

Travel Baseball – Rules and Regulations



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VP of Travel Baseball

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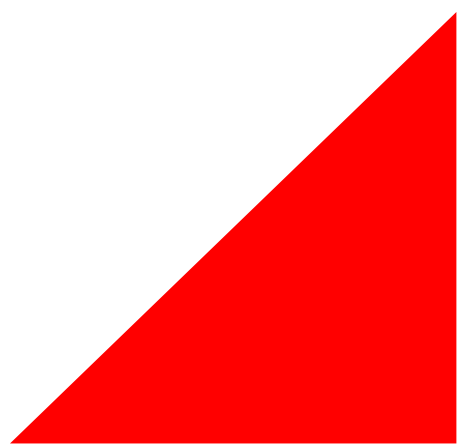
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Introduction

The Glen Rock Little League (GRL) Travel Baseball Program exists as a more competitive extension of the GRL Recreation Baseball Program ("Rec"). The purpose of the program is to provide young players with an opportunity to play the sport of baseball at a higher level of competition that may not be available to them in a Rec setting.

The Travel Baseball Program is not for every player playing for the GRL. The Travel Baseball Program is meant for those players who demonstrate a strong desire to play the game of baseball, who are willing to work hard to develop his/her skills in the sport, are willing to devote the time required for this level of play, and commit to his/her team. The program is designed to provide for the advanced development of a young baseball player, which is in addition to the development provided by the Rec Program.

It is the philosophy of the Travel Baseball Program to not only focus on winning baseball games, but prioritize player development and provide for a "baseball education" for our players. The overall goal of the GRL is to prepare players for success at the Middle School, High School, Collegiate and professional level.

All Travel teams are subject to oversight by the Board of Directors of the GRL. The Vice President of Travel Baseball (VP of Travel) will have full responsibility for running and enforcing the travel program and its policies. Among other responsibilities, the VP of Travel is tasked with forming and selecting GRL Travel Baseball Teams and the day-to-day operation of the program as a whole. Generally, the GRL will make Travel Baseball Teams available for players who are between the ages of eight (8) and thirteen (13), with the potential of providing teams for Middle School and High School aged players, as required.

Some factors that may determine if a team is formed for a particular age group may be:

- Number of qualified players who register to play at a particular age level;
- Availability of a Manager and Assistant Coaches for each team, at each age level;

Note: If no qualified Manager or Assistant Coach is available to coach a team, a team will not form.

- Availability and vacancies of local Leagues/Tournaments/Baseball Associations;
- Field Availability on Glen Rock Borough or Glen Rock Board of Education fields.



Please remember - The Travel program is not intended to be for everyone. It is intended for those players who have had success at the REC level and have a heightened interest in the game of baseball. Although the GRLL encourages all of its players to be genuinely interested in the sport of baseball, and to develop themselves as players to the peak of their potential, the GRLL must keep the level of play and expectations 'higher' than the recreation program. Therefore, GRLL will do the best it can to accommodate all players who register for the program; however, not all players will have the ability to play for a Travel Baseball team. It is imperative that the GRLL keep the safety of the players in mind, and not allow any player to participate in the travel program who would put themselves, or others, at risk of injury due to insufficient skills.

Unfortunately, this means that some players will be disappointed when they are not chosen to be part of a team. Parents/guardians should take into consideration that not all players will be chosen for a baseball team, and should weigh the 'risks vs. benefits' of allowing their players to participate or try-out. The GRLL encourages parents/guardians to communicate with their player (before the try-outs) that there is a chance they will not be selected to be part of a baseball team. If a parent/guardian feels that their player would have a particularly difficult time in accepting disappointment, he/she may consider not allowing the player to try-out.

For those who do try-out for a team, and are not selected, the GRLL encourages these players to continue to work hard and develop their skills in the game of baseball. The VP of Travel may be able to provide alternatives to these players, but of course players are strongly urged and encouraged to continue to play Rec Baseball with their friends and consider trying out for the Travel Baseball Program again next year.



Article I. Preamble

The Glen Rock Little League Travel Baseball Program, hereafter referred to as the Travel Program, is operated under the direction of the Board of Directors of the Glen Rock Little League (hereafter referred to as the Board).

The VP of Travel is an elected member of the Board of Directors who is charged with, and responsible for, the operation of the Travel Program within the Borough of Glen Rock. The VP of Travel has the authority to make all decisions regarding the Travel Program, and in most cases, is the final authority on all matters related to same. The VP of Travel reports directly to the President of the GRLL and is a member of the GRLL Board.

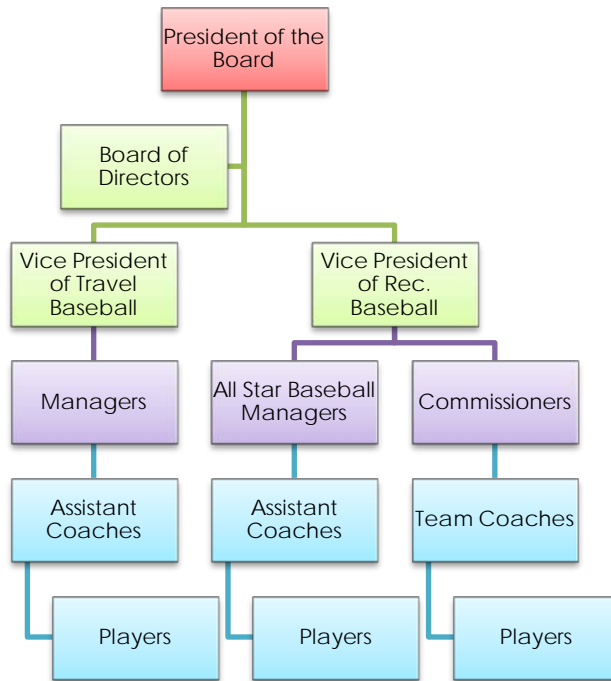
Please note that this is not a manual of Baseball Rules. These are the policies and procedures of the GRLL Travel Program only. Additionally, any rules not mentioned or altered in this manual will follow the rules of Little League Baseball and standards set forth in USA Baseball Guidelines.



Article II. League Organization

Travel Baseball is a component of the GRLL which is overseen by a Vice President. The Vice President of Travel Baseball, herein referred to as VP of Travel, is responsible with the daily operation of the Travel Baseball Program. The VP of Travel is a member of the GRLL Board of Directors.

GRLL Baseball’s hierarchy is organized in the following manner:





Article III. General Rules – Deadlines & Eligibility

Some general rules and regulations of the Travel Program which may be discussed in more detail later in this manual shall be as follows:

Section 3.01 Season Start / End Dates

The Travel Program's start and end dates will be at the discretion of the VP of Travel and the Board. Unless otherwise stated by the VP of Travel the Little League Age Chart Rules will be followed. Currently the date is **August 31st** of each [year](#).

All current Travel Players would graduate to the next Division as of that date for the fall season.

All Try-Outs and team selections shall occur after that date, and will utilize the Little League Age Chart to determine eligibility.

(a) Fall Baseball Season Exception

All Teams will be given the option to play in the fall baseball season if they wish. The season is optional, and at the discretion of the Team's Manager.

Teams that choose to play in the fall season will be rostered from the previous summer and spring season's teams, who will remain together until the conclusion of the fall season.

The team will be graduated to the appropriate Division they would be eligible for, after the August 31st deadline.

For example: If the 8U Team elects to participate in the Fall Season, they would remain together until the conclusion of that season, and participate in the 9U Division NOT in the 8U Division for the fall.

Section 3.02 Player Eligibility

In order for a player to be eligible to play Glen Rock Travel Baseball, the player must:

1. Be registered to play "Rec: Baseball for the Glen Rock Little League;
2. Participate in a minimum of 60% of all Recreational League Games;
3. Have a date of birth (DOB) that coincides with a Division of play offered by the Travel Baseball Program, using the [Little League Baseball Age Chart](#); and,



4. Possess the *Minimum Required Skills* which are necessary to safely play Travel Baseball.

Section 3.03 Player Registration Deadlines

The VP of Travel, in coordination with the President of the GRL, shall determine the cut-off date for registrations for each of the Divisions. The following is the policy of the Travel Program regarding registration cut-offs:

(a) Establishment of a Deadline Date

It shall be the policy of the Travel Program that the deadline date be no less than thirty days (30) from the date travel baseball registrations are announced.

The deadline date should allow for ample time to prepare for a well-run, fair and impartial try-out process (if necessary).

(b) Default Deadline Date

Unless otherwise noted, the GRL will cut-off registrations no later than September 30th of each year. This is to allow a thorough vetting process of all registrants, as well as provide ample time for a selection process to take place.

