

**BY-LAWS OF  
NORTHWEST AUSTIN LITTLE MISS KICKBALL LEAGUE, INC.**

**ARTICLE I. NAME AND LOCATION.**

**Section 1.**

The name of the Non-Profit Corporation is Northwest Austin Little Miss Kickball League, Inc. (the "League"). The principal office shall be located in Austin, Travis County, Texas. The League may have such other offices as the Board of Directors shall determine.

**Section 2.**

Northwest Austin Little Miss Kickball, Inc. is a duly authorized League chartered by Little Miss Kickball International, Inc. ("LMKII" or "Corporation"). The League was founded in 1978 and subsequently incorporated March 6, 1981 in perpetuity with the Texas Secretary of State. We play on fields located at about 3700 Far West Blvd, owned by the Austin Independent School District (Murchison Middle School). The mailing address of the League is NWA Kickball, P.O. Box 27307, Austin, TX 78755. The website is found at [www.NWAKickball.com](http://www.NWAKickball.com). The League hereby adopts the Official Playing Rules and Regulations and the League Rules and Regulations as set forth by the Board of Directors of LMKII. The following By-Laws cannot be in conflict with the Official By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of LMKII. In the event of conflict in such By-Laws, the Rules and Regulations of LMKII will govern. The League is granted a charter and shall be governed according to the LMKII Corporation Board of Directors and the District Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSE.**

**Section 1.**

The purpose of the League is to teach young girls and women the basics of life, love of God, obedience of the law, the joy of winning and the sadness of losing, the importance of teamwork, the respect for others and the desire to achieve and provide and promote good sportsmanship and the spirit of competition.

Girls and young women between the ages of four and a half (4½) through eighteen (18) are eligible to participate in the League. All ages are based on the girls' ages as of August 31<sup>st</sup> of the current playing season. The Player Agent may make exceptions for 4 year olds to play. The girls shall be placed in the following Divisions:

- A. The PeeWee Division will consist of girls 4½ through 6 years of age.
- B. The Rookie Division will consist of girls 7 through 8 years of age.
- C. The Junior Division will consist of girls 9 through 11 years of age.
- D. The Senior Division will consist of girls 12 through 14 years of age.
- E. The Teenage Division will consist of girls 15 through 18 years of age.

**Section 2.**

No substantial part of the activities of the League shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the League shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. In no event shall the League carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Code or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (c)(2) of the Code.

**ARTICLE III. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

**Section 1. Duties.**

The regulation and management of the affairs of the League, including the control and disposition of its property and funds, shall be vested in a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be a self-perpetuating body. All Board members shall be responsible for maintaining written records of job duties

and activities. This information shall be forwarded to the League upon the expiration of the Board members' term.

If any matter comes before the League which creates a conflict of interest, potential conflict of interest, or the appearance of a conflict of interest for any member of the Board (collectively, COI), the Board member with the COI shall immediately advise the Board of the COI, not participate in any discussion of the matter, and leave the Board room while the matter is under consideration by the Board. Examples of matters that create a COI are:

- A. Disciplinary issues involving the Board member or a family member
- B. Issues where the Board member or a family member may benefit financially from NWA including:
  - 1. Scholarship applications
  - 2. Hardship/waiver of fee requests
  - 3. Business relationships between the League and a Board member or family member's business
- C. Consideration of a family member for a League position including but not limited to:
  - 1. Board member
  - 2. Regular season coach
  - 3. All-Star coach

### **Section 2. Board Size.**

The size of the Board shall be determined by the Executive Committee with the approval of the Board; but, in no case shall the size of the Board be less than seven (7) members. Any decrease in the size of the Board shall not have the effect of shortening the term of office of any incumbent Director. Serving as ex-officio members of the Board of Directors, without vote, shall be all past presidents of the League, with the exception of the Immediate Past President, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, with full voting privileges. The President shall appoint, with Board concurrence, additional ex-officio Directors with voting rights to the Board.

### **Section 3. Terms.**

All Directors shall be appointed to a one (1) -year term. All terms expire on September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

### **Section 4. Removal from Office.**

Any member of the Board of Directors may be removed from his or her position on the Board by a three-fourths (3/4ths) vote of the Board of Directors. Said vote must be conducted during a regular or special meeting of the members of the Board of Directors. Written notice of at least two (2) weeks must be given to the Board member whose removal is being considered.

- A. Any Board member who fails to attend three (3) consecutive regular meetings without a written or oral excuse may be terminated as a Board member, as outlined above.
- B. Any Board member may be removed from office because of conduct that is determined, by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, to be inconsistent with the duties and responsibilities for which the office was intended.
- C. Process of notification of such action will be in accordance with the articles of these By-Laws.

### **Section 5. Reinstatement.**

Upon written request signed by a former member and filed with the Secretary, the Board of Directors may, by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3rds) of the members of the Board, reinstate such former member to Board membership upon such terms as the Board of Directors deem appropriate. It is understood that a reinstatement will not be considered if the Board has filled the vacant position.

**Section 6. Board Vacancies.**

Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors, whether by resignation, removal, death, or by increase in the number of Directors, may be filled by the affirmative vote of the majority of the remaining Directors, though less than a quorum, of the Board of Directors. A Director elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor in office.

**Section 7. Meetings of Directors.**

Regular meetings of the Board shall be scheduled and held on a monthly basis. The Board will hold meetings at least once a month between November 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup> of each fiscal year.

**Section 8. Special Meetings.**

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President and shall be called by the Secretary on the written request of two (2) Directors. Notice of each special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given to each Director at least two (2) days before the date of the meeting.

**Section 9. Quorum.**

At all regular meetings of the Board of Directors, a quorum shall be constituted by the attendance of one-half (1/2) of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. At Special Meetings, a quorum shall be constituted by a majority of the whole Board.

**Section 10. Proxies.**

At any meeting of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee, a Director entitled to vote may vote by proxy executed in writing by the member or by his/her duly authorized attorney-in-fact. A Director holding the proxy vote may cast the proxy vote in addition to his/her own vote. Proxies count toward quorum. A proxy may have specific voting instructions and/or grant the holder to vote as they see fit.

**Section 11. Action by Written Consent.**

The Board, Executive Committee, or any other Committee may take action by written consent of members in lieu of a meeting with the affirmative written consent of that number of members whose affirmative consent would be required to approve the action if it were voted upon at a meeting at which all members are present. Written consent may be by electronic means including email, messaging, web, etc. as reasonably available to all voting members.

**Section 12. Minutes**

Written minutes shall be kept of all meetings of the Executive Committee and full Board. A copy of approved minutes will be distributed to Board members and made available upon request.

**ARTICLE IV. REGULAR MEMBERS.**

**Section 1. Regular Members.**

A regular member shall be any person who has shown an active interest in Little Miss Kickball by his or her participation in past or present League or District activities, including parents of girls registered and playing kickball during the current year, coaches, umpires, past Board members and other volunteers. A person may not be denied membership based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

**Section 2. Board Meetings.**

The first thirty (30) minutes of all Board meetings shall be open to all members; however, if the majority of the Board believes that the subject matter dictates a closed session for the entirety of the meeting, the League may exclude non-Board members for that meeting only.

**Section 3. Annual Meeting.**

A regular annual meeting of the Board of Directors and all members shall be held without other notice than this By-Law, to be concurrent with the annual meeting of members.

#### **Section 4. Lifetime Meritorious Members.**

The NWA Board may approve nominees for Lifetime Meritorious Members. Candidates for this nomination should have at least 20 years of active participation in NWA or LMKII. Participation as a player, coach, umpire, and board member is considered. Awardees will have shown a long-term commitment to the success of the League. They shall be honored with an individual plaque at the first opening night after their election, and their names shall be published in the annual directory and listed on a common plaque.

### **ARTICLE V. OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**

#### **Section 1. Elected Officers.**

The Officers of the League shall consist of the President, Vice-President(s), Secretary, Treasurer, Player Agent, League Coach, and Rules Director, all of whom shall be Directors.

