

READINGTON TOWNSHIP JUNIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE

BY-LAWS



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ARTICLE I

This document constitutes the **by-laws** of the Readington Township Junior Baseball League, Inc. of Whitehouse Station, New Jersey ("By-Laws"). These By-laws shall be used to guide the operation of this organization. It is responsibility of the League Secretary/ Vice President of Administration to oversee the maintenance of these By-laws and to adhere to the prescribed process by which these By-laws shall be revised. They shall be updated on an on-going basis as required by the changes deemed necessary by the Executive Board and/or the Voting Council.

SECTION 1: Name.

The organization shall be known as the Readington Township Junior Baseball League, Inc. of Whitehouse Station, New Jersey. For purposes of these By-laws, the term "RTJBL" or "League" shall mean the Readington Township Junior Baseball League, Inc.

SECTION 2: Purpose

This League is a not-for-profit corporation formed for the purpose of promoting the game of baseball in an environment of fun and instruction for our players. Members are expected to demonstrate the principles of good sportsmanship and good citizenship within a "friendly-competitive" environment. Members shall also strive to create harmony and cooperation for the general welfare of our League and **all** its members. Games shall be played in accordance with the official rules of the League and the most current edition of the Babe Ruth Baseball Rules and Regulations of the Cal Ripken Division. The League shall, at all times, strive to present the highest standards of conduct and performance from its players, coaches, parents, umpires and administrative personnel.

SECTION 3: Intent

It is the intent that all League members comply with these By-Laws and the RTJBL Rules of Play. Any deviations or exceptions must be approved by the unanimous vote of the Executive Board. The League shall be self-governing with these By-laws serving as the foundation for directing all League affairs. The Executive Board shall be the primary Rule-Making body of the organization. The Voting Council must approve all amendments to the By-Laws.

SECTION 4: Website and Hotline

For more information, please see our League website at www.Readingtonbaseball.com or call our baseball hotline at 908-823-0566. RTJBL shall maintain and update the website and hotline appropriately. The hotline will announce key dates as well as have information about field availability/rainouts and can be used to leave messages for the League. The Website contains information on the League and gives users the ability to download forms and applications.

ARTICLE II – Definitions of League Membership & Associates

SECTION 1: Membership

MEMBERSHIP is granted for the balance of the League Calendar Year to any person 18 years of age or older who meets **all** of the following criteria:

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- 1) Resides in Readington Township or has a child who resides in Readington Township
- 2) Attends at least one League Monthly Meeting or the Annual Manager's Meeting during that year
- 3) Is a parent or legal guardian of a registered player
- 4) Demonstrate an interest in the positive welfare of the RTJBL.

Exceptions to the above criteria are:

- a) Persons who are not a parent or legal guardian of a registered player but are granted membership by the Executive Board due to their demonstration of substantial financial support or volunteered time to the League during the "League Calendar Year"
- b) Persons who do not reside in the Township but intend and actually move to Readington Township within 3 months of their first League meeting attendance.

SECTION 2: ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP is granted to anyone who has attended a minimum of 3 league meetings in the current League Calendar Year. The League Secretary/Vice President of Administration shall maintain an **Active Membership Roster** for the purpose of participation in League elections. Members must sign the monthly meeting attendance sheet to have their attendance validated by the League Secretary/Vice President of Administration. Attendance rosters are to be maintained monthly by the League Secretary. For the purpose of integrating new members, promoting community involvement and creating harmony throughout our organization, all League members are encouraged to attend the Monthly Meetings and embrace the opportunities to become actively involved.

SECTION 3: ASSOCIATES

ASSOCIATES of the League are defined as any League member, Manager, Assistant Coach, Umpire, Snack Stand worker, Summer Tournament worker, player, and all parents or guardians of any such minors.

SECTION 4: LEAGUE CALENDAR YEAR

The League's Calendar Year is defined as the twelve month period beginning with the November Monthly League meeting and concluding the day prior to the subsequent November Monthly League Meeting.

ARTICLE III - LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 1: The Voting Council

The Executive Board, designated Activity Chairpersons and all of the League Directors shall be known as the Voting Council. It is comprised of 24 positions; however, any individual who holds more than one position shall be entitled only to one vote. The Voting Council shall, together with the Executive Board, govern the League and be responsible for the management of all League affairs. The Voting Council shall, together with the Executive Board, be responsible for approving policies and procedures necessary for administering the affairs of this League. Only "**active members**" are eligible to run for Voting Council positions. Voting Council members are expected to attend most, if not all, Monthly Meetings. The Executive Board may, in its sole discretion elect to replace any Voting Council member who misses three consecutive Monthly Meetings. Each Voting Council member has a set of responsibilities as defined below. The Voting Council shall have the power to discipline, suspend and/or remove an Executive Board member, Activity Chairperson, League Director, Manager, Assistant Coach, Umpire or Player in the League, who does not fulfill their obligations, responsibilities and Code of Conduct in accordance with these By-laws. Such action may be taken only by a two-thirds vote of the Voting Council members present at the Monthly Meeting.

SECTION 2: Executive Board, Committees and Conflicts of Interest on the Board

The Executive Board shall have primary responsibilities for the operation of the League, including but not limited to, those responsibilities set forth below for each Executive Board Member. The Executive Board also has primary authority for the interpretation and implementation of these By-laws. The Executive Board shall have the power to appoint standing and/or special committees, as it deems necessary to administer the affairs of the League. The Executive Board may also delegate certain authority to these committees, as the Board deems necessary. Executive Board members may attend any committee meeting not withstanding any issue that may be deemed as a conflict of interest. A conflict of interest shall be deemed to exist if at LEAST 2 MEMBERS of the Executive Board declare it to be a conflict of interest. In such event, such Board members may not attend the Committee meetings. The Executive Board of the League shall include the elected officers: the President, Executive Vice President of League Operations, League Secretary/Vice President Administration, Vice President /Facilities, Equipment and Scheduling, Treasurer/ Vice President Financial Affairs, Vice President Tournament Baseball and Training and Vice President of Sponsorship and Special Events. The duties of these officers are outlined as follows:

I. The President

The President shall:

- Preside at all League meetings, with the exception of any issue/meeting deemed to be a conflict of interest (as defined above).
- Be familiar with the activities of all Executive Board members and the activities within their Chain of Command.
- Serve as primary Liaison with the Township Committee by attending the relevant town meetings and building the proper relationships with the Mayor, the Township Committee, Township Recreation Director and the Whitehouse Athletic Association (property owners of the fields at Railroad Avenue).
- Serve as the primary Liaison to all Babe Ruth Association Meetings.
- Be responsible for all correspondence including league charters and registration of players with the Babe Ruth Association.
- Appoint a Management Selection Chairperson, Draft Commissioners for the Major 70, Major 60, Minors AAA Minors AA and Rookie 2 Leagues
- Appoint any open Voting Council seats. *

* Nominations for Appointments shall be discussed with the Executive Board prior to actual Appointment.

II: Executive Vice President of League Operations

The Executive Vice President of League Operations shall, in the absence or disability of the President, perform the duties of that Office. In addition, the Executive Vice President of League Operations shall be responsible for:

- Oversight of all activities of each League Director.
- Oversight of the Manager Selection Process & League Drafts
- Conducting a Pre-Season meeting with League Directors to review such things as rules, conduct, expectations, clarifications, issues, ideas and the welfare of our members, players, and their families.
- Conducting the Annual Manager's Meeting in March to review their responsibilities and expectations.
- Provide a conduit for all Operational issues from League Director's to the Executive Board. The flow of communication should be from players or their families to their Managers, then to the League Directors. Directors then present the issues to the Executive VP for resolution or further investigation.
- Attending at least two games at each League level during the season to monitor League Operations.
- Investigating all operating issues by obtaining facts for expeditious presentation to the Exec. Board

III: League Secretary/ Vice President of Administration

The League Secretary – Vice President of Administration shall be responsible for:

- Monthly Meeting administration (i.e. agendas, minutes, attendance)
- Executive Board meeting administration including minutes
- Administration of “Special Meetings” with the exception of any meeting which may present a conflict of interest. (in that event, Administration falls upon the President, then Executive VP)Oversight and maintenance of the By-Laws.
- Coordination of Insurance for:
 1. Accident
 2. Liability
 3. Board Liability
 4. Fire Insurance
- Maintaining the league Website with current information
- Updating the League Hotline (daily, as necessary) for an accurate and timely flow of information

IV: Vice President of Facilities, Equipment and Scheduling

The Vice President of Facilities, Equipment and Scheduling shall be responsible for maintenance of each practice/playing field as well as the management of activities required in scheduling for the utilization and availability of these facilities. These activities include:

- insuring that all facilities meet applicable standards for safety and health and that all required inspections are performed successfully
- annual Spring Clean Up Day
- annual Winterizing Day in the fall
- playing field maintenance including grass, mounds and infield dirt
- parking lot and surrounding property maintenance
- general field maintenance (e.g. bases, fencing, etc)
- snack stand maintenance (including bathrooms)
- ensuring that all vendors providing service to the League are properly insured
- acquiring, storing and maintaining field equipment and supplies (e.g. rakes, liners, lime, field dry)
- electric scoreboard maintenance
- assuring that practice and game schedules are accurately prepared and issued
- ensuring that umpires and the required equipment are available for League activities
- ensuring that umpires are properly trained and familiar with RTJBL Local Rules as well as the Babe Ruth rules of play, and that they apply them fairly and without bias (to the best of his/her knowledge)
- All “work for hire” in excess of \$2500 is to be awarded by obtaining 2 or 3 estimates for the required work. All expenditures must receive prior approval by the Executive Board (and to the extent applicable, the Voting Council in accordance with Article VII). Finally, the VP-Facilities, Equipment and
- Scheduling
- Shall be responsible for overseeing, understanding and contributing to the activities of the:
 1. Equipment Chairperson
 2. Chief of Umpires
 3. Scheduling Chairperson

V: Treasurer /Vice President of Financial Affairs

The Treasurer has general responsibilities related to the financial management of the League. These include:

