

Bylaws of Acworth Baseball Association

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Article I: Name

1. The name of the Association shall be known as: Acworth Baseball Association, Inc. (“Acworth Baseball”, “Association”, or “ABA”)

Article II: Mission Statement

The main function of Acworth Baseball is to: (1) provide children and adults the opportunity for fun and enjoyment through a baseball program; and (2) instill the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, courage, self-discipline and reverence so that the children of the community may be finer, stronger, healthier persons and better citizens.

Article III: Definitions

1. Definitions in relation to these bylaws not covered under this Article or their Article of application will be as described or interpreted by the Board of Directors.
 - (a) **Board of Directors:** The officers of the Association with the responsibilities as described in these By Laws, and shall consist of: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Director, Communications Directors, Facilities Director, Division Directors, Select Teams Director, Scheduling Director, and Team Parent Director.
 - (b) **Fiscal Year:** January 1st through December 31st.
 - (c) **General Membership Meeting:** Meeting of the members (or their parent/guardian), Board of Directors, and Governing Body, at a regularly scheduled time and place of which the time has been given or announced to the members, Board of Directors, and Governing Body. For an official meeting to be declared there must be a quorum of members and Board of Directors.
 - (d) **Governing Body:** The Governing Body of the Association shall be elected officers and team managers with the President serving as chairman.
 - (e) **The League:** The league shall consist of all five Divisions of Acworth Baseball.
 - i **Divisions:** The five Divisions of Acworth Baseball are: the Colt Division including players 3-4 years of age; the Shetland Division including 5-6 years of age; the Pinto Division including players 7-8 years of age; the Mustang Division including player 9-10 years of age; the Bronco Division including player 11-12 years of age; and the Senior Division including players 13 years of age and older. All divisions shall abide by the rules and regulations of the approved sanctioning baseball body for their Division.
 - (f) **Member:** Players in the League of the Association that meet eligibility requirements at the time of registration and have completed registration.
 - (g) **Park Rules:** Rules of play that differ from the written rules of the Sanctioning Body.
 - (h) **Quorums:**
 - i **Board of Directors:** Attendance of 50% + 1 of all Board Members
 - ii **Governing Body:** Governing body members present upon proper notification and a quorum of the Board of Directors.
 - iii **Members:** Association members present upon proper notification and a quorum of the Board of Directors.
 - (i) **Sanctioning Body:** the baseball association that the Association is affiliated with.

- (j) **Special Call Meeting:** A meeting requested by any member by giving notice in writing or posting notice at all game fields of the Association at least 7 days in advance of the planned meeting. For an official meeting to be declared there must be a quorum of members and Board of Directors.
- (k) **Written Ballot:** Secret election process in writing with verification that each voter had the eligibility to participate. Before any Written Ballot can be taken there must be a posting of the process and the timeline. There must be a minimum of fourteen days from the posting until the actual ballots are collected and a minimum of seven days from the end of the nomination period to the ballot collection. All election process and procedures must be approved by the City of Acworth Parks and Recreation Director and must be coordinated with the City of Acworth Parks and Recreation Director.

Article IV: Parliamentary Authority

1. The rules contained in latest revision of Robert's Rule of Order shall govern Acworth Baseball Association in all cases to which they are applicable and consistent with the By Laws of the Association. There must be two originals of the current Bylaws dated and signed by the President, the Secretary, and the City of Acworth Parks and Recreation Director. These two originals will be notarized with one copy kept by the Secretary in permanent records and one kept by the City of Acworth.

Article V: Membership

1. All players who were active members at the end of a season of the prior year may renew their membership by registering on dates set forth by the Board of Directors.
2. New players become members of the Association at the time of registration if said players meet eligibility requirements, as slots are available.
3. Any member in good standing is entitled to one vote in this Association. Parent or legal guardian of a participating member shall cast votes on behalf of any member under 18 years of age. (One vote per membership).
4. Membership is also open to any other adults who either:
 - (a) Actively volunteer contribution of time throughout the baseball season and is recognized for such by the Board;
 - (b) Team coaches that otherwise do not have membership; or
 - (c) Has been awarded an honorary lifetime membership by the Board of Directors.
5. The voting privilege and participation may be revoked unless:
 - (a) The registration of member has been completed;
 - (b) All fees have been paid; and
 - (c) The Member is in good standing with Acworth Baseball Association.