#### **Section 2. Qualifications to Hold Offices.**

- A. **President.** A total of at least three (3) years of active participation (parent of a registered player, coach, umpire or other volunteer) in a kickball league. Two (2) of the three (3) years must have been as a member of the League Board. The candidate must also demonstrate a command of all LMKII Rules and Regulations and be at least twenty-five (25) years of age.
- B. **Vice-President(s).** The qualified candidate must be at least twenty-two (22) years of age and must have served a total of at least three (3) years of active participation in a kickball league. One (1) of the three (3) years must have been as a member of the League Board.
- C. **Secretary.** The qualified candidate must be at least twenty-two (22) years of age and must have served at least a total of two (2) years of active participation in a kickball league.
- D. **Treasurer.** The qualified candidate must be at least twenty-two (22) years of age and must have served at least a total of two (2) years of active participation in the League. A treasurer shall serve for no more than two years in succession, unless approved on an annual basis by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
- E. **Player Agent.** The qualified candidate must be at least twenty-two (22) years of age and must have served at least a total of three (3) years of active participation in a kickball league (either as a member of the board, assistant player agent, plate umpire or head coach of an upper-division team). The candidate must also display a command of all LMKII Rules and Regulations.
- F. **League Coach.** The qualified candidate must be at least twenty-two (22) years of age and must have served a total of at least three (3) years of active participation in a kickball league (either as a member of the board, or head coach of an upper-division team). The candidate must also demonstrate a command of all LMKII Rules and Regulations by passing the training program and coaches' examination as required by LMKII.
- G. **Rules Director.** The qualified candidate must be at least twenty-two (22) years of age and must have served at least a total of three (3) years of active participation in a kickball league (as a member of the board and a plate-qualified umpire). One of the three (3) years must have been as an assistant rules director or other board position. In addition, the qualified candidate must demonstrate a command of all LMKII Rules and Regulations through the successful completion of the umpires' training program and examination as required by LMKII.

*By a majority vote of the Board of Directors, the above qualifications may be modified or waived.*

#### **Section 3. Term Limits, Tenure, Leadership Rotation/Transition/Development.**

As a self-perpetuating body, the Board needs to attract and develop future leaders from within the membership to ensure the ongoing success of the League. The Executive Committee must bring on new talented people with fresh ideas and perspectives to best represent membership needs and interests.

This is a principal responsibility of the President and Executive Committee. As such, it is important for this group to rotate/transition duties and limit the tenure of a person serving in a single position. The President, Vice President(s), Player Agent, and League Coach may serve no more than three (3) consecutive years in their position. The Treasurer may serve no more than two (2) consecutive years as Treasurer. Other Elected Officers may serve no more than five (5) consecutive years in the same position. These terms may be extended by one (1) additional year by a two thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the full Board of Directors during the election. These term limits begin with the Elected Officers who begin their term on October 1, 2015 and later. The term clock and timeframe for these Officers starts on this date. Subsequently elected Officers' terms will start on their date of election or appointment. Officers installed on April 1 or later will have their term clock start on October 1 of that year.

#### **Section 4. Election Process.**

The Officers of the League shall be elected in the following manner:

- A. Nominations from current Board members, former Board members and parents (and guardians) of girls currently registered shall be received after July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year for candidates for the Officers for the upcoming year. Nominations must be submitted in writing to the Nominations Committee and contain information about the Position to which a person is nominated, including the name, email address and phone number (if not known to the Board) of the individual and optionally the qualifications of the member so nominated.
- B. During the nomination-review process, the Nominations Committee may contact the nominating party as well as the individual nominated to determine the nominee's qualifications and ability to serve. If more than one name is placed in nomination for a position, the Committee may personally interview the candidates under consideration.
- C. A slate of candidates to fill the Officer positions of the League will be presented by the Nominations Committee to the League Board prior to August 31<sup>st</sup>. At that meeting, the League Board may also receive nominations from the floor, which will be considered for addition to the slate of Officers.
- D. The affirmative majority vote of the League Board members present at the time the slate is presented shall be required to fill each position. Any term limited candidates must be voted on individually separate from the slate and must receive a two thirds (2/3) majority to continue in their position. If no majority is held, a run-off between the two (2) nominees with the most votes shall be held as soon as possible.

#### **Section 5. Executive Committee.**

The Executive Committee shall consist of the following: the President, Vice-President(s) (the number thereof to be determined by the Board of Directors), Secretary, Treasurer, League Coach, Rules Director, Player Agent and any other Director appointed by the President or the Board. In addition, the Immediate Past President shall serve as a voting member of the Executive Committee.

### **ARTICLE VI. DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

#### **Section 1. Elected Officers.**

- A. **President.** The President shall serve as the League Director and shall act as its legal and registered agent having the authority to sign contracts or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the League with Corporation, District and League Board approval. The President shall preside at all meetings of the League Board of Directors and the Executive Committee and shall enforce all rules of LMKII and the League. The President shall appoint all committees during the terms of office with appropriate Board approval and shall be responsible for all League activities. In addition, the President may appoint additional Board Members (current or ex-officio) to serve on the Executive Committee. The President is a member of the District and Corporation Boards. The President shall be an Ex-Officio Member, without vote, of all committees, excluding the Nominations Committee. The President shall be a member of and shall have a vote in the Nominations

Committee. If necessary, new incoming Presidents shall execute the Statement of Change of Registered Office/Agent with the State of Texas.

- B. **Vice-President(s).** In the absence of the President or in the event of his/her inability or refusal to act, the Vice-President(s) shall perform the duties of that office. The Vice-President(s) shall discharge other duties as may be delegated by the President. Only Vice-President(s) elected per Article V may assume the duties of the President.
- C. **Secretary.** The Secretary shall maintain a register of Officers and Directors of the League, record the minutes of the Board meetings, be responsible for notification of meetings and maintain all records of the League. The Secretary is primarily responsible for forwarding documentation to all governing bodies within the LMKII organization. Approved minutes will be submitted to the Corporation.
- D. **Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall be responsible for managing the League's financial operations that include maintaining an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements. He or she shall be responsible for all moneys belonging to the League, and make financial reports to the League as required. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the completion and filing of the financial statements required by the League. The Treasurer must be available to participate in an audit of League financial records at any time deemed necessary by the League Board and will be responsible for the safekeeping of League financial records for a seven (7) year period. The Treasurer will ensure compliance with all applicable Internal Revenue Service regulations. The Treasurer shall turn over all books, records and moneys belonging to the League upon termination of office.
- E. **Player Agent.** The Player Agent is responsible for conducting the annual League registration, for verifying the eligibility of players, for conducting the player-selection draft and for coordinating the assignment of players to teams in the PeeWee and Rookie Division. The player agent may exercise discretion for special circumstances with regard to placement of players in the PeeWee and Rookie divisions. The Player Agent is also responsible for the coordination of All-Star selection. The Player Agent represents the players in all League matters. The Player Agent or designee may solicit and compile player statistics for All Star nominees.
- F. **League Coach.** The League Coach is responsible for recruiting, training and monitoring coaches' performance as required to maintain coaching eligibility. The League Coach shall have the responsibility to pair coaches as needed to support the number of teams in each division. The League Coach must be available and prepared to aid or take over for any coach within the League and will be responsible for informing and obtaining approval from the Executive Committee prior to taking any disciplinary action against a coach. Any such disciplinary action shall be in writing and shall be filed with the League Secretary.
- G. **Rules Director.** The Rules Director, who functions as an extension of the LMKII Rules Director, is responsible for training and scheduling umpires within the League for season play. The Rules Director is responsible for interpreting the LMKII Rule Book as well as NWA League Rules and providing a ruling for any areas of ambiguity. The Rules Director is responsible for monitoring the umpires' performance during the season to ensure accurate and fair administration of the rules during game play. The Rules Director is responsible for informing and obtaining approval from the Executive Committee prior to any disciplinary action taken against an umpire. Any such disciplinary action shall be in writing and shall be filed with the League Secretary. The Rules Director will lead all game protest committees unless personally involved in the protest. Game protest committees are temporary, and will include at least one non-umpire board member. Other Plate Umpires will be the remaining members. Each committee will contain an odd number of members.

