



Bellmawr Baseball Inc

Bylaws voted in April 2025

Article 1 NAME

Section A

This Organization shall be known as “Bellmawr Baseball Incorporated”

Section B

Bellmawr Baseball Inc. is a 501c3 Non-Profit organization. Any affiliation or association to Bellmawr Baseball Inc, or use of its name by any other organization without written permission is strictly prohibited.

Article II National Affiliation

Section A

Bellmawr Baseball Inc, may have any national affiliation it so chooses and may play using guidelines established within that organization’s rulebook

Section B

Any changes from, or additions to, Bellmawr Baseball Inc national affiliation must be approved by a simple majority vote of the active members. All national affiliates must have goals and objectives consistent with Bellmawr Baseball Inc.

Section C

All money raised by Bellmawr Baseball Inc are for Bellmawr Baseball Inc from which membership or other dues to national affiliates are paid.

Article III Objective

Section A

The objective of Bellmawr Baseball Inc is to ensure the opportunity of participation in supervised and controlled athletic programs for children. In doing so, teaching skills in the game of baseball, while instilling in these young people the ideals of good sportsmanship, leadership, loyalty, honest and courage to become happier, healthier leaders of tomorrow.

Article IV Code of Conduct

Section A

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to promote a safe, respectful, and sportsmanship-like environment for all players, coaches, volunteers, parents, spectators, and officials involved with Bellmawr Baseball. All participants are expected to represent themselves, their teams, and the organization in a manner consistent with the values and mission of Little League Baseball.

Section B

All participants shall:

- a. Demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times
- b. Show respect toward all players, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, and spectators
- c. Promote a positive and supportive environment, both on and off the field
- d. Follow all local league rules, Little League International regulations, and applicable safety protocols.
- e. Refrain from the use of abusive language, gestures, or behavior toward any individual.
- f. Refrain from the use of alcohol, tobacco, vaping and/or electronic cigarettes, and any illegal substances on or around any Bellmawr Baseball premises
- g. Conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on Bellmawr Baseball and Little League Baseball

Section C

Players shall:

- a. Always hustle on and off the field
- b. Respect teammates, opponents, coaches, and umpires

- c. Listen to coaches, make every effort to learn and improve, and play for the benefit of the team
- d. Never engage in fighting, bullying, or disrespectful behavior.

Section D

Coaches and volunteers shall:

- a. Set a positive example through their words and actions.
- b. Place the emotional, mental, physical well-being of players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- c. Teach the rules of the game, fundamental skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship.
- d. Maintain control of players, parents, and themselves during all games and practices.
- e. Engage respectfully with umpires, league officials, and opposing teams at all times
- f. Never verbally abuse, physically intimidate, or improperly challenge any umpire or official

Section E

Parents and spectators shall:

- a. Encourage and applaud effort, improvement, and sportsmanship, regardless of the game's outcome.
- b. Refrain from coaching players from the stands during games or practices
- c. Show respect to all participants and officials at all times.
- d. Never engage in negative cheering, derogatory comments or confrontations with officials, coaches, players, or other spectators.
- e. Address concerns through proper channels, beginning with the the coach of the team, then if necessary, with the appropriate Board Member(s).

Section F

Violations of this Code of Conduct will be reviewed by the Bellmawr Baseball Board of Directors. Disciplinary actions may include, but not limited to:

- *Verbal or written warning
- *Suspension from games or practices
- *Removal from coaching or volunteer duties
- *Suspension or expulsion from Bellmawr Baseball activities or membership

The Executive Board reserves the right to impose immediate disciplinary action for any conduct deemed seriously detrimental to the safety, well-being, or reputation of Bellmawr Baseball or Little League Baseball.

Section G

All parents, coaches, active members, and volunteers shall be required to review and acknowledge acceptance of this Code of Conduct prior to participating in any Bellmawr Baseball activities.

Article V Membership

Section A

Any person 18 years of age or older who has an interest in this organization may apply for membership. New applicants must be approved by the executive board after application, and membership is not guaranteed.

Section B

Members of Bellmawr Baseball Inc may express their opinion on organizational matters if it is done with proper decorum and without degradation of any individual or the organization. If any person fails to do so they will be asked to leave the meeting and face further action by the executive board.

Section C

General Members: Any individual with a vested interest in the league (coaches, parents, volunteers). General members are not required to attend meetings and have no voting privileges. General members may be asked to serve on any committee, but not as chair or vice chairperson.