Article VI: Officers

1. This article may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
2. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of all elected officers and appointed officers.
3. The elected officers of the Association with the responsibilities as described in these By Laws shall consist of: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Division Directors, and the Team Parent Director.
4. The appointed officers of the Association with the responsibilities as described in these By Laws shall consist of: Scheduling Directors, Select Teams Director, Public Relations Director, Facilities Director, and the Communications Director.
5. No officer may be a manager, coach or officer of another baseball organization not affiliated with the Association with the exception of the Sanctioning Body affiliate, unless approved by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote by the Board of Directors.
6. Two board positions may not be held at the same time by persons married to each other or co-parents/guardians of the same member.
7. All officers shall be elected or appointed for a term of one year or until the officer's successor is elected by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.
8. Elections and Appointments.
 - (a) All elected officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the members of the Association using a Written Ballot.
 - (b) Elections will be held on the second Saturday of May or if not this date the closest possible Saturday to this date.
 - (c) A committee appointed by the Board of Directors and consisting of at least one City of Acworth representative chosen by the city will tally ballots and return all ballots to the Secretary. The election committee will give results to the President and Vice President.
 - (d) All appointed officers shall be nominated by the Board of Directors following Robert's Rules of Order and elected by a majority of the Board of Directors.
 - (e) All incoming officers will be announced after elections have ended and at the subsequent General Board meeting. The current officers shall serve in their position throughout the spring season and assist in directing tournament activities.
9. In case of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President shall become President. Vacancies in other offices shall be filled in the following manner: The Governing Body will nominate and elect by a majority vote a replacement for said vacancy using a Written Ballot to be collected and tallied by the Secretary.
10. The resignation of an officer shall be sent to the President in writing, who shall present it to the Governing Body for appropriate action on or before the next Scheduled Meeting.
11. To be eligible to qualify for a position on the Board of Directors, a candidate must have either:
 - (a) Current membership; or
 - (b) Have served on the current Governing Body during the fiscal year.

Article VII: Duties of Officers

1. This article may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
2. **Duties of the President.** The President shall:
 - (a) Be one and the same person as the Chairman of the Governing Body and Membership Meetings;
 - (b) Provide leadership for Acworth Baseball Association;
 - (c) Delegate authority to the Vice President to act on his/her behalf in his/her absence, and may delegate authority to any elected officer to act in his/her absence in the event the Vice President is absent;
 - (d) Appoint all committees, as he or she deems necessary;
 - (e) Appoint an audit committee before the last day of the fiscal year;
 - (f) Call meetings of the Governing Body and the general membership in accordance with the bylaws, as well as other meetings, as deemed necessary;
 - (g) Consult with officers prior to each membership meeting to see that all the details of the meeting are ready as planned;
 - (h) Decide all parliamentary questions;
 - (i) Have the option of voting when voting is by ballot, otherwise the President shall only vote in case of a tie;
 - (j) Have the option of overriding the duties of other officers when lack of action would place the Association in jeopardy;
 - (k) Have authority to make decisions for Acworth Baseball Association provided these decisions are not in conflict with the By Laws of the Association;
 - (l) Co-sign all checks with the Vice-President or a third party, who has been appointed by the President and approved by a majority of the Board of Directors;
 - (m) Coordinate and manage budget process for the entire association;
 - (n) Coordinate and secure umpires for ABA or delegate such authority to another officer;
 - (o) Coordinate interpretation of rules of the Sanctioning Body;
 - (p) Coordinate and manage governing rules and rules of play for the entire Association;
 - (q) Coordinate coaching clinics for all Divisions;
 - (r) Be responsible for calling rain outs or designating a person to do so at least one hour prior to game time when possible;
 - (s) Coordinate issue and return of all equipment with managers;
 - (t) Have authority to designate, obtain and retain legal counsel and/or other agents as to provide a quick remedy to secure the association property and ensure moral integrity;
 - (u) Assist Division Directors in coordination and management of protests and forfeitures;
 - (v) Be empowered to act on his/her own initiative to secure the assistance of municipal, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies; and
 - (w) Purchase of all equipment not otherwise addressed in these bylaws.
3. **Duties of the Vice President.** The Vice President shall:
 - (a) Perform all duties of the President in the case of his/her absence;
 - (b) Have the ability to delegate his/her duties to any elected officer to act in his/her absence, with the prior notification and approval by the President;
 - (c) Assist in the leadership of the Association;
 - (d) Purchase and issue of uniforms for all divisions;
 - (e) Maintain accurate inventory records;
 - (f) Coordinate and manage protest/forfeiture process for all divisions;
 - (g) Be an eligible co-signer for all checks; and
 - (h) Be empowered to act on his/her own initiative, to secure the assistance of the municipal, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