All of the above Officers shall also perform other such duties from time to time as assigned by the President or Board of Directors. All of the above Officers shall have one (1) vote at each meeting of the Board and the Executive Committee. However, the President shall vote only in order to break a tie vote

at the Board and Executive Committee meetings. The President may also vote on matters that require a super-majority (any vote that requires a 3/5 or larger majority for approval).

**Section 2. Executive Committee.**

The Executive Committee shall meet as needed and will be vested with the full powers of the Board of Directors in the management of the affairs of the League between meetings of the Board. Actions of the Executive Committee shall be reported to the Board at the subsequent meeting. In addition, the Executive Committee shall review any protested games, disciplinary actions involving coaches, umpires, players and/or parents. The Executive Committee shall also be responsible for electing two (2) Board members, who shall serve on the District Board.

All members of the Board are invited to attend such meetings; however, these meetings will take place without notice other than this By-Law. An attendance of one-half (1/2) of the members of the Executive Committee, including the President or his/her assignee, shall constitute a quorum. The approval of actions requires the majority vote of the members of the Executive Committee present.

**Section 3. Other Board Positions.**

Other Board positions may be filled on the League Board with voting privileges left to the discretion of the League's Board, and could include such positions as Field Director, Assistant League Coach, Assistant Treasurer, Assistant Player Agent, Rookie Coordinator, Peewee Representative, Rookie Representative, Head Scorekeeper, League Volunteer Coordinator, Concessions, Sponsors and Ads, Uniforms/Trophies and Members-at-Large. The President of the Board shall appoint other such Board members.

**ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES.**

**Section 1. Committee of Directors.**

The President, by resolution adopted by a majority of the Directors in office, may designate and appoint one (1) or more committees, each of which shall consist of two (2) or more Directors, which committees, to the extent provided in said resolution, shall have and exercise the authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the League; provided, however, that no such committee shall have the authority of the Board of Directors in reference to amending, altering or repealing the By-Laws; electing, appointing or removing any Member of any such committee or any Director or Officer of the League; amending the Article of Incorporation; adopting a plan of merger or adopting a plan of consolidation with another League; authorizing the sale, lease exchange or mortgage of all or substantially all of the property and assets of the League; authorizing the voluntary dissolution of the League or revoking proceedings thereof, adopting a plan for the distribution of assets of the League; or amending, altering or repealing any resolution of the Board of Directors which by its terms provides that it shall not be amended, altered or repealed by such committee.

The designation and appointment of any such committee and the delegation thereto of authority shall not operate to relieve the Board of Directors, and any individual Director, of any responsibility imposed upon it or him/her by law.

**Section 2. Standing Committees.**

The Standing Committees of the League, in addition to the Executive Committee, shall be the following and will be appointed by the President of the League:

- By-Laws/Rules
- Scholarship
- Budget/Finance

**Section 3. Other Committees.**

Other committees not having and exercising the authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the League may be designated by a resolution adopted by a majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present. Except as otherwise provided in such resolution, members of each such committee shall be members of the League, and the President of the League shall appoint the members thereof. Any members thereof may be removed by the person or persons authorized to appoint

such member whenever, in their judgment, the best interests of the League shall be served by such removal.

**Section 4. Term of Office.**

Each member of a committee shall continue as such until September 30 or until his/her successor is appointed, unless the committee shall be sooner terminated, or unless such member be removed from such committee, or unless such member shall cease to qualify as a member thereof.

**Section 5. Chairperson.**

The person or persons authorized to appoint the members thereof shall appoint one (1) member of each committee Chairperson. With the exception of the Executive Committee, all Chairpersons shall have full voting rights during the Committee and Board meetings. The Chairperson of the Executive Committee shall vote only in the event of a tie vote.

**Section 6. Rules and Procedures.**

Each committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure; however, in no event shall its rules and procedures conflict with these By-Laws or with the rules adopted by the Board of Directors.

**Section 7. Vacancies.**

Vacancies in the membership of any committee may be filled by appointments made in the same manner as provided in the case of the original appointments.

**Section 8. Quorum.**

Not less than a majority of such committee shall be necessary to constitute a quorum, and affirmative votes of not less than a majority of the members present at any meetings at which there is a quorum shall be necessary for the taking of any action by the committee.

**Section 9. Minutes.**

Written minutes shall be kept of all standing committee meetings. Actions of each committee shall be reported to the Executive Committee and/or the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE VIII. LEAGUE RULES.**

**Section 1.**

The League shall be governed by the following League Rules, which are considered an integral part of the By-Laws. These League Rules shall be reviewed and updated at the sole discretion of two-thirds (2/3rds) majority of the Board of Directors present at a meeting in which a quorum exists per Article XII. *In no event shall any of the League Rules conflict with Official Rules and Regulations of LMKII. In such event, the rules of LMKII shall govern.*

Annual background checks will be performed on all Board members, coaches, and Plate Umpires. The Board may also require background checks for other positions.

The President and/or Executive Committee shall review and act on complaints regarding conduct from umpires, coaches, parents and players. Conduct leading to ejection from a game will automatically be reviewed by the Executive Committee or its designated sub-committee to determine if any additional disciplinary measures are warranted.

**Section 2. Registration Procedures.**

- A. All registrants to the League will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications will not be processed without the registration fee.
  
- B. In order for a girl to be registered, she must furnish the League with the following:
  - 1. Birth date (proof must be provided upon request)
  - 2. Current residence



3. A parent, guardian or managing conservator's signature or electronic acceptance as consent for the girl to participate in the League activities
- C. The League shall accomplish the following during registration activities:
1. Apply birth date information for proper placement in the age groupings for team placement.
  2. Ensure that the parent, guardian or managing conservator has signed or electronically accepted the parental consent statement.
  3. Verify that the girl's residence is within the legal playing boundaries of the registering League.
  4. Have parents, guardian or managing conservator complete and sign or electronically accept an Emergency Authorization Agreement and a Travel Permission Form.
- D. The Board of Directors shall determine the registration fees.
- E. The League President, Treasurer, and Player Agent must agree to approve the waiver of registration fees on an individual basis.

**Section 3. Team Rosters.**

No Upper Division team shall have more than twelve (12) players unless approved by the Player Agent. Rookie and PeeWee team limits are specified in Section 18 B2 and A2, respectively. After the limit, player applicants shall be put on a waiting list. Once a player has been drafted (placed on a team), she cannot return to the League to play on a different team during the same season. At the end of each regular season, all teams are disbanded.

Exception – Teenage Division teams may have a maximum number of players as specified by District By-Laws.

**Section 4. Season Playing Schedule.**

- A. A schedule of games for season play shall be prepared by the League Scheduler and approved by the President and must provide for not less than fourteen (14) regulation games per team in a regular season. These games shall be equally distributed as much as possible among the teams. Play-off and tournament games shall not be counted as a part of the regulation games unless approved by both Head Coaches and the Executive Committee.

Note: A regular season of less than fourteen (14) games can only be approved by the Corporation Board.

Exception: Rookie and PeeWee Division

- B. Practice sessions for organized teams may not begin prior to a date designated by the Corporation Board.
- C. The first regular-season game may not be played prior to a date to be determined annually by the Corporation. (*Exception – PeeWee/Rookie Divisions*) Opening-day ceremonies may take place on or after March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- D. Regular-season play shall end no later than a date determined annually by the Corporation.
- E. Teams of the League shall not play teams of another league as a portion of the season play.

Exception:

1. The Teenage Division will have inter-league play.
  2. Opposing Leagues may be asked to participate in exhibition games by the Expansion Director.
  3. If the League has three (3) or fewer teams in either the Junior or Senior Division, the Corporation may grant a League's request to have inter-league play.
- F. A Junior Division team cannot play a Senior Division team or a Senior Division team cannot play a Teenage Division team as a portion of regular-season play (*See exception Section E., above.*)

G. No team shall be scheduled to play more than one (1) game in one (1) day.

Exception: Tournament play and make-up games or by acceptance of both head coaches.

### **Section 5. Player Additions.**

The Player Agent will establish the last day players can be added to team rosters. Generally, the last day shall be the end of the fourth week of the season.

