**CONSTITUTION: Simsbury Little League Baseball, Incorporated**

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League ID Number: 02070606

**THIS BOX FOR REGIONAL USE ONLY**

Date submitted: Date accepted: Not accepted:

**LITTLE LEAGUE CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

This organization shall be known as the Simsbury Little League (“SLL”), hereinafter referred to as “Local League.”

**ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVE**

**SECTION 1**

The objective of the Local League shall be to implant firmly in the children of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority, so that they may be well adjusted, stronger and happier children and will grow to be good, decent, healthy and trustworthy citizens.

**SECTION 2**

To achieve this objective, the Local League will provide a supervised program under the Rules and Regulations of Little League Baseball, Incorporated. All Directors, Officers and Members shall bear in mind that the attainment of exceptional athletic skill or the winning of games is secondary, and the molding of future citizens is of prime importance. In accordance with Section 501-(c)-(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, the Local League shall operate exclusively as a non-profit educational organization providing a supervised program of competitive baseball and softball games. No part of the net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual; no substantial part of the activities of which is carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and which does not participate in or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

**ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 1**

**Eligibility -** Any person sincerely interested in active participation to further the objective of this Local League may apply to become a Member.

**SECTION 2**

**Classes -** There shall be the following classes of Members:

1. **Player Members -** Any player candidate meeting the requirements of Little League Regulation IV shall be eligible to compete for participation. Player Members shall have no rights, duties or obligations in the management or in the property of the Local League.
2. **Regular Members -** Any adult person actively interested in furthering the objectives of the Local League may become a Regular Member upon election and payment of dues as hereinafter provided. Regular Members may be issued electronically a card or other indicia of membership annually. The secretary shall maintain the roll of membership to qualify voting members.

Only Regular Members in good standing are eligible to vote at General Membership Meetings. All Officers, Board Members, Committee Members, Managers, Coaches, Volunteer Umpires, and other elected or appointed officials must be active Regular Members in good standing.

**Note:** Regular Members of the league automatically include all current Board Members and any other person who is recognized by the Board of Directors as a volunteer in the Local League. Only those individuals that have submitted a SLL background check by the date of the Annual Meeting set pursuant to Article V Section 6 shall be recognized by the Board of Directors as volunteers.

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**Honorary Members (Optional) -** Any person may be elected as Honorary Member by the unanimous vote of all Directors present at any duly held meeting of the Board of Directors but shall have no rights, duties or obligations in the management or in the property of the Local League.

1. **Sustaining Members (Optional) -** Any person not a Regular Member who makes financial or other contribution to the Local League may by a majority vote of the Board of Directors become a Sustaining Member, but such person shall have no rights, duties or obligations in the management or in the property of the Local League.
2. As used hereinafter, the word “Member” shall mean a Regular Member, Honorary Member and/or Sustaining Member unless otherwise stated.

**SECTION 3**

**Other Affiliations:**

1. Members, whether Regular or Player, shall not be required to be affiliated with another organization or group to qualify as members of the Local League.
2. Regular Members should not be actively engaged in the promotion and/or operation of any other baseball/softball program.

**SECTION 4**

**Suspension or Termination**: Membership may be terminated by resignation or action of the Board of Directors as follows.

1. The Board of Directors, by a majority vote of those present at any duly constituted Board meeting, shall have the authority to discipline or suspend or terminate the membership of any Member of any class, including managers and coaches, when the conduct of such person is considered detrimental to the best interests of the Local League and/or Little League Baseball, Incorporated. The Member involved shall be notified of such meeting, informed of the general nature of the charges and given an opportunity to appear at the meeting to answer such charges.
2. The Board of Directors shall, in case of a Player Member, give notice to the manager of the team for which the player is a Player Member. Said manager shall appear, in the capacity of an adviser, with the player before the Board of Directors or a duly appointed committee of the Board of Directors. The player’s parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may also be present. The Board of Directors shall have full power to suspend or revoke such player’s right to future participation by two-thirds vote of those present at any duly constituted meeting (quorum is required).

**ARTICLE IV - DUES FOR REGULAR MEMBERS (NOT PLAYERS)**

**SECTION 1**

Dues for Regular Members may be fixed at such amounts as the Board of Directors shall determine for a particular fiscal year. There will be no dues required for Regular Members who have a player registered in the Local League. Dues for Regular Members who do not have a player in the Local League shall be not less than $500.00 annually.

**SECTION 2**

Regular Members who fail to pay their fixed dues within ten (10) days of application to become a member may, by majority vote of the Board present at a Board Meeting, be dropped from the rolls and shall forfeit all rights and privileges of membership.

