

District 9 Policy #7 – Inter-League Play

The District will have a policy of assisting the Leagues in getting as many players as possible playing Little League Baseball and Softball. Where Leagues do not have enough teams/players to form a League by themselves, the District shall have a meeting to group Leagues together to form a common League for these teams. This shall be known as the "District Interlock Meeting".

At a District meeting, the **League Presidents shall set a date and time** for the District Combining/Interlock meeting. The Leagues do not have to have a definite number of teams or players per Division of Play to set the date for this meeting, they just need to have a "pretty firm idea" as to the numbers by the date that was set. The District Administrator shall set a location for the meeting. Before the meeting, each, **and all**, Leagues will update the District Administrator as to the number of players and teams per Division of Play they will have. The District Administrator shall use this information to develop a matrix of League/Division versus Number of players/teams.

The District Administrator, or his/her designee, shall chair the "Interlock" meeting. Using the numbers of players per League per Division from each League that needs to combine and discussions with the League representatives, the District Administrator shall group different Leagues together to form "Combined Teams". Then using the number of teams per Division of play from each League and discussions with the League representatives, the District Administrator shall group different Leagues together to form "Leagues". Criteria for grouping Leagues together will include:

1. Number of teams in each League. Try to balance the groupings such that all "Leagues" have approximately the same number of teams and that number is between 5 and 8.
2. Geographical location of the teams being grouped.
3. Leagues being grouped in other Divisions of play grouped together for ease of administration
4. Preference of the Teams involved

As part of the meeting, the District Administrator shall discuss the Interlock Playing Rules with the League Representatives. The District Administrator shall impart the advice given by League Presidents to the group while developing these Interlock rules. These Interlock Rules shall be as close to the regular season rules as possible and shall define such things as how to handle protests, rainouts, reschedules, District Staff involvement and other administrative details. Once these "Interlock Rules" are developed by the Leagues, they will be documented by the Leagues involved and a District Staff person and submitted to the DA for approval. Once approved they shall be distributed to all involved League President, League Representatives, Managers and the assigned District Staff person.

Once established, these "Inter-Leagues" shall be administered by the Leagues involved with advise from an assigned District Staff person in accordance with the above agreed to rules.

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