- Maintaining all financial records of the League for examination by any member of the League

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- Ensuring that two authorized signatures are provided on each League check in excess of \$2500
- Ensuring that the League meets all of the requirements placed upon it by the Internal Revenue
- Service and the State of New Jersey, including the maintenance of the League's status as a tax-exempt organization.
- At the last meeting of the financial year (October), provide a budget for the following year that will be voted on by the Voting Council. The budget should focus on what the league will need financially to operate in the new fiscal year, including:
 - Projected Revenue by subject (e.g. Sponsors/Signs, Fundraisers, Registration)
 - Projected Expenses by subject (e.g. Field Maintenance, Snack Stand Supplies)
- Providing a monthly financial report for the membership that identifies the following information by date of activity:
 1. income by appropriate subject
 2. payment of bills by appropriate subject, vendor
 3. the status of fund raisers
- the status of Snack Stand finances
- funds that have been designated for League approved ventures
- current cash available for League business
- Oversight of all activities of the following Voting Council Members::
 1. Snack Stand Chairperson
 2. Fundraiser Chairperson
 3. Player Registration and Evaluation Chairperson

VI. Vice President of Tournament Baseball and Training

The Vice President of Summer Baseball and Training is responsible for the following:

- Running all aspects of the Summer Tournament through the oversight and appointment of a Summer Tournament Chairperson
- Coordinate all aspects of training (ie. Voucher Program, Manager, Summer Camps/Clinics, off season) in an effort to secure the best price for the League and its members.
- Liaison between Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth District Commissioner and Travel Managers
- Act as a central point of contact for the dissemination and collection of documents and information needed by the Travel managers and the League including collection of travel manager applications for presentation to the Board, travel roster submission to Cal Ripken, birth certificates, Cal Ripken ID cards and patches
- Provide Travel managers with District and Summer Tournament opportunities for their selection
- Provide a conduit for all Operational issues and/or player/parent grievances from Travel Baseball to the Executive Board.

VII Vice President Sponsorship and Special Events

The Vice President of Sponsorship and Special Events shall be responsible for:

- Securing sponsorships for the league through oversight of the Sponsorship Committee Chairperson
- Developing a sponsorship opportunities for solicitation
- Coordinating the designation of sponsors with the Teams in each League to assure sponsors are aligned with the Team/League requested
- Coordinating Team names with the Equipment Chairperson to assure that uniforms are printed with the proper sponsorship names
- Hanging and maintaining the signs in good condition during the season. Insuring all signs are placed on the proper field prior to the start of the season
- Presenting any new ideas for events or sponsorship opportunities to the Board
- All special events such as the opening day parade
- Updating the Leagues Web Site for special events and sponsors
- Work with the local media to promote the league and its players

SECTION 3: Activity Chairpersons

Several functional areas have been identified as Voting Council positions. These positions shall be filled by election with the exception of the Chairman of the Manager Section Committee who is appointed by the President, or, in the event there are no nominees, the positions shall be filled by Presidential appointment with approval of the Executive Board. The list of functional area chairs will include the following:

1. Scheduling Chairperson

This position is responsible for the following:

- The RTJBL Master Game Schedule
- The Pre-Season Practice Schedule
- The post-opening day Practice Schedule
- Re-arranging rainouts and other postponements at all fields and all Leagues This Chairperson coordinates activity with the Chief of Umpires to assure that umpires arrive as scheduled and does not arrive for canceled games.

This Chairperson is responsible for reporting their activities to the Vice President of Facilities, Equipment and Schedules.

2. Chief of Umpires

The Chief of Umpires working with the Scheduling Chairperson is responsible for:

- Securing Carded umpires at the approved fees designated each season by the Exec. Board
- Securing boys/girls (12 years or older) to umpires plate and bases at the approved fees reviewing playing rules for each division with umpires
- Developing and executing an approved plan for umpire training
- Be available at all times by pager or cell phone during the season to resolve umpire problems
- Providing frequent feedback to umpires from the Managers and Executive Board

This Chairperson is responsible for reporting their activities to the Vice President of Facilities, Equipment and Schedules.

3. Equipment Chairperson

This position shall be responsible for control and management of the League's playing equipment. The Responsibilities include:

- Maintaining an inventory of each RTJBL item
- Organizing equipment in the equipment trailer.
- Seeing to the repair of equipment
- Dispensing and collecting equipment from the Managers
- Acquiring new equipment whose purchase has been approved
- Acquiring Uniforms based on the number of registered players
- Serve as the primary contact for equipment needs for the League managers

This Chairperson is responsible for reporting all activities to the Vice President of Facilities and Equipment.

4. Snack Stand Chairperson

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The Snack Stand Chairperson shall be responsible for management of the League's snack stands. This includes:

- Negotiating vendor contracts for supplies and presenting them to the Executive Board for approval
- Ensuring that the snack stand is equipped with supplies for the regular season **and summer tournament**
- Developing a team rotation schedule for staffing the snack stand during the regular season and ensuring they have all information needed to perform their duties
- Conducting a pre-season review of snack stand procedures with a representative from all Major 70 and Major 60 Teams
- Maintaining a clean and functional facility (including arranging for equipment repairs as necessary)
- Maintaining records of sales and expenses
- Assuring receipts are deposited in the League's Bank Account on a timely basis
- Working closely with the Treasurer to assure fiscal accountability

This Chairperson is responsible for reporting all activities to the Treasurer–VP of Financial Affairs.

5. Fundraiser Chairperson

The Fundraiser Chairperson shall be responsible for management of annual fundraiser. This includes:

- Insuring that the fundraiser is properly tracked for income, payout and reconciliation.
- Preparing and acquiring the fundraiser paperwork and instructional material to assure the programs proper execution.
- Working with the Treasurer on all financial matters
- Insuring that all coaches obtain and return the fundraiser materials as scheduled
- Executing the program from start to finish

This Chairperson is responsible for reporting all activities to the VP of Sponsorship and Special Events .

6. Player Registration and Evaluation Chairperson

This position shall be responsible for:

- Updating the League's registration form for prior approval before use by the majority of the Executive Board
- Staffing the registration days for the league
- Maintaining a data file of the registrants and the associated information from the form
- Identifying missing registrants from prior year's enrollment to trigger follow-ups by the League
- Assuring accountability of payments in cooperation with the Treasurer
- Providing lists of Manager Nominations for follow-up by the Manager Selection Committee Chair.
- Developing the annual player evaluation form for the Managers
- Distributing and collecting the player evaluation forms

This Chairperson is responsible for reporting all activities to the Treasurer – VP Financial Affairs.

7. Sponsorship Chairperson

This position shall be responsible for secure Team Sponsors and signage for the fields. Responsibilities include:

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- Work with VP Sponsorship and Special Events to develop a plan to solicit Team and sign sponsors
- Work with VP Sponsorship and Special Events to develop a solicitation letter and mailing them by January prior to each season
- Coordinating new signs for new sponsors
- Coordinating the designation of sponsors with the Teams in each League (assuring sponsors are aligned with the Team/League that they've requested)
- Coordinating Team names with the Equipment Chairperson to assure that uniforms are printed with the proper sponsorship names
- Hanging and maintaining the signs in good condition during the season
- Insuring all signs are placed on the proper field prior to the start of the season
- Working with the Treasurer on all financial matters

This Chairperson is responsible for reporting all activities to the VP Sponsorship and Special Events

8. Manager Selection Committee Chairperson

This position shall be responsible for leading the process of selecting Managers for the upcoming Season. Responsibilities include:

- Implementing the Selection Criteria developed by the Executive Board which is to be used as an assessment tool in the Manager interviewing process
- Notifying and coordinating the Committee members and the interview candidates for review
- Organizing and leading the Management Interview Process.
- Ensure that the interviews and assessments are conducted in a fair manner by using the assessment criteria.
- Reporting the recommendations to the Executive Board.
- Notifying all Managers of their candidacy status

This Chairperson is responsible for reporting to the Executive Vice President of League Operations.

9. Summer Tournament Director

- See Article 8 Section 2 for duties and responsibilities

SECTION 4: The League Directors

There are 8 League Directors (see list below) who are responsible for working with coaches in their respective Divisions to assure the League is run in accordance with the League By-Laws and philosophies. Their duties include:

- Attending player drafts along with the draft commissioner as defined in the League Draft Rules
- Reviewing League Rules with the coaches and making sure they are enforced
- Ensuring fundraiser material and funds are returned to the Fundraiser Chairperson from each manager in their league
- Conducting at least one status meeting with Team Managers in the first 30 days of the season to discuss any concerns
- Attending at least 1 game for each coach in their League to observe the Manager's conduct and Managerial skills
- Providing an end of year status report to the Exec. VP of Operations including recommendations
- Participating on the Management Selection Committee during the following year (unless they are applying for a managers position in that league)
- Making sure Managers present trophies to their teams at the season's end

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- Making sure Managers present sponsors their plaques
- Making sure Managers return equipment at the end of the year
- Communicating key dates to Managers and confirm that they will be at or be represented at the mandatory League meetings

The Director's below are to present their activities and issues to the Executive VP of Operations.

1. Babe Ruth League Director
2. Major 70 Director
3. Major 60 Director
4. Minors AAA Director
5. Minors AA Director
6. Rookie 2 Director
7. Rookie 1 Director
8. T-Ball Director

ARTICLE IV – Nomination and Election of the Voting Council

The entire Voting Council shall be nominated in October and November of each year. Elections will occur at the regular meeting in November of each year, taking office immediately following the elections.

