

BY-LAWS
BLACK HILLS YOUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION
(Hereinafter referred to as "The League")
Formation October 29, 1991
Amended and Ratified at the General Membership Meeting on **October 12, 2008**

ARTICLE I – RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

Section I – Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as the Board.)

- A. The Board shall have the powers as described in The Constitution. All decisions of The Board shall be by a majority of members present at a Board meeting, provided a quorum exists, except for a 2/3rd majority shall be required for a decision for permanent removal of a coach, parent, or other league member. A quorum is defined as one (1) over 50% of the current number of Board members.
- B. The Board duties shall include but not be limited to:
 1. Approving or denying The League President nominations for Coaches, Managers, and vacancies.
 2. Approving or denying membership applications, regular season and post-season coaching or managerial positions and committee heads or other leadership positions;
 3. Resolving grievances referred by the League President;
 4. The Board shall approve the annual budget, including determining the player and sponsor fees;
 5. Determining if disciplinary actions are necessary for the League and policy infractions;
 6. Conducting the annual business meeting and other meetings as deemed necessary to conduct league business;
 7. Approving or denying contracts or agreements;
 8. Establishing an audit committee available for regular and end-of-year audit;
 9. Appoint committees to handle League activities.
 10. Conduct other duties consistent with The Constitution.

Section II – The Elected Officers and Appointed Committees

- A. The Elected Board shall be composed of officers as stated in The Constitution and elected yearly by The Board.
- B. The Elected Board Officers shall have authority to administer The League:
 1. Solely within the powers granted by The Board;
 2. For the express purpose of fulfilling The Board and The League Constitutional intent; and shall be fully accountable to The Board;
- C. Duties of the Board Officers
 1. President – Direct The League operations as prescribed by the Constitution and By-laws, with authority to administer The League rules and laws as empowered. Conduct and preside over The Board and Executive Committee meetings. The President shall not vote on Board matters unless there is a tie amongst voting Board members. If there is a tie the President shall vote and that vote shall break the tie. Maintain The League business binder with the following documents available at all reasonable times for public inspection;
 - a. Current charter from Babe Ruth League, Inc., in Trenton, New Jersey;
 - b. Original Articles of Incorporation from the Secretary of State;
 - c. Application for Internal Revenue Service Tax Exempt Status;
 - d. Certificates of liability insurance;
 - e. Application for Medical/Accident insurance;

- f. Bank Signature authority;
- g. Other documents as deemed necessary by The Board;
- 2. Vice President – Shall assist the President in conducting League affairs. Shall preside in the absence of the President. Shall serve as the “expert” on The League By-Laws and provide The Board with guidance relative to their interpretation. Shall serve as The Board rule coordinator and ensure that The League rules are approved yearly as well as understand the Major League Baseball Rules and Cal Ripken rules to provide guidance to The Board when there are rule disputes. Shall serve as the coordinator of the yearly All-Star selection process as described in Article XIX Section III (A) – Player Selection and Manager Duties.
- 3. Secretary – Shall record, maintain, and protect the minutes of all The Board meetings and other meetings as deemed necessary for the president to conduct. The minutes shall stand as a legal record of The League proceedings. They shall be typed, including date and stored in a binder for public inspection.
- 4. Treasurer – Maintain custody of The League finances, including banking business for The League. Under the direction of The Board, will record all League financial Transactions.
 - a. The treasurer shall maintain the following:
 - (1) A deposit schedule designed to account for the sources of all League income to account for all components of deposit;
 - (2) A journal recording of amounts paid, which indicate the following information.
 - (a) To whom paid.
 - (b) What goods or services were purchased.
 - (c) Receipts or billing references.
 - (3) Prepare and file Internal Revenue Service forms and the annual Washington State Non-profit Corporation forms.
 - (4) Present Treasurers reports at board and General Membership meetings.
 - (5) Equipment Manager – Recommend equipment purchases, gather equipment purchase information, inventory equipment, maintain equipment storage, distribute equipment, replace equipment as necessary, purchase equipment upon Board approval and gather equipment in post season;

