



## Licking Heights Youth Association All-Stars and Tournament Teams

All players who participate in our recreational spring baseball and softball leagues will be eligible for participation in both our in-house all-star game and/or skills competition day at the end of the season as well as the summer tournament team which plays in traditional all-star tournaments through the month of July. These teams are independent of each other and just because your child may be selected for one of them does not guarantee participation in the other. In addition, not all players who participate in the recreational sports program will be selected to participate on either of these two teams.

### **All-Stars (In-House All-Star Game)**

#### **Parent Notification:**

The date of our in-house all-star game will be posted in the registration information when the sports registration is posted on the website. Some generic information will be provided at that time, so parents and coaches have an idea of what is involved. This is typically the last Saturday in June held at Jersey Elementary. A post-registration e-mail will also be sent to everyone who registered to provide additional information.

#### **Participation:**

All Tee Ball, 8U, 10U and 12U divisions for both baseball and softball will participate in the skills competition portion (fastest pitch, home run derby, etc.) which is open to any player in those divisions, not only those who made the all-star game. An all-star game should be held for any division with at least 3 teams.

#### **Coach Selection:**

The head coaches for all teams in a division will participate as coaches for the all-star game. If not enough head coaches are available, some assistant coaches can participate as well. Every team shall be represented on the coaching staff for the two teams. All available head and assistant coaches are expected to participate with running the skills competitions prior to their divisions all-star game.

#### **Player Selection:**

There will be 24 total players selected to form the two teams for the all-star game. Each regular season team shall be equally represented. If teams are required to provide additional players to get to 24 total players due to the number of teams in the league, those finishing with the best regular season record will get one extra player to represent their team in the all-star game. Each team will select their own players to participate in the all-star game. This may be done by coach selection, player vote or another similar method as determined by the head coach for each team.

#### **Team Separation:**

Teams will be divided evenly into two teams. This can be done in an "East vs West" format or a draft among the head coaches. The coaching staff will be split between the two teams as well.

#### **Playing Time:**

All players in the all-star game are required to receive playing time in their primary infield position as well as the outfield. No player will be permitted to pitch more than one inning. No player will be permitted to catch more than two innings. No player will sit the bench more than one inning. This game is not about who wins. It's about the players having a great experience playing with and against their peers.

#### **Uniforms:**

Players will be required to wear their regular season uniform for this game.



## Licking Heights Youth Association All-Stars and Tournament Teams

### Summer Tournament Team

#### **Parent Notification:**

Basic information on the summer tournament teams (different than the in-house all-star teams) will be e-mailed out to all registered parents at the conclusion of registration. There will be a checkbox during registration asking if the player would be available to participate with the tournament team through the month of July if their player was selected. We have had issues with parents not knowing about this in the past and scheduling vacation during these tournaments leaves our teams at a competitive disadvantage. Families should notify the coach and/or sport director prior to try outs of any planned vacation that would make them unavailable for summer tournaments.

#### **Participation:**

All 8U, 10U and 12U divisions will provide one tournament team. Rosters shall consist of the number of players on the field during a game plus one or two additional players. Any players past that would be considered alternates.

#### **Coach Selection:**

The tournament head coach position will be offered to the head coach of the team with the best regular-season win/loss record, based on results through the earlier of:

- The first six (6) regular-season games (all eligible teams must have completed 6 games); or
- June 1

To be eligible, the coach must be in good standing and free of any suspensions during the season.

If the eligible coach declines or is ineligible, the position will be offered sequentially to the next highest-ranked team based on standings at the same cutoff point.

The selected head coach will appoint assistant coaches, with priority given to head coaches within the same division. A maximum of three (3) coaches may occupy the dugout during games.

The sport director, with the approval of the board, can make adjustments to the coach selection process to ensure the best experience for the participating athletes and families.

#### **Player Selection:**

All tournament teams will be selected through a structured evaluation process led by the appointed tournament head coach.