1. Nominees must be “active” members as defined in Article II, Section 2 of these By-Laws. Nomination of candidates for the Executive Board positions requires that the candidate have prior League participation (e.g. been a committee chairperson, had substantial involvement in League affairs) to provide continuity of direction and experience. Nominations for non-Executive Board positions should be made based on the nominee's qualifications and their desire to serve the League. In the event that Voting Council positions need to be filled by the Executive Board after elections, appointments can be by the Executive Board without regard to “active” membership rules. Appointments must be approved by the Executive Board's majority vote.
2. The attendance roll will be posted by the League Secretary/Vice President Administration at each regular meeting and be made part of the League record of meeting attendance. Only Active Members are eligible to vote.
3. A nominee need not be present for his/her nomination to be accepted. Prior to election, however, the Executive Board must verify that all nominees have authorized their candidacy for the respective position. Verification may be informal. Candidates may nominate themselves or be nominated by someone else. A Nominee need not be present at the November election meeting.
4. The League Secretary/ Vice President of Administration will distribute ballots to each “active” member at the election meeting for each contested position only. Active member must be present at the election meeting to cast his or her vote. An absentee ballot may be entered and counted, provided that it is received by the League Secretary prior to the start of the election. The absentee ballot must be in writing and signed by the absent voting member. Votes will be counted twice by the League President and League Secretary/ Vice President of Administration to confirm results. In the event of a tie, the **current** Executive Board (the members prior to the election) will be given ballots and vote to determine who the winner of the election is. Votes will be again be counted by the League President and League Secretary/ Vice President of Administration. The League President will announce the winners and authorize the transfer of power. (Note: the Executive Board must be fully staffed prior to the Election. Also, in the event of a tie for a contested position, all current Executive Board members must vote. If they are not present, the entire election is not final until a vote takes place.)

ARTICLE V – MEETINGS

SECTION 1: League Meetings

This organization shall convene in regular session on the first Wednesday of each month. During the Monthly Meetings, the League Secretary will announce exceptions to the schedule. There will be no Monthly Meetings in July and August.

SECTION 2: Executive Board Meetings

The Executive Board shall convene at least once each month on an agreeable day and time for all members. The purpose of this meeting is to:

- Prepare the agenda and associated discussion for the League Meeting
- Plan for future needs of the League
- Review New Business proposals from the previous meeting
- Review any grievances and decide on any action that may be taken
- Minutes shall be taken by the League Secretary and made available upon request to any Member.

There must be at least 5 Executive Board members in attendance at an Executive Board meeting.

SECTION 3: Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by

- 1) the President, or in his absence, by the League Secretary/Vice President Administration
- 2) the Executive Board by majority vote;
- 3) the Voting Council by majority vote

At least five (5) days notice shall be given by the League Secretary/Vice President Administration to all League Members for special meetings indicating the time, place, and purpose.

SECTION 4: Emergency Meetings

Emergency meetings may be called at any time by 1) the President or by 2) majority vote of the Executive Board. Emergency Meetings shall be called only to the extent necessary to resolve issues that, in the interest of the League, must be addressed prior to the next monthly business meeting.

ARTICLE VI – Conducting League Business

SECTION 1: Monthly Meeting Quorum

At least 13 members of the Voting Council (a majority among the 24 members) must be in attendance at the Monthly Meeting in order to allow for any votes on League Business. The 13 members must include at least five members of the Executive Board

SECTION 2: Voting

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Voting on any League Business affairs shall be by role call of the Voting Council present at any meeting, and may only occur when a quorum exists. In the event that a quorum is not available, any items requiring a vote at that meeting shall be held for the next meeting with the following stipulation. The items detained for a vote will be posted on the League website within 2 weeks after the Monthly Meeting (or in the alternative the League Secretary will inform all members of the Voting Council in writing, which may be by e-mail or regular mail, within 2 weeks) and a vote will commence on these items at the next Monthly Meeting regardless of a quorum.

ARTICLE VII – FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

1. The financial year for the League will be November through October of the proceeding year. All financial records will be kept indefinitely and reported to the extent consistent with applicable tax laws.
2. The League's Annual Budget for the next League Calendar Year must be reviewed and approved for presentation to the Voting Council by majority vote of the Executive Board prior to October Monthly Meeting. This should occur at the Executive Board meeting that precedes the October Monthly Meeting. It is to be prepared and presented by the League Treasurer.
3. The Treasurer shall present the proposed Annual Budget for the next League Calendar Year at the October Monthly Meeting. The Voting Council **must** ratify the proposed Budget by majority vote. Once approved, the budget serves to authorize funding for the operation of the League in the respective League Calendar Year. The Treasurer will authorize expenditures related to the approved budget for payment in accordance with Section 5 & 6 of this Article.
4. All fees for the next League year are to be determined by the Executive Board at the August Executive Board meeting. The proposed new fees are to be reviewed with the Voting Council at the September Monthly Meeting. While there will be no vote on the proposed fees, the Executive Board will consider comment and input from the Voting Council and other League Members before approving the new fees and authorizing development of a new budget by the Treasurer.
5. The Treasurer is authorized to pay all normal & recurring bills that have been allocated in the annual budget or authorized as a result of Section 8 of this Article. Corresponding invoices should be reviewed and signed by the Executive Board Member or Committee Chairperson associated with expense activity. Normal recurring bills shall not require further approval in this manner.
6. All checks above \$2,500 shall require the signatures of both the Treasurer and the President
7. The Treasurer shall produce monthly financial reports and assure that all records are kept in a manner such that a third party as designated by the Executive Board, if necessary, can audit them.
8. The majority vote of the Executive Board may authorize expenditures up to \$5,000 without approval of the Voting Council if the Voting Council, as part of the Leagues' Annual Budget approval process, has previously approved the budgeted expenditure item. All expenditures above \$5,000 must be authorized by majority vote of the Voting Council before the payment is made, even if the expenditure has been approved in the budget.
9. Any **non-budgeted** expenditure above \$2,500 must be presented to the Voting Council for approval. This expenditure is to be presented at a Monthly Meeting and is subject to approval by majority vote of the Voting Council at the subsequent Monthly Meeting.

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10. Any **non-budgeted** expenditure below \$2,500 may be authorized by majority vote of the Executive Board without approval of the Voting Council. Responsibility remains with the Executive Board to maintain fiscal accountability for the League's finances in accordance with the authorized Budget. The Voting Council and League members shall be informed of the expenditure(s) at the subsequent Monthly Meeting.
11. The Treasurer will provide a proposed final annual report of the current year's financial activities at the November Monthly Meeting.
12. Any **active** League member may, at their own expense request an independent audit of the League financial records. The request should be forwarded to the League President with the reasons identified for the audit. The person requesting the audit shall then coordinate with the Treasurer and an independent third party to examine the records and produce a report on the matter. Such audits should be completed within 30 days of the request and a copy provided to the executive Board. Any such audit reports should be part of the financial records of the League.

ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES AND APPOINTEES

SECTION 1: Manager Selection Committee

Each year, Managers will be selected via an application and interview process. Selection of the managers will be on the recommendation of the Manager Selection Committee to the Executive Board (through the Executive VP of Operations). The Executive Board will ratify all recommendations before any managers are notified of their candidacy status. Applications must be received by the designated date each year.

Each league will have a committee appointed that will be comprised of the:

- Management Selection Chairperson
- League Director from the League immediately below from the previous year
- League Director from the current year
- Chief of Umpires Current Year
- Chief of Umpires Previous Year
- Member-at-Large (2) appointed by the President with Executive Board's approval by majority vote.

Any member of the manager Selection Committee who is also applying for a Manager's position in that League will be replaced on the Committee by an alternate selected by the President with the Executive Board's majority approval. A common assessment tool approved by the Executive Board by majority vote will be used by each of the league Management Selection Committees to ensure that common criteria are used to make Manager Selections. Each managerial candidate must:

- Have formal safety training (e.g. Rutgers Safety class) prior to the season.
- Agree to the RTJBL coach's Code of Conduct
- Attend the Annual Coach's Meeting and Director's Meeting

The Executive Board will review the candidates for Managers for each league and inform the Committee if there are any circumstances where a candidate should not be considered. The Manager Selection Chairperson will inform all Managers of the status of their candidacy after the Executive Board has ratified the recommendations of the Committee.

SECTION 2: Summer Tournament Committee & Tournament Director

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The VP Summer Baseball and Training with Executive Board's approval by majority vote shall appoint a Summer Tournament Committee Director. The Tournament Director is responsible for organizing working committees to insure the successful operation of the summer tournament. The following are examples of committees that should be formed:

- Invitation Committee

This committee will develop material to invite townships to the tournament and manage responses to insure all available slots are filled. The League President and Summer Tournament Committee Director with input from the Executive Board will determine how many teams will be invited to the tournament.

- Scheduling Committee

The scheduling committee will develop the brackets and associated schedule for the tournament. One person will be designated the League contact to handle reschedules. This person will control Field availability as well as making sure umpires are scheduled for each game by working with the Chief of Umpires.

- Work Slot Committee

This committee will make sure all work slots for the tournament are filled. Examples include lining/raking and snack stand.

- Snack Stand Committee

This committee will be in charge of running the snack stand. The head of this committee will work all financial arrangements with the Treasurer of the league.

- Rules Committee

This committee will be in charge of developing the rules for the tournament.

SECTION 3: Draft Commissioner Appointee

The League President with the Executive Board's majority approval shall appoint a person to be responsible for working with the League Directors to conduct player drafts. This person will assure that the League Draft Rules are followed and ensure that the fairest teams possible are put together. This is not a Voting Council position.

SECTION 4: Special Committees

The Executive Board may appoint special committees when deemed necessary to conduct League business, but the Special Committee Chairmen will not become voting members of the Voting Council.

ARTICLE IX – VACANCIES

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SECTION 1: In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Executive Vice President of League Operations shall assume the duties of the President for the remainder of the League year until a successor can be elected at the next annual meeting in November. The vacancy created at the Exec. VP position by this change shall be filled in accordance with Section 2 of this Article.

SECTION 2: In the event of a vacancy at any other position of the Executive Board, the President shall nominate an acting replacement subject to approval by the Voting Council at the next Monthly Meeting, except following the October meeting but before the November meeting. In such event, the appointment shall be authorized by majority vote of the Executive Board members at the time.

