

## **LHYL Softball Coaching Policy**

1. Anyone interested in becoming a coach in the League shall apply by completing an application form furnished by the League. All head coach applicants must be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age. All applications for head coaches shall be reviewed by a Softball Coach Selection Committee and approved by a majority of the Softball Coach Selection Committee. The Softball Coach Selection Committee makes the final selection of all Softball Head Coaches.
  - a. The Softball Coach Selection Committee shall consist of the Commissioners and Softball Vice President. Input is encouraged from all softball specific board members. A Rubric will be used for determining head coaches. In certain situations, the committee may approve a head coach applicant to serve as an assistant coach.
  - b. The League reserves the right to run a background check on any Board Member, Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Parent, or League Volunteer that works in close contact with the League's player's (children).
  - c. If any Board Member, Coach, or League Volunteer has a background check that identifies any felony conviction or deferred adjudication, related to children, drug or alcohol abuse, or violence (i.e. battery, assault, rape), he/she will be automatically excluded from participation in the League. If any Board Member, Coach, or League Volunteer has to register as a sex offender, he/she will be automatically excluded from participation in the League. Any misdemeanor conviction will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will not be automatically exclusionary.
2. To be considered, any parent requests to play or not play with a specific coach must be received in writing from the parent by email and sent to the age specific Commissioner. Hearsay should not be factored into decisions. The Commissioner will review the request with the VP and make a decision to accept or deny the request. The decision is final.
3. Any member of the Softball Board who elects to coach a team shall abstain from voting on any issue brought before the Softball Board, Softball Coach Selection Committee or Softball Competition Committee, which involves his/her team, a game involving his/her team or an issue related to the age group of their child's team. In the event of such a conflict, the Softball VP will appoint a different softball board member without such a conflict to vote.
4. Each coach can appoint his/her own assistant coach or coaches without the approval of the Softball Coach Selection Committee, subject to the background check and any training required by the board, and shall have the option to dismiss such persons without the approval of the Softball Coach Selection Committee.
5. Head Coaches shall sign for and assume full responsibility for returning all equipment to the Director of Softball Operations and Logistics and the equipment shall only be used for League practices and League games approved by the Board. Coaches will turn in a \$150.00 check for each season for collateral.

6. Head Coaches shall be responsible for returning all equipment to the Director of Softball Operations and Logistics upon completion of the team's last scheduled League game OR another date set by the Director of Softball Operations and Logistics. Failure to comply shall result in a review of the Coach by the Softball Coach Selection Committee and the \$150.00 check will be cashed.
7. Head Coaches shall be responsible for teaching proper fundamentals of softball, knowing the league's bylaws, policies and rules, enforcing safety protocols, and maintaining a good example as a representative of the LHYL. Head Coaches are also responsible for ensuring their assistant coaches abide by these things as well.
8. Coaches shall be responsible for reporting all injuries of any personnel under their supervision as follows:
  - a. Report all injuries that require medical attention to the Softball Vice President, and/or the Commissioner.
  - b. Complete the League insurance form, provided by the Commissioner, including a written statement explaining the incident, nature of injury, date, time, and location of the injury.
  - c. Managers will coordinate with the Board and the player's legal guardian to prepare any required insurance reports.
9. In the event a Head Coach resigns, or otherwise vacates his/her position at any time, a new manager shall be approved by the Softball Coach Selection Committee.
10. All head coaches and umpires shall agree upon field ground rules prior to the start of all League games at home plate.
11. Head Coaches, in 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U divisions, shall have available all data concerning their team. Data should include the number of innings each player has played each week and reasons why a player did not play. These records shall be made available to the League President, Softball Vice President, or specific age group Commissioner upon request.
12. The League is responsible for the welfare and safety of all players. Therefore, all members of the League, including the head coaches and assistant coaches, shall require all spectators and other coaches to refrain from the use of: alcohol, illegal drugs, vaping and tobacco products on the premises. This is to include the concession stand area.
13. Coaches are prohibited from engaging in abusive actions towards players, parents, Board Members, umpires or other individuals involved with the League. This includes verbal, physical or sexual abuse.
14. Head Coaches are required to hold a minimum of one (1) practice a week prior to the start of the regular season, provided fields are available and weather permitting. After the regular season starts, the manager must continue a minimum of one (1) workout per week.
  - a. The 6U, 8U, and 10U Divisions are limited to three (3) mandatory meetings per week, which must include at least one (1) practice. Week begins on Sunday and ends on Saturday. This rule does not apply to Tournament weekends (Friday, Saturday, and

- Sunday) in which multiple games are held that may exceed three meetings and the Thursday and Monday before/after a tournament week. One day is equal to one meeting (for example, you may have a practice on Monday, a practice on Thursday and a doubleheader on Saturday. 3 days equals 3 meetings).
- b. Coaches in violation of said rule shall be issued a warning by the Commissioner on the first offense and suspension for all subsequent violations.
15. After all League games and practices, it shall be the responsibility of the Coach to assure that no player is left on the premises (playing field or parking lot) without adult supervision.
  16. Coaches may not serve as the Head Coach for more than one team during the same season without prior approval from the Softball Coach Selection Committee. Coaches may not work with more than one team in the same division during the same season without prior approval from the Softball Coach Selection Committee.
  17. Any coach ejected from a League game shall be suspended for their team's next 4 games. Umpire ejections from any game are contestable through the Softball Coach Selection Committee.
  18. If any additional coaches need to be added to the coaching roster, the Head Coach must email their age group commissioner to add their coach to the coaching staff. The Softball Selection Committee must verify that all proper paperwork has been completed (ie, background check, abuse training, and any others that the board has required for that season). The coach may not participate as a coach on the field without approval from the age level commissioner.