

TRI-COUNTY YOUTH LEAGUES  
BY-LAWS

Mission Statement:

Tri-County Youth Leagues exists for the purpose of providing extra games, fun, and competition in an organized system for youth baseball and softball players in east-central Indiana who desire it.

Tri-County Youth League Divisions:

- A. Tri-County includes 8 & under, 10 & under, and 12 & under boys divisions.
- B. Tri-County includes 10 & under, 12 & under, and 14 & under girls divisions.

Membership:

- A. Member leagues must represent an established little league or softball organization.
- B. Member leagues must participate in a minimum of 4 divisions unless a league is a girls-only or boys-only league:
  - 1. Girls-only leagues must participate in all 3 girls divisions.
  - 2. Boys-only leagues must participate in all 3 boys divisions.
- C. Member teams must be able to play home games.
- D. Member league diamonds must offer acceptable playing conditions and present no unusual risk of injury to players, coaches, or fans.
- E. Member league diamonds must have adequate lighting to safely play night games. (Muncie Chiefs are grandfathered)
- F. New leagues will be admitted to Tri-County if approved by 2/3rds of the existing membership and if scheduling permits additional teams.

By-Law Changes:

- A. The Board cannot make or change By-Laws.
- B. A 2/3rds majority of leagues present at a regularly scheduled meeting is required to make or change the By-Laws.
- C. E-mail notifications are acceptable means of receiving votes to the league President.

Rule Changes:

- A. Must be approved by a 2/3rds majority of leagues present at a regularly scheduled meeting.
- B. If a league chooses to abstain from any vote, they may do so but they still count in the total of leagues present.
- C. A change to the league or individual division's rules must be moved by one league and seconded by a different league; then receive a 2/3rds majority vote of all leagues present.
- D. Any decision made by the Tri-County board can be overturned by a 2/3rds majority of the leagues present at a regularly scheduled meeting.

#### Board Positions and Responsibilities:

- A. President Responsible for overall operation of Tri-County, conducts all meetings, and helps resolve problems.
- B. Vice President Serves in the absence of the President, organizes All Star/All Star night and orders trophies.
- C. Secretary/ Treasurer Takes minutes of all meetings, prepares schedules. Manages deposits and disbursements, presents Treasurer's report at all meetings. Maintain annual tax-exempt status
- D. Boys Commissioner Keeps standings, seeds teams in tournaments, and serves as Board contact for all boys divisions.
- E. Girls Commissioner Keeps standings, seeds teams in tournaments, and serves as Board contact for all girls divisions.
- G. No more than two Board members may serve from the same league.
- H. The candidate receiving the most votes from the leagues present at the election meeting will be elected to each office above.
- I. Board members serve a one-year term.
- J. Board members may be removed from office due to gross misconduct supported by a 2/3rds vote of all leagues in Tri-County.
- K. The board will establish the schedule for regular season and tournament games.
- L. The board will establish all fees charged for participation in Tri-County events with the intent of expending all, or substantially all, fees collected on trophies for Tri-County participants.

#### General concepts of Tri-County:

- A. All participants in Tri-County including players, coaches, and fans are expected to exhibit the highest standards of conduct and sportsmanship at all times.
- B. All players should play and all players will bat.
- C. If a team plays with an ineligible player (knowingly or not) they forfeit every game that player played in.
- D. A team's roster and registration fee must be turned in by April 15<sup>th</sup> or every game will be a forfeit until they are turned in. (turned in means, in the hands of the Tri-County Boys or Girls Commissioner)
- E. Tri-County requires that each coach have a book with his/her roster and birth certificates of every player at every game. The lack of these documents will result in a forfeit.
- F. Sunday games will not be allowed to start before 2:00 p.m.
  - May start earlier if both leagues agree.
- G. Sunday is the Lord's Day and ball games should not be in competition with this special day if at all possible. Each league has to make this decision for them and the young people they are responsible for.

- H. Transfers from one league to another league can occur if:
  - a. The player's family has had a change of address making them eligible to play in another Tri-County league.
  - b. The player sits out for one year from Tri-County.
  - c. The player's division is no longer part of Tri-County.
  - d. The player's home league joins Tri-County.
  - e. If H (a), (b), (c), or (d) do not apply, a waiver may be completed to request a transfer from one Tri County league to another. The Tri County board will have final approval for all waivers based on the information provided by the transferring player, parents & league.
  
- I. Leagues that have regular season game cancelled due to weather must have an agreed to rescheduled date within 72 hours. This date must be reported via email by both leagues to the Tri County Baseball & Softball commissioners (both Boys & Girls). If a date cannot be agreed to within 72 hours then the commissioners should be contacted to help reach a make- up date. It is recommended that games be made up at the earliest date available for both leagues, so that there aren't a large number of make- up games at the end of the season. Games that are not rescheduled within 72 hours will be determined a forfeit.
  
- J. Cancellations for any other reason must be done 48 hours before game time or it is an automatic forfeit with no exceptions. The team that cancels will be given 2 dates by the opposing team and must play on one of those dates provided or the team that cancelled will receive an automatic loss.

Probations and Suspensions:

- A. If a coach/league is put on probation they will have all the rights as a non-probation coach/league, but if they have another problem that same year or during the year of the probation then the Tri-County board can immediately suspend a coach/league for as short as one game or as long as a lifetime ban.
- B. Suspensions can be for one game, one year, or a lifetime. The Tri-County board will make such decisions.
- C. During season play the TC Board will notify all associations of suspensions by email or a special meeting called.
- D. Any ejections from coaches, players, and fans are to be reported to the boys or girls commissioners within 24 hours by both league's Tri County representatives. Once the board has reviewed the incident a minimum one game suspension will be imposed.

General Rules:

- A. The home team is responsible for providing 2 umpires for all games. Umpires must be at least 18 years of age. All umpires should be qualified. Not using parents to umpire home plate when their kids are playing is recommended.
- B. All game scores must be reported by 5pm on Wednesday of the following week to both the boys & girls commissioners. Scores not reported will be recorded as forfeits. It is BOTH leagues' responsibility to report scores.

Official Meeting Dates:

- A. Second Tuesday in January. (Board elections, Treasurer's report, changes and thoughts from previous season)
- B. First Tuesday in February. (Leagues commit teams, turn in diamond play times and coaches)
- C. First Tuesday in March. (Contact numbers and finish any and all By-Law and rule changes)
- D. First Tuesday in April. (Hand out schedules, rules and By-Laws, and roster sheets)