(c) Late Registrations

Although the GRL philosophy is to be as inclusive as possible to all players who wish to play the sport of baseball, it is equally as important that the GRL uphold the integrity of the policy stated in this section and, in turn, protect the 'rights' of the players who registered properly and before the deadline had passed.

➤ Exceptions

The VP of Travel and the Board may determine that a player's late registration will be accepted due to some form of exceptional circumstances. These 'exceptional acceptances' are at the discretion of the VP of Travel and Board.

(d) Notifications and Publication of Registration Openings

The GRL should use all available media sources to post the registration information to the public. This may include, but is not limited to, social media

sites such as: Facebook & Twitter. Additionally, the deadline for each division will be posted clearly in the Travel Baseball Section of the GRL Webpage.



Minimally, a message should be sent, via email, to all GRLL Baseball Families (with players in recreational leagues/divisions that are compatible with Travel Divisions of the GRLL). Those players who are too young, or too old, for Travel Baseball most likely will not receive an invitation email.

Section 3.04 Manager / Coach Selection Deadlines

Division Managers shall be selected for each division no later than September 30th of each year.

In the event that the VP of Travel has not received any applications for a Division, then the deadline will be waived until such time as a Manager can be found. In the event that a Manager is still not found, then VP of Travel may ask for volunteers to serve as assistant coaches, and evenly divide the managerial responsibilities among them. The VP of Travel will appoint one of the coaches to serve as a liaison between the team and GRLL.

In the event that there are no volunteers to coach for a division, then the division will not field a team. The deadline to make this determination shall be at the discretion of the VP of Travel, by default, it will be the deadline set by the Baseball League (i.e. NJSBL) to register a team.

The VP of Travel will coordinate with the Team Manager in the selection of Assistant Coaches. The Manager will nominate candidates, who will be approved by the VP of Travel.



Article IV. Division and Team – Makeup/Structure

The main goal of the Travel Program is to develop the skills of young players in order to help them be successful both on and off the baseball field. GRLL will aim to field as many teams as possible in each Division, dependent upon registration and coach volunteers, while still maintaining the competitive nature of Travel Baseball. The VP of Travel is directly responsible for this process.

Section 4.01 Travel Program – League / Divisional Structure

The following is the general structure of the Travel Program:

- The VP of Travel is directly responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Travel Baseball Program, as well as ensuring the policies and procedures in this manual are followed and observed. Furthermore; the VP of Travel will represent the Travel Program at all GRLL Board Meetings.
- Teams will be grouped by the player's age level and each age level will form a Division.
- Age groups will be determined by the player's date of birth (DOB), following the Little League Baseball Age Chart. Players will NOT be organized by grade level.
- Each team will be run by a Team Manager (Head Coach) who is selected by the VP of Travel or Board of Directors. The Manager will report directly to the VP of Travel.
- The GRLL will aim to field at least one team in the following Divisions, if possible:
 - **8U Division;**
 - **9U Division;**
 - **10U Division;**
 - **11U Division;**
 - **12U Division; and,**
 - **13U Division.**

Additional Divisions (e.g. 14u, 15u, etc.) may be rostered, based on demand and registration results.

- For organizational purposes, the Program will be split into three leagues:
 - **Minor League:**
The Minor League will be made up of the 8u and 9u Divisions.



- **Major League:**
The Major League will be made up of the 10u, 11u and 12u Divisions.
- **Senior League:**
The Senior League will be made up of all Divisions, 13u and above.

Section 4.02 Travel Program – Team Structure

The following shall be the general Team Structure within the Travel Program:

- Each team within a Division will be independently managed by a Team Manager and Assistant Coaches.
- Team Managers will report directly to the VP of Travel.
- Team Managers will have oversight on their respective Teams. Assistant Coaches will assist the Managers in all matters.
- Teams will be made up of boys and girls from our GRLL recreational baseball teams¹.
- If there is more than one team per Division in the Minor Leagues, they should not be labeled as the “A Team” or “B Team”². Instead, the VP of Travel should give each team a unique label (e.g. Team Panthers, Team Red).
- In Major and Senior Leagues, each team shall be labeled by flight, “A Team”, “B Team”, etc.

Section 4.03 Playing “Up” a Division

The policy of the GRLL is that all players participate in Divisions that are age appropriate as described in this policy. The current policy of the Board of Directors is that no player may “play up” on a full season basis within the Travel program. However; players may be “called up” to assist a higher division, **on a temporary basis**, when there is a need.

Section 4.04 Team Minimum and Maximums

The Travel Program believes that the optimal manageable roster size should be between twelve (12) and thirteen (13) players. However; each team will be evaluated

¹ At the discretion of the Board, a girl who plays rec softball may be permitted to play Travel Baseball. If not approved, the girl would be required to also play rec baseball and not softball.



on a case by case basis, depending on a variety of factors, in determining the final size of the roster. The VP of Travel has discretion to adjust the size of the team accordingly based on the needs.

The Travel Program may, at times, receive more players who register their intent to play for a Travel Baseball Team than there are available vacancies on a team. Alternatively, a team or Division may not receive enough registered players to meet minimum requirements. This section shall determine the policy of the Travel Program during such occurrences.

(a) Registrations Exceed Maximum Roster Sizes

When registration numbers exceed the optimal team roster positions, a variety of options are available to the VP of Travel in order to fairly and efficiently form a team(s). These options may include, but are not limited to:

➤ *Cutting Down Rosters (Cuts):*

As a last resort, the VP of Travel may authorize registration lists to be 'cut down' (hereafter referred to as "cuts") to meet the optimal roster size for a Divisional Team.

Cutting players is an unfortunate, but necessary and especially stressful position for decision makers to be involved in. Every effort shall be taken to avoid the necessity of cutting players; however, it may at times not be possible to avoid cuts in order to serve the best interests of the Travel Program as a whole.

Players who are not selected for a team shall be notified, via e-mail, by the VP of Travel. These players will be encouraged to continue to develop their baseball skills and try-out again in the future.

Additionally, players will be advised that their name will be placed on a list, in order of the raw score they received at the try-out. In the event that a vacancy becomes available on a team, the players will be "called up" and given the opportunity to play for that team.

This option shall never be utilized unless a formal try-out or skill evaluation has been completed

➤ *Combining Teams – Forming One Large Team*

Wavering from maximum roster sizes and rostering one large 'reasonably sized' team.



What is considered 'reasonable' is at the discretion of the VP of Travel and Board.

➤ *Splitting Teams – Forming Two or More Teams*

The most ideal option is that the VP of Travel will roster two or more teams allowing all players who register³ an opportunity to play. This will be conducted following a Skills Evaluation or Try-out Process. The selection for these teams will be done in accordance with the procedures in this policy.

(b) *Registrations Below Minimum Roster Sizes*

There may be seasons where player registrations do not provide enough players to meet minimum optimal roster sizes. The VP of Travel will determine whether a team will be fielded that is below the minimum optimal roster size, or if no team will be fielded for that Division.

➤ *Determining Not to Field a Team*

In the event that the minimum roster size is not met, and all efforts to campaign, recruit and urge additional players have been exhausted the Travel Program will not field a team with less than nine (9) players assigned.

Before the VP of Travel determines that no team will be fielded, the following steps should be taken, but are not limited to:

1. Extending the registration deadlines to allow for players to have more time to register;
2. Re-advertising the registration process to eligible GRLL players; and,
3. Requesting information from the VP of Rec to assist.

In the event that a team is not fielded, the GRLL will encourage the players to continue to play in the Rec Leagues with their friends. A team may be formed at a later time, for the next season, if the registration numbers will allow.

Note: Other options, such as sharing a team with another struggling community, may be considered.

³ Who possess the Minimum Playing Requirements.



➤ *Fielding a Team Below Minimum Roster Sizes*

The VP of Travel and the Team Manager will coordinate and determine if they are willing to continue to field a team of that size in full knowledge of the challenges it may present. The decision will be a coordinated decision between the VP of Travel and Manager, but will ultimately be at the discretion of the VP of Travel.

➤ *Deadline to Determine if Teams will be Fielded*

All teams will be registered with a local baseball organization. By default, the VP of Travel will register teams with the North Jersey Suburban Baseball League (NJSBL). The default deadline to determine if a team will be fielded will be the date set by the NJSBL, or equivalent organization.

Article V. Team Managers & Assistant Coaches

A Travel Team Manager and Assistant Coaches must be leaders. They must recognize that they hold a position of trust and responsibility in a program that deals with a sensitive and formative period of a child's development.

