

SJBS Baseball Draft Rules

March 2022

1) Evaluations and Preliminary Player Rankings

- a. All players participate in league-wide skills evaluations conducted by SJBS baseball coaches who do not have children in the league they are evaluating
 - i. Approximately 1 month prior to draft
 - ii. In 2019: date is **Jan 26th**
- b. **Data collected from the evaluations will result in a Preliminary Player Ranking**
- c. For those players not participating in the evaluations – the League Director will review prior data that are available (prior year coach evaluations, travel tryout evaluations, etc) and slot those players into the ranking
 - i. The League Director shall perform such task in consultation with the Director of Personnel, the Director of Baseball Operations and the President of SJBS (to the extent available and so long as each person does not have a son or daughter in the league in question), (collectively the “League Director’s Advisors”)
- d. The Preliminary Player Ranking will be supplemented with each player’s travel team roster status, where appropriate (age and maroon/white)

2) Pre-Draft Coaches Meeting

- a. Coaches will be provided the Preliminary Player Ranking for review
- b. **Each head coach (in consultation with his/her assistant coach) will submit his/her own player ranking to the League Director based on the Preliminary Player Ranking and his/her knowledge of the players.**
 - i. Coaches shall NOT rank their own child or the child of their assistant coach
 - ii. Coaches shall also provide a moniker for players he/she believes are capable pitchers and/or catchers
 - iii. Approximately 5-7 days prior to the draft
 - iv. In 2019: **February 21st**

3) Final Player Ranking

- a. **League Director shall then compile all head coach rankings and take an average rank of the head coach rankings to arrive at the Final Player Ranking**
 - i. The League Director shall incorporate pitcher/catcher monikers for players that a majority of the coaches have labeled as such
 - ii. Under no circumstance shall the League Director reveal the individual coach’s rankings to other coaches in the league

4) Other Pre-Draft Activity

- a. **Pre-Slot Coaches’ Children:** the League Director shall then pre-slot all head coach and assistant coaches’ children onto their own teams in the draft round equivalent to each player’s rank.
 - i. For example, in a 10-team league, the #12 ranked player will be that coach’s 2nd round pick.
 - ii. If the sons of a coaching pair are ranked at such a level that both should be slotted in the same round, the League Director shall slot the highest ranked player of the two in the appropriate round and the lower ranked player in the following round.
 1. For example, a coaching pair has sons that are ranked #12 and #15 in a 10-team league. The #12 ranked player shall be that team’s 2nd round pick and the #15 ranked player shall be that team’s 3rd round pick
- b. **Penalties:** once all coaches’ children are pre-slotted, the League Director shall assess a penalty corresponding to teams that have pre-slotted coaches’ children in the following scenarios (NOTE: 5th/6th grade league penalties are found below in section 7) b) iii):
 - i. Both players are pre-slotted in the top half of round 1:
 1. Team loses 3rd round pick (after 3 rounds, the team has 2 players; the coaches’ children)
 2. Team adds a supplemental pick after the 8th round

3. Team is required to make a selection in the final round (ie, cannot pass)
- ii. Both players are pre-slotted in round 1, but not both in the top half
 1. Team loses 3rd round pick (after 3 rounds, the team has 2 players; the coaches' children)
 2. Team adds a supplemental pick after the 7th round
 3. Team is required to make a selection in the final round (ie, cannot pass)
- iii. Both players are pre-slotted in round 2
 1. Team keeps 1st round pick
 2. Team loses 4th round pick (after 4 rounds, the team has 3 players; the coaches' children and its 1st round pick)
 3. Team adds supplemental pick after the 6th round
 4. Team retains right to pass in the initial phase of the final round