Section III – Managers and Coaches

- A. The League shall consider managers and coaches responsible for actively fulfilling the following duties:
 - 1. Attending League meetings as requested;
 - 2. Submitting The League roster when due;
 - 3. May be asked to solicit and collect team sponsor fees by The League deadline;
 - 4. Assume responsibility for the players and their conduct off and on the field during league activities;
 - 5. Obtain The League equipment when requested;
 - 6. Ensure that players do not abuse The League equipment;
 - 7. Collect assigned equipment and return same to The League when requested;
 - 8. Assisting actively with The League fund raiser;
 - 9. Accepting League assignments;
 - 10. Reporting game results as requested;
 - 11. Support the all-star nomination and selection process;
 - 12. Maintain and preserve the League scorebook assigned to the team;
 - 13. Promote positive sportsmanship and League image;

14. Report any felony convictions to the League President;
15. Failure to report any felony convictions is grounds for dismissal. The Board will vote on all dismissals in accordance with Article I, Section I (A).
16. Supply all relevant information necessary for The League to conduct a criminal background check.
17. Attend manager/coaching interviews if requested by The Board.

Section IV – Player Agent

- A. As necessary, The League will appoint a Player Agent for the season. The appointee may serve also in other positions.
- B. The Player Agent duties include but are not limited to:
 1. Coordinating all birth verification needs with the help of the league secretary;
 2. Coordinating player transfers between the Major/Minor and to Major Divisions and between Minor and Major/Minor Divisions.
- C. Work with managers and parents to place players, who sign up after the draft, into the Minor Division.

Section V – Scorekeepers

- A. Each team shall be assigned a League scorebook, in which only League games are recorded.
- B. The Home Team keeps the official book for the game.
- C. Each scorebook shall show:
 1. All players by their first and last name, and their uniform numbers;
 2. Innings pitched in the previous game and an opposing coaches signature certifying such innings;
 3. Umpire's name(s) or number for the game;
 4. The home book shall maintain the official start and end time as verified by the umpire at the beginning and end of the game.

Section VI – Protest Committee

- A. The Board shall appoint three Board Members to consider written protests concerning game rule interpretations or infractions of League game rules.
- B. The Protest Committee shall entertain such protests only if received in writing by The League President within 48 hours after the game at issue. The Protest Committee will attempt to reach consensus regarding resolution of the protest but if they cannot reach consensus the Protest Committee can vote on a resolution. A resolution can pass with a 2/3rds majority vote of the Protest Committee.
- C. The League requires that a \$10 check payable to The League accompany the protest. If the Protest Committee upholds the protest, The League will refund the \$10, and conversely, will withhold the \$10 if denying the protest.
- D. Funds collected as a result of a protest decision will be placed in The League's bank account to be spent on league expenses.

Article II – GENERAL LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

Section I – Duration

- A. League membership runs from January 1 through December 31 of each year.

Section II – Application

- A. The Board will review written requests from any person actively interested in furthering League objectives. These individuals will assist The Board but will not be voting members.
- B. **The board shall establish the registration deadline each year upon determination of schedule. (9-7-08)** All players signing up after the draft shall automatically be assigned to the Minor Division.
- C. The League shall accept applications from prospective managers and coaches and may require, at The League’s discretion, those managers and coaches to go through an interview process.
 - 1. The Board must approve the application for all managers and coaches. All applicants must meet the following conditions to be considered:
 - a. Supply all relevant information necessary for The League to conduct a criminal background check.
 - b. Attend other instructional clinics arranged by the League or sanctioned by The Board.
 - c. Have no felony convictions;
 - d. **A returning approved coach with a returning child on that team, will have first right of refusal for that team, if the manager leaves. (1-16-06)**

Section III – General Membership Categories

- A. General Membership is limited to the following categories:
 - 1. Faculty – Comprised of Board members, rostered managers and coaches, committee chair, and sponsors.
 - 2. Parents – parents of each player.
 - 3. At-Large – Persons outside the requirements in (1) and (2) above and in addition, are not a parent or guardian of a rostered player. At-Large positions are limited to one person per number of teams.
 - 4. Players – Rostered league players.
- B. League memberships are not transferable.