Section D

Active Members: General members may achieve "Active Member" status of Bellmawr Baseball Inc by attending 3 consecutive regularly scheduled meetings. Active members may participate in and vote on regular organization business if they maintain attendance at 50% (6) of the 12 regularly scheduled meetings, over a 12 month period. Active members voting privileges include elections, nominations for active membership, new purchases over \$500. Active members can be eligible for election to the Executive Board if they attend the required number of scheduled meetings or are appointed by the remaining executive

board to fill a vacancy. Active members will be given first consideration for manager or coaching positions.

Section E

Inactive Members: Those who have not met the attendance requirements. Inactive members may be removed from the roll by a majority vote from the Executive Board if the member has not attended at least one meeting during any 12 month period. All members voted inactive by the Executive Board must go through the full process to regain active membership in the organization.

Section F

Gold Card Members: Any person has been an active member of the organization for at least 10 years and who has made significant or outstanding contributions may be nominated by the Executive Board and voted on by active members for “Gold Card Membership”. A person voted as “Gold Card Member” need only attend 3 of the regularly scheduled meetings from the previous FY to maintain active status. Gold Card members have voting privileges, and can hold office.

Section G

Code of Conduct: All members are subject to a league wide code of conduct, with disciplinary action possible of for violations.

Article IV Elections and Terms of Officers and Executive Board

Section A

The Executive Board shall mirror Little League recommendations. The Executive Board shall consist of President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Player Agent, Safety Officer, and Trustees.

Section B

Bellmawr Baseball Inc will have a fiscal year beginning on October 1 and ending on September 30 every year.

Section C

Any active member may nominate or be nominated for office during any regularly scheduled meeting in August and must be seconded by another active member and accepted verbally or in writing by the nominee at the September meeting. Elections will be

held during the regular scheduled meeting in September. Active members are only eligible to vote in elections.

Section D

All officers will be elected to a 2 year term beginning on October 1 of that year. No officer may hold more than one elected Executive Board Position concurrently. Elections will be done by ballot and by simple majority of active members voting. No officer can hold a position for more than 2 – 2 year terms (4 years in total).

Section E

Any officer or member may resign from membership or office held at any time by giving written notice to the President.

Section F

All Executive Board members must attend at least 75% of the regularly scheduled meetings and executive board meetings unless absent for just cause. Officers unable to maintain their status may be removed from office by a simple majority vote by active members.

Section G

The Executive Board is required to meet at least once a month and must be attended by a minimum of 4 officers.

Section H

A vacancy in any executive office will be filled by appointment by the remaining Executive Officers within 30 days. The appointed must be from and active member and will serve only the remainder of the term or until the next election of officers, which ever comes first. Time served as interim doesn't count against term. Terms officially start October 1 as do all positions.

Section I

Executive Board Officers must turn over all records or property of the organization and their office within 14 days of the end of their term or removal from office.

Section J

Executive Board positions are to be held for 2-year terms if elected. An acting President is eligible for re-election if they have a child participating in Bellmawr Baseball. Upon the time their child ages out of the program an individual serving as president on the Executive

Board will be on their final term. This individual is eligible, if elected, to move to another position within the Executive Board following their final term.

Article VII Duties of Officers and Executive Board

Section A

President: Will call to order and preside at all meetings of the organization and Executive Board Meetings. The President will preserve order and enforce the bylaws, represent the organization at meetings and functions which Bellmawr Baseball may be invited to and act as cosigner on all organization checks and sign contracts or purchase orders approved by the organization. The President may serve on any committee in any capacity, coach, manage, and/or umpire.

Vice President: Will preside in the absence of the President and be responsible for all duties assigned by the President. The Vice President will serve as chairperson or vice chairperson on all appointed committees not otherwise served by an officer of the organization. Vice President records all attendance at all meetings and reads the current list of all active members who may vote on and participate in regular organizational business. Vice President is also a cosigner for organizational checks.

Recording Secretary: Records minutes of all regular and/or Executive Board meetings for reading and approval at the next meeting. Secretary maintains a permanent list of the membership, copies of the bylaws, and all other applicable documents or contracts pertaining to the organization.

Treasurer: Is responsible for all financial duties of the organization including proper payment of all invoices, receiving all monies and deposits to the organization and is a cosigner on all organization checks. The Treasurer will submit an itemized financial report at every regularly scheduled meeting and will present all financial reports upon request to the membership. All financial reports, bank statements, and bank accounts will be audited by approved outside public accountant to coincide with the organization's Non-Profit status and charitable status.

