



Dover Youth Softball League

Bylaws

Appendix X

Player Request Procedure

Occasionally, players request to play in an age division outside those designated by Dover Youth Softball League. Below is the process which governs these requests.

General

1. Usually, most requests are to play with older players. The league discourages players playing with younger ones (primarily, due to safety concerns) but understands that, occasionally, special circumstances exist. All cases will be dealt with individually.
2. The player's safety must not be jeopardized by playing with older players.
3. The league will not jeopardize any division (the one which the requesting player desires to play in or the one designated by birth date).
 - a. Each team in the players designated division and the division the player is applying to should meet Babe Ruth League rules for team size.
 - b. In terms of total numbers of players in each or overall quality, by allowing too many players to play in desired, as opposed to the designated, divisions. Having any number of players playing outside their designated age group can possibly create a domino effect to all divisions and the league must consider this when deciding whether players will be allowed to "play up".
 - c. Having the maximum number of teams in a division, with each team meeting the Babe Ruth rules for team composition and size, is considered to be in the best interest of the league and its divisions.

Procedure/Requirement

1. The player's parent/guardian must submit a request in writing to the DYSL Board of Directors concurrent or subsequent to registering to play in the next division and prior to player assessments.
2. A written recommendation from one or more coaches from previous year's playing division must accompany the request.
3. If items 1 and 2 are satisfied, the Board will be informed that the player has requested to play in the next division.
4. Player must attend both sessions of player assessments (for the 10U, 12U and 16U Divisions), the age division they are applying to and the age division as designated by her/his birth date.

5. If a player meets all the above criteria and is selected based on try-outs, then the Board will make a final vote based upon registration numbers in each of the divisions.

Acceptance

1. The acceptance of the player into her/his desired division is a result of the ability to compete with players of that age level based on the skills assessment.
2. The player must be considered as being:
 - a. In the top 10% of the players being assessed for their age designated division; and,
 - b. In the top 50% of the players being assessed for the division the player is applying to play in.
3. If the requirements above are met, the Board must vote on the player request before the player will be allowed to play in the next division.
4. Results of the player's individual assessment results will be made available to the player if desired.
5. ALL players are eligible for summer/tournament competition in the official age division in which they participated during regular local season (spring) play regardless of whether the summer team is a Babe Ruth or ASA/NSA team. Therefore, players accepted by this procedure may NOT then play "down" on a summer team, unless otherwise allowed by Babe Ruth rules.

Advancing from 6U to 8U Division

General

Babe Ruth League allows four year olds to play in the tee ball (6U) division. As this means that 3 ages can play in this level, DYSL has adopted the following policy:

Procedure

1. Registrants with two years' experience at the 6U level and birth dates which fall between 1/1 and 3/31 (turning 7 years old) will be automatically advanced to the 8U level upon the parent's request.
2. The player's parent/guardian must submit a request in writing to the DYSL Board of Directors concurrent or subsequent to registering to play in the next division.
3. A written recommendation from one or more coaches from previous year's playing division must accompany the request.
4. If items 1 – 3 above are met, the Board must vote on the player request before the player will be allowed to play in the next division.

5. Registrants who meet the first criterion above, but not the second, and desiring to play at the 8U level must present a written request to do so and the Board will request a previous coach to provide a positive player evaluation prior to granting approval.