The Travel Program's priority is the development of its players. The Coaching Staff is directly responsible for that development, thus the selection of the best candidate who is qualified to lead a baseball team is imperative to the program's success. It is the Manager and Coaches, more than any other individual, who controls the situation in which the players may be benefited. Improving the level of leadership in this vital area must be a continuing effort and shall be the responsibility of the VP of Travel.

Team Managers and Assistant Coaches will be selected in accordance with this policy.

Section 5.01 Team Managers / Assistant Coaches – Minimum Requirements

All Coaches for the Travel baseball Program shall possess the following:

- A child in the Baseball Program;
- A R.U.T.G.E.R.S., or equivalent, safety course certification⁴;
- No criminal background, as defined by Little League Standards; and,
- A basic knowledge of the game of baseball.

⁴ May be sent to class during season if it's the first course available.



Section 5.02 Team Managers – General Rules

Team Managers, who may also be referred to as Head Coaches, shall:

- NOT be permitted to Manage more than one (1) Travel Baseball team for the GRLL without special circumstances (at discretion of VP of Travel);
- Serve a term of one year from date of appointment, or until another Manager has been selected by the VP of Travel;
- Not be guaranteed the position each year;
- Submit an application each year, prior to the deadline assigned;
- Move “up” with their team, if selected, through the divisions;
- Have full control over their teams, and the authority to conduct day to day business with their teams;
- Convey, and put into practice, their philosophy associated with their baseball team;
- Have taken, or be available to take, the R.U.T.G.E.R.S. Sports Clinic; and,
- Pass any, and all, required background investigations.

Section 5.03 Team Manager Selection Process

Prior to the Team Selection Process, the VP of Travel will post an application publicly as well as determine an appropriate deadline for the applications to be returned. By default, and unless otherwise stated, the deadline shall be September 14th of each year.

The VP of Travel will make best efforts to ensure that applications for Team Manager Positions are disseminated broadly and made available to all GRLL members, by use of the following:

- Posting notices at registration;
- Notices on the GRLL Website;
- Social media outreach;



- Contacting previous Travel Team Managers;
- “word of mouth” recruiting;
- Active recruitment of the parents of players on the selected teams; or,
- Contacting Rec League Commissioners and requesting suggestions.

(a) Application

The VP of Travel shall be responsible to draft an application for Travel Team Manager. This application may be updated from year to year, but will remain the same from the beginning of registrations until they are concluded.

After the deadline has passed, the VP of Travel shall review all applications and make a decision as to who he/she feels is in the best position to lead a Travel Baseball Team.

(b) Selection Process

The following is the process that should be followed by the VP of Travel in the selection of a Manager:

1. Application shall be made available to GRLC Community;
2. Deadline will be determined by VP of Travel;
3. After deadline has passed, the VP of Travel will begin the review process of all applications submitted;
4. Skill Evaluation/Try-out process for rostering teams will be conducted⁵;
5. Consideration of each application will be given to, but not limited to, the following areas:
 - Prior experience in coaching travel level baseball or softball;
 - Prior experience in coaching youth sports;
 - Recommendations from references provided;

⁵ See ‘When Manager Selection to Take Place Section Below’ for further details.



- Personal knowledge and reputation of the candidate;
- Candidates willingness and ability to be present for all, or most, team activities; and,
- The Candidate's philosophy on coaching baseball mirrors, or compliments, that of GRLL.

Additional desirable attributes of a Baseball Manager are:

- Competitive but compassionate to each player on the team and fellow coaches.
 - Recognizes the importance and allows the players to have fun.
 - Possesses a general sense of fairness.
 - Open and honest communication with parents, players and peers.
6. If there are more than one (1) applicants for the position, then an interview may be necessary;
 7. The VP of Travel will review the results of the try-out process and compare them to his/her review of the applications. The VP of Travel will make a decision based on both of these areas, and select the best candidate to lead the team and division in question.

Upon selection, the newly appointed Team Manager shall assume control over the team. Any candidate not selected has the right to appeal the decision to the Board.

If only one (1) candidate applies for a Team Manager position, the VP of Travel should still determine if the candidate is the right person for the job. The candidate will not be selected by default.

*See *VP of Travel – Special Considerations Section* in this policy for special issues that may arise.

➤ *When Manager Selection is to Take Place*

The following is when the final decision may be made, and announced, regarding the selection of the Team's Manager:



- **Skill Evaluation (Minor Leagues Only) –**
In instances where a skill evaluation is conducted vs. a try-out, then a manager may be selected prior the skill evaluation taking place as there is no conflict with team selection in this scenario.
- **Try-Outs (9u⁶, Major and Senior Leagues) -**
In instances when a try-out is conducted, the applications will remain “under review” until after the try-out process is complete, at which time the manager will be selected in a manner described above.

Section 5.04 Selection of Assistant Coaches

Assistant Coaches credentials should mirror those of Team Managers. The following procedures shall be followed:

1. Assistant Coaches will be selected after the team has been rostered by the VP of Travel and Team Manager and shall be pooled from available parents of players selected for a team;
2. Assistant Coaches will be recommended to the VP of Travel by the Team Manager;
3. Assistant Coaches shall be selected and appointed by the VP of Travel based on the recommendation of the Team’s Manager.

In the event that there are no Assistant Coaches available in the pool of players selected for a team, a parent/coach may be selected as an Assistant Coach from a player who was not selected for the team, as long as the player possesses the minimum skills required to play travel baseball.

The player will be added to the team’s roster as an additional player. No player will be replaced, for the sole purpose of assigning an Assistant Coach to the team.

Section 5.05 Role of Team Manager

The role of the Travel Team Manager extends far beyond the on-field responsibilities of filling out the lineup card and managing game situations. There is a significant investment of time and effort involved in running a travel team. Candidates must be willing and able to perform all responsibilities of the job, and make an honest evaluation of their availability, work schedule and personal commitments prior to assuming the role.

⁶ If the Competitive vs. Developmental Team format is followed.



In general, the Manager is responsible for:

- In conjunction with the VP of Travel, the team manager shall take part in the team selection process, as defined in this policy;
- Once a team is selected, the manager shall be responsible for all communications to his/her team;
- The Manager shall suggest Assistant Coaches to the VP of Travel, if not already selected;

(Assistant Coaches may be selected in a similar manner as the Manager Selection Process provided in this policy, if necessary).

- Ensure that the team is registered in league appropriate to team's capabilities;
- Whenever possible, attend league meetings to determine rules and procedures for the league;
- Obtain, maintain and be accountable for appropriate equipment for the team;
- Storage of the team's equipment;
 - The team's equipment will stay with the team as they progress through the Divisions in the travel program. If the manager position should change, the outgoing manager should transfer the equipment to the oncoming manager as soon as possible following the change.
- Arrange for use of fields as schedule dictates – games and practices;
- Arrange for umpires for home games, or in a manner required by league rules, with assistance from the VP of Travel;
- Ensure that his team players submit all payments to the GRLL;
- Follow up with league and GRLL on any required paperwork, such as score reporting, pitching logs, etc.;
- Assemble and maintain, at all times, rosters and required documentation (birth certificates, insurance, etc.);
- At the conclusion of each season, provide the VP of Travel with a summary of the previous season for his/her team. This should include, but is not limited to:



- any problems that arose during the season;
 - learning trends;
 - training issues/advise;
 - comments regarding the season; and,
 - advise for the next year's team.
- Summarize⁷ each player's season, providing guidance to the next year's manager about the player's abilities and strengths. Information may include, but is not limited to:
 - Stats from previous seasons;
 - Positions where the player was strong, or week;
 - Training regime, mechanics, and areas worked on; and,
 - Any other information relevant to help the next year's coaching staff.
 - Manage the baseball team on the field of play, to include creating and maintaining the lineup.

Section 5.06 Role of the Assistant Coach

The Assistant Baseball Coach assists the Managers in promoting an appreciation of physical fitness, teamwork, and sportsmanship. The Assistant Baseball Coach assists in providing leadership and supervision for team and individual sports, and works closely with the other staff and administration.

- i. Assist in the coordination and supervision of the program and team.
 - ii. Promote an appreciation of physical fitness, teamwork, and sportsmanship.
 - iii. Assist in the design of a training program and game program.
- Assist in the organization and supervision of the coaching staff to assure that the program is properly implemented.
- iv. Ensure that all athletic activities conform to GRLL guidelines.
 - v. Communicate effectively with all team members and coaches.
 - vi. React to change productively and handle other tasks as assigned.
 - vii. Support the value of an education.

⁷ This information may be used during team selection to aid the VP of Travel in making rostering decisions. This is meant to benefit the player, not vice versa.