Player Agent: Is responsible for player registration, tryouts, drafts, eligibility, and records. The player agent will also assist where needed. Additionally, the player agent will conduct skills evaluations of returning players as well as new sign ups to affirm appropriate age group and team selection.

Safety Officer: Coordinates all safety activities; ensures safe playing conditions; coordinates reporting and preventions of injuries; in charge of the leagues ASAP plan for submission to Little League. Is responsible for physical operation and upkeep, including all fields, buildings, surrounding properties, and all equipment owned by the organization.

League's Information Officer: Sets up and manages leagues official website; sets up online registration and ensures the league rosters are uploaded to Little League; assigns online administrative rights to other local volunteers; encourages creation of team websites to managers, coaches, and parents; ensures that league news and scores are updated online on a regular basis; collects, posts, and distributes important information on league activities including direct dissemination of fundraising and sponsor activities to Little League, the district, the public, league member, and the media; serves as primary contact person for Little League regarding optimizing use of internet for league administration and for distributing information to league members to Little League International

Trustee: Is responsible for assisting the Executive Board where needed. Trustee will hold all responsibilities that come with being on the Executive Board and all privileges.

The Executive Board: Is responsible for maintaining the good and welfare of the organization as a whole and as a result may take any necessary action to ensure that Bellmawr Baseball meets and exceeds its objectives.

Article VIII Committees

Section A

At the request of the membership the president may form a committee for the following and that committee will report to the President and the chairperson or persons for that committee. Committees may be established as needed is presented.

Section B

Committee chairpersons will schedule meetings monthly and be prepared to make a report to the members at the regular business meeting. The President will appoint all committee chairpersons. The committee will be reviewed annually by the Executive Board.

Section C

Each committee may approve expenditures for their committee goal up to \$100, reporting such expenditures to the floor at the next business meeting.

Section D

Concession Stand Committee: Will be a permanent committee responsible for the organization's concession stand, menu, pricing, and scheduling for any events being held at the fields. Rules and regulations concerning the Concession Stand Committee can be found in Appendix A – Concession Stand Committee

Article IX Meetings

Section A

Executive Board meeting will be held at least once a month at time and place convenient to the officers and closed to members unless invited by the majority of the Executive Board. Any member of the Executive Board may request a special meeting of the committee for just cause.

Section B

Bellmawr Baseball Inc shall hold regular membership meetings at 6:00pm at a place convenient to the officers and members of the organization every first Monday of the month. The Executive Board can make executive decisions for the good of the organization if a meeting must be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.

**Meetings in season will be held on the first Sunday of each month beginning at 6:00pm.

Section C

At least 4 Executive Board Members and 5 active members must be present to bring a regular meeting. If 5 members are not present the Executive Board and treasurer may receive any payments, pay all bills for the good of the company and make decisions pertaining to Little League Baseball operations for the district.

Section D

The Executive Board will consider excused absences or a leave of absence from meetings for just cause. An active member must request such in writing before the next regular meeting. The absence or leave will count as a non-meeting, allowing members to maintain status as active members upon return.

Section E

Any meeting that must be cancelled will be considered a non-meeting and will not change the voting privilege of any active member.

Section F

Meetings must begin within one half-hour of scheduled time unless one of the organizations games or special events takes precedent and will include but not be limited to :

- Call to order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
- New Applicants
- Correspondence
- Minutes from previous meeting
- Treasurer Report
- Committee Report
- Bills
- Old Business
- New Business
- Good and Welfare
- Motion to adjourn

Section G

All bills over \$500 (new purchases) must be read and accepted by the formal voting process or by email by a simple majority of the members.

Section H

The Executive Board has to the right to waive full registration if a child's family or active member is experiencing hardship.

Section J

The Executive Board will review the bylaws annually and submit in writing any recommended repeals or amendments by the February meeting. At the next regular meeting, suggest changes will be read again, allowing for discussion and debate before a secret ballot will be made to determine if the changes will be accepted by the majority. All active members will be notified of bylaw changes via email.

Section K

Voting may take place in person at a regularly scheduled meeting, or should the need arise, via email. Majority vote is required for approval

Article X *Playing Rules*

Section A

Bellmawr Baseball will play using recommended rules established by the national affiliates in their published rulebook. New rulebooks can be obtained through the Little League mobile app.

Section B

Optional playing rules must be submitted to the Executive Board who will review and make their suggestions of consideration to its general members at any regular business meeting August through March. Changes must be approved by the majority of all active members present and cannot be changed within 2 years unless the change is suggested by the Executive Board and accepted by the majority of active members present.