SECTION 3: In the event of a vacancy in any Voting Council position, the President shall nominate a replacement to be ratified by vote of the Voting Council at the next Monthly Meeting, except after the October Meeting, but before the November meeting. In such event, appointments shall be authorized by majority vote of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE X – INSURANCE

SECTION 1: Accident Insurance

All League Associates will be covered by Accident Insurance. The Accident Insurance Policy will cover all personnel on the rosters plus those who are working with the players. Players and adults are to be covered while traveling directly to and from the field, as well as during practice sessions and games. The benefits include provisions for Accidents, Death or Dismemberment and also for Medical Expenses. The League will carry this insurance as provided by the Babe Ruth Baseball League noting that the policy provisions may change from those stated above without notice. This section is not intended to modify any policy or contract of insurance, but rather to outline the general basic coverage the League intends to carry.

SECTION 2: Liability Insurance

This policy(s) protects and defends the organization and its Associates against claims and lawsuits arising from League activities.. The Liability Insurance Policy shall cover all members of the League as well as Umpires. Each vendor used for the League will be required to carry their own Liability Insurance that will protect the League from any claims that may occur.

SECTION 3: Reporting Claims/Accidents

Accidents of any kind resulting in personal injury or property damage that may be covered under any League policy of insurance or that may result in a claim against the League and/or its members must be reported, in writing, to the League Secretary – Vice President of Administration within 72 hours of occurrence. Managers and or Officials most familiar with the accident will initiate reports. The League Secretary – Vice President of Administration will acknowledge receipt and follow-up with parents or principles involved prior to making a formal report to the Insurance Carrier, and be responsible for the handling of each case. Case records are to be filed appropriately in the League records.

ARTICLE XI – MANAGERS and ASSISTANT COACHES

SECTION 1: MANAGERS: It is the responsibility of the Team Manager more than any other single individual to make this program a success. As such, it is imperative that they control the situation in which

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players may benefit constructively from the inherent competition in Baseball, similar to any competitive sport. Therefore, the Manager is expected to conduct him/herself in a good sportsman-like manner, setting an example for all members of his team. It is their responsibility to keep both players and adults under control at all times. He/She will encourage players to avoid any activity that may cause or create injuries. Safety is a League priority. No smoking is permitted within the confines of the field fence. The Manager will be the Official Representative of his team at all required League meetings, although an Assistant Coach from the Team may represent him/her in their absence. Managers are also expected to conduct a parent meeting with their Team to discuss the philosophy, expectations and rules of the League in which their child is participating.

SECTION 2: ASSISTANT COACHES: Managers for Major 70, 60 and Minors AAA as well as Minors AA and Rookie 2 may select one “official” Assistant Coach prior to the player draft and one additional “official” Assistant Coach after the draft. The Managers for Tee-Ball and Rookie 1 may have two pre-selected assistants. Managers are strongly discouraged from selecting assistant coaches that will **knowingly upset league parity due to their respective child’s ability**. Therefore, the Executive Board reserves the right to approve Assistant Coaches. Only three Team Manager/Assistant Coaches shall be allowed on the field or in the dugout during games. After teams have been formed, Managers shall recruit additional assistants, a Team Mom (or Coordinator) and other interested parents to encourage adult participation. Managers are encouraged to designate alternate Assistants to serve as replacements when the official Manager/Assistant Coaches cannot attend a game. At the Annual Managers’ Meeting in March, the name of each “official” Assistant Coach will be properly recognized and their names made part of the League Record. Note that all Managers and Assistant Coaches must:

- Complete a Coach’s application form
- Completed formal safety training (e.g. Rutgers Safety course) prior to the season
- Agree to the Coaches Code of Conduct
- Attend the RTJBL Coaches Training program at least one year prior to coaching
- Have reasonable baseball knowledge
- Be good in working with children and their parents

ARTICLE XII – Player Eligibility and Forming Teams

SECTION 1: Eligibility of Players: Any child who will attain the age of five by April 1st through children who maintain the age of 15 by May 1st of the registration year shall be eligible to compete in RTJBL baseball. Further, players must be residents of Readington Township for the registered year.

If interests warrant,, a senior division age 16 -18 (anyone who turns 19 on July 31st or earlier is not eligible) can be chartered and formed to allow these Players to be part of the League Season. Babe Ruth rules shall dictate the division (i.e. Babe Ruth Baseball) for which a player is eligible. If no senior division is formed, 16 year olds may play in the 13-15 league at the discretion of the League President, with the intent being to give players who cannot make their respective school teams a chance to continue playing ball without significant danger to themselves or the other players. Such player is not eligible for participation on travel teams.

The League will be made up of the following Divisions:

Babe Ruth League for players from the age of 13 – 15 years old which is typically 7th through 9th grade (again with 16 year olds allowed to play at the discretion of the League President). Players who turn 13 between April 30th and August 31st will have the option of playing in Major 70/60 or the 90 foot league, and any 12 year old may play in the 90 foot league at the discretion of the League President (The Babe Ruth / Cal Ripken “Swing Player” rule). The intent is to allow players with exceptional talent to progress, or players whose school team plays on a 90 foot field to play in the RTJBL 90 foot league. Players must

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play the regular season and the travel season on the same field size (90 vs. 60 foot). Players may only play in one league in any given season.

Major 70 for players in Grades 5-7 who are also aged 10 –12 years old, but not 13 years old before May 1st. No 4th graders can play in Major 70 unless they turn 11 before May 1st. Major 70 players are selected by coaches based on their ability.

Major 60 for players in Grades 4 – 5 who must also be aged 10 –12 years old, but not 13 yrs old before May 1st.

Minors AAA for players in Grade 4 and a limited number of who are in Grade 3, who are selected by coaches based on their ability and who are 8 – 10 years of age

Minors AA for players in the 3rd grade who must also be 8 – 9 years of age.

Rookie 2 for 2nd graders who are typically 7 & 8 years of age

Rookie 1 for players in 1st grade who are typically 6-7 years old.

T-Ball for players from the age of 5-6 years old, which is typically kindergarten and pre-school. Regardless of skill, size or grade in any school, no child will be permitted to participate in T-Ball unless he/she turns 5 years of age before May 1st of the year in question.

SECTION 2: Forming Teams: Each year, the timing for forming Teams will be scheduled by the Executive Board. Teams will be formed by different processes depending on the League as defined below:

League Process for forming Teams Responsibility Of

League	Process for forming teams	Responsibility of
Tee Ball & Rookie 1	Requests to be on another child's team will be accommodated whenever possible at the discretion of the League Director	League Director under the general guidance of the Exec VP of League Operations
Rookie 2	Teams will equally divide the higher skilled players. Identifying these players shall be the responsibility of the League director and Draft Commissioner with assistance from the prior year's coaches. The balance of the teams shall be based on coach/parent and carpool requests. The blind draft rules in Article XVII shall be used to guide the division of players.	League director & Draft Commissioner
Minors AA	OSP Draft Rules attached to Article XVII below See Slotting Chart Article XIX	League Director, Draft Commissioner & Exec. VP
Minors AAA	Results of the Minors AAA tryouts used for slotting, followed by a blind draft.	League Director,& Draft Commissioner & Exec. VP
Major 60	Results of Major 60 Tryouts & Evaluation Process /Placement draft by ability See Slotting Chart Article XIX	League Director,& Draft Commissioner & Exec VP
Major 70	Major 70 Tryout/Placement draft by ability See Slotting Chart Article XIX	League Director, - Draft Commissioner & Exec. VP

ARTICLE XIII - AMENDING THE BY-LAWS & NEW IDEAS

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SECTION 1: These By-Laws may be amended, or altered in whole or in part in accordance with the following process. Proposed changes must be supplied in writing to all attending members of a Monthly Meeting. Any Active Member of the League may propose a By-Law change. Notice of the proposed changes must be formally raised at the meeting. The changes need not be read at the meeting to save time; however, all attendees must be informed of the nature of the changes and instructed on how to find the proposed changes for their consideration. At the subsequent Monthly Meeting, the Executive Board must provide their recommendation on the proposed change. They may propose an amendment to the proposal. This amendment must be explained to the attendees of the Monthly Meeting. The By-Law changes may then be brought to a vote by the Voting Council. Any approval is effective immediately upon 2/3 majority vote of the Voting Council unless otherwise provided therein. If the By-Law changes are approved, the League Secretary will update the By-Laws by the subsequent meeting. They take effect immediately. If the proposed changes are rejected, they may be revised and raised for a vote at the subsequent Monthly Meeting. The revisions must be outlined at that meeting before the Vote. In the event the changes fail to be approved a second time, the changes may not be brought to the subsequent Monthly Meeting without prior approval of the Executive Board.

SECTION 2: Each monthly meeting shall allow for a presentation of new ideas and proposals by any league member. The person raising a new business item shall be known as the **Idea Sponsor**. It is incumbent on the **Idea Sponsor** to clearly present his/her idea to the meeting attendees in a concise manner that will include the idea itself, the purpose for the proposal and any consequential financial implications to the League. A plan of action for its implementation may be presented as appropriate. This proposal shall then be considered for official business at the next Executive Board meeting. The Executive Board shall then include the proposal at the subsequent Monthly Business Meeting for discussion and, if appropriate, presented for a vote by the Voting Council. The Executive Board must make its recommendation on the matter before the vote, including a revision of the proposal, if applicable. The sponsor must also be provided an opportunity to provide his/her opinion and comments before the vote.

ARTICLE XIV - ORDER OF BUSINESS

SECTION 1: Robert's Rules of Order and the official Babe Ruth Baseball League Rules and Regulations-Cal Ripken Division will be the recognized guide on all matters not specifically provided for in these By-Laws.

ARTICLE XV – GRIEVANCE PROCESS

Any participant in the League has the responsibility to report any issue that requires immediate and priority attention of the Executive Board. These issues will be referred to as grievances. Any League Associate can file a formal grievance (Grievance Forms are available by downloading from www.readingtonbaseball.com and must be completed and signed by the complainant.). The complaint should contain the following information:

1. What event has led to this complaint?
2. What members of the league were involved?
3. What action does the person filing the complaint feel should occur to resolve the issue?
4. Do you want to be informed on how the complaint was handled?

