



# BUILDING A STRONGER HOUSE

DELTA  
FASTPITCH ASSOCIATION

DFA EXECUTIVE MEETING  
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# WHY BUILD A STRONGER HOUSE?

- DFA starting to lack a strong foundation
- Creates competition across all divisions and levels.
- Encourages mental and physical health of ball players, coaches, umpires.
- Builds a robust and diverse fastpitch association that is renowned in region.
- Today's athlete is tomorrow's leader.
- Good Ball At Every Level.



# CURRENT HOUSE MODEL

LTP1

LTP2

LTP3

UI0

UI2

UI4

UI6

UI9

# LEARN TO PLAY I

LTP1

T-Ball  
4-5 Year Olds  
1 Game, 1 Practice  
Timbit shirt + hat  
Shared equipment



# LEARN TO PLAY I

- 4 year olds too young; do not have attention span for fulsome practice and/or game.
- Coordinator needed to organize/set up stations and track equipment.
- Stations get repetitive; coaches prefer to run their own practice.
- Coaches need more training than handbook.
- Player skillset is not advancing fast enough.



# LEARN TO PLAY I BECOMES LEARN TO PLAY

LTP I

T-Ball/Coach  
Pitches  
4-5 Year Olds  
1 Game, 1 Practice  
Timbit Shirt + hat  
Shared Equipment



LTP

T-Ball/Coach  
Pitches  
5 Year Olds  
1 Game, 1 Practice  
Coaches Clinics  
Timbit Shirt + hat  
Shared Equipment

# LEARN TO PLAY 2 & 3

## LTP2

T-Ball/Coach Pitches  
6 Year Olds  
1 Game, 1 Practice  
Timbit Shirt +hat  
Shared Equipment

## LTP3

T-Ball/Coach Pitches  
7 Year Olds  
1 Game, 1 Practice  
Timbit Shirt +hat  
Shared Equipment



# LEARN TO PLAY 2 & 3

- Players losing interest because program is too repetitive.
- Not enough players for two separate divisions so LTP2 & LTP3 combined.
- Coordinator needed to organize/set up stations and track equipment.
- Player skillset not advancing; many players unable to catch, throw, hit properly when entering U10.
- Coaches need more training than handbook.



# LEARN TO PLAY 2 & 3 BECOMES U8

LTP2

T-Ball/Coach Pitches  
6 Year Olds  
1 Game, 1 Practice  
Timbit Shirt +hat  
Shared Equipment

LTP3

T-Ball/Coach Pitches  
7 Year Olds  
1 Game, 1 Practice  
Timbit Shirt +hat  
Shared Equipment



U8

Pitching Machine/Pitcher  
6-7 Year Olds  
2 Games, 1 Practice  
Pitcher/Catcher Clinics  
Coaching Clinics  
Full Uniform  
New Team Equipment  
DFA Tournament

# U10

## U10

Coach  
Pitches/Pitcher  
8-9 Year Olds  
2 Games  
Jersey + hat  
Used/Old  
Equipment



# U10

- Coaches not provided coaching support (e.g., pitching/catching).
- Player skillset limited; many entering U10 unable to catch, throw, hit.
- Pitchers are just learning to pitch in real games; hitters don't improve because of walks.
- Equipment was old/used/insufficient.
- Players not provided ball pants or socks.
- Significant drop in returning players to U10 due to of lack of skill building and interest.

# U10 GETS STRONGER

U10

Coach  
Pitches/Pitcher  
8-9 Year Olds  
2 Games  
Jersey + hat  
Used/Old  
Equipment



U10

Pitcher  
8-9 Year Olds  
2 Games, 1  
Practice  
Pitching/Catching  
Clinics  
Coaching Clinics  
Full Uniform  
New Team  
Equipment  
DFA Tournament

# U12

U12

Pitcher

10-11 Year Olds

2 Games

Jersey + hat

Used/Old

Equipment



# U12

- Coaches not provided coaching support (e.g., pitching/catching).
- Many entering U12 unable to aggressively catch, throw, hit.
- Pitchers are just learning to pitch in real games; hitters don't improve because of walks.
- Equipment was old/used/insufficient.
- Players not provided ball pants or socks.
- Significant drop in returning players due to of lack of skill building and interest.
- Coaches feel like there is a lack of support from the association.

# U12 GETS STRONGER

U12

Pitcher  
10-11 Year Olds  
2 Games  
Jersey + hat  
Used/Old  
Equipment



U12

Pitcher  
10-11 Year Olds  
2 Games, 1  
Practice  
Pitching/Catching  
Clinics  
Coaching Clinics  
Full Uniform  
New Team  
Equipment  
DFA Tournament

# U14 - U19 GET STRONGER

U14-U19

Pitching/Catching Clinics  
Player Clinics  
Coaching Clinics  
New Team Equipment  
DFA Tournament



CURRENT MODEL

LTP1

T-Ball  
4-5 Year Olds  
1 Game, 1 Practice  
Timbit Shirt + hat  
Shared Equipment

LTP2

T-Ball/Coach Pitches  
6 Year Olds  
1 Game, 1 Practice  
Timbit Shirt +hat  
Shared Equipment

LTP3

T-Ball/Coach Pitches  
7 Year Olds  
1 Game, 1 Practice  
Timbit Shirt + hat  
Shared Equipment

U10

Coach Pitches/Pitcher  
8-9 Year Olds  
2 Games  
Jersey + hat  
Used/Old Equipment

U12

Pitcher  
10-11 Year Olds  
2 Games  
Jersey + hat  
Used/Old Equipment

PROPOSED MODEL

LTP

T-Ball/Coach Pitches  
5 Year Olds  
1 Game, 1 Practice  
Timbit Shirt + hat  
Coaching Clinics  
Shared Equipment

U8

Pitching Machine/Pitcher  
6-7 Year Olds  
2 Games, 1 Practice  
Full Uniform  
Pitching/Catching Clinics  
Coaching Clinics  
New Team Equipment  
DFA Tournament

U10

Pitcher  
8-9 Year Olds  
2 Games, 1 Practice  
Full Uniform  
Pitching/Catching Clinics  
Coaching Clinics  
New Team Equipment  
DFA Tournament

U12

Pitcher  
10-11 Year Olds  
2 Games, 1 Practice  
Full Uniform  
Pitching/Catching Clinics  
Coaching Clinics  
New Team Equipment  
DFA Tournament

U14-U19

Pitching/Catching Clinics  
Player Clinics  
Coaching Clinics  
New Team Equipment  
DFA Tournament

# NEXT STEPS

- Obtain DFA Executive Support
- Present at 2020 DFA AGM
- Establish Director of Grassroots Development position (voting)
- Establish Clinic Coordinator position (non-voting)
- Establish a sub-committee to oversee restructure
- Develop player objectives for each division
- Open registration for divisions
- Advertise and promote divisions
- Schedule house tournaments
- Coordinate clinics for players and coaches
- Ensure uniforms/equipment adequate
- Identify division coordinators
- Apply for Gaming Grant to further develop program



# QUESTIONS?