### **Section 6. Uniforms.**

A complete uniform, including team shirt, hat/visor, shorts and socks shall be worn with no alteration or changes to the uniform with the exceptions of the addition of stars or equivalent award notification, or the player's name to the uniform shirt. Visors/hats should be worn in upper divisions, but are not required. No team or player shall be restricted from playing for lack of a visor/hat in league play. Shorts that are not white may be worn; however, the colors must be approved by the Director of Uniforms (shorts and shirts must be contrasting colors). Uniform styles and colors must be approved by the board and may not be altered (except for fit). All Star uniforms must be consistent for all divisions and will represent all league colors. Metal cleats are not allowed. Coaches shall wear uniform shirts with skirts, pants or shorts. In the event of cold weather, warm clothing may be worn under the uniform. No team shall be assigned the League's official colors, which are reserved for All-Stars' competition.

During practice sessions, players shall wear appropriate clothing (i.e. tee shirts, shorts, cleats, etc. Note – sports bras are not appropriate outerwear).

### **Section 7. Umpiring.**

- A. Umpires shall be certified annually by testing administered by the Rules Director or his/her designee. (Exception – umpires with a valid certification from the Corporation Rules Director or another League, or umpires who have been certified as a State Umpire for the All-Star Tournament in the past 12 months.)
- B. The home team provides the 1<sup>st</sup> Base Umpire; the visiting team provides the 3<sup>rd</sup> Base Umpire.
- C. Plate Umpires are experienced umpires qualified to be Umpire-in-Chief for upper division games as designated by the Rules Director.

Umpires shall not offer assistance to another umpire unless requested by the umpire of the call. In case of controversy, the umpire with jurisdiction rules. Umpires should explain any call and/or rule interpretation to a coach when requested. In the PeeWee & Rookie Divisions only, the Home-Plate Umpire may overrule the calls of new base umpires (1<sup>st</sup> year) if rules have been incorrectly interpreted. This does not apply to judgment calls.

### **Section 8. Coaching Staff.**

A team can carry a maximum of three (3) certified coaches on its roster. All certified coaches on each staff must be an active participant in the development of the team. Should the need arise for any of the three (3) to be replaced temporarily (due to absence or temporary suspension), any currently certified coach, umpire, or the League Coach (or the League Coach's designee), can fill in. All coaches must be approved by the Board and certified annually by testing.

During the month of January, the League Coach will recruit prospective coaches with final assignments made following registration. Prospective coaches may also make their desire known to the League Coach prior to the start of the season.

Priority consideration may be given to individuals with previous coaching experience within the League. In addition to following the Coaches' Code of Ethics outlined in the LMKII Rules and Regulations Book, the League Coach is directed by the Board to evaluate past league experience when reviewing prospective coaches. Following registration, the League Coach will present the names of the prospective coaches to the Board for approval. A prospective coach may be approved by the Board as a Head

Coach or Assistant Coach, or for either position. The Board of Directors must approve all coaching assignments. The Executive Committee shall have the power to discipline coaches (including suspension or revoking eligibility to coach in the League) for any behavior or actions contrary to the Rules or Bylaws. Individuals who have been suspended in a previous season will be considered on a probationary basis only. Individuals with one (1) suspension, or who do not participate in the active development of their team may lose their eligibility. Individuals with more than one (1) suspension will lose their eligibility to coach in the League.

### **Section 9. Inclement Weather.**

In case of inclement weather, the League President or a designee will decide on the status of the game play for the day. If games are not canceled but at any time conditions worsen, the game can be delayed or called by the Umpire-in-Chief.

Lightning - NWA monitors the playing conditions of the fields as well as the current and forecasted weather conditions with a focus on the safety of the participants and spectators. The League strives to have all activities take place as scheduled however, at its discretion, the League may cancel, delay, postpone or relocate to an alternate location any scheduled activity to help ensure the safety of its participants.

### **Section 10. Tryouts/Skills Assessment—Upper Divisions, Only. (Includes the Junior, Senior and Teenage Divisions).**

- A. Tryouts/skills assessments shall be held as soon as possible after registration.
- B. The Player Agent will schedule tryouts/skills assessments for all players in the Junior, Senior and Teenage Divisions. League Officials will direct tryouts/skills assessment with assistance from experienced players and coaches. Players shall participate in a tryout/skills assessment to be drafted onto a team and play. The Player Agent (or his/her designee) may hold make-up or ad hoc tryouts/skills assessments as needed. Any player who does not participate in a tryout/skills assessment will be placed on a team in a manner designated by the Player Agent and approved by the Executive Committee.
- C. During tryouts/skills assessment each girl shall demonstrate her ability in running bases, catching, throwing and kicking the ball.
- D. Coaches and/or Assistant Coaches shall attend each tryout/skills assessment session. In the event a team has no representative, a League Official shall act as a coach.
- E. It is recommended that all League Officials make every attempt to attend each tryout/skills assessment session.

### **Section 11. Draft—Upper Divisions, Only.**

- A. The League shall hold a draft annually for placement of the players on teams. This draft must be conducted by no later than three (3) days before the first day of practice is allowed.
- B. Each registered girl within the League shall be placed in the open draft.
- C. Following the draft, and with the approval of both coaches and the Player Agent, coaches may exchange draftees for a time window prescribed by the Player Agent. If no trades are being contemplated, the Player Agent may, at his/her discretion, call an end to the draft.
- D. Players shall never be told the position in which they were drafted.
- E. Players shall be notified of their team placement during the League's annual Opening Ceremonies, but no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>.

- F. The following system shall be used for drafting players onto teams by the Player Agent:
1. Determine the number of teams and, therefore, the number of coaches needed.
  2. Option Players – Certain players may be designated as coach, sister, and/or friend options as defined below. Option players will be placed on teams with their corresponding parent/coach, sister, or friend.
    - **Coach Options (CO)** – Teams may have at most two (2) Coach Option players. A CO is a single daughter, granddaughter, or sister of a coach who is automatically drafted onto that coach's team. If a coach does not have a daughter, granddaughter, or sister as a Coach Option, then he/she may request a niece or cousin as a Coach Option player instead subject to approval of a special committee assigned by the President. Sisters of a CO player will be drafted onto the same team if requested. Each Coach must submit his/her Coach Option players to the Player Agent prior to tryouts. Teams cannot have a second returning All-Star (including alternates) within the respective division as a Coach Option unless approved by the Executive Committee.
    - **Sister Options (SO)** – Girls who are sisters.
    - **Friend Options (FO)** – Senior and Teenage players may designate a friend who has not played LMKII kickball in the prior 3 seasons as a New Friend Option (NFO). Teen players may designate two (2) NFOs and Seniors players may designate one (1) NFO. Junior players may designate one (1) NFO who has not played LMKII kickball in the prior two (2) seasons. First year Junior (9 year old) and Senior (12 year old) girls may designate another first year girl as a First Year Friend Option (FYFO) provided neither or only one has ever played All Stars. Friend Options must exclusively designate each other in the registration process or prior to tryouts. A girl cannot have a NFO and a FYFO. Friend Options must attend Tryouts/Skills Assessment or they risk losing their option status to be paired with their friend(s). The Executive Committee may authorize variances from the Friend Option rules to ensure an orderly draft, to avoid a significant competitive imbalance in a division, to address division capacity constraints, or other issues.
  3. Assign a drafting date.
  4. Set up the draft grids.
  5. The order of the draft will be by "snake" with draft order being assigned after final slotting of players by the league. The order shall be based on the position of each team's option player(s) to allow each team to select the best player available. If less than an even multiple of players is in the draft, the eighth row will be adjusted randomly to ensure that the team with the first pick also receives the last draft choice; second, second to last, etc.
  6. Draft Procedure:

At the conclusion of tryouts, the Player Agent shall solicit, from each Head Coach, a listing of the top players. A prioritized ranking of players will be used in the first five (5) rounds of drafting to slot coach-option players and to enhance team parity. Coach-option players will be slotted according to their relative ranking. If a coach-option player is ranked in the top ten (10) players and there are ten (10) teams in the League, she will be that team's first-round pick. In the event two (2) coach-option players are in the same ordinal grouping, they will be slotted in the appropriate round and the subsequent round.