4. **Duties of the Secretary.** The Secretary shall:
- (a) Maintain an accurate of all Governing Body meetings and General Membership meetings;
 - (b) Record all business transactions at each meeting. Specifically, the name of the member making the motion, the fact a second was obtained and discussions included in the minutes;
 - (c) Have the option of requesting the motion be put in writing by the maker of said motion if long and involved;
 - (d) Read minutes of any previous meeting when asked to do so;
 - (e) Upon request, shall provide a copy of the By Laws, minutes, a current list of all standing committees, any documentation or correspondence that would be pertinent to the meeting;
 - (f) Receive memberships and registration forms, and prepare membership rosters.
 - (g) Act as custodian of all records except those specifically assigned to others stated in the bylaws of the Association;
 - (h) Make available the number of returning and new players to Division Directors before the draft;
 - (i) Secretary, or a designated person (excluding Division Directors), shall attend each draft and keep accurate records of each round and all proceedings
 - (j) Maintain an updated record of anyone that has check signing authority for the Association and any change in the check signing status;
 - (k) Be responsible for getting minutes from previous meetings to all board members and posting the same at each field at least one week prior to the next General Membership meeting. This is to eliminate the reading of the minutes at meetings in order to save time during meetings;
 - (l) Keep updated Association calendar posted at all fields;
 - (m) Be responsible for publicizing Select Team Tryouts and seeing that notices of open tryouts are mailed to all players in eligible age groups that played Acworth recreation baseball the previous spring season; and
 - (n) Develop and post a Calendar of Events prior to opening day for all known events, with the understanding that some dates will be subject to change.

5. **Duties of the Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall:
- (a) Receive all monies of the Association as prescribed in the By Laws or as authorized by the action of the Governing Body;
 - (b) Keep organized files, both hard copies and electronic, in the guise of always being prepared for an audit;
 - (c) Issue receipts for any money taken in by the Association;
 - (d) Make deposits of all monies received by the Association;
 - (e) Have the responsibility of maintaining monthly invoices, including:
 - i Preparing a detailed financial statement monthly and as directed by the President; and
 - ii Making such financial statements available to the membership when requested at each membership meeting;
 - (f) Have the responsibility of maintaining ABA check-writing, including:
 - i Writing checks attached to invoices to be signed by two board members at the monthly meetings. All checks must have invoices attached;
 - ii Not issuing checks outside of monthly meetings, unless in an emergency with prior notification of the President and/or Vice President;
 - iii Keeping accurate notes on all check stubs including the nature of the expenditure, invoice number, date and the monetary amount of the checks; and
 - iv Not being allowed to be a co-signer on association checks;
 - (g) Have on-line "information only" access to the Association's bank account;

- (h) Pull bank statements from the bank's website monthly and store such statements in an electronic database;
- (i) Give month-end statements, check stubs and other financial documents to the Association's outside accountant for input into accounting software (*Should the Association's accountant not receive these documents, the Association requests to be notified promptly*);
- (j) Ensure that the Association's accountant prepares quarterly taxes and monthly financial statements and bring such material to monthly Board Meetings for a financial report including, but not limited to, income and expenses;
- (k) Recoup any income and fees incurred by NSF player checks;
- (l) Coordinate with and assist the Secretary in player registration;
- (m) Analyze current systems and vendors to determine cost effectiveness, notifying the Board of Directors of any cost effectiveness concerns;
- (n) Oversee year-end tax preparations and filings; and
- (o) File all 501(c) (3) compliance paperwork, as needed.

6. Duties of the Division Directors. The Division Directors shall:

- (a) Be assigned to age groups as follows:
 - i Colt: Ages 3-4
 - ii Shetland: Ages 5-6
 - iii Pinto: Ages 7-8
 - iv Mustang: Ages 9-10
 - v Bronco: Ages 11-12
 - vi Senior: Ages 13+;
- (b) Assist the Vice President with inventory and make appropriate purchase request for equipment;
- (c) Communicate requirements of managers and coaches in the preparation of game and practice field;
- (d) Assign players after initial draft, as needed, to complete roster to numbers specified in the league bylaws on first come, first serve basis;
- (e) Register players during registration for their appropriate division;
- (f) Act as arbitrators before grievances are filed for their appropriate division;
- (g) Coordinate tournament team selection;
- (h) Assist the President and Vice President in coordination of coaching clinics for their age division; and
- (i) Assist the President in the coordination and management of all protest and forfeiture within their age division.

