

GAA ALL-STAR PROCESS

1. Number of All-Star Teams:

a) The All-Star selection meeting will take place on the on April 24th to allow ample planning and practice before any Memorial Day All-star Tournament. All teams shall be finalized by April 30th, with final rosters being posted at www.granburyathletic.com

b) The goal of GAA is to create one team for each division as listed below. However, this will be contingent upon the number of player and coach registrations.

Baseball: 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U

Softball: 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U

c) GAA will only field one "A" team for each division. For divisions that have high participation numbers, after the "A" team (which will be the first and best team) is selected, the managers and commissioner will decide if there is enough talent (particularly pitching talent) to field a "B" team that can be competitive. Board approval is required for a "B" team in any division.

d) The "A" team is a team selected with the best chance of winning as many games and tournaments as possible.

e) The "B" team may have several purposes, including the inclusion of worthy players who were left off the first team and the development of players who may represent the league in future All-Star tournaments.

2. Number of players on All-Star Teams

a) The number of players on All-Star teams shall be at least 12 players and no more than 14 players

b) In years when only one All-Star team is selected for a division, the manager is encouraged to carry more than the 12 player minimum.

c) In years when there are two teams, the "A" team manager is encouraged to only carry 12 players, so as to leave enough talent for the "B" team. This is not mandatory, and the "A" manager may request more players for his team.

3. Player Selection

a) All players within an age division that register for All-Stars will be considered eligible for selection. Registration for All-Stars is a requirement to ensure that all requirements and expectations of players and parents can be met as outlined section 6 below

b) Division commissioners and division managers must attend the All-Star selection meeting. If a division manager is unable to attend, he may select one of his coaches to attend in his place. In any event, all division coaches may attend and observe the meeting but they do not vote.

- c) In each division the “A” team roster will be the result of a vote of the division’s managers. The commissioners do not vote unless the commissioner is also a manager in that division. Each manager will select the 12 players he or she considers All-Stars based upon list provided by the league of those that registered and write them on a ballot. The ballots will be counted by the commissioner and the Vice President of that league. The 12 players with the most votes are considered to be the “A” team, with
- d) If there is a tie, the managers will decide between the tied players. If the managers cannot come to an agreement, the commissioner has final say.
- e) At that point, the creation of the “B” team will be discussed. If a “B” team is approved by the Board for a division, a second vote of the division managers will be taken to determine the “B” team.
- f) After 12 players are selected for an All-Star team, then the All-Star team manager is selected based on the procedure below in Paragraph 5, “Manager Selection.” Managers will not be selected until after the voting on 12 players. This is to ensure that the manager’s child earns his or her place on the first team.
- g) Then, after the All-Star manager is selected, if he wishes to carry more than 12 players, he will -- in consult with the other division managers, coaches, and commissioner -- round out the roster by selecting 1, 2, or 3 more players for a total of no more than 14 players.

4. Selection Criteria

- a) Only a player’s current season is to be considered. Players are not to receive votes based on past season’s performance. The players who play the best during the current season should receive the votes.
- b) Non-baseball criteria may be considered, including but not limited to sportsmanship, attitude, enthusiasm, hustle, respect for teammates, respect for coaches, and respect for umpires. It is also fair to exclude a player for lacking any of the above.
- c) Baseball specific criteria may also be used. These might include players who are not necessarily skilled in all areas of the game but possess certain traits desired in an All-Star. These might include catching skills, pinch-running skills, outfield specific defense or pinch-hitting skills. (This is of particular concern in softball where a vote based on sheer talent could leave the team short-handed in terms of catching or pitching.)

5. Manager Selection

- a) The Executive Board shall have all authority in selection of the All-Star managers. If an Executive Board member wishes to coach an All-Star team, he/she must recuse themselves from the vote for that division. There is no All-Star reward for winning any division. Managers who desire the team will make it known to the division commissioner and register on the GAA website under “Registrations.” The division commissioner may choose to endorse or recommend one of the volunteers for Executive Board approval
- b) The Board will have final approval of all managers.
- c) The criteria for All-Star manager includes but is not limited to baseball knowledge, All-Star experience as manager or coach, years in the league, sportsmanship, organization skills, and ability to deal with parents. If a manager volunteers for All-Stars and his or her child is selected for the “B” team, that

person will be considered by the commissioner to manage the "B" team. Our goal is the 12 best on a team, and we will not give a spot to a coach's child just because.

d) After the All-Star team manager is selected, he may select his coaches from among the division team managers and coaches and league officials. Division commissioners must approve these selections.

6. Player/Parent Commitment:

a) All players and parents who accept an invitation to be on an All-Star team acknowledge and agree by such acceptance that the All-Star team is controlled by this All-Star Policy, including without limitation this Paragraph 6. Acceptance of the invitation to be on the All-Star team shall be evidenced by a payment in an amount to be determined by the Board to cover the cost of the "paid by parent" items referenced in Paragraph 6.e. below. All-Star invitees will not be members of the All-Star team, and therefore will not be allowed to participate in any All-Star practices or games, until the league receives the required payment or the invitee's parent commits in writing to alternative financial arrangements that are agreed to by the Board

b) Time Commitment: All-Stars requires a commitment that runs from May thru June, possibly into July. Families planning on vacations are expected to notify the league and the All-Star manager immediately. Missing too much time may cause a player to be dropped from the team. Players with a history of missing All-Star games and practices might not be allowed to play All-Stars in future seasons.

There are many more practices involved in All-Stars, with a schedule that frequently changes. Families must be flexible and available. There is a "Memorial Day" exception to the above. As we recognize that many families make vacation plans for Memorial Day Weekend well in advance of All-Star selection, a player selected to the All-Star team but who is unavailable for Memorial Day will still be permitted to fully participate in post-season All-Star competition.

c) Travel Commitment: All-Star tournaments may be played all across the DFW area and beyond, and could theoretically involve cross-country travel if the team advances.

d) Playing Time: For the All-Star season, the League endorses a "play to win" policy. This policy means that the more advanced players will get more playing time than others. More advanced players will get more time at certain positions on the field. Less advanced players will be asked to play positions where they may have less experience. Less advanced players may be asked to play certain roles (pinch hitter, pinch runner, defensive replacement, relief pitcher) that result in sitting on the bench for most of a game or even sitting on the bench for an entire game or tournament. However, in recognition of player diligence, time committed, and travel committed, managers will try to offer some playing opportunities for all players. The manager will make the decision on who plays, and his decisions should be respected.

e) Financial Commitment: Parents will be responsible for a flat fee \$150 that will be due prior to the commencement of any All-Star related activities (including practices) The league will pay for all jerseys and hats, and the fee paid by parents shall help offset cost of sanctioning fees, tournament entry fees, etc.