All remaining coach-option players will be slotted as follows – Girls in their first year in a division will be placed in the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) from last round; second-year players will be placed in the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) from last round; third-year players will be placed in the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) round; and fourth-year players will be placed in the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) round. If a Sister of a Coach Option is slotted in the first five (5) rounds, then she will be slotted according to her ranking, otherwise she will be slotted the same way coach options are above.

Sister Options (not related to coaches) – If the older sister is drafted first, then the sister option(s) will be slotted three (3) slots lower than the older sister, if they are one (1) league year age apart, five (5) slots if they are two (2) years apart, seven (7) slots if they are three (3) years apart; or in their ordinal slot, if they are placed in the top five (5) rounds. Siblings of the same age will be slotted consecutively, as will older sisters when the younger is drafted first.

New Friend Options (NFO) – Both girls are subject to the open draft. After one girl has been drafted, the other NFO girl will be slotted in her ordinal slot if she is ranked in the top 5 rounds. Otherwise she will be slotted in the 7<sup>th</sup> round if she is a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year player in the division, in the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) from last round if she is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year player in the division, and in the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) from last round if she is a 1<sup>st</sup> year player in the division.

First Year Friend Options (FYFO) – Both girls will be subject to the open draft. After one girl has been drafted, the other FYFO girl will be placed in her ordinal slot if she is ranked in the top 5 rounds, otherwise she will be slotted in the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) from last round.

To promote appropriate ranking for purposes of the draft, all rankings of coach-option players are subject to the approval/disapproval of a Board-appointed, three-person Oversight Committee. For each division the President will appoint a three member oversight committee consisting of the League Coach and two other Board Members knowledgeable of the players skill levels in that division. None of the committee members can be coaches in the respective divisions. For a division in which the league coach holds a coaching position, an alternate board member will be appointed to the committee. The committee will review coach option slotting assignments to ensure fairness and the appropriate slotting of these players. The committee will have the authority to adjust the slotted positions up or down as well as draft order. The oversight committee slotting is final and cannot be appealed and will not be discussed at the draft.

- G. All teams are not required to have the same number of players.
- H. All girls in the draft shall be drafted onto a team.
- I. Player Agent shall assign girls who register after the draft within their Division to a team by draw.
- J. If a team disbands or is eliminated after the draft and prior to the first regular-season game, the players shall be placed on other teams in that Division by lottery or draw method or other method approved by the Executive Committee within their respective Division.

### **Section 12. Team Practice—Upper Divisions, Only.**

Practice is defined as four (4) or more players of the same team with one (1) or more coaches present, working out on a field. At least two (2) adults must be present at all practices; one (1) of the adults must be female. Pre-game warm-up is limited to the thirty (30) minutes immediately preceding scheduled game time. Warm-ups of more than thirty (30) minutes will constitute a practice. A rained-out game and its make-up game count as one (1) activity. Following the day of the draft, no coach may have a practice until the date designated by the Corporation Board (Exception: coach's daughter[s]). VIOLATION of this By-Law will result in a written warning for the first offense. The next violation will result in suspension of the coach(es) involved.

**A. Senior and Teenage Divisions.** Beginning on a date designated by the Corporation Board, the number of practices scheduled will be at the discretion of the Head Coach. Once a team plays its first game, no more than four (4) days of kickball participation will be allowed per week, including games and practices (Sunday through Saturday).

Exception: make-ups, rescheduled games, tournaments, and League sponsored events/clinics.

**B. Junior Division, Only.** Beginning on a date designated by the Corporation Board, the number of practices scheduled will be at the discretion of the Head Coach. Once a team plays its first game, no more than three (3) days of kickball participation will be allowed per week, including games and practices (Sunday through Saturday).

Exception: make-ups, rescheduled games, tournaments, and League sponsored events/clinics.

### **Section 13. Scheduling.**

In most cases Upper Division teams will play no more than two (2) games per week and Lower Division teams no more than one (1) game per week.

Exceptions: 1) Scheduling due to a shortage of available fields; 2) Scheduling to accommodate every team in a division a chance to play; 3) Rescheduled games due to postponements or weather; 4) Play-off games; and 5) Tournament Games.

#### Preseason Practice Schedule

The preseason practice schedule will be developed without regard to schedule bias (all teams are created equal). Early practice slots will be allotted primarily to Lower Division teams and late practice slots to Upper Division teams. There are likely to be cases where Upper Division teams are scheduled in early time slots. The schedule is intended to be 'balanced' with regard to the amount of scheduled practice time on league fields. Teams may trade time slots and the League Scheduler need not be involved once the schedule is published.

#### League Game Schedule

The league game schedule will be published approximately one (1) week prior to the first game of the season. The league scheduler will consider (if feasible) day of week and time conflicts as indicated by team coaches. Coaches must communicate season long schedule conflicts to the League Scheduler at least two (2) weeks prior to the first game of the season.

#### Weather Reschedules

Games lost to weather will be scheduled automatically (by the League Scheduler), in order of games lost per field (with preference given to Upper Division games), on the first available Friday or Saturday more than twenty-four (24) hours after the originally scheduled game time, until all games are played, forfeited, or declared ties.

Exception – Doubleheaders are not mandatory but can be scheduled with the affected Head Coaches' approval.

#### Conflict Reschedule

Each team may request at most, one (1) game reschedule per season plus one (1) additional reschedule for a conflict due to a weather reschedule. The request must be made known directly to the League Scheduler and the opposing head coach at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the originally scheduled game time; otherwise, it will be declared a forfeit. The opposing head coach, after reaching agreement with the other head coach, will be solely responsible for organizing with the League Scheduler for a newly scheduled game time. The newly scheduled game time must be made with at least forty-eight (48) hours notice given to the coaches. Conflict reschedules count only against the team requesting the reschedule. Note: Once the non-requesting coach specifies the date and time, the game will be played, forfeited, or resolved by a Mutual Reschedule or conflict reschedule (other team).

#### Mutual Reschedule Option

Both head coaches may mutually agree to an alternative game date/time. This information MUST be provided by the home team coach to and officially scheduled by the League Scheduler at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the new game time which can be no later than one (1) week from the originally scheduled game date.

#### Forfeits

Once a team forfeit is made known to the League Scheduler, it is not necessary for the opposing team to be present at the originally scheduled game time in order to receive a win by forfeit.

NOTE: If a team has used their reschedule option and needs to reschedule again, it will be up to the League Scheduler's discretion on whether to allow a reschedule. No reschedules except for rain will be made in the last two weeks of the season. Also – a change in game date DOES NOT change other team assignments (e.g., concession duty).

#### **Section 14. League Play-offs—Upper Divisions, Only.**

The League champion for the Junior and Senior Divisions will be determined by the best overall record at the end of the regular season. Trophies will be awarded at Awards' Night to the appropriate number of teams. The League Championship Post-Season Tournament for both the Junior and Senior Divisions will be held immediately following the regular season. All teams in each division may play in the tournament. Tournament trophies will be awarded. Should a situation arise in which there is a tie in the win-loss-tie record, the following format will be used to determine Regular-Season Standings and the Mid-Season and Post-Season Tournament Seedings:

- A. Two (2) teams tied for a position:
  - a) Best win/loss record based on head-to-head competition
  - b) Best win/loss percentage against higher-ranked teams
  - c) Fewest runs allowed in head-to-head competition
  - d) Fewest runs allowed against higher-(if necessary, equally) ranked teams
  - e) Coin flip conducted by Player Agent and League Coach
  
- B. Three (3) or more teams tied for a position:
  - a) If one of the three or more teams beat each of the other tied teams
  - b) Best win/loss percentage against the tied teams
  - c) Fewest runs allowed in head-to-head competition
  - d) Best win/loss percentage against higher-ranked teams
  - e) Fewest runs allowed against higher-(if necessary, equally) ranked teams
  - f) Coin flip conducted by Player Agent and League Coach. Three (3) or more coins are flipped until one (1) odd coin is determined and that odd coin will be the represented team.

The tie-breaker format will be determined in the following manner: If "a" does not indicate a clear winner, then proceed to "b;" if "b" does not indicate a clear winner, then proceed to "c;" etc.