7. Duties of the Team Parent Director. The Team Parent Director shall:

- (a) Insure all team parents complete and pass a mandatory background;
- (b) Coordinate the dissemination and communication of Association information through team parents;
- (c) Coordinate the Association pictures; assist photographer in the coordination and scheduling of teams; communicate said schedule to Team Parents; and coordinate dissemination of pictures to Team Parents;
- (d) Call meetings for team parents, throughout the season, as deemed necessary to ensure dissemination and communication of Association information and notifications;
- (e) Assist in the registration of players; and
- (f) Assist the President in the collection of security deposits and the dissemination/return of Association catcher's gear loaned to Association coaching staffs.

8. **Duties of the Scheduling Director.** The Scheduling Director shall:
 - (a) Prepare regular game schedules for all Divisions, except the Senior Division;
 - (b) Prepare practice schedules for all Divisions, except the Senior Division;
 - (c) Coordinate with the Senior Division Director in scheduling field use;
 - (d) Oversee established rules of play for all Divisions;
 - (e) Assist the President in coordination of coaching clinics, pitching clinics, etc.; and
 - (f) Ensure dissemination and communication of all rules of play to each Division Director.

9. **Duties of the Select Team Director.**
 - (a) Serve as director for the select divisions (i.e. Travel, All-star, and Fall Select Teams);
 - (b) Attend all meetings pertaining to select divisions;
 - (c) Coordinate all matter pertaining to select divisions;
 - (d) Serve as tournament director for ABA select teams' tournaments (e.g. Lake City Classic).

10. **Duties of the Public Relations Director.** The Public Relations Director shall:
 - (a) Review sponsorship programs seasonally to maximize effectiveness and propose any necessary changes or ideas at monthly meetings for Board approval as needed;
 - (b) Maintain an up-to-date list of ABA sponsors and follow up with any expiring sponsorships to allow sponsors to have the opportunity to extend their scholarship;
 - (c) Create reasonably ambitious sponsorship goals and generate plans with other members to achieve goals for ABA prior to spring and fall recreational seasons;
 - (d) Provide any information required for sponsorship signage, website, or other to the President, Vice President, and Communications Director as needed;
 - (e) Coordinate, promote, and execute special events for ABA within a budget approved by the Board of Directors, when applicable. Such events include, but are not limited to: local Pitch, Hit and Run competitions; Opening Day; end of season tournament festivities; family movie nights; All-star pep rallies; representation of ABA in local parades or other community events; and Rome Braves Day;
 - (f) Assist with ABA events falling under another officer's responsibilities (e.g. registration, player drafts, picture day) as needed and when able; and
 - (g) Assist in contacting membership as needed for various purposes.

11. **Duties of the Facilities Director.** The Facilities Director shall:
 - (a) Communicate concerns regarding field conditions to the Acworth Parks and Recreation Department;
 - (b) Ensure timely and proper repair of mounds, scoreboards, lights, score boxes, concessions, fences, batting cages, signage and other such property of ABA;
 - (c) Purchase items needed to maintain fields with the approval of the President or Vice President;
 - (d) Coordinate with the President when contracting repairs to a non-ABA labor source;
 - (e) Collect bids for major repairs when required; and
 - (f) Schedule Coaches' Work Day and communicate the date of said event to the President and Division Directors, prior to each season's draft.

12. **Duties of the Communications Director.** The Communications Director shall:
 - (a) Maintain the Association's website;
 - (b) Maintain the Association's email;
 - (c) Assist in maintaining ABA social media; and
 - (d) Assist in communicating essential information to membership via email, phone, and/or text whenever necessary.

Article VIII: Financial Policy

1. The Board of Directors shall decide all matters pertaining to finances of the Association.
2. The expenditures of funds shall not give any team an advantage over the other.
3. Monetary contributions should be made to the Association as a whole with receipt issued unless approved by majority vote of the Board of Directors.
4. Any money raised for any special events or fundraisers shall be turned over to the Association
5. Any member found in violation of these rules will be subject to disciplinary and/or legal actions decided by the Board of Directors.
6. Due to the length of play and structure of the senior division, individual team donations will be allowed. All contributions will be turned over to the Treasurer of the Association. Individual team ledgers will be maintained. Disbursement of these funds will be for:
 - (a) Tournament fees;
 - (b) Additional equipment; and
 - (c) Travel expenses
7. All association checks are required to have two signatures. Eligible co-signers include the President, Vice-President, and any designated third board member, excluding the treasurer.
8. Individual team funds remaining in the treasury at the end of the regular season will be placed into the Associations General Fund Account.