- viii. Support the philosophy of the Team Manager.
- ix. Support the team on the field of play.





Article VI. Team – Equipment, Purchases and Spending

Managers shall be responsible for recording and tracking the finances of their team. This may include purchasing equipment, entering tournaments and other related purchases.

Prior to making ANY team related purchase, which the Manager would request reimbursement for⁸, the Manager is responsible to communicate with the VP of Travel so that it may be properly documented **and approved**.

Purchases made, without the approval of the VP of Travel, are not guaranteed to be approved for reimbursement.

Section 6.01 Exceptions to Approval Requirement

- Minor team purchases (e.g. purchasing bubble gum or seeds for team);
- Umpire fees, not already covered or accounted for;
- Incidental purchases (e.g. pencils for book, cups for water jug, etc.); and,
- Emergency funding or purchases.

Section 6.02 Glen Rock Little League Equipment

All equipment that has been purchased by a GRLL Travel Team, which was paid for / reimbursed by Team Fees, is the sole property of the GRLL Travel Program. The equipment will remain with the team as it progresses through the Divisions.

Once a team has been 'ages out', the equipment shall be returned to the GRLL and stored in a GRLL Facility to serve as reserve equipment, or may be passed down to a younger division.

If a team has not been rostered for a season, the equipment must be returned to the GRLL for storage. That equipment will be reserved for that Division until the start of the NEXT season. If a team has not been rostered a second time, then that equipment would be placed into the inventory as reserve equipment.

For example: If a 10u Team is not rostered in 2017, that equipment will be placed in storage and reserved for the 10u team until 2018 season. If a team is not rostered again in 2018, then the equipment would no longer be reserved and would be available as reserve equipment to the Travel Program.

⁸ To include all items that are submitted in the team fees.



Article VII. Minimum Skill Requirements for Travel Baseball

Players must have the ability to perform the minimum basic skills required to participate in a travel baseball program. The main purpose for having a minimum set of skills to play baseball can be summed up into one word: Safety.

Players who do not possess these minimum skills, or who do not have the potential to learn these skills, may pose a risk to him/herself and other players. They will not be permitted to play travel baseball in the GRLL.

The minimum skill requirements are:

1. Ability to CATCH a baseball;
2. Ability to THROW a baseball with minimal accuracy;
3. Ability to DODGE an object (baseball) if necessary; and,
4. Ability to LISTEN when told to do something.

Section 7.01 Player Fails to Meet Minimum Requirements – Determined in Try-out/Skill Eval.

If an evaluator, during a Skills Evaluation, feels that a player does not possess the minimum skills, they shall bring this matter to the attention of the VP of Travel. The VP of Travel and the Evaluator shall attempt to determine if the player has the ability to learn these skills through practice in an appropriate amount of time.

If the VP of Travel and evaluator do not feel that the player has the minimum skills, nor the ability to learn these skills in a timely manner, the player will not be rostered on a team, and asked to improve their skills in recreational baseball, and come back next year.

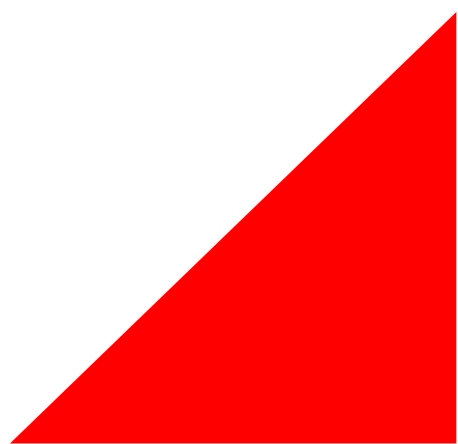
Section 7.02 Player Fails to Meet Minimum Requirements – Determined After Player Rostered

If a player has been rostered but is later determined not to possess these minimum skill requirements, it shall be the responsibility of the Team Manager to bring it to the attention of the VP of Travel.

The Manager should provide the VP of Travel with the reasons why he/she feels the player is not able to perform these skills, what he/she has done to attempt to coach the player, and what their recommendations are going forward. Manager/Coaches are not required to play any player in the field while they do not possess these minimum required skills.



A player may be removed from the program if all other options have been exhausted and he/she has been given every opportunity to succeed and learn.





Article VIII. Player Selection and Team Rostering

GRLI will not discriminate against any player, parent, coach, official, umpire or spectator based on gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or beliefs. All players who are eligible to play baseball for the GRLI shall have the opportunity to sign up for the Travel Baseball program.

The selection of players shall be based on the the needs of the team, a player's skills in the game of baseball, a player's ability to learn and be coached, a player's mental toughness and knowledge in the game of baseball, what the player can bring to his/her team, and the player's desire to play.

Getting a high score in a try-out or skill evaluation does not necessarily guarantee a roster position on a team.

Teams are rostered at the sole discretion of the VP of Travel, with assistance from Team Managers. All rostering decisions are final.

The Selection of players for a team shall be discussed in this article. The VP of Travel is directly responsible for this task.

Section 8.01 Rostering of Players

The selection of players is an especially difficult task, and has the potential to cause the most controversy associated with Travel Baseball Programs. The GRLI's philosophy is that all players be given an opportunity to play Travel Baseball, provided they meet the minimum requirements set forth above..

The VP of Travel shall be responsible to roster teams in each Division, with the assistance of applicable Team Managers. **Players shall be selected to fill a need on a team, and will not necessarily be selected based solely on baseball talent.** The following are some tools that can assist the VP of Travel make a decision on rostering a team:

- x. A Players raw score, following the try-out/skill evaluation;
- xi. Firsthand knowledge of the player's abilities, desire to play the game, devotion to his previous teams, and work ethic;
- xii. Recommendations from previous coaches, commissioners or managers;
- xiii. If the player can provide a purpose and ability that will benefit the team (e.g. strong leadership skills, pitching ability, etc.); and,
- xiv. The players overall ability to fulfill a need for a team.

With these tools, the following procedure shall be used by the VP of Travel regarding rostering of players:



1. VP of Travel to determine Make-up and Structure of each division based on registration information;
2. VP of Travel to determine what type of evaluation is to be conducted;
3. Evaluation process to be conducted;
4. Results to be tallied by the VP of Travel Baseball;
5. Players shall be ranked in order of Raw Score;
6. VP of Travel and Manager shall meet to roster players;
In general, the top twelve to thirteen (12-13) players shall be selected and rostered; however the VP of Travel and Manager have the discretion to assure that the needs of the team are met.
7. If Teams are to be evenly split, then the VP of Travel and Manager are to meet, and the teams split as evenly as possible, while providing for the needs of each team (e.g. even amount of pitchers on each)
8. Second, and subsequent teams will be rostered and Managers selected for same;
9. Assistant Coaches will be selected; and,
10. The teams will be announced, by the Managers, to their respective teams.

(This entire process will be conducted utilizing procedures and policies set forth in this policy.)

Section 8.02 Appeal Process

Unless there was a form of bias against the player, or he/she was not given a fair opportunity to make a team, the rostering decisions made by the VP of Travel are final, and will not be changed after they've been posted.

Parents have the right to appeal rostering decisions only if they feel their player was treated in an **unfair or bias manner**. The appeal may be made to the VP of Travel or directly to the Board of Directors. Once received, the appeal will be reviewed and investigated in a manner determined by Board of Directors, or President of the Board. The person filing the appeal will be notified, in writing, regarding the final outcome of the review, and how the matter will be remedied (if necessary).



(a) Examples of Bias

Examples of bias against a player may include, but are not limited to:

- Not being selected due to gender, sexual orientation, race, or religious beliefs;
- Not being selected because of a personal affliction against the player or the player's family (e.g. the player and the Manager's Player don't like each other); or,
- Not being selected as a form of retaliation towards the player or player's family.

(b) Access to Try-out / Skill Evaluation Results

The raw results of the try-out, even the results specific to an individual player, **are confidential and not available** to the general public. This is done to protect the integrity of the process, and allow for the evaluators to make an honest and accurate evaluation of each player, without fear of retaliation or of offending someone.

Upon request, the VP of Travel can provide some guidance, based on the results of the try-out, of areas in which the player may need to improve to give them a better opportunity to make a team in the future.

Section 8.03 Temporary Vacancy / Injury Replacement Policy

When players are injured, have a family emergency, or are otherwise going to be unable to play for his/her team for an extended period of time, the player's Manager may request that the VP of Travel "call-up" a player or replace the player's vacancy on the roster.

On a case-by-case basis, the VP of Travel and the Team Manager will review the team's need for the vacancy to be filled, and whether the player's spot will be 'reserved' for him/her to return to. Things such as the team's roster size, the team's schedule, the nature of the absence, the best interests of the player, the best interests of the team, and the best interests of the league should be considered.

