

District 15 Little League Umpires Association

By-Laws

Dated 20 January 2019

District 15 Little League Umpires Association

By-Laws

Article I

- A. The Association shall be known as the District 15 Umpires Association.
- B. The purpose and function of the Association shall be to provide the highest quality officials for all District 15 games and the International Tournament games as required.
- C. The purpose of the Association shall be met by means of organized meetings, development in the knowledge of rules, training in game's mechanics and decorum, development of a standard of dress and a desire to exemplify the highest standards of character, sportsmanship, and foster volunteer umpiring.

Article II

- A. Officials of the Association will consist of the following:
 - 1. **President:** Responsible for selection of meeting dates and agendas; conducting general meetings; representing the Association at District 15 events; enforcing all By-Laws and disciplinary actions of fellow officials. In addition, the President will consult with the Umpire Consultant and District Administrator.
 - 2. **Vice President:** Shall act in the President's place whenever the President is unable to perform their duties, and may preside in meetings when the President wishes to take part in the discussion. The Vice-President may be assigned special responsibilities by the President.
 - 3. **Secretary:** Shall be responsible for conveying all information to the membership and officers. Keep records of all umpires in good standing with the Association. Maintain a list of all numbers assigned to District 15 Umpire Association members. Upon request from league UICs, provide available numbers which can be assigned to umpires who meet the qualifications. Provide database of all umpires having attended clinics on an annual basis, and other duties deemed necessary by the President. Upon vacancy of the Treasurer the Secretary will

assume those duties until a person is appointed to hold the position until the next annual election.

4. **Treasurer:** Shall be responsible for payment of all approved bills, receiving and accounting for disbursement of Association funds and other duties assigned by the President. Two signatures are required to access the checking account funds. The two signatures will consist of the Treasurer and another Officer of the BoD. Send a report to the President and District Administrator on a yearly basis. Upon vacancy of the Secretary the Treasurer will assume those duties until a person is appointed to hold the position until the next annual election.
5. **Umpire Consultant:** Appointed by the District Administrator is automatically a member of the board. Responsible for ordering necessary educational material needed (rule books, etc.); all rule interpretations; to sit on protest committees and is the liaison between the board and the District Administrator and their staff.
6. **Training Coordinator:** The Coordinator shall arrange the appropriate training for Association members; certify the new members have met all training requirements as set forth in the By-Laws and that all members maintain the requirements for continued membership in this Association. The Training Coordinator works with the Association Trainers to assure training within the district. Training sessions will be held in the northwest section of the district, the middle of the district and in the southeast part of the district. The Training Coordinator shall encourage and provide assistance when requested to Local UICs to conduct rules clinic for their local league's umpires each year.

B. The Board of Directors (BOD):

1. The BOD shall consist of all current officers, District Administrator, Local League UICs and four (4) members of the Association at large. At large members are elected by the Association for a term of one (1) year.
2. Shall have the obligation and responsibility for assuring that all obligations mandated by the Association are fulfilled.
3. BOD members shall become familiar with the documents of the Association and keep themselves informed with issues in which the Association is involved.

4. Prepare and recommend action on complaints of the conduct of any association member that may cause negative reflection upon themselves and the Association and report findings and recommended action to be taken to the general membership. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the eligible members present at the general membership meeting shall be required to sustain any disciplinary action recommended.
5. The BOD shall meet at least two (2) times a year.
6. The BOD shall appoint a person if a position becomes vacant before expiration of the term. The vacant position shall be filled only for the remainder of the term of the person who held the position when it became vacant.
7. All officers will be elected for a two (2) year term by the active membership at the annual meeting. Their term will run from January through the next annual meeting. The Umpire Consultant is appointed by the District Administrator.
8. Elected officers need a majority vote of active members present at an election meeting.
9. Only active members in good standing with the Association may vote.
10. At least two (2) weeks notice shall be given for all general membership meetings. Notice of membership meeting will be provided to League UICs and Presidents of local leagues.