Section IV – Identification

- A. The League shall:
 - 1. Maintain a list of general members for inspection at all reasonable times;
 - 2. Adhere to the list for exercising voting privileges.

ARTICLE III - GRIEVANCES

Section I – Who may file a Grievance

- A. Any person aggrieved by an act of a League member or person acting for or on behalf of The League, shall bring such grievance to the attention of the League President or any Board member.
- B. The grievance may be in written form or discussed personally with The League President or any Board member.

Section II – Process

- A. If a person files a grievance with a board member, the member shall refer the matter directly to the President for resolution.
- B. The President will not preside over a grievance hearing which involves the President.
- C. The League President may decide whether or not:
 - 1. The League has resolved the grievance;

- 2. To refer a grievance to the Board for action.
- D. The League President shall refer a grievance to the Board when the aggrieved member and the President do not agree that a satisfactory resolution has been reached.
- E. The Board shall hear a grievance within 10 calendar days after the President refers the grievance to the Board.
- F. When the Board hears the grievance, The Board shall:
 - 1. Conduct a closed-door meeting with the aggrieved party;
 - 2. Attempt to resolve the grievance at the hearing unless The Board requires more information to resolve the issues.
- G. At the grievance hearing, any party may have witnesses appear and may caucus during the proceedings.
- H. The Board decision regarding the grievance is final.
- I. The League Secretary shall keep a record of the hearing and its results.

ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS

Section I – The President shall conduct Board meetings;

- A. Board meetings will be set by The Board President.

ARTICLE V – REMOVAL FROM THE BOARD OR GENERAL LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

Section I – Officers, including Managers and Coaches

- A. The Board shall determine if personal behavior merits removing an elected or appointed person from their league responsibility;
- B. Causes for removal include but are not limited to:
 - 1. Conduct, which, in the opinion of The Board intentionally misrepresents The League Constitution, By-laws, goals, and operating procedures.
 - 2. Felony conviction;
 - 3. Failure to report a felony conviction to League President;
 - 4. Ejection from two or more games in a season;
 - 5. Failure to attend three meetings in a row, without excused absences;
 - 6. Knowingly allowing players to compete with false or assumed credentials;
 - 7. Extreme un-sportsmanlike conduct.

Section II – Players

- A. The Board has sole authority to suspend a player from The League.
- B. Dismissal may result from:
 - 1. Wantonly or intentionally destroying League property or facilities used by The League.
 - 2. Theft of League property or property belonging to persons attending a League activity;
 - 3. Verbally or physically abusing individuals affiliated with The League or attending a League activity;
 - 4. Flagrant disregard for League sportsmanship;
 - 5. Substance abuse as described below;

Section III – Illegal Substances

- A. The League prohibits a manager, coach, or player from smoking, chewing tobacco products, drinking alcohol, or illegal drug activity during any League activity. Failure to stop is grounds for dismissal from The League;

- B. The League prohibits players from possessing tobacco products, illegal drugs, or alcohol products at any League activity. Upon discovery, The League requires a manager or coach to confiscate the goods and report the action to a Board member within one calendar day following the incident.

ARTICLE VI – LEAGUE MEDICAL AND LIABILITY INSURANCE

Section I – Purchase of Insurance

- A. The League shall purchase the liability and medical coverage offered through Babe Ruth League, Inc.

ARTICLE VII – EQUIPMENT RETURN, PARENT, MANAGERS, COACHES LIABILITY

Section I – Unreturned Equipment

- A. The League shall hold parents of rostered players, and managers and coaches liable for returning equipment issued by The League.
- B. The League may initiate legal action against such persons who do not return equipment upon request within a reasonable time.

ARTICLE VIII – UMPIRES

Section I – Umpires Selection and Contract

- A. The League shall establish a contract to furnish umpires for League sanctioned games;
- B. The board shall approve of the fees charged;
- C. The contract allows the League a grievance process related to umpire assignments.