Article IX: Meetings

1. A general Membership meeting will be held on the third Wednesday of each month. The time and location of said meeting would be announced by the President and publicized by the Secretary. For an official meeting to be declared there must be a quorum of the Board of Directors.
2. Other meetings shall be held as needed. The time and location of said meeting would be announced by the President and publicized by the Secretary. For an official meeting to be declared there must be a quorum of the Board of Directors.
3. Any member wishing to attend these meetings shall notify the President of said intention. The President or Secretary will notify the interested member of the time and location of said meeting. Members, however, will not be allowed to attend those meetings when the Governing Body has voted to hold a special or closed meeting. Interested members will be present as a spectator only.
4. Officers are required to attend all regular or called meetings. Officers missing three total meetings within a fiscal year, without prior notice and approval from the President, will have a successor elected to the By Laws of the Association

Article X: Coaching Staffs, Managers and Team Responsibilities

1. Coaching staffs shall consist of one manager and a maximum of three assistant coaches. No more than one assistant coach with player in the division may be chosen prior to the draft
2. The manager for each team will be elected by majority vote of the Board of Directors, prior to regular season player draft. The vote will be done by anonymous ballot at a General membership Meeting or Special Call Meeting of the Board of Directors with all nominated parties allowed to attend and defend themselves in any discussion.
3. Candidates wishing to become managers must:
 - (a) Be at least 21 years of age (all assistant coaches must be at least 19 years of age);
 - (b) Not be an officer of any other baseball organization, other than the sanctioning body;
 - (c) Have general Baseball knowledge;
 - (d) Be interested in teaching all players the fundamentals of baseball;
 - (e) Be willing to train and teach all players equally;
 - (f) Conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times;
 - (g) Attend mandatory coaches clinics for managers and assistant coaches at their own expense;
 - (h) Complete a coach's application and a mandatory background check form;
 - (i) Pass mandatory background check prior to division drafts; and
 - (j) Submit a \$250.00 refundable deposit if the manager wishes to be issued equipment. Managers are required to maintain and return all issued equipment at the last regular season game or upon elimination from end of season divisional/championship play at which time the \$250.00 deposit will be returned. Failure to return properly maintained equipment would be grounds for expulsion from the Association and possible forfeiture of the \$250.00 deposit.
4. **Duties of Managers and Coaches.**
 - (a) Managers are encouraged to attend all regular monthly general membership meetings.
 - (b) Attend all scheduled workdays upon ample notification, unless excluded by division director. Failure to do so may result in a one game suspension from ABA facilities.
 - (c) The teaching of the competitive game and play in such a manner that the player will obtain a thorough knowledge of the correct method of participation whether or not the skill to compete is, in fact, obtained.
 - (d) The coaching staff of a team will channel their entire request for game and practice equipment through the division director
 - (e) The coaching staff shall be responsible for the final selection of their team and player positions. They are responsible for the players from the time they report for an event until they are dismissed or removed by the parent/accepted guardian.
 - (f) The manager of each team is singularly responsible for coaches he selects including their conduct at all times. The manager of each team is responsible for the selection of his assistant coaches who prior to opening day must complete a coach's application and a mandatory background check form. Any assistant coach chosen prior to the draft must have passed background check prior to the draft or their child will be made available in draft.
 - (g) Security of fields and facilities including concession is the responsibility of all coaches.
 - (h) In the event a manager is removed from their position, the assistant coach will take over that managers' duties until the Board of Directors approves a new manager.
5. **Duties of Acworth Baseball Teams.**
 - (a) During games, the visiting team is responsible for maintaining the official scorebook.
 - (b) During games, the home team is responsible for running the scoreboard.
 - (c) Each team is responsible for the pick-up of all litter in dugout and grounds.
 - (d) If the teams are playing the last game of the day, the home team is responsible for turning off scoreboard and field lights, and closing scorebox windows.

Article XI: Player Eligibility

1. Any child meeting the age control date set forth and approved by the sanctioning body is eligible to compete for participation on one of the Association's teams.
2. The child and his parents/accepted guardian, prior to participation on one of the Association teams, must:
 - (a) Complete the membership information form and return the same signed, to the appointed registrar;
 - (b) Pay all fees listed on membership information form except for hardship cases approved by the President or Vice President; and
 - (c) Supply a certified copy of the child's birth certificate. Returning certified players of the Association will not be required to present a birth certificate unless requested by the Board of Directors.
3. Game uniforms and equipment shall not be issued until all items of registration are complete.
4. Player must play in the age group specified on registration form.
 - (a) Exception 1: Where siblings are involved, the younger player may move up one age division to same league as the older sibling, as long as there has been:
 - i Written Approval from the parent/accepted guardian;
 - ii Approval from the lower Division Director; and
 - iii Approval from the higher Division Director.
 - (b) Exception 2: An extraordinary player may move up one age division, provided that the player is considered a second-year player in the lower division, and there has been:
 - i Written Approval from the parent/accepted guardian;
 - ii Approval from the lower Division Director; and
 - iii Approval from the higher Division Director.