5) Draft order

- a. Upon completion of pre-slotting and assessing penalties, the League Director shall determine the draft order at the beginning of the draft by pulling names out of a hat only after the coaches have assembled
- b. The draft will then be conducted as a snake draft; the team getting the first pick of the first round shall get the last pick of the second round and so on and so forth
 1. Each team will only have a pick in a round where they do not already have a pre-slotted player
 2. For example, in a 10-team league:
 - i. The team with the #3 pick of the first round shall have the 8th pick of the 2nd round (or #18 overall)
- c. **Player pairing**
 - i. All siblings in the same league shall be paired by the League Director and included in the pre-draft information disseminated to all coaches. If a team drafts one sibling, it must draft his/her sibling(s) as well. The second sibling shall be slotted into the lower of: a) his/her appropriate ranked round or b) the round following the round the first sibling was selected.
 - ii. Other than siblings, there shall be no other automatic pairings. If other pairings are requested, the League Director in consultation with the League Director's Advisors shall determine whether such pairing is warranted, and if so, the League Director shall pair such players and include in the pre-draft information disseminated to all coaches.
- d. **DTPs (Designated Travel Pitchers)**
 - i. In accordance with the SJBB rule books, each travel coach shall submit to the League Directors a list of DTPs and the League Director shall include such monikers in the Final Player Ranking; all coaches shall be mindful of the implications of selecting a DTP (as described in the SJBB rule books)
- e. **Players withheld from pitching**
 - i. If any parents request that SJBS refrain from allowing their son/daughter to pitch in this particular rec season, those players shall be so identified in the pre-draft information disseminated to all coaches so that there is no confusion and so that coaches assess the player's worth without being able to use him/her as a pitcher. If a team drafts such player(s), it may NOT pitch that player in any game (including regular season and playoffs). Any game that player pitches shall be forfeited.

6) The Draft

- a. Coaches shall assemble for the draft
- b. Coaches shall be provided:
 - i. Preliminary Player Ranking
 - ii. Final Player Ranking (including pitcher, catcher and DTP monikers)
 - iii. Other Information (pairings, players withheld from pitching, etc)
- c. The draft shall begin and follow the order identified by the League Director and continue in a snake format until all players are selected
- d. Draft time limits:
 - i. First three rounds: 1 minute, 30 seconds per pick
 - ii. All remaining rounds: 1 minute per pick

- iii. The League Director shall provide appropriate information and warning times (30-second, 10-second and 5-second warnings). If the time limit is not adhered to, the League Director shall issue a warning to the offending team. If the same team commits a subsequent time violation, the League Director in his or her sole discretion may penalize the team by not allowing the team to make a selection in the current round and exchanging that pick for a pick in the second to last round

7) Draft Irregularities

- a. **Final round of the draft** it is possible that all teams may not finish with the same number of players
 - i. For example in a 10-team league, if there are 104 total players, there will be 6 teams with 10 players and 4 teams with 11 players
 - ii. In the final round only, each team shall have the option to draft from the players available when it is their pick OR pass and not pick any player (unless a team is operating under a penalty described above).
 - iii. If there are free agents after all teams have had a chance to pick or pass, the teams that have passed will be put in a hat and the first team picked out of the hat shall be required to pick from the remaining players. This shall continue until all remaining players are assigned.
- b. **5th/6th Grade league:**
 - i. The draft shall be conducted in the following order:
 - Round #1: 6th grade; 1st round
 - Round #2: 6th grade; 2nd round
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 - Round #3: 5th grade; 1st round
 - Round #4: 5th grade; 2nd round
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 - Round #5: 6th grade; 3rd round
 - Round #6: 6th grade; 4th round
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 - Round #7: 5th grade; 3rd round
 - Round #8: 5th grade; 4th round
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 - And so on and so forth
 - ii. The snake order for 5th grade shall be the opposite of the 6th grade order such that the first round of each class is balanced (a team getting the #1 pick in the 6th grade class gets the #10 pick in the 5th grade class.)
 - 1. Example – in a 10-team league, a team starts with the 9th pick in round #1. That team would receive the following picks (excluding coaches’ children and penalties):
 - a. Round #1 (6th grade) – 9th pick
 - b. Round #2 (6th grade) – 2nd pick (#12 overall)
 - c. Round #3 (5th grade) – 2nd pick (#22 overall)
 - d. Round #4 (5th grade) – 9th pick (#29 overall)
 - iii. Penalties assessed for 5th/6th grade ONLY, shall be as follows:
 - 1. Both players are pre-slotted in the top half of round 1 (6th Grade, 1st round):
 - a. Team loses 5th Grade, 1st round pick (after 3 rounds, the team has 2 players; the coaches’ children)
 - b. Team adds a supplemental pick after the 8th round (a 5th grader)
 - c. Team is required to make a selection in the final round (ie, cannot pass)
 - 2. Both players are pre-slotted in round 1, but not both in the top half
 - a. Team loses 5th Grade, 1st round pick (after 3 rounds, the team has 2 players; the coaches’ children)
 - b. Team adds a supplemental pick after the 7th round (a 5th grader)
 - c. Team is required to make a selection in the final round (ie, cannot pass)