#### **Section 15. Awards—Upper Divisions, Only.**

The number of teams receiving a trophy for standings in each division will be based on the total number of teams in the division as follows:

- A. 1-3 teams – 1 place
- B. 4-7 teams – 2 places
- C. 8-11 teams – 3 places
- D. 12+ teams – 4 places

#### **Section 16. All-Star Coaches—Upper Divisions, Only.**

The League Coach shall solicit persons interested in coaching the All Star teams in each Division. The Board will accept applications for All-Star Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches. The Board may consider the suggestions of the other Coaches in the League. Preference for the All Star Head Coach position shall be first given to existing regular season coaches within the respective division. However, the board reserves the right to consider additional candidates outside the respective division. The assistant coaches can from any division but must be a certified, active Coach or Umpire in the league during the current season.

As a part of the selection process, prospective All-Star coaches will be asked to complete an application form. In addition, the Coaches' Code of Ethics outlined in the LMKII Rules and Regulations along with the prospective coaches' present and past experiences within the League will be reviewed. The Executive Committee may elect to interview prospective All-Star coaches. If questions arise as to the qualifications of a potential All-Star coach, the coach shall be given the opportunity to address the Board. The Executive Committee will nominate all coaches for consideration and approval by the Board.

At least 5 days before the Executive board meets to interview and select the All Star Coaches, the League Coach shall prepare a candidate list that will be distributed to all interested coaches and the Executive board.

All Star coaches will have the following authority and responsibilities:

- They will intensively evaluate candidate players during the regular season;
- They will run the player tryout (with assistance as requested of other personnel);
- They will objectively comment on the abilities of players during the voting period;
- They will announce the team at the Award Night celebration;
- They will schedule practices in accordance with LMKI rules and regulations;
- They will coordinate with parents/guardians and league officials regarding all documentation that is needed to meet state requirements. (i.e., birth certificates, travel authorization, medical release forms, etc.)
- They will be cognizant of the health and safety of the players during practice and games;
- They will determine the game lineup and strategy;
- They will demonstrate good sportsmanship and leadership to the players, and;
- They will discuss the highlights and any problems experienced during practice and the tournament at the next regular board meeting.

Violation of LMKI rules and regulations shall result in immediate suspension of the offending coach(es) by the executive board. The executive board will assign a new coach, notify the Corporation of the offense, and honor any sanctions imposed by the Corporate Board.

### **Section 17. All-Star Selection Process—Upper Divisions, Only.**

By a date set by the Player Agent, players shall verify their availability for the All-Star participation process. Their coaches, the Executive Committee or the designees of the Executive Committee may then nominate those available. A list of nominees will be given to Head Coaches in each division. Nominees must play in at least one fourth (1/4) of the regular season games.

#### **A. All Star Eligibility and League Transfers:**

Any player who transfers to NWA after playing All-Stars the previous year for another LMK league within the Austin Metropolitan Area will be ineligible to try out for or participate on the NWA All Star team that season. This rule applies to all players including those who have moved up from one division to another as well as those who are in their final year of LMK eligibility. The player's All Star eligibility will be re-instated for subsequent seasons.

#### **B. Tryouts:**

On a date announced by the Player Agent, players nominated for All-Stars will participate in a tryout. Those not participating in the tryout must be excused by the Player Agent, or their names will be removed from consideration. Coaches shall not vocally participate in the game from the stands. If the Head Coach, or one (1) of the Assistant Coaches as the team's representative, does not attend the tryout/exhibition game, that team loses its eligibility to vote in the All-Star selection process.

#### **C. Voting (All Divisions):**

1. On a date announced by the Player Agent, each Head Coach or designated Assistant Coach will submit a list of twelve (12) girls' names for All-Star selection (this is the "initial 12 ballot"). In addition, the Executive Committee may designate no more than three (3) representatives (one per division) with voting privileges to participate in the selection process.

The Player Agent, President and League Coach will count the votes and the girls receiving unanimous votes will automatically be on the All-Star Team. If one or more of these officers is a coach or league representative for the active division, another board member will be asked to count the ballots during the subsequent voting.

2. If the process outlined above results in the unanimous selection of less than ten (10) players to the team, up to ten (10) players, will be determined by discussion and written ballot at a meeting of the League Coach, Player Agent, President, all Division Head Coaches and designated League representatives. Executive Committee members and one (1) Assistant Coach from each team may attend this meeting. The entire group of selected All Star Coaches for the respective division are



invited to attend and participate in the All Star selection process. For the first ballot of the meeting, coaches will be able to vote for players from their teams. Any coach option player ordinarily ranked in one of the first 12 positions during the regular season draft has ALL STAR ballot immunity (she will receive 1 vote per round automatically until the team is complete). (Does not apply for "initial ballot"/unanimous total).

- a) Prior to the first ballot of the meeting, the Player Agent will allow a time limit of three (3) minutes to discuss each individual player. Anyone present will be allowed to participate in the discussion. Parents of nominees will be excused during discussion of their daughters.
  - b) A Head Coach unable to attend the meeting must be represented by one (1) of the Assistant Coaches. Unrepresented teams forfeit their vote in the selection process.
  - c) After discussion, the Head Coaches and designated League representatives will vote for the remaining All-Stars, not to exceed ten (10), including the unanimous choices. A coach may vote for a maximum number of players equaling the number of remaining slots (up to 10) or a minimum of one less than the number of remaining slots on each ballot. In the event a coach votes for less than the minimum number of slots, the League Representative vote will be counted twice and the coach ballot disregarded. Those receiving the highest number of votes will be added to the list of All-Stars. Anyone not receiving votes will be dropped from consideration. However, those dropped may be considered as the final two (2) selections or as alternates.
  - d) Subsequent round or rounds of voting shall proceed in the same manner as the first round outlined above, until all ten (10) spots are filled. In the event of a tie vote between two players to select the tenth player, both players shall be placed on the team. If more than two players are involved in a tie for the tenth position, one final vote will be taken, in which league head coaches will be allowed to vote for girls from their own team. If, after this final vote, 2 or 3 girls remain tied for the final spot(s) on the team, all players involved in the tie shall be placed on the team. If, after this final vote, more than three players remain tied for the final spot(s) on the team, the All Star Coach shall select the final player(s). At the conclusion of voting, all coaches are excused.
3. The All Star Head Coach, League Coach and Player Agent will select the remaining players and three (3) alternates. Girls eligible for selection for the remaining two player spots shall come from the list of players receiving a vote on the initial 12 ballot. Alternate selections may be made from the pool of all players who were nominated. In the event that the All Star Head Coach, League Coach and Player Agent cannot reach a consensus when selecting the final five slots, a final vote shall be held among the All Star Head Coach, League Coach and Player Agent. If a player receives two out of three votes for a slot as a player or as an alternate, she shall be placed in that position. In the event that a player does not receive two votes for a slot as a player or as an alternate, the matter may be brought to the Executive Committee for a final vote.
  4. If an All-Star becomes unavailable, the alternates may move up, as determined by the All-Star Head Coach. The alternates will practice with the team and may be invited to the tournament and may sit in the dugout. After promoting an alternate to the All-Star team, the respective All-Star Head Coach may nominate a player to the Executive Committee for approval to fill the open alternate position. The candidate must come from the list of girls nominated for All-Stars, if available, before considering other players from the division.
  5. If, in the opinion of the voting coaches, a player deserves All-Star recognition, but due to an illness cannot participate in All-Star competition, the player can, by majority vote of the Division Head Coaches, be recognized as an Honorary All-Star. If a coach would like to nominate a player for this award, he or she must notify all other Head Coaches in that division. Then, if a Head Coach feels that the player's name would have been among the original twelve (12) names, the player's name may be listed separately as an Honorary All-Star on the ballot.
  6. The All-Star selection will be subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.
  7. The timing and method for communicating the results of All-Star selections will be determined by the Board or Executive Committee.

## **Section 18. Lower Divisions.**

Please note: Any reference in the *LMKII Official Rules and Regulations Book* to the Rookie Division, shall apply to both the PeeWee and Rookie Divisions.