Article XI *Players*

Section A

Any child who is of proper age, as determined by the organization, residing in Bellmawr and the surrounding communities from which we have been entitled to draw may play in our program. Any player grandfathered by our national affiliate may also play. Players outside of our boundaries may play but if they wish to be considered for All Star or invitational play they must submit a request to the district prior to the start of the spring .

Section B

Any player who is unable to complete the season due to injury, or illness, or accident will remain a member of the program and be entitled to all the benefits through the completion of the season. Players unable to complete the season due to injury are not eligible for a refund of registration fees.

Article XII *Team Formation, Player Selection, and District All-Star Selection Policy*

Section A

Team Formation

- 1.1 Each Team shall be formed with one (1) Head Coach and up to two (2) Assistant Coaches, subject to District and League regulations.
- 1.2 The children of all rostered coaches shall be automatically assigned to that coach's team.

Section B

"Plus One" Player Selection

- 1.1 Bellmawr Baseball shall utilize a "Plus One" method for team formation.
- 1.2 Each Head Coach may select one (1) additional player to be placed on their team, in addition to the coach's children.
- 1.3 A "Plus One" player may be:
 - A player previously coached by the head coach in prior season
 - A neighbor
 - A relative (example: cousin)
- 1.4 If a "Plus One" is picked by multiple teams the player agent shall decide where the player plays.
- 1.5 A player with a sibling in the same division may not be selected as a "Plus One" player.
- 1.6 A Head Coach who is new to coaching, or moving up divisions, and does not designate a "Plus One" player shall select one player from the player pool with comparable average of the "Plus One" players already selected.

Section C

Sibling Placement

- 1.1 All siblings shall be assigned to the same team whenever reasonably possible.

Section D

Skills Assessment and Draft Pool

- 1.1 All players, including coaches' kids and plus ones, shall participate in a mandatory skills assessment consisting of baseball drills designed to evaluate player abilities.
- 1.2 Each player shall receive a numerical score for each drill.
- 1.3 An average score shall be calculated for each player and used for draft placement purposes.
- 1.4 Players unable to attend the skills assessment shall be assigned the median score for their division.
- 1.5 The scoring system shall be used solely to promote balanced and competitive teams.

Section E

Draft Guidelines

- 1.1 All Head Coaches in the Coach Pitch Division and older shall be required to participate in a player's draft. (T-Ball teams will be assembled by the President and Player Agent)
- 1.2 Unless otherwise determined by the League Board, the draft shall take place on the same day as the skills assessment.
- 1.3 The order of the draft shall be determined beginning with the team that has the youngest average age.
 - a. The average age will be calculated using the ages of:
 - All rostered coaches' children, and
 - The designated Plus One
 - b. The team with the lowest calculated average age will receive the first draft selection. Draft order will then proceed in ascending order based on each team's calculated age (youngest to oldest).
 - c. In the event of a tie in average age, a random drawing will be conducted by the Board to determine the draft position.
- 1.4 If roster sizes become uneven due to a coach having multiple children automatically placed on their team, the remaining teams will be permitted to select additional player(s) from the available player pool prior to the start of the draft. Additional selections:
 - a. Made to even out roster totals
 - b. The additional selections must be made to balance out the average score of the teams as reasonably possible.

Section F

Assistant Coaches

- 1.1 Additional assistant coaches may be added to the team following the completion of the draft.
- 1.2 The number of coaches permitted in the dugout shall be subject to District and League regulations.

Section G

District and All-Star Team Selection

- 1.1 Each division shall form one (1) District All-Star Team consisting of twelve (12) players.
- 1.2 Each team within their division shall be represented on the District All-Star Team
- 1.3 Each team shall designate two (2) “lock” players, selected by the team’s coaching staff.
- 1.4 Two (2) alternates may be selected. Alternates:
 - a. May practice with the team
 - b. May only dress for games in the event of injury to a rostered player

Section H

District All-Star Tryouts

- 1.1 Remaining roster positions shall be filled through a district all-star tryout.
- 1.2 The tryout shall be scheduled at a time that allows the League sufficient opportunity to:
 - a. Finalize team selections
 - b. Order District All-Star Uniforms
 - c. Receive uniforms prior to competition

Section I

Authority and Amendments

- 1.1 The League Board reserves the right to interpret and enforce these policies.
- 1.2 This policy may be amended by majority vote of the League Board in accordance with league bylaws.

Dissolution of Organization

Upon dissolution of the organization if any money remain in the accounts, it will be donated to another non-profit organization.