Article XII: Registration

1. All players who were active members at the end of a spring season may renew their membership by registering on dates set forth by the Board of Directors to ensure placement in the following corresponding fall or spring season.
2. All returning players and players who reside within the city limits of Acworth will be given priority in the first day of regular registration.
3. Any new players and any others who have not already registered will be allowed to register on the second day of regular registration on a first come, first serve basis. Once the age division is filled players wanting to register will go on a waiting list. The number of teams and players per team shall be determined by the Sanctioning Body.
4. All Division Directors will attend each registration or have an approved representative to handle questions or problems that may arise.
5. The President and Vice President shall oversee each registration. The Secretary will keep all registration forms with the Treasurer collecting all registration fees, which will be deposited promptly with a maximum time limit of one week from being received.

6. The President and Vice President shall handle scholarship cases with the strictest confidence possible for approval.
7. All refund requests must be submitted before team drafts. In the event a refund is requested, the refund will only be granted with the approval of the President and/or Vice President. If approved, the refund will be 75% of that player's registration fee. Any returned checks will be subject to a \$15.00 service charge.
8. The Board of Directors shall only process registration and money on designated dates and at designated locations.
9. Players not registering on set registration dates will result in that player being put on a waiting list of that age division.

Article XIII: Conduct

1. Parents/guardians and spectators of participants shall conduct themselves in such a manner as to set an example for the children. Any discussion as to the ability of one child as opposed to another should not be overheard by the participating children.
2. Discussion with Division Directors, managers or coaches in resolution of complaints or grievances shall not be held within hearing distance of the playing field, practice field, concession stands and like.
3. During competitive events parents/guardians and spectators shall remain at least 15 feet from the boundaries of the playing field or behind the crowd control fence, if such is provided.
4. Directing any negative remarks or gestures, including, but not limited to swearing or vulgarity, toward players, managers, coaches, umpires or any other officials shall constitute grounds for expulsion from the area and possibly the Association.
5. Direct interference of managers or coaches by parents or accepted guardians during practice sessions or competitive events is unacceptable. Any occurrences shall be reported to the appropriate Division Director for review and possible disciplinary action.
6. The loss of managers, coaches, parents/accepted guardians or spectators temper, whether resulting in bodily injury or not, while on the practice field or playing fields during competitive events and especially so as to be witnessed by players and/or others, constitutes grounds for immediate expulsion from the current event and possibly permanent expulsion from membership of the Association. The Board of Directors shall approve such expulsion and notify the parties involved in writing of their decision.
7. Any Manager or Coach failing to show sportsmanlike conduct during or after a game as evidenced by failure to meet the opposing team at home plate and shake hands in a civil fashion will be suspended for 1 game. Failure of a Manager to require his team to meet the opposing team at home plate and shake hands in a civil fashion will result in a 2 game suspension.
8. Individuals ejected from any event by Umpires, Board Members, or other officials, shall promptly remove themselves to a parking lot or farther. Failure to do so will result in law enforcement being notified.

9. Conduct of Players.

- (a) During practice sessions and competitive events, players shall pay attention to the coaching staff and refrain from comments other than those beneficial to the event.
- (b) Swearing, vulgarity, and fighting shall be grounds for expulsion from the team.
- (c) Players waiting to actively participate shall conduct themselves in a respectful and sportsmanlike manner.
- (d) During team activities, conversations between players and parents should be kept to a minimum.
- (e) Players shall remain respectful of managers, coaches, umpires and other officials at all times. Failure to do so shall be grounds for disciplinary action.

10. Alcohol and Tobacco Policy.

- (a) Consumption of alcoholic beverages is strictly prohibited at all fields and facilities. Such action will result in immediate removal from area and shall constitute grounds for immediate expulsion from the Association and possibly permanent membership of the Association.
- (b) A manager, coach, umpire or member of the Board of Directors having alcohol on his or her breath while on ABA property shall constitute grounds for immediate expulsion from the Association and possibly permanent membership of the Association.
- (c) Tobacco use on the playing field is prohibited. Any infraction of this rule is subject to disciplinary action.

11. Fighting Policy.

- (a) Fighting is strictly prohibited. Any infraction of this rule shall constitute grounds for expulsion from the Association or other disciplinary action.

12. The Board of Directors reserves the right to expel any parent/guardian, manager, coach, spectator, umpire, or other official for misconduct not addressed in this article.

