

Westlake Baseball League - Team Formation Policy

This is to document the procedures that will be followed, until otherwise amended, to form teams for each league, excluding the Colt and Travel teams.

ALL TEAMS

1. New teams will be assembled each year. All players and coaches will be selected each year to a team without consideration of the prior year's team formations. Requests to remain with a certain team or coach will not be granted. It is possible, through the random draw, that a coach and/or player may be assigned the same team and/or coach.
2. A team will be assigned one head coach. The head coach can select one assistant coach.
3. Each team will receive a proportionate number of players from each of the schools, as the number of players permit. Those schools represented by fewer players than there are teams will be pooled together with other like schools and distributed accordingly.
4. Siblings playing in the same league will be placed on the same team. With draft leagues, a coach who selects a player with a sibling(s) in the same league will not participate in the following round(s). The coach will resume his order of selection when all other teams have selected the same number of players. Ex. In the third round a coach selects a player with a brother in the same league. The coach will get the player selected and his brother. The coach will not select a player in the 4th round. In the event a coach selects a player with siblings in the same league in the last or next to last rounds and will have more players at the conclusion of the draft than the first previous team that selected before him that is not the last team to select must relinquish his last player selected before the player with a sibling. That player will go to the next team in line to select a player at the conclusion of the draft. Ex. In the 13th round Coach Jones, who has the 8th pick out of 12 teams, selects Joe Smith. In the 14th round he selects Mike Johnson who has a brother, Dan, in the league who has not been selected yet. Coach Jones will get both Mike and Dan Johnson. There is only one other player left to be selected. The 9th team will select the last player and Coach Jones will relinquish Joe Smith who will be placed on the 10th team.
5. Special requests for a player to play on the same team as another player or for a particular coach will not be granted.

MIDGET LEAGUE

1. Teams will be formed by the League through the use of random selection tools, whether they be electronic or manual.
2. If a player is deemed to be ineligible (a Kindergartner) he will be removed from the team immediately. If this is discovered before the beginning of the season his registration fee will be refunded. If discovered after the season begins no refund will be given.

MINOR, MAJOR AND PONY LEAGUES

1. Players that were selected to All-Star teams the prior season will be divided proportionately among the teams in their respective leagues.
2. Players will be placed on teams via a blind draft to be conducted as follows by each league:
 - a. Each team must be represented by the head coach or an assistant coach on the day of the draft as determined each year by the Board.
 - b. Each team will start with the head coach' son and his one assistant coach's son. Players of team sponsors
 - c. All players will be given a number that corresponds to their record number as determined by the player database. These numbers will be recorded on slips of paper. The slips of paper representing the prior year All-Stars will be placed in a "hat". A random draw by each coach will determine the order of selection. The coach drawing the first place selection will pull a slip from the "hat". The coach drawing the second place selection will then pull a slip from the "hat", and so on until all All-Stars have been selected.
 - d. Those players who indicated on their registration form that they play other sports, travel soccer, AAU basketball, or have other potential conflicts will then be placed in the "hat" and, starting with the coach after the coach who selected the last All-Star, be selected.
 - e. Players from the school that are represented by the most players will then be placed in the "hat" and, starting with the coach after the coach who selected the last "Other Sports" player, be selected.
 - f. Players from the school that are represented by the next highest number of players will then be placed in the "hat" and, starting with the coach after the coach who selected the last "Most Players School" player, be selected, and so on until all players from schools that have the same or more players than there are teams are selected.

- g. Players from schools that are represented by fewer players than there are teams will all be placed in the "hat" and selected in the manner prescribed in the previous steps.
- h. Players that are rostered on a Westlake Travel league team that are entered into the draft will be placed in the "hat" and selected as above. In accordance with the Travel Bylaws the travel coach, in-house coach, player and parent(s) must sign a form indicating that they understand that the player's first allegiance is to the travel team. If, for whatever reason, all signatures cannot be placed on this form, the player will not be eligible to play in the respective in-house league.
- i. No player will be allowed to change teams after this draft.

Any conflicts will be resolved by the respective league commissioner in accordance with the policies and by-laws as set forth and approved by the Board.

Note to Board Members:

This "Blind" draft format involves the coaches in the team formation process and should reduce, or even eliminate, the number of complaints by coaches and parents about the formation of teams. It is recommended that the commissioners hold their Coaches' meeting just before the draft to communicate the league rules, Codes of Conduct, dates of coaches' clinics, etc. and the WBL's purpose.