**ARTICLE V - GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

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**SECTION 1**

**Definition:** A General Membership Meeting is any meeting of the membership of the league (including Special General Membership Meetings, Section 7). A minimum of one per year (Annual Meeting, see Article V, Section 5) is required.

**SECTION 2**

**Notice of Meeting:** Notice of each General Membership Meeting shall be posted on the Local League’s Website at least ten (10) days in advance of the meeting, setting forth the place, time and purpose of the meeting.

**SECTION 3**

**Quorum:** At any General Membership Meeting, the presence in person of one tenth (10 percent) of the Members (as defined in Article III - Membership) shall be necessary to constitute a quorum. If a quorum is not present, no business shall be conducted.

**SECTION 4**

**Voting:** Only Regular Members in good standing shall be entitled to and vote at General Membership Meetings. However, the Board of Directors may invite, admit and recognize guests for presentations or comments during General Membership Meetings. (Those eligible to take part at meetings of the Board of Directors are described in Article VI, Section 4.)

**SECTION 5**

**Absentee Ballot**: For the expressed purpose of accommodating a Regular Member in good standing who cannot be in attendance at the Annual Meeting, or any General Membership Meeting at which new Board members will be elected, an absentee ballot may be requested and obtained from the Secretary of the League. The absentee ballot shall be properly completed, signed and returned in a sealed envelope to the Secretary prior to the date of the election. The Secretary shall present all absentee ballots to the Election Chairman (appointed at the meeting) on the date of the meeting, prior to the voting portion of the election process.

**SECTION 6**

 **Annual Meeting of the Members:** The Annual Meeting of the Members of the Local League shall be held on the date designated for the annual managers’ meeting held prior to the start of the spring season each year for the purpose of electing the Board of Directors, receiving a report of the Local League and for the transaction of such business as may properly come before the meeting.

(a) The Membership shall receive at the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Local League a report, showing:

 (1) The general condition of the Local League;

(2) A general summary of funds received and expended by the local league for the previous year, the amount of funds currently in possession of the local league, and the name of the financial institution in which such funds are maintained;

(3) The whole amount of real and personal property owned by the Local League, where located, and where and how invested;

(4) For the year immediately preceding, the amount and nature of the property acquired, with the date of the report and the manner of the acquisition, the amount applied, appropriated or expended, and the purposes, objects or persons to or for which such applications, appropriations or expenditures have been made;

(b) At the Annual Meeting, the Members shall elect the Board of Directors for the following calendar year.

**SECTION 7**

**Special General Membership Meetings** - Special General Membership Meetings of the Members may be called by the Board of Directors or by the Secretary or President at their discretion. Upon the written request of a minimum of five members, the President or Secretary shall call a Special General Membership Meeting to consider the subject specified in the request. No business other than that specified in the notice of the meeting shall be transacted at any Special General Membership Meeting. Such Special General Membership Meeting shall be scheduled to take place not less than ten (10) days after the request is received by the President or Secretary.

**SECTION 8**

**Rules of Order for General Membership Meetings and Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors** - Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of General Membership meetings, and all regular meetings of the Board of Directors, except where same conflicts with this Constitution of the Local League.

**ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**SECTION 1**

**Authority:** The management of the property and affairs of the Local League shall be vested in the Board of Directors.

**SECTION 2**

**Board of Directors:** The Board of Directors shall be made up of the following Directors: SLL President; SLL Vice President; Vice President – Softball; Baseball Player Agent; Softball Player Agent; SLL Treasurer; SLL Umpire-in-Chief; SLL Safety Director; SLL League Administrator; SLL Fundraising & Sponsorship Director; SLL Volunteer Applications Director; SLL Facilities

Director; SLL Registrar; Baseball Majors Director; Baseball AAA Director; Baseball AA Director; Baseball A Director; Baseball Tball Director; Fall Baseball Director; Summer Baseball Director; SLL Director of Coaching/Player Development; SLL Scheduling Director; SLL Webmaster/Director of Communications; SLL Equipment Manager and SLL Uniform Director.

**SECTION 3**

**Vacancies:** If any vacancy occurs on the Board of Directors, by death, resignation or otherwise, the vacant position shall be filled at by a majority vote of the remaining Directors at any regular Board meeting.

**SECTION 4**

 **Director Terms:** All Directors shall serve one (1) year term from the date of the Annual Meeting during which the Directors were elected. In the event a Director is designated pursuant to Article VI, Section 3, said Director’s term shall end on the date of the next General Membership Meeting.

**SECTION 5**

**Board Meetings, Notice and Quorum:** Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held regularly on such days as shall be determined by the Board.

1. The President or the Secretary may, whenever they deem it advisable, or the Secretary shall at the request in writing of

a majority of all Directors, issue a call for a Special Board Meeting. In the case of Special Board Meetings, such
notice shall include the purpose of the meeting and no matters not so stated may be acted upon at the meeting.