If the player's roster spot will NOT be 'reserved', then the vacancy may be permanently filled by another player, if necessary. If the player's spot is to be 'reserved' for the player, then the roster spot may be temporarily filled by another player until such time as the player returns.

Additionally, the player (or player's parents/guardian) should communicate, clearly, with his/her Team Manager about the reason for absence, and the time frame they a



expected to be absent. The Team Manager shall liaise between the player and the GRLL (VP of Travel).

(a) Filling Vacancies on Rosters

The VP of Travel and the Team's Manager will coordinate to determine the best option for the team and Division.

➤ *Calling Up or Sending Down Players*

The VP of Travel shall only authorize a vacancy be filled on a team if the vacancy severely affects the composition and readiness of the team. The following guidelines should be followed for these instances:

- The VP of Travel should avoid having a player move from team to team on a regular basis, with the exception of emergent or exceptional circumstances.
- Many leagues do not allow for any player who was selected for an A Team in a Division to be "called down" to a B Team (or lower) team unless the player is being "called down" permanently. This is to promote fairness, and not "stacking teams". The policy of the Travel Program is to follow the League's rules and regulations regarding this matter.
- The player(s) to be moved shall be at the discretion of the VP of Travel, however shall be based on the coordination between the Coaching Staff.
- In most cases, the player will move back to his/her team after the original player has returned. In some cases, the Managers and VP of Travel may choose to keep the player at the team he/she was sent to fill the vacancy permanently. This is a discretionary decision, ultimately made by the VP of Travel in the best interests of the teams and player.
- Players may be "called up" from lower divisions to fill vacancies on a team. This is to be done on a temporary basis only, and the player's may not be permanently rostered on a higher divisional team.

➤ *Activating Players from a "Cut List"*

As a last resort, players on the "cut list" may be asked to join a team on a temporary or permanent basis to fill a vacancy. The VP of Travel shall use caution in these matters, and only allow a player who has the ability to play at competitive level of baseball to play for the team. Additional



VP of Travel should be cognizant of the best interests of the “cut list” player. In most cases, the “Cut List” player should be added to the roster permanently; however this is at the discretion of the VP of Travel who should take into account the best interests of the League, Team and Player.





Article IX. Skills Evaluations vs. Try-Outs

All players in the Travel Program shall undergo either a skills evaluation or a formal try-out. Try-outs and Skills Evaluations are tools used to determine the skill level, work ethic, desire to play, and coach- ability of all registered players. This Section of the policy shall dictate how these types of evaluations are conducted by the Travel Program.

Section 9.01 Minor Leagues - Skill Evaluations / Try-outs

Skills evaluations are, minimally, necessary to provide GRLL with some knowledge of the ability of all players who are signing up. This will serve as a “baseline” for the VP of Travel and Team Managers to use when selecting a team in the Minor Leagues and determine if players possess the minimum skill requirements necessary to safely play Travel baseball.

➤ 8u Division

The 8u Division shall conduct a Skills Evaluation prior to the rostering of the players. This evaluation shall be conducted by the VP of Travel and the Team’s Manager, at a minimum. All players registered to play at the 8U Divisional level must participate in this evaluation.

The rostering of teams will be conducted in a manner prescribed by this policy. The following are areas that are unique to the 8u Division:

- xv. There will be no ‘cuts’ at the 8u Level;
- xvi. Teams will be split evenly, based on the results of the skills evaluation;
- xvii. There will be no ‘Competitive Team vs. Developmental Team’ format at this level. Both teams shall be considered ‘Developmental’.

➤ 9u Division

All 9u Players will be required to complete some form of a Skills Evaluations prior to being rostered to a team. This evaluation shall be conducted by the VP of Travel and the Team’s Manager, at a minimum.

Dependent upon the amount of players registered to play at the 9u Level, the VP of Travel will determine if there will be one team, two evenly split teams, or ‘Competitive Team vs. Developmental Team Format’ (commonly referred to as an ‘A and B Team’ format). The VP of Travel shall follow this policy for guidance in making this determination.



- **Competitive Team v. Developmental Team (“A/B Team”) Format –**
Try-outs will be required in this situation. The try-out will be conducted as described in this policy. The “Competitive Team” (A Team) shall be selected first, followed by subsequent teams.
- **Evenly Split Teams Format –**
Skill Evaluations will be conducted in the event that the VP of Travel determines that two teams are going to be rostered.

Based upon the results of the Skills Evaluation, the VP of Travel and Team Managers will evenly split the teams to form two teams that are as equally skilled as possible.

Once the teams have been rostered, they shall remain together until the end of the year.

(a) Major and Senior Leagues – Try-outs

From the 10u Division on, the rostering of players will be based on a Try-out and will follow the ‘Competitive Team vs. Developmental Team’ Format. The Travel Program should seek to include all minimally qualified players that it can; however, maximum roster sizes should be followed, if possible.

After the try-outs have been conducted the results will be given to the VP of Travel. The Team Manager and VP of Travel shall select a team in a manner prescribed by this policy. The “Competitive Team” (A Team) shall be rostered first, followed by subsequent teams.

Section 9.02 Access to Evaluations / Try-Out Results

It is the policy of the GRL Travel Program that the results of try-outs, notes from any selection process and any related documents **are strictly confidential** and are not for public dissemination.

Scores, and related documents, are to remain in the sole possession of the VP of Travel and are not to be distributed to any other person, other than the Board of Directors (upon request). The GRL President, Board of Directors, and any applicable Managers/Coaches are the only persons authorized to view this information, for official purposes only.



(a) Player/Parent Request for Review of Results

Players/parents may request for a review of the findings of results of teams selections and try-outs. This request must be in writing (email is appropriate) to the VP of Travel.

Information and individual results from the try-out remain confidential and shall not be shared. The VP of Travel shall review any results and notes and shall respond to these requests, in writing, providing a general explanation as to the results of the try-out.

For example, the VP of Travel Baseball should not inform the parent of the player's exact scores in specific areas but should, instead, assist the parent in formulating a plan for the player to help develop and build upon skills in areas he/she struggled in.

See Appeal Process section of this policy for further information.



Article X. Try-out Procedures and Guidelines

Try-outs will be conducted in a fair and non-biased manner for each Division based on age and skill levels. The necessity of try-outs is at the discretion of the VP of Travel. Normally, try-outs are only conducted for 10U – 14U Divisions, although 9u may conduct try-outs, if necessary.

The VP of Travel shall determine how the try-outs are to be conducted. The VP of Travel is responsible to facilitate and conduct the try-outs. The VP of Travel may use, but is not limited to, the following manners, described in the following sections, to conduct try-outs.

Section 10.01 Outsourcing Try-Outs to Independent Arbitrators

An independent arbitrator may be 'hired' by GRLL to conduct try-outs. Independent baseball organizations must be well established and professional companies with the capabilities to properly conduct try-out events (e.g. Teels Inc., P.B.I., or USA Baseball Academy).

Companies with any personal or professional affiliations to any player, coach, manager or member of the Board of Directors should not be utilized to conduct try-outs in order to avoid any conflict of interests that may arise. When a conflict of interest exists, it will require the approval of the Board of Directors to move forward.

Players may be asked to pay a "try-out" fee for these types of try-outs, normally paid directly to the company.

The results shall be forwarded to the VP of Travel, and will be shared with the Managers for the sole purpose of Team Selection. The results will remain with the VP of Travel and not be made available to the public.

Section 10.02 Complete Outsourcing of Try-outs to Glen Rock High School Staff

The VP of Travel may choose to request Glen Rock High School Baseball staff to facilitate try-outs. In these instances, the VP of Travel will be responsible to coordinate with GRHS Baseball Staff and shall act as a liaison between the two organizations.

The results shall be forwarded to the VP of Travel, and will be shared with the Managers for the sole purpose of Team Selection. The results will remain with the VP of Travel and not be made available to the public.



Section 10.03 Glen Rock Little League Facilitated Try-out

GRLI facilitated try-outs must be conducted in an especially careful manner as to avoid any potential accusations of favoritism. The VP of Travel shall be responsible to oversee and facilitate all try-outs. The Try-out procedure shall be as follows:

(a) Determination of Dates and Times of Try-outs

A minimum of two (2) sessions, per Division, should be scheduled. The sessions should not be on the same day and should be at different times of day, if possible (i.e. Session One – Sat. at 10am; Session Two – Sun. at 2pm).

Players will be assigned to the first date, in order of registration, until such time as the registration numbers exceed a manageable number, at which time the second date will be used.