Article XIV: Disciplinary Action

1. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to suspect, discharge, or otherwise discipline any member, manager, coach, umpire or other person whose conduct is determined to be detrimental to the best interest of the of the Association. No one shall be subjected to disciplinary actions, unless misconduct results in expulsion, without an opportunity to know his/her alleged offense and to offer defense to the Board of Directors.
2. The Board of Directors shall use the following guidelines for non-expulsion disciplinary action, but is not limited by these guidelines.
 - (a) First offense (per season): a verbal warning issued in front of at least two Board members and documentation of the offense at the next Board Meeting
 - (b) Second offense (same season): the individual must appear before the Board of Directors for disciplinary action.
3. Any manager or coach dismissed must be approved by 75% of the Board of Directors to return as a manager or coach of the Association

Article XV: Grievances

1. In the event a parent/accepted guardian feels that his or her child is not being treated fairly, the first step shall be to discuss the complaint with the manager. If the parent/accepted guardian still feels his/her child has not been treated fairly, the parent/accepted guardian should contact the appropriate Division Director and request a meeting with the manager and the Director. The Director will schedule said meeting and act as arbitrator for all parties. After this meeting, if no agreeable solution has been accepted, the parent/guardian may file a formal, written grievance to the Board of Directors
2. The President shall be the receiver of said grievances. The President shall then schedule a prompt meeting with the Board of Directors and all parties directly involved to hear the grievance. Once the meeting has been held, the Board of Directors shall render a final and binding decision on said formal, written grievance provided a quorum of the Board of Directors has attended this meeting.

Article XVI: Game Rules

1. No player shall sit on the bench for more than two defensive innings per game. Failure to follow this rule shall result in the player participating in all defensive innings of the following game.
 - (a) Exceptions will be made for sick or injured players.
 - (b) This rule applies to recreation league games only.
 - (c) This rule does not apply to select teams.
 - (d) This rule is encouraged, but not required, for use in all-star play, with the exception of Dizzy Dean sanctioned tournaments.
2. If a player does not arrive by the first pitch of the game, managers or coaches are not required to abide by Article XVII § 1. The manager or coach must give notification to the player, the parent/guardian, the opposing manager and the umpire.
3. Managers or coaches having players who have missed an excessive number of practices without valid excuses are not required to abide by Article XVII § 1, provided they have prior approval by the Division Director. The manager or coach must give prior notification to the player, the parent/guardian, the opposing manager and the umpire.
4. Managers or coaches having players who have exhibited unsportsmanlike conduct or conduct detrimental to the team are not required to abide by Article XVII § 1, provided they have prior approval by the Division Director. The manager or coach must give prior notification to the player, the parent/guardian, the opposing manager, and the umpire.
5. Rules of play will be dictated by the rules of the Association and the Sanctioning Body's written rules.
6. Any additional game rules of the Association must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors and presented to the team managers in writing prior to any game affected by Association rules.
7. All protest shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the Association and the Sanctioning Body. The rules of the Association shall supersede the rules of the Sanctioning Body.

8. Rather than forfeit games because of insufficient players, the fill-in policy follows:
 - (a) A team must have at least six roster players present before utilizing a maximum of two fill-in players.
 - (b) A team cannot use fill-in players to cause the line-up to exceed the total number of defensive positions on the field.
 - (c) Only first year players of same division or second year players from the immediate lower division may be used as a fill-in player.
 - (d) Current All-Star players shall not be used as a fill-in players.
 - (e) Fill-in players may only play in an outfield position and must bat last in the batting order.
 - (f) At any given time during a game, fill-in player(s) must be replaced with roster player(s) if they become available.
 - (g) Fill-in players cannot play in more than two games in one day.
 - (h) This policy applies to both regular season and tournament play.
 - (i) Violation of the above policy shall result in forfeiture of the game.
9. Tournaments. All recreation league tournament play shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the rules of the Association as voted on by managers of the Division and approved by the President.
10. Default Rule. For any game rules not covered within these bylaws or otherwise by the association, the rules of the Sanctioning Body shall govern. For any game rules not covered by the rules of the Association or the Sanctioning Body, the rules of Major League Baseball Inc. shall govern.

