Team Manager shall be treated as requests only and no commitments shall be made on behalf of Mattawan Little League by any individual. Such requests shall be documented by the League Information Officer and communicated to the Players Agent 72 hours prior to the draft. The Player Agents will provide the requests to the Managers on Draft Night to allow the Manager to draft their team with consideration of these requests.

Parents requesting that their child not be placed with a particular Manager must provide the request to the respective Vice President 72 hours prior to the draft. The Vice President and the Players Agent together will determine, based upon the information provided, whether or not the request will be granted. If a conclusion cannot be reached between the Vice President and the Players Agent, the President will make the final determination. The Vice President will communicate the determination to the parent prior to the draft, which will provide the parent with the opportunity to remove their child's name from the draft listing. In addition, the Player Agent and or the Vice President will say pass if the child in the request is drafted by the Manager. The Manager will then pick another child. For the parents confidentiality no explanations will be given.

At their option, the Player Agents may contact parents of prior year's players not included on the players listing prior to Draft Night to determine their desire to participate in the upcoming season. No player shall be included on the listing unless they have signed up and are duly registered for participation in Mattawan Little League.

**Players not signed up and duly registered for Mattawan Little League by the First Scheduled Game will not be eligible to participate in All-Stars unless the player relocated to the Mattawan Little League District after the designated First Scheduled Game, or the player was not available at the First Scheduled Game due to involvement in a high school program.**

**The process of the draft will be as follows:**

Draft order will be top down for the Baseball Division.

1. Majors will select 11-12 year olds and will fill the teams with approved 10 year olds.
2. AAA will select 11 year olds who do not wish to play Majors then draft 9-10 year olds.
3. AA will select remaining 9-10 year olds and fill the teams with 8 year olds.
4. A will select 7-8 year olds and 6 year old players who have played at least 1 year of T-Ball and wish to move up.

Managers will be given the opportunity to first designate their child to their team. The Manager will then be given the opportunity to designate the Coach's child. A Manager or Coach who has more than one child in the Division will be allowed to draft both children, but will waive their right to the first round of the draft. No more than the Manager and one Coach may start a team at the beginning of the draft.

*In the situation whereby the Manager or Coach does not have a child playing in their Division, that manager will get first pick in the draft. If more than one Manager or Coach does not have a child playing in their Division, numbers will be drawn or a coin will be flipped under the direction of the Player Agent.*

To begin the draft, the rating score (as based on last year's evaluations) of the players originally assigned to the teams (participating children of Manager and Coach) will be added together. In the situation when a Manager starts without a Coach and only has one participating player, that Manager will pick the first player in the draft, then the ratings of the two players will be added together. That rating will be used to determine the placement in the first round of the draft. The teams will be listed from the lowest rating team to the highest rating team. The lowest rating team will pick first. Moving through all the teams, the highest rating team will pick last in the first round.

At the end of the first round, the scores of the drafted players will be added to the existing team rating, and all the teams will again be sorted by lowest rating to highest rating. The second round will start with the lowest team through the highest team. Again, the scores will be added, the teams ranked (lowest to highest). This process will be continued, round by round, until all players are drafted. If in the Player Agent's opinion a situation arises whereby player placement involving specialized positions (pitchers & catchers) will cause an unbalanced Division, the Player Agent may restrict a manager from drafting a specific player or players.

If a Manager picks a player that has a sibling, that requests to be on the same team, also in the Division, the Manager will be required to select the sibling in the next round. All score ratings will still be tallied, and teams reshuffled at the end of each round.

This will be repeated until the Division is full. The Player Agent and VP will determine the number of teams in each Division based on an analysis of census data.

*Players without ratings from the prior season will be assigned a baseline / average rating number. Before the draft commences, the Player Agent will ask Managers and Coaches to review the list of these players. It will be the responsibility of any Manager or Coach that knows any of the players, and knows a baseline / average rating is inaccurate (too high or too low) to make all Managers and Coaches aware. The Player Agent will then assign a more appropriate rating.*

*No consideration will be given to Managers drafting players that are under age but cleared to play in the specific Division. Note that Little League rules prohibit more than eight players of the upper age in a bracket on one team (i.e. No more than eight 12-year olds on a major team).*

Managers have 3-days after the draft to "trade" players with other Managers. Until the 3-day time frame has been exhausted, no Manager will release information to any parent or player (including their own child) in regard to player placement. Any trades made within the 3-day time frame must be approved by the Division Director and reported to the Players Agent immediately. To protect our players, no Manager or Coach will release any information regarding the placement of players other than their own team (as this may have changed during the 3-day time frame) or the specifics in regard to Draft Night to any parent or player (including their own child). The Player Agent at the end of the draft will collect all paperwork with player ratings. Questions in regard to placement should be directed to the Players Agents.

Ratings may not be available for players moving from T-Ball to the A Baseball and Minor Softball Divisions for the upcoming season. As such, the A Baseball Division and Minor Softball Division will draft eight-year-olds first as outlined above. Once this has been completed, the draft will continue with all Managers drawing a number from the Player Agent. The Manager drawing number one will begin the draft followed by the next largest number and so forth. (Example: 1, 2, 3, 4 / 4, 3, 2, 1 etc.) This will continue until all players have been drafted.

Players signing up for Mattawan Little League after the draft will be placed on a team at the discretion of the Player Agent. The Player Agent will take into consideration the reason for the late sign up, the skills and abilities of the player and the distribution of skills of the players already placed.

**The Player Agent overseeing the draft will have the final say in all dispute resolution.**