Article III

- A. Prerequisite for membership into the Association shall consist of the desire to enhance the game of Little League Baseball/Softball.
- B. There are three types of membership:
 1. Active – Those who are 18 and older actively umpiring in local leagues, district or higher tournaments, are in good standing with the Association. Names of active umpires will be provided to Secretary by league UICs.

2. Inactive – Those who are not umpiring at any level and are in good standing with the Association. Those who are inactive should attend D15 Umpire Association's annual meetings. No participation in any District 15 Little League functions for a period of three years will cause the umpire to be dropped from the rolls unless a request is made to and approved by the BOD.
3. Associate – Sixteen and Seventeen (16-17) years of age. The use of under sixteen (16) is up to each local league.

NOTE: Good standing is defined as no active disciplinary action and participating in District 15 Little League in some form or fashion.

- C. Members rights and privileges include voting in elections and holding an office.
- D. The minimum number of members required at a meeting to conduct business is eight (8).
- E. Annual dues are \$150.00 per league, as assessed by the Association, will run from January - December annually. Dues are required to be paid prior to May 1 of that calendar year. Payment of dues by a league will qualify their league umpire as an active member. If dues are not paid by May 1st, the D15 Umpire Association is not obligated to furnish umpires for District All Star Tournaments held in those leagues. Dues for the year will be set at the annual meeting.
- F. Active members engaged in umpiring for Little League shall receive one (1) Association patch which may be worn when umpiring league and district tournament games. Any additional patches must be requested by the League UIC. The UICs of each League shall set the criteria for umpires to qualify for association numbers. League UICs will ask for available numbers that they can assign. The minimum timeline set by D15 Umpire Association to qualify for receiving a number is one year of umpiring in D15. When a member is inactive for two years, the number they were assigned may be reassigned. Extenuating circumstances may allow an inactive umpire to retain their number.

Article IV

All umpires are responsible for acting in a professional manner on and off the field while in uniform. It is their responsibility to report any violations, including uniform code violations, which they feel need to be addressed.

Article V

Any proposed changes to the By-Laws will be discussed and voted on at the first meeting after January 1. To adopt changes, a two-thirds (2/3) vote approval must be reached by those active members present.

Article VI

- A. Uniform code shall to conform to the standards and codes of the Southeastern Region.
- B. The D15 Umpire Association will hold a minimum of two (2) umpire clinics each year, one (1) prior to the regular season and (1) prior to the beginning tournament play. The one prior to tournament play will be focused on preparing umpires to work three and four-person crews. Association members are expected to attend training to improve their skills. To qualify for umpiring in the post season, umpires must attend formal training. This training can be at the District level or above. Umpires who are unable to attend training must receive a waiver from the D15 Umpire Association BOD and/or the District Administrator to umpire in the post season.
- C. Tournament assignments shall be given based upon the following criteria:
 - 1. Recommendation of league UIC, ability, knowledge of rules, number of games officiated throughout the league season, tenure and availability.
 - 2. The District Administrator, Umpire Consultant and Tournament Umpire in Chief will decide assignments based upon the above criteria.

Article VII

- A. Umpire Dismissal/Disciplinary Action
 - 1. An umpire's conduct must be maintained as defined in the District 15 By-Laws.
 - 2. Non-participation in Association meetings, training programs or District 15 Little League functions for three (3) consecutive years.

3. Violation of any rule in Article VII will be grounds for dismissal if approved in accordance with Article II, Section B-3.

Article VIII

- A. All umpires are responsible for abiding by all By-Laws.
- B. The BOD has the responsibility for the implementation of any area not specified within these By-Laws.
- C. The President shall be permitted to appoint committees.
- D. A two-person review of all receipts, expenditures and bank statements will be conducted annually. The results of the review will be signed by both parties and entered into the minutes of the annual meeting.
- E. The By-Laws shall be reviewed and an approved by 2/3 members present annually at the first meeting after January 1.

David W. Hays 3/13/19