The person filing the complaint must identify him or herself and send the complaint to the attention of any Executive Board member who they feel does not have a conflict of interest involving the issue. It should be mailed to the RTJBL, PO Box 568, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889. The Executive VP of League Operations will be responsible for administration of the grievances unless there is a conflict of interest. In

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that event, it becomes the responsibility of the President, League Secretary, Treasurer or VP of Fields (in that order) depending on any conflicts or interest. Responsibility includes the following activities:

1. Investigating the grievance.
2. Interviewing parties involved with the grievance. Other league associates who have information may also be interviewed.
3. Documenting the results of the interviews.
4. Presenting the findings to the Executive Board.
5. Conducting an Executive Board meeting (minus any person(s) who have a conflict of interest) to review the material and decide on what action needs to be taken. The Executive Board will determine an action(s) that will deal with resolution of the complaint.
6. Notifying all involved parties of the resolution of the problem as recommended by the Executive Board.

Under no circumstances should grievances be discussed at the Monthly League Meetings.

ARTICLE XVI – Travel Program

Section 1: Program Overview

To provide players the opportunity to play in a highly competitive environment while emphasizing sportsmanship, skills development, and an enthusiasm for the game. Winning is an important part of the environment, which primarily involves tournament play, but the greater goal remains the creation of a fun atmosphere in which players can learn the benefits of physical fitness, teamwork, confidence, sportsmanship, and other positive values that they can build on and carry through life.

Teams will be formed in the 8U thru 14U (possibly 15U) ages and will be made up of a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 15 players. Teams identified as ‘Tournament/A’ are required to play in the Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken district tournament as well as the RTJBL Summer Tournament. All other ‘Travel/B’ teams have the option.

Teams will be organized in a ‘Tournament/A’ and Travel/B’ format in each age group. The ‘Tournament/A’ team should consist of those players considered to be the best that tryout at that age. This will also allow teams to enter appropriate tournaments benefiting their skill level. If sufficient and meritorious reasons exist why a player should not play on a certain team, it should be brought to the attention of the VP of Tournament Baseball or Executive Board prior to the tryouts (eg: acceptable reasons include: players being bullied by another player or existing parent conflict, ... reasons do not include: I like Manager ‘X’, my sons best friend is on Team ‘Y’, ...). The players’ interests and well being is first, with the goal to form the most competitive team for the travel season (Note, the travel selection process and ratings will determine selection/placing of the players, not the parents, players or previous Managers. If chosen to play on a ‘Team’ and the player declines without ‘acceptable’ reason as stated above, player is then choosing to opt out of the RTJBL Travel Program). If enough players tryout for an age group, every effort will be made to field ‘Travel/B’ teams. If less than (11) players tryout for the ‘Tournament’ team, the manager may recruit other eligible players.

Note: Coaches, parents, and players should expect player movement between the Tournament and Travel teams in an age group as strength, skill, and players develop over the years.

Section 2: Player Requirements

The following requirements must be met to be eligible to play on a summer team supported by RTJBL:

1. The Team must be made up entirely of children who signed up and played in the current RTJBL Regular Season.
2. A player must play during at least 75% of their Rec. season games to be eligible for the Travel Team.

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A request for exemption from this requirement citing extenuating circumstances must be brought to the Executive Board for review and approval by majority vote.

3. Players can only play with their age group or play with the age group 1-year-older (e.g. 10-year-old can only play on the 10-year-old or 11 year old team).

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4. Player's family must agree to take work slots at the Readington Summer Tournament.
5. A player whose family does not cover their required work slots during the Rec. Season and/or during the Travel Season shall be suspended and ineligible to play any Travel games until the matter is reviewed by the Executive Board. The Executive Board will determine a course of action with no less than a one game suspension for the player unless unanimously otherwise agreed by the Executive Board.

Section 3: Manager Requirements/Responsibilities

1. Travel team Managers should be Recreation Season Manager or official Assistant Coach and previously interviewed by the Executive Board at some point in their relationship with RTJBL to be eligible for a Travel Team. If a Travel Team Managerial candidate is not managing a Rec. Team in the current season, the candidate must be interviewed by the Executive Board prior to being awarded a RTJBL Travel Team,
2. The Manager must have attended the Rutgers Safety Class (or have equivalent training).
3. The Manager must conduct a Travel Team Tryout after the Recreation Season Opening Day. The date must be identified with their application. Teams for twelve-year-olds and older are exempt from mandatory tryouts.
4. Travel Team Managers must agree and abide by the RTJBL rule that all Recreation Games have priority over Travel games. (For example, Major 70 & Major 60 playoffs will take precedence over Travel schedules).
5. Work assignments for the RTJBL tournament will be made available upon completion of final planning. Managers are responsible for ensuring coverage for all work slots their team is assigned.
6. The Manager is responsible for picking players for the team that are qualified for travel baseball and will make the overall team as competitive as reasonably possible. This does not assume that the Manager selects the best individual players, however, the best players to field the overall team.
7. The Manager is responsible for the administration of the player selection process, there will be no league involvement unless expressly requested from the Manager.
8. Prior to the try-out, informing the players and families what the team philosophy, commitment requirement, practice expectations, tournament plans, and estimate cost will be for the season.
9. The Manager should select the coaching staff once the tryout is completed. Although an individual coach can be chosen prior to the tryout. However, if this is a parent-coach, this selection should only be made if the child-player clearly has the skills to make the team. When selecting coaches, the Manager should consider: coaching experience, contributions to the league, and they must have Managed or assisted during the recreation season and been on the recreation rosters.

Section 4: Manager Selection Process

The following process should be followed to be eligible to be a Manager in the RTJBL Summer program:

1. Manager must apply by sending in a written and signed application to the RTJBL VP Tournament Baseball and Training by the March league meeting of the current year to have a Travel Team insured by RTJBL (see travel application form at www.readingtonbaseball.com)
2. The Executive Board will review and approve the application by the March Executive Board meeting.
3. The Executive Board will issue to its members what Travel Teams will be authorized by RTJBL at the Annual Managers Meeting. The Manager, their phone numbers, Tryout date and tournament plan will be provided to assist parents and players of their Travel Team choices.
4. Rosters and a copy of the Rutgers Safety card (or equivalent) must be supplied by May 15th of the current year to the League President.
5. Each manager of the approved teams will receive a copy of the RTJBL Insurance certificate upon successful review of the above items.

Section 5: Team Selection Process:

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Tryouts will be held by age and will begin with the 15U thru 13U, and in parallel, 12U thru 8U (although 12U teams and above are exempt from mandatory tryouts). Tryouts may be scheduled after the Recreation season Opening day and should be completed by the second Sunday in May. Tryouts will be held by the selected Managers to evaluate specific skills in a controlled setting. Managers, by age will hold a minimum of one tryout per age group. Managers can request RTJBL to assist in the tryout process, but player selections reside with the Manager. Tryouts should consist of the following:

- Evaluate players in the areas of hitting, fielding (infield and outfield), and throwing at a minimum. Other criteria can be considered (e.g. running). A 5-point scale should be used for each skill, similar to recreation evaluations.
- Tryouts should be conducted by evaluators drawn from current and prior managers and coaches. In no event should an evaluator be the parent of a child in the age group being evaluated. Conflict of interest should be avoided with the best interest of the player in mind.

Note: RTJBL will only run the tryout if no one applies to manage an age group or at the Managers request.

Managers will select players based upon evaluation and other data received. The Tournament/A team Manager will select first, (min. 10, Max. 15), then Travel/B Managers. All players that attend a tryout should be contacted whether they made the team or not, and given any feedback for improvement opportunities.

Section 6: Executive Board Responsibilities

The RTJBL Executive Board will oversee the Travel program and the VP/Tournament Baseball will monitor conformance to guidelines and represent the interests of the league and players.

1. Review and approve all applications by a date that will be designated by the President of the League (This includes any Manager interviews which may be needed).
2. Provide copy of the RTJBL Insurance certificate to the Travel Manager upon review of the roster and Manager/coach credentials.
3. To insure the Summer Tournament Director provides the list of required work spots to the Travel Team managers for the summer tournament.
4. To insure the League Scheduler provides practice time on fields in a fair manner.

Section 7: Miscellaneous:

A NO TOLERANCE RULE will be in effect and RTJBL reserves its right to discontinue insurance coverage and/or use if RTJBL facilities for violation of this or any other rule set forth in this Article. All coaches, players, and family members associated with the travel team must conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner on and off the field (e.g. while at hotels).

The Board, at the recommendation of the VP/Tournament Baseball may replace the Manager at any time for reasons of gross misconduct or repeated failure to adhere to the program objective. Any infraction to guidelines will require an investigation prior to any action taken.

Any extenuating circumstances or questions regarding the Travel Program Article should be addressed with the VP/Tournament Baseball or the RTJBL Executive Board.

ARTICLE XVII - DRAFT RULES

Section I: OSP Draft Rules (OSP =Original Slotting Position Point System)

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The following are rules to apply when forming teams in Major 60, Minors AAA and Minors AA leagues. For Rookie 2, these rules should be used as a guideline only, but is recommended especially for drafting the first 3 three rows of Rookie 2 II players, according to their athletic ability.

These draft rules have been designed to achieve “fair balance” and parity between Teams. Since the managerial and assistant coach selection process may inherently create a pre-draft imbalance associated with the ability of the respective “coaches’ kids”, this process was developed to help establish and maintain team parity and preclude any potential issues or disagreements.

There are three (3) phases in the draft process.

- Slotting
- Team Selection
- Player Trading

1. Phase I – Slotting

The Draft Commissioner and League Director will be responsible for developing the initial player-slotting list. Players are slotted by:

- ability (quantified from the prior year’s evaluation sheets)
- presence on the prior year’s travel team(s)
- pitching ability
- overall skills

The players are slotted by row across the # of Teams in the league. The best players at last year’s level (and in particular the best pitchers) are slotted across the first row. The second row for the second best players (again with special attention to pitching ability) and so on. Catchers are also important to the second and third row if their ability stands out. All prior year’s Travel team players should be slotted in the first 5 rows unless players of better caliber are identified. Generally, there are 12 players on each team and therefore 12 rows of players. A template for slotting is attached below including the OSP (original slotting position) point value for each row. Columns are irrelevant since each player in the row is considered of equal ability and OSP value. Also, Manager’s have not been assigned a column at this point regardless of where their kids are ranked – row or column.

