

# **JACKSON FASTPITCH ASSOCIATION**

## *ROSTER TEAM ORGANIZATION RULES*

Adopted November 1, 2001

1. **PURPOSE** – the purpose of these guidelines is to provide for the orderly and fair assignment of JFA players to teams in such a way as to minimize confusion for players, managers, coaches, and JFA officials that will result in equitable assignment of players, clear and simple administration for JFA officials, and the best overall result for JFA’s long-term benefit.
2. **EXISTING PLAYER DEFINITION** – an existing player is one that was listed on a JFA roster for the previous season and that is eligible to play for the same manager the following year, and is properly registered for the coming season.
3. **NEW PLAYER DEFINITION** – a new player is any player not appearing on a JFA roster the previous year, or a player changing managers for any reason, or a player not eligible to play for the same manager as a result of age bracket differences, or a player who remains unregistered on the closing date of JFA registration.
4. **NEW PLAYER SOLICITATION PROHIBITED** - New players will not be solicited to join any team by any manager nor approved for any roster prior to the **NEW PLAYER ASSIGNMENT COMMITTEE MEETING** held following the completion of JFA enrollment in November.
5. **EXISTING PLAYER ASSIGNMENTS** - normally, players wishing to play for the same manager will be honored, subject to the **ROSTER MANAGEMENT** and **PLAYING ‘UP’** provisions below. Such desire will be assumed unless the JFA is notified.
6. **PLAYING “UP”** -No player may play above their age bracket without written request by parents and approval by the Board. Such requests will normally be granted only when a player has demonstrated an ability to perform at the higher level or as a last resort to complete a roster. The preference to play for the same manager is not sufficient to approve a move to a higher division.
7. **ROSTER MANAGEMENT** - Notwithstanding the desire of JFA to permit Managers and Players to select their teams, the Board reserves the right to add or reassign players from one team to another at any time based upon the overall needs of JFA, e.g. unbalanced pitching; age considerations, number of players, etc. Said additions or reassignments normally will take place prior to April 1 but may take place at any time if circumstances warrant a roster change.

8. NEW PLAYER ASSIGNMENTS PROCEDURES– At the expiration of the JFA signup period, a Committee made up of each manager seeking players and all officers of JFA will meet to assign all new members (see definition above).

A. General Considerations - New players will be assigned with the overall goal of providing balance to teams. Selection should avoid the result of the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer.- Assignment of all new players will be made based on the following factors:

1. Age
2. Experience
3. Player/ Coaches wishes
4. Players ability or special skills
5. Team balance

B. Draft Procedures

1. Before any selection, Managers may select their child(ren) and two other players for their team, providing the other children's parents have signed coaching contracts for the team.
2. Names are sorted by age bracket
3. Known pitchers and catchers selected first
4. Managers requiring players draw straws to determine draw order
5. Selection proceeds from top to bottom and from bottom back to top, e.g. Team on bottom gets two draws in a row.
6. Teams with established team members must pass for any round for which they already have a player, e.g. team with no existing players will draw in every round while team with 11 existing players will not draw until every other team has 11 players.
7. Draft procedures may be modified if needed with the consent of 100% of all coaches present, provided that changes are in keeping with the general provisions in "A" above.

9. ROSTER APPROVAL - Team rosters must be approved by the Board at a regular meeting. No prospective Manager, coach or player may practice prior to Board roster approval.

10.ELEMENTS OF ROSTER APPROVAL - a) Submission and approval of all Manager and Coaches Contracts, b) Submission of 100% of all player entry fees, and birth certificates.