ARTICLE IX – UNIFORMS

Section I – Composition

- A. The League regular and post season uniform shall consist of hat, jersey, and pants.
- B. The Board shall set colors and logos for all All-Star teams.

Section II – Uniform Retention

- A. At the conclusion of each regular season, each player shall retain for personal use the team jersey, pants, and hat purchased by the League.

Section III – Team Options

- A. A team may arrange for extra apparel, i.e., jackets at their own expense.

Section IV – Acquisition

- A. The League shall purchase the regular season uniforms;

Section V – Quality

- A. The League shall emphasize quality first in trousers, caps and jerseys;

Section VI – Logo

- A. The sponsor name shall be on the jersey at a convenient place as designated by the uniform coordinator;
- B. Numbers shall be on the back;
- C. The Board shall arrange the team color assignments and cap colors;
- D. The cap front shall have “Cal Ripken” printed on it;

- E. For All-Stars, the jersey front shall read “Black Hills” and the player’s last name and number will be on the back.

Section VII – All Star Hats

All Star hats are designed by the League President each year and issued by our league. The All Star hats issued by the league are required to be worn by each All Star team during any and all Cal Ripken sanctioned tournament games. (9-7-08)

ARTICLE X – EQUIPMENT

Section I – Babe Ruth Requirements

- A. The League shall comply with equipment rules published by Babe Ruth League, Inc. to include but not be limited to:
 - 1. Using Official Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken Baseballs;
 - 2. Adhering to all other Babe Ruth Rule Book durable equipment requirements.

Section II – Suppliers

- A. The League shall purchase equipment from the most economical supplier. Suppliers who sponsor teams will be given consideration;
- B. The League shall consider purchasing equipment (bats, baseballs, catcher’s gear, helmets, etc.) and uniforms from more than one dealer;
- C. The league may choose to solicit bids for equipment and uniforms.

Section III – Storage

- A. The League shall provide storage for The League equipment;
- B. Such storage shall have access restricted to the Equipment Manager and President, unless specifically delegated by The Board and recorded in the minutes.

Section IV – Equipment Return and Inventory

- A. The League shall appoint a time for returning and inventorying all equipment;
- B. The League shall establish a standard team and League operations list of required equipment upon which to base The League inventory

Section V – Equipment Boxes

- A. The League shall provide and maintain equipment boxes at each of the fields as practical;
- B. The League considers both home and visitors managers responsible for restoring the boxes after each game;
- C. The boxes shall be stocked with a minimum of:
 - 1. First Aid Kit;
 - 2. Field Liner, string, chalk;
 - 3. Bases and Hammer.

ARTICLE XI – LEAGUE ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

Section I – League Size

- A. The League shall provide for the regular season as many teams as possible based upon field availability for games, sponsorships, qualified coaches, and the number of players who have signed up for The League.

Section II – Team Size

- A. Major Division:
 - 1. Regular season – no more or less than 12 players with a maximum of 8 players who are 11 or 12 years old;
- B. Major/Minor Division:
 - 1. Regular season – no more or less than 12 players per team who are 9, 10, 11, or 12 years old with a maximum of 8 players who are 12 years old;
- C. Minor Division:
 - 1. Regular season – no more than 14 players per team who are 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12 years old with a maximum of 5 players who are 11 years old. 11 and 12 year olds are not allowed to pitch in the Minor Division.
- D. Rookie Division:
 - 1. Regular season – no more than 15 players per team, who are 6, 7, 8, or 9 years old;

Section III – Divisions

- A. The League shall establish a Player evaluation system to evaluate the number of players satisfactory for the Major, Major/Minor, and Minor Division competition respectively;
- B. The League shall determine the number of Major teams based upon the number of players 11 and 12 years of age which merit playing Major caliber baseball;
 - 1. If more than ten teams are required to accommodate the Major caliber players, The Board shall divide the Major teams into two divisions;
 - 2. Criteria for such an action will include, but not be limited to:
 - a. Players residence;
 - b. Equality of talent among the Major teams to ensure that each division receives competitive teams;
 - 3. The League shall prohibit any games of any type between (teams not in the same Division) Rookie, Minor, Major/Minor, and Major Division teams.

