



Weirton Baseball Association, Inc.

2008 Play Up Policy

Objective

To call upon a player from a younger division to participate in an older division regular season game in the event that a team is short the regulation number of active roster players to begin and/or participate in a game.

Reason

To prevent any WBA team from having to forfeit a game because of a lack of active roster players in attendance.

Value Gained

- a. Preventing a WBA team from sustaining a forfeit due to the lack of active roster players in attendance
- b. Younger players gain exposure and experience to an older baseball/softball league.
- c. The league, in following years, can also improve by the exposure and experience gained by the more the younger players are given exposure and gain experience playing in an older baseball/softball league.

Requirements

- a. Player Parental consent is required.
- b. The player must be recommended by his/her team manager.
- c. The player must be approved to play up by his/her league Player agent.
- d. The player must demonstrate the ability to play the game at a higher level.
- e. The player must be listed on the WBA play up roster for that respective league.
- f. The player must be of the older age in their respective division. In circumstances when the lower division does not possess an appropriate number of older aged players, the Player Agent reserves the right to include player(s) of the younger age within that same division.
- g. The player is not permitted to skip, leave early, or arrive late for their regular season game to play up in an older division regular season game.
- h. Any one player can only play in maximum of (2) games regardless of division on a single day.
- i. The player is not permitted to play in front of any active roster player in attendance.
- j. The Player is not permitted to play more innings than any active roster player in attendance.

The Process

- There are two (2) circumstances that would constitute a player being called upon to play up in an old division - (1) **Planned** Play Up, (2) **Unplanned** Play Up
- A **Planned Play Up** is where the manager knows in advance that he/she will be short of players. He/She is taking a proactive measure in securing another player to prevent a forfeit
- An **Unplanned Play Up** is when the manager is unaware or notified at last minute that he/she will be short of players. The manager then seeks a replacement player from youth on the complex grounds. (Example, A Bronco manager just finds out before taking the field, that he/she is short a player(s). A Mustang player is available due to him/her just completing play. The manager asked if they will play another game for his/her team)

For a **Planned Play Up** –

- a. Each Player Agent is responsible for maintaining and managing the play up roster for their respective league. The leagues included are Pinto, Mustang, Bronco, 14U softball
- b. The players are originally listed in alphabetic order by last name, first name. Once the roster is established, any new players will be added to the end of the list.
- c. When a manager needs a player, he/she contacts the respective player agent of the younger league. That Player agent is responsible for finding a player to play up. In the case that the Player agent cannot be reached, the WBA association President serves as the backup to the Player agent. If the President cannot be reached, The Vice President of the WBA association serves as backup to the President.
- d. The Player agent or respective backup is to contact the first name on the list. If the player declines or cannot be reached, the Player agent or respective back up continues down the list until a player is found.
- e. If a player is contacted about playing up and he/she declines the opportunity, his/her name is moved to the bottom of the list.
- f. If a player is contacted and does play up, his/her name is moved to the bottom of the list.
- g. Player names will continue to rotate through out the season as an attempt to give equal opportunity to all on the play up list.
- h. It is the responsibility of the respective Player agent to document; keep record of the number of times a player plays up. Periodically, the Player Agent will review the records. If there exist a significant imbalance in the number of play ups from one youth to another, The Player agent will investigate. If deemed necessary, the Player Agent and WBA board will take action to alter the play up roster to give other youth the same opportunity to play up

For a **UnPlanned Play Up** –

- a. Circumstances will arise where a manager is notified last minute that he/she is short a player. In this extreme case, the manager can call up a player without notifying the respective Player Agent beforehand.
- b. In this case, the manager **MUST REPORT THE PLAY UP TO THE RESPECTIVE PLAYER AGENT WITHIN 24 HOURS** of the game played.
- c. It is the responsibility of the respective Player agent to document; keep record of the number of times a player plays up. Periodically, the Player Agent will review the records. If there exist a significant imbalance in the number of play ups from one youth to another, The Player agent will investigate. If deemed necessary, the Player Agent and WBA board will take action to alter the play up roster to give other youth the same opportunity to play up

Disciplinary Action (Managers and Coaches)

- Failure to consistently report a play up or purposely circumventing this policy will result in disciplinary action. First offense is a written warning to the respective manager/coach. Second offense is a two game suspension. Third offense is dismissal for remainder of season.