3. Both players are pre-slotted in 5th Grade, 1st round
 - a. Team keeps 6th Grade, 1st round pick
 - b. Team loses 6th Grade 2nd round pick (after 4 rounds, the team has 3 players; the coaches' children and its 1st round pick)
 - c. Team adds supplemental pick after the 6th round (a 6th grader)
 - d. Team retains right to pass in the initial phase of the final round

iv. Last round:

1. When either grade arrives at an uneven number of players available (ie, only 4 players available to 10 teams at the beginning of a round), the teams shall hold off further drafting from that grade until both grades arrive at uneven number of players available.
2. At this time, the League Director shall combine the uneven number of players from each grade into one pool and continue the draft according to the foregoing draft rules.

8) Post Draft

- a. No trades will be permitted unless special circumstances exist, in which case the League Director shall consult with the League Director's Advisors and determine whether to allow such trade. In such case, the proposed trade must be made known to all coaches in the league and all coaches shall be afforded a reasonable amount of time to object to the trade and provide grounds of such objection. The League Director shall take such objections under consideration before making a final determination.
- b. Confidentiality – all League Directors must inform all coaches that all player rankings, draft results and all draft-related conversations must remain confidential.
- c. League Directors must inform all coaches that the draft results are NOT to be communicated with parents until the League Director informs the coaches it is okay to do so.
- d. Late registrants – see below for process in determining how to addressing adding a player to a team if they sign up after the draft has occurred:

i) Immediately after the draft, but no more than 24 hours after the draft's conclusion, each head coach will submit a confidential ranking of all teams from strongest to weakest (with a ranking of 1 being the strongest team) and provide that ranking to the League Director. Each head coach will exclude his/her own team from the rankings he/she submits.

The League Director will then quantify the team rankings from strongest to weakest based upon the point values submitted (strongest team receiving the lowest point value). In case of a tie between teams, the League Director will determine which team is the "stronger" and which is the "weaker" team.

The League Director will keep these rankings confidential. This ranking will serve as the basis for how to equitably add players who sign up for the League after the draft has taken place, as described below, regardless of number of players on a team.

ii) If a player signs up after the draft, but before May 1st, teams will get the opportunity to add him/her to their team with the team deemed the "weakest," based off of the ranking process described above, getting the first choice, followed by the team deemed next "weakest" and so on.

iii) If all teams pass on adding that player, he/she will be added to the team deemed the "strongest" team based off of the rankings described above.

iv) Once a player has been added to a team, the coaches will go through another re-ranking of all teams in the same fashion described above.

v) If a player signs up on or after May 1st, teams will get the opportunity to add him/her to their team with the team who is last in the standings getting first choice, followed by the team who is second to last, and so on.

vi) In the case where two teams are tied for last place, refer to “point system for standings” in the League rulebook to determine how to rank teams whose record is tied.

v) If all teams pass on adding that player, he/she will be added to the team who is first in the standings.

vi) In the case where two teams are tied for first place, refer to “point system for standings” in the League rulebook to determine how to rank teams whose record is tied. The team that is therefore ranked highest, will automatically get the player.

Best Practices:

1. Coaches are strongly encouraged to pick amongst the best players available, as allowed under the rules, and avoid picking players for social reasons. The goal is to build balanced, reasonably competitive teams that will win some games. Like it or not, players on teams that repetitively lose games are more likely to quit the sport, and one of our primary goals is ongoing participation.
2. By the same token, coaches should also help out peers who are less knowledgeable. For the same reason, your team should be competitive, so should everyone else's. Over the long-run, it's in your child's best interest to have strong teammates as they compete at much higher levels in the future.
3. Coaches should weigh all inputs when drafting a player, not just the formal evaluation score, but also:
 1. Last year's coaches' evaluation,
 2. the players' other time commitments (travel baseball, other sports, etc), and
 3. ancillary characteristics not in the formal evaluation score