New players (or unevaluated players) automatically get assigned to Row C-2 unless the player is known to be of better or lesser caliber. Every attempt should be made to estimate the new player’s relative ability to assist the slotting and overall balancing process. Players who were Travel Team members from another town is especially important to be known and accounted for. An example of the slotting grid is provided below. Changes in the OSP values must be acceptable to the Draft Commissioner.

SLOTING PHASE

OSP	Row	Team 1 Last Years Rating	Team 2 Last Years Rating	Team 3 Last Years Rating	Team 4 Last Years Rating	Team 5 Last Years Rating	Team 6 Last Years Rating
100	A-1						
70	A-2						
50	A-3						
40	B-1						
30	B-2						
25	B-3						
20	C-1						
15	C-2						

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10	C-3						
10	D-1						
5	D-2						
5	D-3						
	Avg Score						

2. Phase II – Assuring Slotting and Selecting Preliminary Teams

The second phase is to assure that the Slotting has been completed adequately and then to select the preliminary Teams. Before the draft begins, it is especially helpful if a few key Manager’s review the slotting board. Travel Team Mangers and at least one or two other Managers who are familiar with the players abilities are the best choices. Then at the draft meeting, all Managers must be given an opportunity to review the Slotting Board and make any final adjustments before the draft begins.

When this is completed, the Draft Commissioner will have each Manger select a number from a hat to determine the draft selecting order. (I.e. #1 goes first in the first row and last in the second row and so on). Each Manager takes one child from each row. They must take their child in the row in which he/she is slotted. They must also take the child of their pre-draft designated Assistant Coach’s child in the row in which they are slotted. However, **only one child can be taken from a row per coach at this phase of the draft.** While they are entitled to these players, adjustments will be made after the entire board is selected through the trading process. This process continues until all Managers have one player from each row. When this is complete, the draft moves to Phase III.

3. Phase III: Player Trading

Each manager shall have the undeniable right to trade for their child(ren) and those of his pre-draft designated Asst. Coach. Each player has an Original Slotting Position (OSP) point value. (Refer to Exhibit B above) To trade for a player, Teams must trade players of equal OSP value and equal # of players. This is achieved by trading within the player’s OSP row or trading a package of players for an equally valued package of players. The coach that will end up with two players from one row must offer a player from the row immediately above or below that row as one player in the package. Points and the # of players traded must be maintained.

Examples of Trades:

- 1) A Coach (call him Coach A) has selected his son from the first row and must now trade for his Asst. Coach’s son who is also a first row player. Coach A must trade his #2 row pick and his #4 row pick (worth a combined 110 points) to the other coach (Coach B) for his #1 row pick and his #6 row pick (worth a combined 110 points). The coaches have maintained the # of players on each Team (2 players for 2 players) and have exchanged an equal # of points.
- 2) Coach X has already selected his son in row 2 but has a second son in Row 2 that he must obtain from Coach Y. Coach X must Trade his #3 row and his #5 row picks (worth a combined 80 points) in exchange for Coach Y’s #2 row and # 9 row players (worth a combined 80 points).

General Rules

- Teams must have an equal or no more than one fewer player than all other Teams. No Team can have 13, if any other Team has 11. This is to assure that all kids have an equal chance to bat.
- Manager’s must agree that the Team’s are balanced before the draft process is concluded,
- Other Trades may be made (i.e. trading a row #6 for someone else’s row #6) to accommodate friends, carpools, etc

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- All Trades must be made before the Draft Meeting is finalized and must be approved by the Draft Commissioner. The Draft Commissioner is the final arbiter.

Section II: Major 70 Draft Rules:

The Draft Commissioner, League Director and Executive Vice-President are to work together to agree on where the kids of the Managers and Assistant Coaches are to be slotted in the draft. Evaluations and rankings from last years' Travel Team Managers should be sought as well as information from last year's recreation evaluations. The evaluation and ranking information should be provided to all Managers with the understanding that it is to be kept confidential. Consensus should attempt to be obtained from all Major 70 managers on the slotting if possible. Major 70 will consist of up to ten (10) teams with eleven players on a team. After the Manager's and Assistant Coach's kids are slotted, the Draft Commissioner will determine a fair order for each Manager to have a turn at selecting a player for their team. Managers then select players for their team as it is their turn to pick, which continues until the teams are selected.

ARTICLE XVIII - RULES OF PLAY

Changes to the rules of play are not to be considered by-laws changes but will be determined by the Executive Board based on the needs of the League for any given year.

SECTION 1: League Rules

The most current edition of official playing rules and regulations as published by the Babe Ruth Baseball League, Rules and Regulations of the Cal Ripken Jr. Division will be the recognized as the binding League rules superseded only by Local Rules in these By-Laws where applicable.

SECTION 2: Local Rules

The Local Rules of Play for each League are as follows below.

Major 70

1. Pitching Rules

- ⌚ A pitcher cannot pitch more than 6 innings a week, 4 innings per day maximum. Week starts Monday through Sunday; 1 pitch constitutes 1 inning
- ⌚ A pitcher who pitches more than 2 innings in a game must rest for 2 days before pitching again.
- ⌚ If a pitcher hits two batters in one inning or 3 batters in one game he must be removed from pitching
- ⌚ NO CURVE BALLS. First time the umpire shall issue a warning, Second time they are removed from pitching.
- ⌚ A pitcher can not return to the mound once he has been removed in a game.
- ⌚ One pitch in an inning counts as an inning pitched.
- ⌚ 1st half of year (until May 15th), no balks will called where a runner is awarded a base. 2nd half of year, we move to Major 70 rules where each pitcher in the game will get two warnings when they balk. The umpire will take the time to explain to the pitcher what they did wrong, after each balk. After the second warning, if a pitcher balks, the runner is awarded a base.
⚡ Note: Although the rules for pitchers are innings pitched, coaches should keep a pitch count to prevent pitchers from throwing a high number of pitches per inning and per game. Coaches should also realize pitchers should have an appropriate number of rest days between outings.

2. Batting Rules

- ⌚ Each team is to supply a new baseball. If more than 2 balls are needed, it alternates starting with the Visiting Team. The Team that supplies the balls is entitled to have the balls returned to them after the game. If there are less then the number of balls each team put in the game left they will be split equally. If one ball is left it will be given to the Home Team.
- ⌚ All players at a game will be placed in the batting order
- ⌚ Any players who were not in the original batting order must be added to the end of the batting order after they arrive to the game
- ⌚ No Big barrel bats allowed (no 2 3/4" or 2 5/8").
- ⌚ An injured player does not have to bat. The next batter in the line-up will bat. No out will be recorded. If the player is physically able they may bat in their next turn in the order
- ⌚ If a player has to leave a game, there is no penalty for skipping them in the batting order.

3. Playing Rules

- ⌚ No inning can start 20 minutes before the next scheduled game.
- ⌚ Four complete innings constitutes a complete game (or 3 ½ if home team is winning).
- ⌚ A game can start and be played with 8 fielders if both sides agree to do so. The late players can be added using the late rule. If the other team does not agree then the short team can use its first right of refusal and have the game rescheduled or play a man short. All players still bat regardless of players on the field. The managers have 10 minutes after starting time to decide.
- ⌚ Free defensive substitution is allowed. Each player must play a minimum of 3 innings in the field, assuming a 6-inning game. Once a pitcher leaves the game, he/she can re-enter the game anywhere defensively except as a pitcher.
- ⌚ A courtesy runner can be used for a pitcher or catcher provided that the pitcher or catcher was playing those positions for the last out of the last inning. The runner must be the player who made the last out, or someone who is NOT in the current batting order (i.e. did not get up to bat in the last rotation through the batting order).
- ⌚ One player can be used from another team in Major League 50/70 or League below as a substitute during the season to provide a nine-player Team. A Team with substitutes cannot have more than nine players active for a game. All regular players have priority to play over substitutes and no substitutes are allowed to play if it means that the Team will have 10 or more active players. They must play the outfield
- ⌚ Alternate players can be used in the field from the opposing team when enough players are not available to play a game. It must be the last players who made the last three outs. They must play the outfield.

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- ⌚ Substitute players must bat at the bottom of the order and play the outfield.
- ⌚ Substitute players are **not** permitted in the play-offs.
- ⌚ Coaches and umpires should keep the game moving along expeditiously as possible, especially during evening games when the daylight could limit the number of innings played. It is the discretion of the umpires to determine if “unnecessary” time is being taken which is delaying the game. (i.e. repeated trips to the mound by the catcher, long intervals between innings, etc.) The umpire will call for the resumption of play to keep the game moving.
- ⌚ Six innings is the length of a game. Extra innings will be played if time permits.

4. Time

- ⌚ No inning can start 20 minutes before the next scheduled game
- ⌚ Four complete innings constitutes a complete game
- ⌚ Late players are put at the bottom of the line up and bat when that position comes around again
- ⌚ A game can start and be played with 8 fielders if both sides agree to do so. The late players can be added using the late rule. If the other team does not agree then the short team can use its first right of refusal and have the game rescheduled or play a man short. All players still bat regardless of players on the field. The managers have 10 minutes after starting time to decide

5. Safety

- ⌚ Players must slide at 2nd, 3rd and home or avoid contact. Otherwise, the player is out. If the defense is blocking without the ball on its way to the base then interference will be called.
- ⌚ MANDATORY CUP REQUIRED. Any male player without a cup will not be allowed on the field of play.
- ⌚ Only one player should be in the on deck circle. All other players must be in the dug out. No practice swings outside the on deck cage is allowed.
- ⌚ No suicide squeeze steals to home plate

6. Conduct

- ⌚ There will be no arguing with the umpire. You may ask for clarity regarding a call, but if you don't agree, you may not argue the call beyond expressing your side/opinion. There will be a NO TOLERANCE RULE. Whatever the final outcome, the umpire will have final say.
- ⌚ There will be no protests; however, any matters may be brought to the Executive Board for discussion after the matter to discuss the merits of the disagreement.