### **A. PeeWee Division**

Girls who are four (4) through six (6) years old shall constitute the PeeWee Division. The rules for the PeeWee Division stand as stated in the *LMKII's Official Rules and Regulations Book*, with the following age-related clarifications and/or exceptions:

- 1. Length of game.** Games will be limited to no more than three (3) innings. No inning shall start after 50 minutes of playing time.
- 2. Number of Players.** No team shall have more than eight (8) players unless approved by the Player Agent. Games will be played, regardless of the number of players present. A maximum number of eight (8) defensive players will play in the infield, with no more than three (3) forward of the pitcher's box (including the pitcher, but not including the catcher), and the rest beyond the back of the pitcher's box until a pitched ball completely crosses Home Plate. If only six players or less are present, a defensive coach (team not at kick) may play catcher and return pitched balls. The coach cannot participate in any defensive play (i.e., force out).
- 3. Player Participation.** Each girl on the team's roster will play the entire game; should a player choose to "sit out," she will be allowed to do so and will be allowed to return at any time. If a player arrives after the game has started, her name must be added at the end of the kicking line-up.
- 4. Umpires.** The home team will furnish the Home-Plate Umpire, and the visiting team will furnish one (1) or two (2) field umpires. The umpire's decision is final, but the umpire should explain any call and/or rule interpretation to a Head Coach when requested. If a League schedules a neutral Home-Plate Umpire, each team will then provide a Field Umpire, who will take up the position opposite his or her team's dugout. No protests are allowed. Coaches may umpire.
- 5. Line-ups.** There is no penalty for kicking out of order. All girls should kick every inning.
- 6. Defense.** Two (2) coaches may assist his/her team on defense from anywhere in the playing field behind the pitcher's box. Coaches may not touch players while the ball is in play.
- 7. Offense.** At a minimum, each team will have all its players kick in each of the three (3) innings. In the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) inning, the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) spot on the lineup will be the leadoff kicker. In the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) inning, the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) spot will lead off. The offensive coach pitches to his or her team and must remain in the pitcher's box and not coach base runners. Alternatively, the coach may place the ball on home plate to initiate play. Kickers will not be called out on strikes or for stepping on the plate or circle.
- 8. Scoring.** The purpose of keeping score in the PeeWee Division is to keep kicking lineups in order and to train parents as scorekeepers. Scoring should just continue normally, until all players have had a turn at kick, marking outs and runs scored as they occur. The coach of the team at kick should alert the umpire of the last kicker. The umpire will then announce "last kicker" and proceed with play.

The innings may be displayed on the scoreboard. Runs shall not be posted.

- 9. Player Rotation.** This is a developmental league for young girls. Therefore, for each defensive inning it is strongly encouraged that the defensive team rotates players so all may have an opportunity to learn different positions. Coaches should have their rotation line-up set at the beginning of the game. No girl may play the same position twice in a game, nor should she play in the front 4 positions (LS, RS, P, C) in consecutive innings unless a team has fewer than 8 players present. Each girl should play in one of the front 4 positions during the first 3 innings.

10. **Practice.** Prior to the start of the season, (a date designated by the Corporation Board) until the start of League play, practice is unlimited. Once season play begins, teams are limited to two (2) kickball experiences per week (excluding parties, make-ups and rescheduled games). At least two (2) adults must be present at all practices; one (1) of the adults must be female. Parents may assist with practice at the discretion and direction of the Head Coach.
11. **Uniforms.** A complete uniform, including a team shirt, shorts and socks, should be worn with no alteration or changes to the uniform, with the exceptions of the addition of stars or the player's name to the uniform shirt. Shorts that are not white may be worn; however, the Director of Uniforms must approve the colors. In the event of cold weather, warm clothing may be worn under the uniform.
12. **Walks.** There are no walks.
13. **Crowds and Sportsmanship.** Parents should set a good example of sportsmanship for the players and coaches. This is non-competitive division for the girls to learn kickball and have fun!
14. **Coaching Staff.** In addition to its certified coaches, a PeeWee Team may have a Board-approved Team Assistant who is a teenage girl with kickball experience (minimum age must be 13). The Team Assistant may be a base coach, if she is certified.
15. **Field Duties.** Visiting team shall mark the field; home team shall provide the scorekeeper.

**B. Rookie Division**

Generally, girls who are seven (7) and eight (8) years old (six (6) years old with approval of the Player Agent)) shall constitute the Rookie Division. The rules for the Rookie Division stand as stated in the LMKII Official Rules and Regulations Book, with the following clarifications and/or exceptions:

1. **Length of game.** Games will be regulation six (6) innings. No inning shall start after 50 minutes of playing time
2. **Number of Players.** No team shall have more than ten (10) players unless approved by the Player Agent. A game will be played if a minimum of six (6) players per team is present. All girls will play in the field; eight (8) in the infield, with no more than three (3) forward of the pitcher's box (including the pitcher but excluding the catcher) and the rest beyond the back of the pitcher's box until a pitched ball completely crosses Home Plate. If more than two (2) players are found to be forward of the pitcher's box at the delivery of the pitch, a ball will be called, unless it penalizes the kicking team.
3. **Player Participation.** Each girl on the team's roster will play the entire game; should a player choose to "sit out," she will be allowed to do so and will be allowed to return at any time. A complete team roster must be turned in to the Official Scorekeeper and opposing team prior to the start of the game. If a player arrives after the game has started, her name will be added at the end of the kicking line-up and her addition announced to the Home-Plate Umpire, Official Scorekeeper and opposing team's coaches.
4. **Umpires.** The home team will furnish the Home-Plate Umpire, and the visiting team will furnish two (2) Field Umpires. The umpire's decision is final, but the umpire should explain any call and/or rule interpretation to a Head Coach when requested. If possible, the League will schedule a neutral Home-Plate Umpire. Each team will then provide a Field Umpire, who will take up the position opposite his or her team's dugout. No protests are allowed. Coaches certified as umpires may umpire, if needed.
5. **Line-ups.** Should a mix-up in the line-up occur, the penalty will be as stated in the LMKII Official Rules and Regulations Book, Rule VII, Sec. 2B & 2C. There will be no substitutions. All players will be in the kicking line-up.

6. **Defense.** Only one (1) coach may assist his or her team from the designated area near the dugout for the first half of the season, only. See LMKII Official Rules and Regulations Book for other rules governing defense.
7. **Offense.** All members of the team will be in the kicking line-up. See LMKII Official Rules and Regulations Book for other rules governing offense.
8. **Scoring.** The scorekeeper shall maintain the score for the games. Scoring will follow the rules as stated in the LMKII Official Rules and Regulations Book. The score will be posted on the scoreboard, along with the balls, strikes, outs and innings. The scorekeeper will be committed to the time limit of the game. The offensive team will score runs until the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) out is made, with the following provision:
 

Teams will be allowed to score a maximum of six (6) runs per inning.
9. **Player Rotation.** This League is for player-development purposes. A player shall not play any position more than two (2) innings per game, including the pitching position. A girl cannot play one of the front 4 positions (LS, RS, P, C) in more than 2 consecutive innings. Each girl must play one of the front 4 positions in the first 3 innings. If a team is found to be in violation of this League Rule, the League may suspend the coach. It is strongly encouraged that the defensive team rotate outfield and infield players so all may have an opportunity to learn different positions. It is suggested that coaches have their rotation line-up set at the beginning of the game.
10. **Practice.** Prior to the start of the season, (a date designated by the Corporation Board) until opening day, practice is unlimited. Once season play begins, teams are limited to two (2) kickball experiences per week (excluding parties, make-ups and rescheduled games). At least two (2) adults must be present at all practices; one (1) of the adults must be a female.
11. **Uniforms.** A complete uniform, including team shirt, shorts and socks, will be worn with no alteration or changes to the uniform with the exceptions of the addition of stars or the player's name to the uniform shirt. Shorts, which are not white, may be worn; however, the Director of Uniforms must approve the colors. In the event of cold weather, warm clothing may be worn under the uniform.
12. **Walks.** There will be no intentional walks. If a team is found to be in violation of this League Rule, the League may suspend the coach.
13. **Crowds and Sportsmanship.** Parents should set a good example of sportsmanship for the players and coaches. This is non-competitive division for the girls to learn kickball and have fun!
14. **Coaching Staff.** In addition to its certified coaches, a Rookie team may have a Board-approved Team Assistant who is a teenage girl with kickball experience (minimum age must be 13). The Team Assistant may be a base coach, if she is certified.
15. **Field Duties.** Visiting team shall mark the field; home team shall provide the scorekeeper.

