

## Travel League Policy

### **Managers, Coaches and Helpers**

Eligibility (Manager): Any coach with at least one (1) year of experience in the Mansfield Girl's Travel, In-Town Softball program, or equivalent is eligible to sign-up to Manage a Travel softball team.

Exceptions:

- In the case of someone moving into town for the start of the travel session similar "other town" experience needed.
- In the case of other applicant – former participants, former students, coaches or others in general, an application would need to be submitted to the board for approval.

Eligibility (Coach, Helper): No restrictions on applicants.

Overriding Requirements:

- No person may be considered for any position if they fail the general CORI guidelines
- No person may be considered if they have ever been removed from position of coach or administrator by the MGSL board. (Those who have been removed can, by verbal or written notification, petition their case for reinstatement to the board. A majority vote would be needed to support the reinstatement).

Manager Selection: Upon completion of the tryouts, any manager who has signed up and passed the aforementioned criteria will be allowed to apply for the Manager's position for one (1) team. The selection of Manager will be made using the following rating system guidelines\*:

- Each Manager-Applicant will be granted the following points:
  - 5 points (each) per prior year travel manager
  - 3 points (each) per prior year travel coach
  - 1 point (each) per prior year travel helper
  - 3 points (each) per prior year in-town manager
  - 1 point (each) per prior year in-town coach or helper
  - Those applying under the "exception" system will be granted a numeric value by the board based on past experience.

\*Please note, these are guidelines – all final decisions will be made by the board's best judgment for the league.

Coaches Selection: Each team will have two (2) coaches. Any Managers who were not elected or coaches who have signed up are eligible. The coach's selection will be completed using the following rating system:

- Each Manager Elect will be allowed one (1) at large selection
- The second slot will be filled by the same rating criteria used above

Helper Selection: Helpers are not required and selected solely at the discretion of the Manager/Coach per team.

Note: Managers and coaches are selected after the teams have been drafted. A manager may not apply to manage a team that his daughter was not selected to play on for the sole purpose of moving her to his team. Likewise, no coaches or helpers should be selected with the expectation that their daughter will be moved.

## **Team Selection**

### **Section 1: Sign-Up**

All girls are encouraged to sign up if they think they may wish to participate in the Mansfield Girl's Travel Program. Sign-up does not serve as a bound commitment, simply a measuring stick for interest. Sign up will be available through coaches and on the web site. Sign-ups will end 1 week prior to tryouts.

No less than one week prior to the tryout, each coach will be responsible for independently "nominating" no less than two girls, and as many as eight girls to participate in the Mansfield Girl's Travel Softball Program. These nominations will be cross referenced and any girls who are nominated, but not signed up will be contacted to assure that we have the best pool of talent available.

### **Section 2: Pre Tryout**

During the week prior to the draft, a list of all of the girls who signed-up will be compiled and each in-town coach will be asked to fill out an evaluation form for the girls on their in-town team that will be trying out for the travel league. This information will be compiled and distributed to the Manager-Applicants.

### **Section 3: Tryout**

Tryouts will be held at a designated time (not more than 2 months nor less than 2 weeks in advance of the start of the season) in ascending order (U-10 first, U-12 second etc.). Tryouts will be coordinated by the "Travel Coordinator" as designated by the board. Girls should tryout initially for the age they are eligible, and if they think there is an opportunity for them to "play up" they can then stay and try out at the next level as well.

Each girl will be evaluated over a series of skills including: base running, hitting, pitching (if applicable), catching (if applicable), fielding, throwing and general softball sense. Each Manager-Applicant for each division along with one (1) non-interested party (a board member or Mansfield softball coach, perhaps) will evaluate the girls on a (To Be Created) evaluation form.

#### **Section 4: Selection**

(Definitions: A Team – a team with at least an average cumulative value of players in accordance with travel league standards, and above average pitching and catching that would allow them to be competitive. B-Team – A team with possibly below average cumulative value of players and average pitching in accordance to travel league standards)

The selection process will begin with the oldest age division. Each of the Manager-Applicants and non-interested party will pass in their evaluation forms, and the Manager-Applicants will compile the results and assess the talent. This group of Manager-Applicants and the non-interested party will be considered the “Selection Committee” for that age group. Based on the talent available the Selection Committee will determine the number of A and B teams. Depending on the talent, the selection committee will fill all the slots of the A team (based on the combined scores of evaluations and tryouts) with the top rated participants of the draft.

- If a girl was thought to be of high enough quality to participate on an A team at a higher level, but did not try out for that level, they may not be moved up to play at that level.
- If a girl is thought to be one of the best players, but by moving her up it would seriously dampen her potential for growth and advancement, the selection committee should leave her off the team. (Example – Mary would pitch every other game for the U-12 A team, yet she is good enough to be a sub playing 3 innings in the outfield at U-14, she should be left for the U-12 A team).

Once all A teams are filled with the most talented players, any B teams in that division will be filled **ONLY WITH PLAYERS IN THAT AGE GROUP**. No potential A player in a lower division will be moved up to support a B division team in a higher level.

Exception: If by petition\* (Written or Verbal Notification to the Mansfield Travel League Coordinator) of the parent, a player could be moved up to participate on a higher level “B” team if the selection committees from both divisions are in agreement.

This process would be continued through all divisions.

Again – upon completion of the draft, Manager-Applicants will be rated to coach the team they wish to coach and the process propagates through the divisions.

The board will be final arbiter of any issues that arise regarding the implementation of this policy.