7. Make-Up Games

- ⌚ The home team has 4 days to tell the league director of any rainouts or partial games that need to be made up. If they do not they will be given a loss.
- ⌚ The league director coordinates with the master schedule to select a new time
- ⌚ Each team has the right to refuse **one** time. The team that can't make it the third time gets a loss. If neither team can make it they both get loses and game is not played.
- ⌚ If a team cancels a regularly scheduled game, that team has used up it's one right of refusal.

8. General Rules

- ⌚ Six innings per game will be played. If time is available per time limit an extra inning can be played in event of a tie score after 6 innings played.
- ⌚ Everybody will play a minimum of three innings per game with unlimited substitution. Once the pitcher leaves the game, he/she can re-enter the game anywhere defensively except as a pitcher.
- ⌚ The batting order will consist of everyone listed on the team hitting consecutively.
- ⌚ 9 players (3 outfielders) in the field
- ⌚ Alternate players can be used in the field from the opposing team in Major 70 when enough players are not available to play a game. It must be the last players who made the last 3 outs. They must play the outfield.
- ⌚ All rules of this league not addressed in local rules will be addressed in the Cal Ripken Rules most current edition.

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Major 60

1. Pitching Rules

- ⌚ Six innings per week maximum with no more than three innings in one game. One pitch will constitute an inning. The pitching starts Monday through Sunday; 1 pitch constitutes 1 inning.
- ⌚ A pitcher who pitches more than 2 innings in a game must rest for 2 days before pitching again
- ⌚ If a pitcher hits two batters in one inning or 3 batters in one game he must be removed from pitching
- ⌚ NO CURVE BALLS. First time the umpire shall issue a warning, Second time they are removed from pitching.
- ⌚ Once the pitcher leaves the game, he/she can re-enter the game anywhere defensively except as a pitcher.

2. Time

- ⌚ Game will last 6 innings. No inning can start 30 minutes before the next scheduled game
- ⌚ Everybody will play a minimum of three innings per game with unlimited substitution. Once the pitcher leaves the game, he/she can re-enter the game anywhere defensively except as a pitcher.
- ⌚ The batting order will consist of everyone listed on the team hitting consecutively. Four complete innings constitutes a complete game

3. Safety

- ⌚ Players must slide at 2nd, 3rd and home or avoid contact, otherwise the player is out. If the defense is blocking without the ball on its way to the base then interference will be called.
- ⌚ MANDATORY CUP REQUIRED. Any male player without a cup will not be allowed on the field of play.
- ⌚ Only one player should be in the on deck circle. All other players must be in the dug out. No practice swings outside the on deck cage is allowed.

4. General Rules

- ⌚ Six innings per game will be played. If time is available an extra inning can be played in event of a tie score after 6 innings played.
- ⌚ Late players are put at the bottom of the line up and bat when that position comes around again
- ⌚ The batting order will consist of everyone listed on the team hitting consecutively.
- ⌚ 10 players 4 outfielders, in the field. The game can be played with a minimum of 8 players.
- ⌚ Maximum of 6 runs can be scored in an inning. Side changes after 6 runs are scored. This rule does not apply in the playoffs and there will be no maximum runs per inning in the playoffs
- ⌚ Alternate players can be used in the field from the opposing team in Major 60 when enough players are not available to play a game. It must be the last players who made outs. They must play the outfield.
- ⌚ All rules of this league not addressed in local rules will be addressed in the Cal Ripken Rules most current edition.

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Minors AAA

1. Pitching Rules

- ⌚ Six innings per week maximum with no more than three innings in one game. One pitch will constitute an inning. The pitching starts Monday through Sunday; 1 pitch constitutes 1 inning
- ⌚ If a pitcher hits two batters in one inning or 3 batters in one game he must be removed from pitching
- ⌚ A pitcher who pitches more than 2 innings in a game must rest for 2 days before pitching again
- ⌚ Once the pitcher leaves the game, he/she can re-enter the game anywhere defensively except as a pitcher.
- ⌚ After 4 consecutive walks in an inning, the pitcher shall be replaced. This pitcher is allowed to re-enter as a pitcher in subsequent innings and will be charged with those innings.

2. Time

- ⌚ The game will last 6 innings. No inning can start 30 minutes before the next scheduled game
- ⌚ Everybody will play a minimum of two innings per game in the infield, not sit out more than once until everyone on the team sits out an inning.
- ⌚ There is unlimited defensive substitution.
- ⌚ The batting order will consist of everyone listed on the team hitting consecutively. Four complete innings constitutes a complete game

3. Safety

- ⌚ Players must slide at 2nd, 3rd and home or avoid contact. Otherwise the player is out. If the defense is blocking without the ball on its way to the base then interference will be called.
- ⌚ MANDATORY CUP REQUIRED. Any male player without a cup will not be allowed on the field of play.
- ⌚ Only one player should be in the on deck circle. All other players must be in the dug out. No practice swings outside the on deck cage is allowed.

4. General Rules

- ⌚ Six innings per game will be played. If time is available, an extra inning can be played in event of a tie score after 6 innings played.
- ⌚ Late players are put at the bottom of the line up and bat when that position comes around again
- ⌚ The batting order will consist of everyone listed on the team hitting consecutively.
- ⌚ 10 players in the field. The game can be played with a minimum of 8 players.
- ⌚ Maximum of 5 runs can be scored in an inning. Side changes after 5 runs are scored. This rule does not apply in the playoffs and there will be no maximum runs per inning in the playoffs
- ⌚ Alternate players can be used in the field from the opposing team in Minors AAA when enough players are not available to play a game. It must be the last players who made outs. They must play the outfield.
- ⌚ All rules of this league not addressed in local rules will be addressed in the Cal Ripken Rules most current edition.

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Minors AA

1. Pitching Rules

- ⌚ A pitcher can pitch 6 innings a week, 3 per game maximum. Week starts Monday through Sunday; 1 pitch constitutes 1 inning
- ⌚ A pitcher who pitches more than 2 innings in a game must rest for 2 days before pitching again
- ⌚ Once the pitcher leaves the game, he/she can re-enter the game anywhere defensively except as a pitcher.
- ⌚ If a pitcher hits two batters in one inning or 3 batters in one game he must be removed from pitching
- ⌚ After 4 consecutive walks in an inning the pitcher shall be replaced
- ⌚ Prior to May 15th, the rubber can be placed in front of the mound. After May 15th the rubber will be placed at regulation 46'. If there is an obvious, mutually agreed upon safety issue, pitching distance must be changed.

2. Time

- ⌚ The game will last 6 innings. No inning can start 30 minutes before the next scheduled game

3. Safety

- ⌚ Players must slide at 2nd, 3rd and home base to avoid contact. Otherwise, the player is out. If the defense is blocking without the ball on its way to the base then interference will be called.
- ⌚ MANDATORY CUP REQUIRED. Any male player without a cup will not be allowed on the field of play.
- ⌚ Only one player should be in the on deck circle. All other players must be in the dug out. No practice swings outside the on deck cage is allowed.

4. Stealing

- ⌚ When stealing the ball must cross the front of home plate before the runner can leave the base. The runner will be sent back if he leads or leaves early.
- ⌚ Only one base can be stolen at a time. The runner can not advance from 2nd to 3rd base on an overthrow by the catcher
- ⌚ No stealing of home is permitted.
- ⌚ A batter cannot advance after walking (e.g., a catcher holds onto the ball and the batter continues running from first to second base).

5. General Rules

- ⌚ Late players are put at the bottom of the line up and bat when that position comes around again
- ⌚ Everybody will play a minimum of two innings per game in the infield, not sit out more than once until everyone on the team sits out an inning.
- ⌚ Unlimited defensive substitution is allowed.
- ⌚ Once the pitcher leaves the game, he/she can re-enter the game anywhere defensively except as a pitcher.
- ⌚ The batting order will consist of everyone listed on the team hitting consecutively.
- ⌚ 10 players (4 outfielders) maximum in the field. The game can be played with a minimum of 8 players.
- ⌚ On an overthrow you can attempt to advance one base only (except for stealing refer to stealing rules)
- ⌚ A player on 3rd base can only go home on a batted ball or if they are forced in
- ⌚ Maximum of 5 runs can be scored in an inning. Side changes after 5 runs are scored
- ⌚ Alternate players can be used in the field from the opposing team in Minors AA when enough players are not available to play a game. It must be the last players who made outs. They must play the outfield.
- ⌚ The Infield Fly rule will not be enforced
- ⌚ No Tagging Up
- ⌚ All rules of this league not addressed in local rules will be addressed in Cal Ripken Division Rules most current edition.

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Rookie 2

1. Pitching Rules

- ⌚ Prior to May 15th, pitching will be from a Louisville Slugger spring loaded pitching machine. If the pitching machine fails or is otherwise unavailable, pitching will be adult soft overhand pitch.
- ⌚ The pitching machine should be set up in front of the mound and initially set to 25-30mph.
- ⌚ Pitcher should move the ball back and forth depending on the ability of the batter. Try to build confidence in the hitter by letting him hit the ball.
- ⌚ The batter is out after three swinging strikes (batter continues to bat on foul tips)
- ⌚ On and after May 15, players will begin to pitch.
 - The rubber can be placed in front of the mound at the discretion of player and coach. If there is an obvious, mutually agreed upon safety issue, pitching distance must be changed.
 - A pitcher can only pitch 2 innings per game
 - The umpire will call balls and strikes when a child is pitching. Only Strikes will be called when the coach is pitching
 - After three walks in an inning and the pitcher is removed for the inning and the inning will continue with a coach pitching to his own team.
 - If a pitcher hits two batters the inning he/she is removed for the inning and the inning will continue with a coach pitching to his own team.
 - If a pitcher hits three batters in the game he/she is replaced by the coach
 - Umpires will be using a wider strike zone - encourage your players to swing at a close pitch.