- Each team's head coach will nominate up to six (6) players based on regular-season performance.
  - A coach should only nominate players they believe could make the team.
  - If a head coach has more than 6 players that they believe should be considered, the coach may request 1 to 2 more additional players to attend the tryout with the approval of the sport director.
- Nominated players will participate in an invitation All-Star tryout.
- Tryouts will be conducted in early June.
- All players who are nominated to attend the evaluation and would like to be considered must attend and participate. If a player cannot attend the evaluation and the head coach would still like the player to be included in the all star team, the head coach must submit reasoning in writing to the sport director. The sport director,



## Licking Heights Youth Association All-Stars and Tournament Teams

with advisement from the executive board, will make a decision based on the reasoning and the conflict that prevent participation in the evaluation.

### Special Provision — Two-Team Divisions:

When only two (2) teams are eligible for All-Star selection, the standard rules and tryout procedures may be modified. In such cases, each team's head coach will nominate their top eight (8) players based on regular-season performance and game statistics to participate in the All-Star tryout process.

Evaluations will be conducted by a mixture of coaches, directors, board members, and/or middle/high school coaches. All effort should be made to have independent evaluators, either from different age groups of the sport or not affiliated with LHYA. Player selection will be based on a combination of regular-season performance and tryout evaluation, including but not limited to:

- Hitting
- Fielding
- Pitching and catching (as applicable)
- Athleticism
- Effort and coachability
- Availability for all potential tournaments

Final roster decisions will be made by the tournament head coach, with input from division leadership and board oversight. Questions should be directed to the sport director in writing within 5 days of the selection announcement.

### Alternates

Players not selected to the primary roster may be designated as alternates. Alternates are expected to attend team activities and remain available to participate if needed due to player absence.

Alternates activated for games are subject to all participation requirements outlined in this policy.

### Playing Time:

All players participating in a pool play game will receive:

- A minimum of two (2) defensive innings; and
- At least one (1) at-bat

During pool play, coaches are required to ensure all players receive playing time. While infield play is not required, minimum participation standards remain in effect for all games, including elimination play.

Failure to comply with these requirements may result in removal of the head coach. In such cases, an assistant coach will assume head coaching responsibilities for the remainder of the tournament season.

### Uniforms:

Each player, alternate, and up to three (3) coaches will be issued a tournament jersey.



## Licking Heights Youth Association All-Stars and Tournament Teams

- Players and coaches will wear their regular-season team hat.
- Pants and socks will be determined by the tournament head coach.
- A player fee of up to \$25 may be assessed to offset jersey costs.
- No fee exemptions will be granted.
- If full sponsorship is secured, jersey fees will be waived.

### **Tournaments:**

Each team will participate in a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of three (3) tournaments, with the option to participate in a fourth (4th) tournament provided:

- Parents agree to participate;
- Additional fees are covered; and
- Approval is granted by the Sport Director

### **Funding Policy:**

- The league will fund entry fees for one (1) tournament per team.
- Any additional tournaments beyond the league-funded event must be financially supported by the team, parents, sponsors, or through team-led fundraising efforts.

### **Fundraising and Financial Management:**

- All team fundraising activities must be approved in advance by the Sport Director.
- Funds raised for a specific team must be used solely for that team's tournament-related expenses and may not be redistributed.
- A designated team representative (e.g., head coach or team parent) will be responsible for coordinating fundraising efforts and maintaining financial transparency with participating families.
- Upon request, a summary of funds collected and expenses incurred must be provided to the board treasurer.
- Any unused funds at the conclusion of the tournament season will be handled in accordance with league policy, as determined by the board (e.g., carryover for future team use or return to the league).

### **Additional guidelines:**

- All tournaments will occur in July.
- No tournaments will extend into August unless approved by the Sport Director.
- Events will be scheduled within Central Ohio, preferably within a one-hour travel radius of Pataskala.
- Overnight travel will not be required.