If the second date is required, then player's families who requested the second date may be assigned to that second date as a courtesy.

(b) Player Identification

In order to promote fairness and impartiality, each player will be assigned a Registration Number.

The VP of Travel shall determine how to label and identify players. For example, the VP of Travel may use the following method:

- The Age Group the player is trying out for, followed by the order in which the player was registered. For example and 11u player, who was the 21st player to register for travel baseball will be given: 11u21.
- Note: During the actual evaluations, the player may wear a sign simply stating "21", but on registration or other documents, the 11u21 format should be used.

During try-outs the player will be required to prominently display that number so it is visible by all evaluators.

(c) Formation of an Evaluation Team

During each session, there shall be an Evaluation Team present made up of GRLI Representatives to perform the evaluations.

The purpose of a "team approach" is to provide an impartial and fair process for all those being evaluated. This provides the players multiple layers of protection against an evaluator who may hold some type of bias against the player.



The formation of the team shall be at the discretion of the VP of Travel, and should include a minimum of four evaluators¹⁰. Unless otherwise directed by the VP of Travel, the Evaluation Team should include:

1. VP of Travel;
2. One (1) additional member of the Board;
3. GRHS Coach(es);
4. Un-associated Team Manager (*For example: for a 10u Try-out, the 8u, 9u, 11u, or 12u (etc.) Manager would assist*); and,
5. Previous season's manager, as an observer and assistant only.

(d) Responsibilities of Evaluation Team

The Evaluation Team shall generally be responsible to facilitate the try-out process and to evaluate the skill levels of the players in a fair and impartial manner.

➤ *VP of Travel*

The VP of Travel is responsible for:

- Performing an evaluation of the players in the division being observed;
- The overall facilitation of the try-out process;
- Coordinating with the other Board Member present on all manners pertaining to policy; and,
- Preparing the process, processing the results, the communication of the process and results, and for all manners related to the logistics of running the events.

➤ *Board Member*

The Board Member is responsible to:

- Perform the evaluations of the players;

¹⁰ The VP of Travel should ensure that the same type of team is present at both Divisional try-outs (i.e. both 10u Tryouts should have the same evaluators, if possible).



- Aid the VP of Travel in the facilitation of the process; and,
- Be present to coordinate with the VP of Travel on matters of policy.

➤ *GRHS Coach*

The Glen Rock High School Coach is present to provide an outside/independent source of professional knowledge to the evaluations. The GRHS Coach's primary responsibility is to provide an evaluation of the players during the try-out process.

➤ *Un-Associated Team Manager*

The Manager is present as a "front line" representative of the Travel Program, from the perspective of an active youth baseball coach. The Manager's responsibility is to perform the evaluation of the players at the try-out.

➤ *Previous Season's Manager*

The Manager is present to aid the evaluations in a variety of different ways. The Manager's responsibilities on the team are limited to:

- Providing insight into a particular player's history and previous baseball experience (if applicable);
- Provide any additional, personal, knowledge of the players in his/her division;
- Observe the process and the players, to aid in the selection process; and,
- Assist in the facilitation of the try-outs, or "help-out".

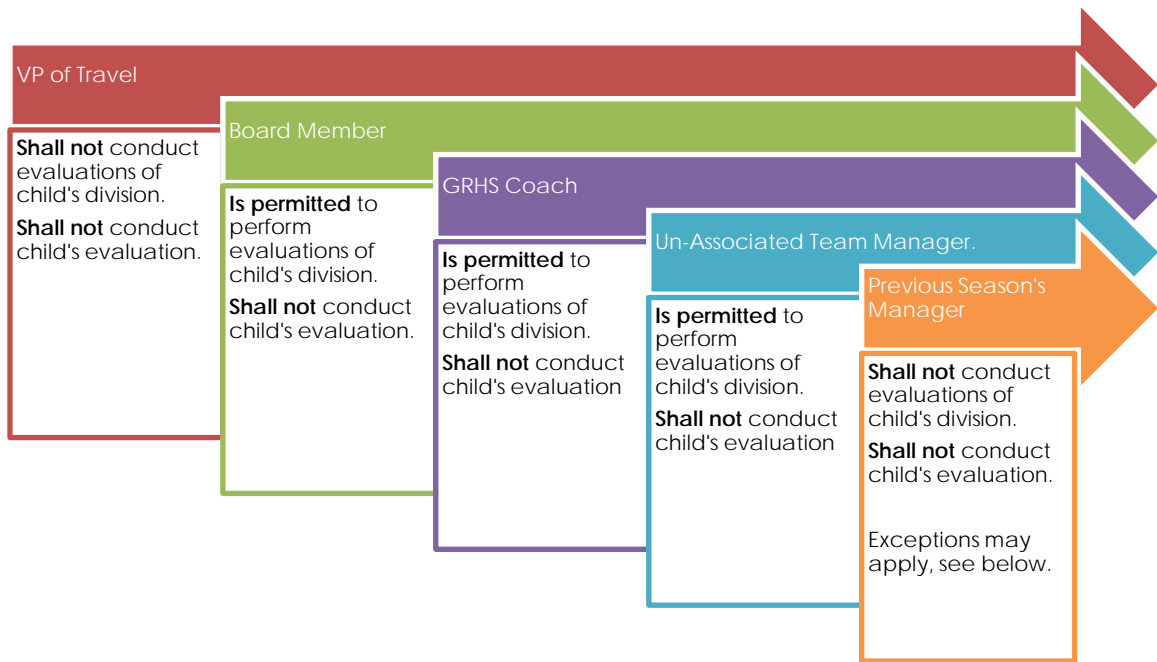
(e) *Special Considerations*

Due to the nature of the evaluations, and the sensitivity of the process, there may be instances that require special considerations to ensure the integrity and philosophy of the process is upheld.

➤ *Evaluation of Evaluator's Child*

There may be incidents where an evaluator's child is present at a Divisional Try-out. These situations provide a uniquely difficult situation for both the Travel Program and the player.

In order to maintain the integrity of the process, the following rules shall apply to the members of the evaluation team:



In instances when a Team Member is not permitted to conduct an evaluation, the following shall take place:

- Conflicts of interest should be avoided at all cost. Unless it is absolutely necessary that the Team Member be present for that particular session, he/she should not be invited to attend.
- If the evaluator is permitted to evaluate the division, but not his/her child, the previous season's manager will conduct the evaluation of the player, so as to not affect the player's raw score.
- If the conflict is with the VP of Travel, then a fifth evaluator shall be assigned to conduct evaluations of that Division.
- The VP of Travel is the only member of the team required to be at each evaluations session. This is to ensure that all try-out sessions are conducted in a consistent and fair basis, and that there is no major differential between sessions (e.g. ensuring everyone gets the same amount of pitches, fielding chances, etc.).

➤ *Anonymity of Evaluations*

To protect the integrity of the process and the anonymity of the evaluators, the evaluators shall make no mark as to the identity of the person making the evaluation.



Furthermore, once all the results have been received, the VP of Travel shall input them into a spreadsheet, where the calculations will be made to determine a player's raw score.

(f) Conducting the Try-outs

Tryouts will be conducted in a fair, non-bias way determined by the VP of Travel Baseball. Minimally, the try-outs will consist of drills, game scenarios, or situations that will allow the Evaluation Team to observe the following skills:

1. The players ability to throw a baseball;
2. The players ability to catch a baseball;
3. The players ability to hit a baseball;
4. The player's ability to run the bases;
5. The players ability to field a batted ball in the field; and,
6. The players "Baseball IQ" and knowledge of the game

Additionally, players will be asked if they plan to try-out for the positions of Pitcher and Catcher. Those players will be given the opportunity to demonstrate the skills necessary to play in those positions.

- xviii. Pitchers will be given the opportunity to throw an appropriate amount of pitches during the evaluation period. Defensive skills can also be observed.
- xix. Catchers will be given the opportunity to receive an appropriate amount of pitches during the evaluations period. The player's throwing ability to 1B, 2B, and 3B may also be observed.



Article XI. Tournaments – Rules and Policy

All Divisions shall be permitted to participate in any tournament they wish, with prior permission from the VP of Travel. The cost of the tournament is to be borne on the team.

Section 11.01 “Cooperstown Team”

Annually, the 12U Division Team “A” team will attend the Cooperstown Dream Park Summer Baseball tournament. This is a GRLI tradition and all “A” Level 12U Division teams will continue to participate in this tournament for the foreseeable future. A change to this commitment will require approval from the VP of Travel, the GRLI President and the GRLI Board.

12U Division players will only be allowed to participate in the Cooperstown Tournament once as a player for GRLI Travel Baseball. The GRLI President and VP of Travel may allow an exception to this rule in emergent situations only (i.e. a shortage of players or injuries).