1. Notice of each Board meeting shall be given electronically to each Director at least three (3) days before the time appointed for the meeting to the last recorded electronic address of each Director.
2. Fifty (50%) percent of the Members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If a quorum is not present, no business shall be conducted.
3. Only members of the Board of Directors may make motions and vote at meetings of the Board of Directors. However, the Board of Directors may invite, admit and recognize guests for presentations or comments during Board meetings.

**SECTION 6**

**Duties and Powers:** The Board of Directors shall have the power to appoint such standing committees as it shall determine appropriate and to delegate such powers to them as the Board of Directors shall deem advisable and which it may properly delegate.

The Board of Directors may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its meetings and the management of the Local League as it may deem proper, provided such rules and regulations do not conflict with this Constitution.

The Board of Directors shall have the power by a majority vote of those present at any Board Meeting to discipline, suspend or remove any Director of the Local League in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article III, Section 4 (a, b).

**SECTION 7**

**Rules of Order for Board Meetings:** Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all league meetings, including Board of Directors meetings, except where same conflicts with this Constitution of the Local League.

**ARTICLE VII - DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE BOARD**

**SECTION 1**

**Appointments -** The Board of Directors may appoint such other officers or agents as it may deem necessary or desirable, and may prescribe the powers and duties of each. Appointed officers or agents shall have no vote on actions taken by the Board of Directors unless such individuals have been elected to the Board by the membership or have been elected to fill a vacancy on the Board.

**ARTICLE VIII - AFFILIATION**

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**SECTION 1**

**Charter:** The Local League shall annually apply for a charter from Little League Baseball, Incorporated, and shall do all things necessary to obtain and maintain such charter. The Local League shall devote its entire energies to the activities authorized by such charter and it shall not be affiliated with any other program or organization or operate any other program.

**SECTION 2**

**Rules and Regulations:** The Official Playing Rules and Regulations as published by Little League Baseball, Incorporated, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, shall be binding on this Local League.

**SECTION 3**

**Local Rules, Ground Rules and/or Bylaws:** The local rules, ground rules and/or bylaws of this Local League shall be adopted by the Board of Directors at a meeting to be held not less than one month previous to the first scheduled game of the season, but shall in no way conflict with the Rules, Regulations and Policies of Little League Baseball, Incorporated, nor shall they conflict with this Constitution. The local rules, ground rules and/or bylaws of this Local League shall expire at the end of each fiscal year, and are not considered part of this Constitution. (See Article XI, Section 7 for fiscal year of this league.)

**ARTICLE IX - FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING**

**SECTION 1**

**Authority:** The Board of Directors shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of the Local League and it shall place all income including Auxiliary funds, in a common league treasury, directing the expenditure of funds in such manner as will give no individual or team an advantage over those in competition with such individual or team.

**SECTION 2**

**Contributions:** The Board of Directors shall not permit the contribution of funds or property to individual teams but shall solicit funds for the common treasury of the Local League, thereby to discourage favoritism among teams and to endeavor to equalize the benefits of the Local League.

**SECTION 3**

**Solicitations:** The Board of Directors shall not permit the solicitation of funds in the name of Little League Baseball, Incorporated unless all of the funds so raised be placed in the Local League treasury.

**SECTION 4**

**Disbursement of Funds:** The Board of Directors shall not permit the disbursement of Local League funds for other than the conduct of Little League activities in accordance with the rules, regulations, and policies of Little League Baseball, Incorporated. All disbursements shall be made by check, or league credit or debit card. All checks shall be signed by the Local League Treasurer and such other officer or officers, or person or persons, as the Board of Directors shall determine.

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 **Deposits:** All moneys received, including sponsorship and fundraising, shall be deposited to the credit of the Local League in/at Simsbury Bank or such other Bank the Local League elects to move its depository relationship to in the future.

**SECTION 6**

 **Fiscal year:** The fiscal year of the Local League shall begin on October 1 and shall end on September 30.

**SECTION 7**

**Distribution of Property upon Dissolution:** Upon dissolution of the Local League and after all outstanding debts and claims have been satisfied, the Members shall direct the remaining property of the Local League to another Federally Incorporated entity which maintains the same objectives as set forth in Article II of this Constitution, which are or may be entitled to exemption under Section 501-(c)-(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or any future corresponding provision.

**ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended, repealed or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote at any duly organized meeting of the Members provided notice of the proposed change is included in the notice of such meeting.

Draft of all proposed amendments shall be submitted to Little League Baseball, Incorporated, for approval before implementation. This Constitution was approved by the Little League Membership on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

President’s Name (Print)

President’s Signature Date
Little League ID No.

Federal ID No. (if available)

State ID No. (if available)