2. Time

- ⌚ The game will last 6 innings conditions permitting.
- ⌚ Cal Ripken league rules recommend a 14 game season. All team will be schedule two games a week from opening day until the weekend prior to the end of school in June. As this may exceed the required 14 games, no make-up games are necessary if your team meets the minimum requirement. However, if you want to play, coordinate with the other manager and schedule a filed from the league scheduler.
- ⌚ Late players are put at the bottom of the line up and bat when that position comes around again

3. Safety

- ⌚ Safety of the child should be a major concern. Do not play a child where you feel they could be hurt. Be fair but be smart
- ⌚ It is recommended that all male players wear a cup. However, it is mandatory for any male player who plays the catcher position to wear a cup.

4. Rotation

- ⌚ All players must rotate positions with no more than two times in the same position. All players must play a minimum of 2 inning in the infield. It is important to expose a player to all the positions. Knowing how to play more then one position might keep them off the bench.
- ⌚ If necessary, a player may sit out one inning but should not sit out a second inning until all players have sat out one inning.
- ⌚ All players will remain in the batting order at all times.
- ⌚ 10 players in the field. The game can be played with a minimum of 8 players.

5. General Rules

- ⌚ The hitter can advance extra bases as long as the ball is hit into the outfield. The runner must stop advancing once the ball is returned to the infield. There are no errors, no stealing, no tagging up
- ⌚ There will be a maximum of 5 runs scored and the sides will change. Scoring is for the purpose of stopping any runaway innings and keeping the game moving. This is still an Instructional League and teaching is the priority. No way should the coaches put any emphasis on the score. There are no winners or losers. Everybody gets the same trophy at the end of the year.
- ⌚ Stealing of bases is not permitted

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Rookie 1

1. Pitching Rules

- ⌚ Pitching will be from a Louisville Slugger spring-loaded pitching machine. If the pitching machine fails or is otherwise unavailable, pitching will be adult soft overhand pitch.
- ⌚ The pitching machine should be set up in front of the mound and initially set to 20mph. If coach pitching is required, the coach will be able to stand no closer than 35 feet from the plate or as needed to let the batter hit the ball.
- ⌚ After 3 strikes the tee should be used. Hitting the ball keeps the fielders alert and learning. Watching everybody strike out is boring and does not teach anybody anything.

2. Time

- ⌚ The game will last 5 innings with no inning starting past the two-hour point.
- ⌚ Cal Ripken league rules recommend a 14 game season. All team will be schedule two games a week from opening day until the weekend prior to the end of school in June. As this may exceed the required 14 games, no make-up games are necessary if your team meets the minimum requirement. However, if you want to play, coordinate with the other manager and schedule a filed from the league scheduler.

3. Safety

- ⌚ Safety of the child should be a major concern. Do not play a child where you feel they could be hurt. Be fair but be smart.
- ⌚ It is recommended that all male players where a cup. However, it is mandatory for any male player who plays the catcher position to wear a cup.

4. Rotation

- ⌚ There will be 10 players on the field (left and right center). Put the outfielders in the correct position. Standing by second base is not a position.
- ⌚ All players will play the infield at least twice a game. Third base is good for someone with less ability.
- ⌚ All players must rotate positions with no more than twice in the same position. At this level it is important to expose the player to different positions. Having the ability to play more than one position will keep them off the bench when they get older.
- ⌚ If a player must sit out, it should be no more than one inning per game. Sitting out is part of the game and the players have to get used to it.

5. General Rules

- ⌚ All players will be in the batting order with no regard to fielding position.
- ⌚ 7 batters will bat with no regard to fielding outs. If a player is clearly out they are to go to the bench but play continues until all 7 batters have been up. A close call goes to the runner. Play each batter as if it were only one out. (hold runners on a fly ball)
- ⌚ Score should not be a focus - teaching should be!
- ⌚ A hitter can advance to extra bases as long as the ball is hit into the outfield and until it is throw back in anywhere in the dirt area. No advances on errors and no stealing.

6. SECOND HALF RULE CHANGES Starting in Mid-May: These are the rules that will be changed to advance the players to the next level. All of the previous rules apply unless stated.

- ⌚ Fielding outs will now count. Three outs and the side change. Otherwise, there will be a maximum of 7 batters and the side changes.
- ⌚ This means that runs will now be scored. This opens up a completely new attitude, the attitude of winning. Winning is what everyone wants but there will be plenty of time for that when they reach the upper levels. It must be priority to teach the players. They will win more than their share if they know how to play the game. No way should the coaches put any emphasis on the score.

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T-Ball

For many kids T-Ball is their first exposure of any kind to a team game, and definitely their first time playing baseball. For the kids it's just a day out with their friends. They would probably be just as happy to play on the swings as play baseball. The job of the manager and coaches is to make the game fun and to teach the basics of baseball. This will hopefully be the beginning of many happy baseball years. If they don't enjoy it at this level, they will not want to come back. For that reason, competition is not to be introduced. Teaching and fun are the top priorities. It is critical to apprise the players and their parents of the true spirit of T-Ball. These rules are based on keeping the kids involved and keeping competition out of the game. This is what should be taught:

1. Running to first base. There will be many players that will not know where first base is. Show them how to run through the base and not to stop.
2. Swinging a bat. Show them how to hold the bat, choke up, where to stand, and how to swing.
3. Field positioning. Tell them the position name, where to stand, and what their responsibilities.
4. Throwing. Show them how to stand to follow up their throw. Get them to throw straight distance will come later.
5. Catching the ball is something most of the players may not do with any consistency until the following year. Do not get discouraged. Get them to keep their glove open and not be afraid of the ball.

1. Pitching

No pitching until June games. Once pitching is introduced in June, It is to be by an adult only and by overhand only. Distance from the plate should be at the Manager's discretion based on the need to let the players hit the ball. It is important to build confidence that the ball can be hit. Be careful because that ball can come back fast. Managers are to pitch to their own Team. Each player will get three strikes and then hit off the Tee.

2. Time

The game will last 4 innings. It is very important to play 4 innings so that each player gets a chance to play infield positions twice in each game. Cal Ripken league rules recommend a 14 game season. All team will be schedule two games a week from opening day until the weekend prior to the end of school in June. As this may exceed the required 14 games, no make-up games are necessary if your team meets the minimum requirement. However, if you want to play, coordinate with the other manager and schedule a filed from the league scheduler.

3. Safety

Safety of the child should be a major concern. Do not play a child where you feel they could be hurt. Be fair, but be smart

4. Rotation

- ⌚ There will be up to 10 players total on the field, (5 infields and 5 outfield).
- ⌚ All players must play the infield at least twice in a game. Third base is a good spot for someone who may not have the ability just yet.
- ⌚ All players must rotate positions with no more than twice in one spot. At this level, it is good to expose the players to several positions. Having a choice when they get older may keep them playing.
- ⌚ The teams are kept small so that all players will play each inning. If a player must sit out at an inning, it should be no more than once a game but no more then two.

5. General Rules

- ⌚ All players will be in the batting order with no regard to fielding position.
- ⌚ Seven (7) batters will bat with no regard to fielding outs. It is not necessary to bat every player in an inning – it is more important to play the full four innings and rotate the players. If a player is clearly out, they should be encouraged to go to the bench. Play continues until all 7 batters have been up. A close call goes to the runner. The coaches should in no way put any emphasis on scoring.
- ⌚ The player will advance one base per batter. No advances on errors and no stealing.

ARTICLE XIX – Tryouts & Evaluation Processes

There will be 2 organized tryouts/evaluations at the beginning of each season. The purpose is to slot the players at the appropriate level based on abilities.

Tryouts/Evaluations	Grade	Slotted Level	Mandatory Coach Attendance
#1	4 th , 5 th & 6 th	Major 70 (5 th /6 th) or Major 60 (4 th /5 th /6 th)	Major 70 & one Assistant Major 60 candidates
#2	3 rd & 4 th	Minors AAA (3 rd & 4 th) or Minors AA (3 rd)	Minors AAA and one Assistant Minors AA candidates

Tryouts shall be governed by all coaches in appropriate divisions and overseen by the Executive Board specifically the VP of League Operations. Unless inclement weather precludes from doing so, all tryouts will take place outside to get a true sense of player ability. The executive board decides if tryouts shall be brought inside for any given year and the structure of the stations adjusted accordingly.

Upon arrival, each player will be given a number and proceed through 6 stations

Tryouts shall consist of 6 stations. Each station to be staffed by 2 evaluators. This pair will stay at this station the entire tryout period in order to get consistent scoring at all stations.

The stations are defined as follows:

- 1) Pitching station. This shall take place on actual mound at regulation distance
- 2) Grounder station. This shall take place with player at Shortstop fielding 5 grounders and making throw to first base.
- 3) Pop Fly station. This shall take place in outfield with player tracking and fielding 4 high pops from a machine. Throws will be made to second base.
- 4) Hitting station. This station will take place in batting cages. Players to receive 8 strikes each, swinging, hitting or watching.

ARTICLE XX – Major 70, 60 and Minors AAA Division and Playoff Format

Major 70, 60 and Minors AAA: Shall consist of up to 10 teams of 11 players. There will be a Playoff and /Championship format at the end of the season. The overall record throughout the season will determine where each team is seeded for playoffs. In the event that inclement weather affects the team standings, playoff seeding will be determined by dropping back to the lowest number of games played by a team up to that point. (For example; If weather has affected scheduling and 5 teams have played 14 games and the 6th team has played 12, all team records will be looked at for the first 12 games.)

The minimum number of games that must be played is 12, failure to makeup games to reach this level will eliminate the team from any tie in team standings and drop them to the next seed. In the event of a tie in standings between 2 teams, the head to head record will be looked at to break the tie. If the head to head is the same the tie will be broken by a coin toss.

If more than 2 teams are tied then head to head is looked at. If head to head does not break the tie, then team records will be looked at versus the next lower seeded teams, until the tie is broken.

Championship game will be played on the date set in pre-season schedule. Travel games are not to take precedence over recreation championships.

Playoff Format for Major 70, 60, and Minors AAA