## **Section 19. Upper Divisions.**

### **A. Junior Division.**

The Junior Division is a competitive division; however, it is important to the League that we continue to develop players, promote participation, and increase retention. These changes supercede the LMKII Rule Book only for NWA League play during the regular season. These do not apply to inter-league play or in tournaments.

1. **Infield Playing Time.** Coaches should endeavor to play all girls a total of at least 4 innings at two different infield positions (P, LS, RS, 1B, 2B, or 3B, not C) during the course of the season.

2. **Kicking Line-up.** For League play only, ALL girls present will be placed in the kicking line up and will kick in this order throughout a game regardless of whether they are playing in the field at that time or not. Any girl arriving before the first pitch at the top of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning will be placed after the last kicker in the line-up.
3. **Substitution.** For League play only, coaches must substitute players on defense each inning. A player shall not sit out on defense in consecutive innings or more than 3 innings in a regulation game.
4. **Coaching Staff.** In addition to its certified coaches, a Junior team may have a Board-approved Team Assistant who is a teenage girl with kickball experience (minimum age must be 16). The Team Assistant may be a base coach, if she is certified.

**B. Senior Division.**

The Senior Division is a competitive division; however, it is important to the League that we continue to develop players, promote participation, and increase retention. These changes supercede the LMKII Rule Book only for NWA League play during the regular season. These do not apply to inter-league play or in tournaments.

1. **Substitution.** For League play only, coaches must substitute players on defense each inning. A player shall not sit out on defense in consecutive innings or more than 3 innings in a regulation game. Kicking order substitutions are still made per the LMKII Rule Book.

**ARTICLE IX. CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS AND FUNDS.**

**Section 1. Contracts.**

The Board of Directors may authorize any Officer or Officers, Agent or Agents of the League, in addition to the Officers so authorized by these By-Laws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the League, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

**Section 2. Checks, Drafts, etc.**

All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the League for amounts less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), shall be signed by either the Treasurer, President or Vice-President of the League. For those amounts in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), two (2) signatures shall be required (among the above-mentioned League Officers).

**Section 3. Deposits.**

All funds of the League shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the League in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select.

**Section 4. Gifts.**

The Board of Directors may accept, on behalf of the League, any contribution, gift, bequest or device for the general purpose or for any special purpose of the League.

**ARTICLE X. MISCELLANEOUS.**

**Section 1. Definition of Service Area.**

The Boundary of the League's Service Area is that area established by the District and outlined in its most recent map. Generally speaking, the area includes that area bounded on the east by Burnet Road; on the south by 35<sup>th</sup> Street and Lake Austin; on the west by the City of Austin city limits; and on the north by an imaginary line extended from Howard Lane to the west. Girls located outside these boundaries may also participate, provided that said girls do not reside in the service area of another league. In this event, the girl may participate in the Northwest Austin Little Miss Kickball League, provided the league governing the area in which she resides approves.

**Section 2. Books and Records.**

The League shall keep correct and complete books and records of accounts and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of its members, Board of Directors and Committees having any of the authority of the Board of Directors, and shall keep at the register or principal office a record giving the names and addresses of the members entitled to vote. Any member, or his agent or attorney may inspect all books and records of the League for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.

**Section 3. Fiscal Year.**

The fiscal year of the League shall begin on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) day of October and end on the last day of September in each year.

**Section 4. Dissolution.**

In the event of dissolution of this non-profit Corporation, the remaining assets, if any after payment of debts, will be distributed as determined by the Board of Directors or to LMKII if not specified by the Board.

**Section 5. Team Sponsorships.**

The League may solicit team sponsorships to aid in the financial support of the League. Team sponsors may be selected from a wide variety of potential sponsors, such as service clubs, civic groups, fraternal organizations, local merchants, etc. Businesses primarily engaged in the manufacture or sale of such products as alcoholic beverages, tobacco or other commodities that might be objectionable to youth, are not acceptable as sponsors.

**Section 6. Charter Fees.**

The League shall pay a charter fee, set by LMKII on a per-team basis. The Charter Fee shall be announced at each annual meeting and shall be submitted by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

**Section 7. Insurance.**

The League shall furnish proof of medical/liability player's insurance and spectator liability insurance, along with the Charter Amendments.

**Section 8. Charter Applications/Amendments.**

A Charter Application shall be completed and returned to LMKII by March 1<sup>st</sup> of the current season. Charter Amendments are due by April 1<sup>st</sup> of the current season.

**Section 9. Reimbursement of Expenses.**

The League may reimburse League representatives for properly documented and appropriate expenses incurred on behalf of the League. Reimbursements are subject to review by the Executive Committee.

**Section 10. Scholarships.**

The League may award scholarships annually to applicants consisting of graduating high school seniors who have been accepted by an accredited college, junior college, or technical institute and current students at such institutions. Applicants must have played at least four (4) seasons within the last ten (10) year period in the League. Scholarship values will be factored based on the number of years played or coached (4 years = 40%, 5 years = 50%, up to 10 years = 100%) in the last 10 year period commencing with new scholarship recipients in 2012. Applicants shall be grouped into the following levels, which will then be used to weight the financial amount of the award. If a player leaves the League at the Junior level or higher to play for another Austin Metropolitan area LMK league, they will lose their eligibility for an NWA scholarship.

**Level One**

Applicant meets all requirements per the authorized application form approved by the Board.

### **Level Two**

Applicant meets all Level One scholarship requirements, plus applicant herself has served at least one (1) year in the capacity of:

- (a) a member of the NWA Board of Directors, or
- (b) a certified NWA league coach (other than a team they play on starting in 2011), or
- (c) a NWA certified Plate Umpire, or
- (d) any combination thereof.

### **Level Three**

Applicant meets all Level One scholarship requirements plus has had a high level of family involvement in NWA Kickball activities by virtue of one or more members of the immediate family serving for at least five (5) years as:

- (a) a member of the NWA Board of Directors, or
- (b) a certified NWA league coach, or
- (c) a NWA certified Plate Umpire, or
- (d) any combination thereof.

The five (5) years of service do not have to be consecutive.

### **Level Four**

Applicant meets all Level Three scholarship requirements for her family, plus applicant herself has served at least one (1) year in the capacity of:

- (a) a member of the NWA Board of Directors, or
- (b) a certified NWA league coach (other than a team they play on starting in 2011), or
- (c) a NWA certified Plate Umpire, or
- (d) any combination thereof.

### **Returning Applicants**

Applicants will be allowed to apply for scholarship awards for a total of four (4) years after graduating from high school. The four (4) years do not have to be immediately after high school graduation or consecutively, but each application year the applicant must continue to meet the minimum Level One requirements as stated above. (Some information requirements for the application form itself may be waived for returning applicants.) Scholarship awards for returning applicants will be made at reduced amounts from the initial year award, but will take into consideration the different levels as identified above.

The amounts awarded for scholarships will be at the discretion of the NWA Board of Directors and will be determined on a yearly basis.

## **ARTICLE XI. WAIVER OF NOTICE.**

### **Section 1. Waiver of Notice.**

Whenever any notice is required to be given under the provisions of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act of 1959 or under the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation or the By-Laws of the League, a waiver thereof in writing signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent to giving of such notice.

## **ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS.**

### **Section 1.**

These By-Laws may be altered, amended or repealed and new By-Laws may be adopted, by a two-thirds (2/3rds) affirmative vote at a special meeting of the Board of Directors, if at least seven (7) days written notice is given of intention to alter, amend or repeal or to adopt new By-Laws, and providing that a quorum is present at such meeting. If these By-Laws are not revised by the annual date for submittal to the Corporation, they will remain in force through the remainder of the fiscal year.

**Ryan Franks, President NWA LMKI Inc.**

**Approved – February 18, 2018**