Article XVII: Team Selection Process

1. Skills Assessment.

- (a) Prior to the draft, all registered players not within the Colt or Senior divisions shall be expected to attend a skills assessment on a date predetermined by the Board of Directors.
 - i No skills assessment shall be held for Colt division players.
 - ii The Senior Division Director shall have the option of following either the Colt team selection process or the standard team selection process, as outlined in this Article.
- (b) After all players have been assessed, the Division Directors shall calculate the score of each player in their Division and forward such scores to the President of the Association or his/her designee.
- (c) The Association shall create a draft sheet using the scores from the skills assessment and other relevant information. The draft sheet shall be ordered by the player's scores and divided into rounds based on the number of teams in the age division.
- (d) Any player not in attendance at the skills assessment may be placed by the appropriate Division Director in a round based on that Director's knowledge of the player's ability.
- (e) In the event that skills assessments are unable to occur, the player's shall be ordered by date of birth, oldest to youngest, and divided into rounds based on the number of teams in the age division.
- (f) Colt division draft sheets shall be ordered by date of birth, oldest to youngest, and divided into rounds based on the number of teams in the Colt division.

2. Locked Players.

- (a) After skills assessment but prior to the player draft, managers may “lock” up to two players.
- (b) If the manager has a child in the same age division, that child shall be one of that manager’s locked players.
- (c) If the manager has designated an assistant coach to his coaching staff, and that assistant coach has a player in the same age division, that child shall be one of that manager’s locked players.
- (d) Managers with no children in the same age division may receive up to two locked players, after approval of the appropriate Division Director and those player’s parent/guardians.
- (e) All candidates for locked players, must be approved by the appropriate Division Director prior to the Draft. The Division Director shall have the discretion of setting a deadline for locked player approvals.

3. Player Draft.

- (a) Only the Board of Directors and managers shall be allowed to attend the player draft. Assistant coaches that have been locked following the requirements of Art. XVII § 2 and who have been previously approved by the appropriate Division Director to attend the draft, may also attend.
- (b) The order of draft will be randomly picked every odd-numbered round. The draw order shall reverse on subsequent even-numbered rounds. *E.g. A manager that picks first in the first round, shall pick last in the second round. Before the third round begins, the manager will redraw to determine their new draft position.*
- (c) All teams shall select one player in each round until all registered players have been selected.
- (d) Players who have been locked in accordance with Article XIX § 2 shall be selected in the round that player has been placed within, according to the draft sheet.
- (e) Siblings, if requested by parents, shall be drafted to the team of the first drafted sibling in the round the second sibling ranked.
- (f) After all players available have been selected, all coaches will again draw a number to subsequently place any additional players that sign up after the draft. These players’ names shall be randomly drawn by the coaches in the order of the extra draw number selected at the end of the draft.

4. Trades.

- (a) Managers shall only have the option of making one player trade after the draft, with approval of the appropriate Division Director and upon notification of the Board of Directors.
- (b) Excluding Colt and Senior divisions, players who did not attend the appropriate age division skills assessment, may not be traded.
- (c) All trades must occur within a time limit set by the Draft Commissioner.

Article XVIII: Select Teams Rules

1. Select Teams (*e.g. All-star, Travel, and Fall Select Teams*) shall be governed by rules laid out specifically for them by the Association as approved by the Board of Directors.

Article XIX: Amendments to the bylaws

1. Proposed amendment to these bylaws, excluding amendments to Articles VI & VII, must be written and submitted to the President and the Secretary two weeks prior to the General Membership meeting which proceeds the meeting at which the intended vote on the proposed amendment is to be taken.
2. The President and the Secretary shall distribute the language of the proposed amendment to the Board of Directors prior to the next General Membership meeting.
3. The proposed amendment must be sponsored by a Director, who must make a motion to continue passage of said amendment. This motion must be seconded by another Director, and following Robert's Rules of Order shall be subjected to discussion.
4. Two-thirds of the Board of Directors must approve this motion to continue passage of the proposed amendment.
5. If the motion is approved by the Board of Directors, there will be a vote of those in attendance at the subsequent General Membership as to passage of the proposed amendment.
6. Following a two-thirds vote of those in attendance at the subsequent General Membership meeting, in favor of the proposed amendment, the amendment shall be adopted into these bylaws.
7. These bylaws shall be reviewed as needed or at least every two years by the Board of Directors.

Signatures of Ratification

ABA President:

Thomas W. Hope (Signature) Thomas W. Hope (Print) 02.13.2018 (Date)

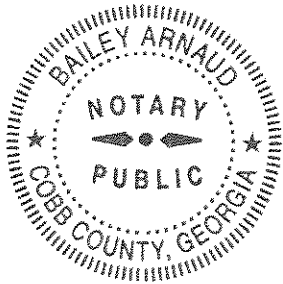
ABA Secretary:

Regina LeCroy (Signature) REGINA LECROY (Print) 2/13/18 (Date)

Acworth Parks and Recreation Director

James Albright (Signature) JAMES ALBRIGHT (Print) 2/13/2018 (Date)

Notary:



Bailey Arnaud
Notary Public, Cobb County, GA
My Commission Expires June 9, 2018