Players who fall into this category may still be eligible to play for the 12U “A” Level Team; however, they will normally not be eligible to attend the Cooperstown tournament a second time.

The GRLI’s policy is to give as many Travel players the opportunity to experience this unique tournament, or an equivalent tournament. In the event that a 12U Player is not eligible for the Tournament due to his/her prior participation; a Team “B” player may be “called up” to play for Team “A” during the Cooperstown Dream Park Summer Baseball tournament only.

Section 11.02 Tournament Teams

In the Minor Leagues teams are generally split evenly and fairly to divide the ‘talent’ among both teams. This presents a unique challenge for a team to be able to compete in a tournament if they so wish. In those cases, a “Tournament Team” may be created for a division. The selection for the Tournament Team shall be conducted in fair, impartial bases by the Team Managers of the divisional teams. The VP of Travel shall oversee the process. In general, the top twelve players will be selected for the team, but the selection will be made based on the needs of the team.

Section 11.03 Tournaments



Managers shall have the discretion to participate in Tournaments throughout the season if they so wish. Managers should request permission to play, through the VP of Travel before signing up.

Article XII. Seasons of Play

Unless otherwise indicated, all Divisions shall have the opportunity to play in the following seasons:

Section 12.01 Spring Season

With the exception of the 8U Division¹², all divisions shall play in a spring season. The leagues in which divisional teams participate in are at the discretion of the Team's Manager, with the approval of the VP of Travel.

Known and established local leagues are to be used (i.e. Little League Baseball, NJSBL, etc.), and are subject to the approval of the VP of Travel.

Managers must ask for permission, from the VP of Travel to not participate in a League during a particular season.

By default, GRLL teams will participate in the North Jersey Suburban Baseball League (NJSBL) unless otherwise requested.

Fees for this season shall be borne on the team.

Section 12.02 Summer Season

All divisions are expected to play in a Summer Travel Baseball League. Managers continue to have discretion to choose the league they compete in. Fees for this season shall be borne on the team.

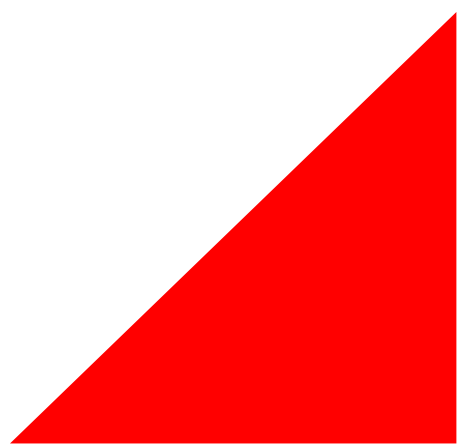
Players who are rostered on a team for the Spring Season are expected to continue with their team into the Summer Season.

Section 12.03 Fall Season

The Fall Travel Baseball seasons is an optional season that teams are not required to participate in. Each team's manager may elect to participate in the Fall Season, after approval by the VP of Travel.

Teams will be 'promoted' prior to the start of this season to the next highest division (e.g. 10u Players in the Summer Season will be promoted to 11u for the fall season).

¹² 8u shall have the option to play in the spring, but is not required to do so.





Article XIII. Vice President of Travel Baseball – Duties and Responsibilities

The VP of Travel bears the responsibility of ensuring a spirit of fair play, competitiveness and placing the interests of the young athletes first for the purposes of the travel program. The VP of Travel shall serve the best interests of the players in the Travel Baseball Program and represent the philosophy and mission of the GRLL.

The VP of Travel is an elected member of the Board of Directors. The term for the VP of Travel is one (1) year.

Any issue that cannot be resolved by the VP of Travel should be brought to the attention of the GRLL Executive Board.

Section 13.01 General Rules, Duties and Responsibilities

The specific duties and responsibilities of the VP of Travel include, but are not limited to:

- Ensuring that the Mission Statement, goals, and philosophy of the GRLL are adhered to;
- Running day-to-day operations of the GRLL Travel Baseball Program;
- Maintaining a fair and impartial GRLL Travel Baseball Program;
- Providing for the development of all players in the GRLL Travel Baseball Program;
- Be involved in, and facilitate, the team selection process for the GRLL Travel Baseball Program;
- Recruiting a viable Coaching Staff for each team;
- Ensuring all coaches are Rutgers Certified and have received approval under Glen Rock Recreation Board background check requirements.
- Providing for an impartial and open process for Travel Team tryouts;
- Being responsible for communication of any/all pertinent information to the Glen Rock Community, especially to the parents of players, as it relates to recruitment with the assistance of the President of the Board;
- Ruling on any matters of concern to the Travel Program;
- Facilitating the administration of the Travel Program, providing advice, guidance and serve as liaison with the league;



- Supervising all Managers and Coaching Staff;
- Assisting in scheduling all events, practices, and games for each division (if needed); and,
- Requesting (or assist in requesting) all umpires for home games within the Borough of Glen Rock.

Section 13.02 Special Considerations

There may be times when there may be situations that may appear to cause a conflict of interest. This section shall apply to those most common situations:

(a) Eligibility to Manage/Coach Teams

The VP of Travel is eligible to Manage or Coach a Travel Baseball Team and must apply for the position similarly to all other applicants.

In the event that one or more applicants apply for the Manager position to which the VP of Travel is also applying, applications will be forwarded to the President of the Board for decisions.

Additionally, if there is a conflict of interest with the President of the Board and such team, the President may elect to have the Executive Board review and vote on the matter to ensure a fair and impartial process.



Article XIV. Player Responsibilities and General Rules

The mission of the GRLL Travel Program is to provide a competitive experience for players who want to continue their pursuit of baseball to a higher level. The goal is to develop players for middle school, high school, collegiate and professional baseball programs. All players are expected to attend all games and practices as scheduled by the team's Travel Manager.

Players are not prohibited from being a part of another league, division, program, or team outside of the GRLL (i.e. Middle School Teams, Club Teams, etc.). However, the GRLL requires that the player prioritize the GRLL baseball program. If a player is unable to make that type of commitment to the GRLL it may be in the player's best interest to consider not playing on a GRLL travel team.

If a player has an extended vacation or other conflicting commitments during the seasons, they may want to consider not playing travel baseball for that season, if same will interfere with commitment to the team.

Section 14.01 Commitment to the Team

Players are expected to be committed to their Travel Baseball Team. The GRLL recognizes that young athletes often play several sports, at times simultaneously. During the Spring and Summer Seasons, the GRLL insists that players prioritize their baseball team over other sports.

Team Managers shall be vested with the authority to determine their team's commitment levels and be responsible for its enforcement. A Team Manager may seek approval from the VP of Travel to remove a player from a team if the player's commitment to the team has come into question.

Section 14.02 Out of Town Players

Players who live in other towns but have qualified to play in the GRLL Rec program are eligible to play on travel teams. Out of town players who have not participated in the "Rec" program are not eligible for Travel Teams.

No more than three (3) out of town players shall be permitted to play on a single team. This would cause the league to consider the team a 'Club' team, which is outside the philosophy of the Travel Baseball Program.

Section 14.03 Recreational Team Requirements

The Travel Baseball Program is a unique program within the GRLL, but is an extension of the Recreational Baseball Program. All Travel players are required to play recreationally.



baseball. The following rules apply to Travel Baseball players in regard to recreational baseball:

- Throughout the Recreational Season, a player must play at least **60% of their Recreational games** in order to play travel baseball.
- When a player's attendance record comes into question, the VP of Travel and VP of Rec shall coordinate to verify if the player has satisfied the requirements.
- Players who have failed to attend the required amount of recreational games may be suspended from play until a formal decision is made by the Board of Directors, or VP of Travel.
 - Based on the 'Totality of the Circumstance' surrounding the player's absence, the Board and VP of Travel may elect to:
 - Issue a warning to the player;
 - Suspend the player for at least one game, up to a full season of play (i.e. spring season, summer season or fall season); or,
 - Suspend the player for the remainder of the year.

(a) Scheduling Conflicts

The VP of Travel and the VP of Rec shall coordinate, when possible, to ensure that scheduling conflicts are kept to a minimum.

When scheduling conflicts do occur, players should prioritize recreational games. Rec Managers and Travel Managers should work closely and communicate, when possible, in order to determine what is best for the teams, and the players. The Managers may, collectively, determine that the player will play a Travel game over a Recreational game if it does not negatively affect the recreational team, and is in the best interests of the player to do so.