Section IV – Boundaries

The League’s boundaries are established by State Cal Ripken headquarters and our boundaries consist of Olympia, Lacey and Tumwater. If a player moves from our boundary (Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater) they are grandfathered in and can play All Stars, with board approval. New players to our league will be required to provide proof of residency prior to registering and must reside within our boundaries. (2-7-08)

ARTICLE XII – PLAYER EVALUATION

Section I – Purpose

- A. The player evaluations and subsequent draft is intended to ensure that players get the opportunity to play with other players about the same age and nearly the same talent and abilities;
- B. Major Division 11 year old players may return to the prior year’s team and if so are not subject to the evaluation and draft.

Section II – Player Evaluations

- A. Goals
 - 1. To give coaches meaningful opportunities to see each player’s skills in hitting, fielding, pitching and throwing
 - 2. To enable the coaches the opportunity to establish a draft of all Division (except Rookies) prospects;

B. Requirement

1. Major Division: Each player not returning to their previous year's Major Team must take part in the evaluations. Failure to do so without a good cause will forfeit the player's opportunity for a Major Team placement. Players who chose not to return to their previous team cannot be drafted by that team and have used their one "Block" and are not eligible to Block an additional team;
2. The League shall conduct tryouts sufficient for managers and coaches to evaluate a player's playing ability;
3. Frozen players do not go through the evaluation/draft. The League shall require managers and coaches to draft their own children from the draft pool of the respective league for which the adults are coaching. These players are considered "Frozen" and are unable to be drafted by other teams.
4. Rookie Division players are not part of the player evaluation/draft. 8 and 9 year old players that want to play in a Division higher than the Rookies must go through the evaluations/draft unless they are a frozen player.

C. Location of the player evaluations shall be at Board discretion;

D. Content

1. The League shall provide opportunity at a minimum for players to throw, field and catch in infield and outfield situations, bat, pitch, and catch if possible;
2. Hitting should be done with a pitching machine if available.

Section III – Major Division Player Draft Pool

- A. Based upon the tryouts and before the draft, the managers and coaches of the Major Division shall jointly determine which players should be in the Major Division draft;
- B. Based upon the total of draft eligible players, the League shall determine the number of Major Division teams required for that year.

Section IV – Player Draft

- A. The League shall conduct the draft in one central meeting place in the company of The Board;
- B. The coaches shall draft the Major Division Draft Pool players first, until all Major team rosters are filled. Major Draft Pool players will only consist of 11 and 12 year olds;
- C. The coaches shall draft the Major/Minor and Minor Division teams thereafter;
 1. Coaches shall consider drafting all 12 year olds first
 2. Thereafter, the 10 and 11 year olds will be drafted
- D. The Major/Minor and Minor Division drafts shall proceed even if coaches are not available. In that event, Board members, or other interested parties will assist with forming teams.
- E. A parent or guardian may submit a request to have his or her child not drafted (blocked) onto a particular team.
 1. This request must be in writing and delivered to The Board and contain specific reasons for the request.
 2. Only one team may be blocked per draft.
 3. The request must be submitted to a Board member prior to the end of the last player evaluation session unless extenuating circumstances exist.
 4. The Board will review this request and may or may not grant the request.
 5. If the request is granted, the Board will confidentially notify the manager in question prior to the start of the draft.

Section V – Team Draft Order

- A. Teams shall draft in order of drawn lots completed before the draft.