Article XV. Team Rules, Regulations & Guidelines

After careful consideration, the following rules and guidelines have been selected to best exemplify respectable appearance, attitude, and the actions of a baseball player in this program.

Section 15.01 Player Expectations

Players are expected to:

- Be on time;
- Be positive;
- Own up to your actions;
- Support your teammates at all times;
- Accept “constructive criticism”. Coaches are not ‘putting you down’. They are helping your understanding of how to get better at what you’re doing;
- Always “take a knee” in team meetings;
- Always PAY ATTENTION in team meetings;
- Come to all events, and give your team 200% at all times. Never quit, never get down on yourself or your team (remember: always be positive);
- No phones, tablets, or other electronic devices during team events/practices or game;
- No other distractions during baseball (e.g. pokeman cards, fidget spinners, etc.);
- Put in your time at practices, and at home! Practice does not end when you leave the practice field; players need to keep his/her skills sharp at home, between practices.
- Come to Practice Prepared with Proper Attire and Equipment:
 - Practice Uniform: Baseball pants, socks, cleats (outdoors), jersey or shirt (TUCKED IN), and baseball cap.
 - Baseball glove, bat(s), helmet, etc.
 - BRING WATER!



- Be at games, on time, and prepared to play:
 - Coaches should notify you as to what uniform to wear for a game. All players shall be wearing a complete and matching uniform. Players not wearing a proper uniform shall not be allowed to play in the game.
 - Baseball glove, batting helmet, baseball bat (all the equipment a player will need to play).

Section 15.02 General Rules and Expectations

The following are the rules and expectations of the travel baseball community:

- Parents/Guardians are to pick up players from practice/events at appropriate times:
 - Unless otherwise noted by the Team's Manager, please arrive five (5) minutes before the scheduled end of practice, or game. Parents shall not be late for pick up, as the coaches cannot leave until everyone is accounted for.
 - If you are going to be late, please text/call a coach.
- Players who commit to the team, must uphold their Commitment and be present during Team Events/Practices/Games:
 - At the beginning of a season, players are asked to fully commit to their teams. This includes making every practice, event and game possible. Player's parents/guardians should communicate any possible discrepancies to the Team's Manager in the beginning of the season.
 - Players who miss too many practices, at the request of the Team's Manager, and authority of VP of Travel, may be removed from the roster and asked not to return.
 - Players who are expected at a game, and do not show (barring an emergency) may face disciplinary action. More than one "no shows" may result in dismissal from the team.
- The Team Manager has sole responsibility for all decisions on the playing field.
- Insubordination may be grounds for dismissal from the team.
- Playing time will not be equal for all players and will be at the discretion of the Team Manager. A player who feels they are not getting playing time due to a bias, or they feel that they have been unfairly treated, may file a complaint to the VP of Travel. The VP of Travel will attempt to remedy the situation immediately.



persistent complaints, or complaints of an egregious manner, shall be forwarded to the GRLL Board of Directors.

- Players may not leave the bench area during a game, without the permission of one of the coaches.
- Misbehavior, foul play, and rough play **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**.
- Players and parents are required to adhere to the content of this document.

Section 15.03 Team Discipline

The fundamental goal of the baseball program is fun; however, it may be necessary to promote progressive discipline to players having a difficult time following directions.

Discipline may include:

- Running laps or other “physical” discipline (e.g. pushups);
- Temporary Benching (sitting on bench);
- Prolonged Benching (sitting on bench);
- Removal from event (asked to go home);
- Suspension¹³;
- Dismissal from team¹⁴; or,
- Barring from Travel Baseball¹⁵.

NO DISCIPLINE WILL BE PHYSICAL or INAPPROPRIATELY DEMEANING

At no time shall a member of the coaching staff physically strike or inflict physical harm against a player, nor shall a coach demean a player for any reason.

If this occurs, bring the incident to the attention of the Team’s Manager immediately. If Team’s Manager is the focus of the accusation, bring the matter to the attention of any of the team coaches or contact the VP of Travel, or President of the GRLL.

¹³ Managers are permitted to suspend a player for **no more than one game**, without the approval of the VP of Travel.

¹⁴ Approval of VP of Travel required, in coordination with the President of The Baord.

¹⁵ A majority vote is required by the GRLL Board of Directors.



Section 15.04 Team Pride

A suggested team rule is that all players wear a team jersey (on Fridays) to school during the season(s). This is an important show of pride, solidarity and self confidence in our players.

Additionally, players who are “caught” talking poorly to another player on his/her team, is caught putting down a teammate, coach, fan, parent, sibling of a teammate or classmate at school may be subject to team discipline. A team is a team on and off the field, therefore players will be held accountable for their actions on and off the field.

Section 15.05 Roughhousing and Horseplay

There shall be no roughhousing, horseplay, or general misbehaving on the field, in the dugout, or in any areas surrounding the baseball field at any time! As a general rule: players should keep their hands to themselves.

Section 15.06 General Safety Rules

The following are some general safety rules that shall be followed at all times. Failure to follow these rules will result in disciplinary actions.

- During a game: Only the batter and the player ‘On-deck’ are allowed to have a bat in his/her hand.
- Anytime a player is swinging a bat he/she shall have a helmet on his head.
- Before swinging a bat in practice or while on deck, a player should look around before swinging the bat.
- When running out to the field, the players are never to run between the pitcher’s mound and home plate. The pitcher will be warming up, and this can cause injury.
- Never throw a baseball at another player who is not looking at you or ready for the throw.
- Always wear pants to all baseball events, shorts can cause injury.
- Always be prepared to protect yourself when batting. (Dodge pitch or properly take a pitch)



- After you've hit the ball in a game, place the bat on the ground or toss it safely to the side of the field. Do not throw the bat!
- Not required, but suggested, players should wear a 'heart guard' undershirt to prevent injury to the chest.
- Male catchers must wear a "athletic supporter" or "cup".
- All players must wear a facemask and helmet while catching for a pitcher (in game or warming up).



Article XVI. Uniform Policy

Uniforms are an important aspect of the team that shows solidarity, discipline and pride in a team's community. The following sections govern Travel Baseball Uniform rules and guidelines.

Section 16.01 General Uniform Policy

GRLC Travel teams shall be provided uniforms by the Travel Program. The fee for the uniforms will be borne on the individual teams and players. The style of the Travel Baseball Uniform shall be determined VP of Travel.

Players are required to wear a uniform while playing the game of baseball for the GRLC. All players on a team shall be dressed in the same uniform while on the field and in a game.

Section 16.02 Uniform Style

The VP of Travel shall determine the style of uniform to be worn by the players in Travel Baseball. The Program, in general, should have one consistent uniform.

Section 16.03 Numbers and Home/Away Jerseys

The Team's Manager is responsible to determine the team's policy on selecting which jersey is the team's home or away jersey.

A player's number shall be the same on his/her home and away uniform.

Only one player, per division, may wear a particular number. Players may be given the option to request numbers on their jerseys. Each manager is responsible to provide for a fair number selection system between each team.

Section 16.04 Custom Team Uniforms

The GRLC will provide a default style of uniform to all of its teams unless a specific request is made to change that default style. Each team may choose to purchase additionally items or uniforms, at their own expense, under the following guidelines:

- Permission to wear any other uniform other than the default must be given by the VP of Travel or the GRLC Board of Directors.
- All uniforms must possess the official colors of the GRLC; which are red and black.
- All uniforms must be "in good taste". No uniforms that display any offensive unsportsmanlike behaviors, slogans, mascots or sayings are permitted.



- Final approval from the VP of Travel must be given prior to the purchase and wear of uniforms.

Section 16.05 Wear of Uniforms

Players will be told, by the coaching staff of their teams, which uniform to wear to a game, event or practice. Players are required to wear a complete uniform to each event or face disciplinary actions by the team manager.

Uniforms may be worn by players off the field, but must be in done so in good taste. Any player or parent using a uniform of GRL in a manner that could shed a negative light on the Glen Rock Little League organization may result in disciplinary action.



Article XVII. Closing Remarks

The Glen Rock Travel Teams seek to have very competitive teams and as such, the goals and expectations will differ from the GRLL town recreational teams. The manager has sole decision-making authority on the field. Players must support the manager's decisions. Parents do not have to like, or agree with, the manager's decision, but they must also show their support to the Manager and the team! Remember, our kids are watching us and will model our behavior. Try to remain positive. If you have a concern, talk it over with the manager and away from the kids. Let's remember to have fun!

Playing time will NEVER be equal. It is imperative that both parents and players understand that there is no guarantee with regard to amount of playing time. In addition, as players develop at specific positions, they may not be rotated to different positions in the field. The goal is to make a player more comfortable and confident at their established positions.