Section VI – Frozen Players

- A. The League shall require managers and coaches to draft their own children from the draft pool of the respective league for which the adults are coaching. These players are considered “Frozen” and are unable to be drafted by other teams.
- B. Major Division
 - 1. No more than three players per team may be frozen in one year;
 - 2. When a manager or coach has a child (or player for whom they are guardian) in the draft, the children shall be drafted in the following rounds:
 - a. If the total is three frozen players: First, Second, and Fifth rounds;
 - b. If the total is two frozen players: Second and Fifth rounds;
 - c. If the total is one frozen player: Fifth round
- B. Major/Minor Division
 - 1. No more than 4 players may be frozen in one year with the following limitation;
 - a. Each team must freeze the manager and coaches children and may freeze one additional player;
 - b. Therefore, if a team has a manager and two coaches they may freeze four players (their own children plus one other player);
 - c. If one of the coaches does not have any children, or there is only a manager and one coach they may freeze three players (their own children plus one other player);
 - d. Siblings of a frozen player will be treated as siblings in Section VII of this Article;
 - 2. When a manager or coach has a child (or player for whom they are guardian) in the draft, the children shall be drafted in the following rounds:
 - a. If the total is four frozen players: First, Second, Fourth, and Fifth rounds;
 - b. If the total is three frozen players: First, Second, and Fifth rounds;
 - c. If the total is two frozen players: Second and Fifth rounds;
 - d. If the total is one frozen player: Fifth round
- D. Minor Division
 - 1. No more than 5 players may be frozen in one year with the following limitation;
 - a. Each team must freeze the manager and coaches children and may freeze up to two additional players;
 - b. Therefore, if a team has a manager and two coaches they may freeze five players (their own children plus two other players);
 - c. If one of the coaches does not have any children, or there is only a manager and one coach they may freeze four players (their own children plus two other players);
 - d. Siblings of a frozen player will be treated as siblings in Section VII of this Article;
 - 2. When a manager or coach has a child (or player for whom they are guardian) in the draft, the children shall be drafted in the following rounds:
 - a. If the total is five frozen players: First, Second, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth rounds;
 - b. If the total is four frozen players: First, Second, Fourth, and Fifth rounds;
 - c. If the total is three frozen players: First, Second and Fifth rounds;
 - d. If the total is two frozen players: Second and Fifth round;
 - e. If the total is one frozen player: Fifth round.

Section VII – Siblings

- A. Unless otherwise specifically requested in writing by the parents, the league shall assign siblings to the same team in the Major/Minor Division, the Minor, and Rookie Division. **Sibling rule will apply to the Majors, as long as the player makes the major pool. The coach would lose their 6th round pick, as the normal sibling rule. (1-16-06)**
- B. When a frozen player has a sibling the sibling will automatically be assigned to the team in the next available slot after the last frozen player. For example, if there are four frozen players on a major/minor team and one of these players has a sibling, the sibling will become the teams sixth round pick. The team's first, second, fourth, and fifth picks are occupied by the four frozen players, thus the next available slot after the last frozen player is the sixth round. If the team had only three frozen players the sibling would become the team's fifth round pick.
- C. The League shall not use this rule to by-pass the evaluation results.

Section VIII – Player Transfer Between Teams Within the Major Division Where an 11 Year Old Plays On One Team And Then A Different Team As A 12 Year Old.

The exceptions provided in this section only apply to twelve year olds in the Major Division who played as eleven year olds in the Major Division the previous year (i.e., returning eleven year olds).

- A. The League shall not provide a player transfer between teams except for the following:
 - 1. The parents or guardian requests their child be moved to a new team because the parent is managing or coaching that team. **However, to compensate the team the player is moving from, the player's new team will provide the team losing the player with their top available pick in the draft. For example: Assuming each team has the same number of frozen players and a player from Team A moves to Team B, Team B will lose its first available draft pick (third round) to Team A, thus giving Team A two third round picks. Team B will not select in the third round. (11-16-06)**
 - 2. The Board, at their discretion, may modify the process used to transfer a player to a different division.
- B. Major/Minor to Major Division or Minor Division to Major/Minor Division:
 - 1. The League shall provide a Major division manager the opportunity to elevate a player from the Major/Minor Division when:
 - a. The Major Division player's parents have informed The League that the player is withdrawn from the League;
 - b. The Major Division player is hurt an unable to return for the duration of the season;
 - 2. The League shall require that a Major Division manager adhere to team age limits for the 12 year olds when bringing up Major/Minor division players;
 - 3. The League shall:
 - a. Provide each Major/Minor player solicited for a Major Division tryout the option of accepting a call to the Major Division;
 - b. Limit the opportunity to one call per player per year;
 - c. A player must have gone through player evaluations to be eligible to be called up to a Major Division team;
 - 4. The League will require that a Major Division manager or coach inform the League President of the need to replace a Major player;
 - a. The League President shall validate the need and authorize the Player agent to proceed;

- b. The Major Division manager or coach will inform the Player Agent which Major/Minor Division player(s) (to a maximum of four-with no more than one per team) that the manager or coach wishes to try out;
 - c. The Player Agent will:
 - (1) Contact the Major/Minor Division managers or coaches of the players and inform them the Agent will contact the players to extend the invitation;
 - (2) Contact the parents of the four players and discuss the opportunity for the players to try-out;
 - (3) Arrange the try-outs;
 - (4) Finalize the transfer informing The League President of the roster changes;
 - (5) The Major Division manager or coach must take one of the Major/Minor Division players solicited for the try-out. The League prohibits any more try-outs for that vacancy unless all of the unsolicited players waive to stay in their current division;
 - (6) When a Major/Minor Division team loses a player to the Major Division, a Major Division manager or coach may not nominate another player from the same team until after a player from four other teams joins a Major Division team;
- C. Minor Division to Major/Minor Division:
- 1. The League shall provide a Major/Minor Division coach the opportunity to elevate a player from the Minor Division when:
 - a. The Major/Minor Division player's parents have informed the League that the player is withdrawn from the League;
 - b. The Major/Minor Division player is hurt and unable to return for the duration of the season.
 - 2. The League shall:
 - a. Provide each Minor Division player, solicited for a Major/Minor Division tryout the option of accepting a call to the Major/Minor Division;
 - b. Limit the opportunity to one call per player per year;
 - c. A player must have gone through player evaluations to be eligible to be called up to a Major/Minor team;
 - 3. The League will require that a Major/Minor Division manager or coach inform the League President of the need to replace a Major/Minor Division player;
 - a. The League President shall validate the need and authorize the Player Agent to proceed;
 - b. The Major/Minor Division manager or coach will inform the Player Agent which Minor Division player(s) (to a maximum of four-with no more than one per team) that the manager or coach wishes to try out;
 - c. The Player Agent will:
 - (1) Contact the Minor Division managers or coaches of the players and inform them the Agent will contact the players to extend the invitation;
 - (2) Contact the parents of the four players and discuss the opportunity for the players to try-out;
 - (3) Arrange the try-outs;
 - (4) Finalize the transfer informing The League President of the roster changes;
 - 4. The Major/Minor Division manager or coach must take one of the Minor Division players solicited for the try-out. The League prohibits any more try-outs for that vacancy unless all of the solicited players waive to stay in their current division;

5. When a Minor Division team loses a player to the Major/Minor Division, a Major/Minor division manager or coach may not nominate another player from the team until after a player from four other teams joins a Major/Minor Division team;
6. When a Minor division team loses a player, they may choose a player from the Rookies;

Section IX – Transfer From One Division to Another Division

- A. Transfers from the Major Division to the Major/Minor Division or from the Major/Minor to Minor Division may be approved if agreed to by the player agent and parents of the player and must occur prior to April 1st.

Section X – Retirement of a Major Coach Whom has a Child Returning as a Major Player.

- A. **If a coach with a frozen player retires his coaching position prior to the start of the player’s 12 year old year, the frozen player may re-enter the draft or remain on the team as a returning player. If however, the returning player chooses to remain on the team, the team will lose their top available pick in exchange for keeping the extra player. In this case, three kids are frozen as coach’s kids resulting in the team’s loss of their fifth, first and second round picks as well as the loss of their third round pick to account for the returning player of the retired coach. (11-16-06)**

ARTICLE XIII – PLAYER AND SPONSOR FEES

Section I – Amounts

- A. The player fee shall be determined yearly by The Board;
- B. The sponsor fee shall be determined yearly by The Board.
- C. Late sign-ups will be assessed a “late sign-up fee” to be determined by The Board.

Section II – Failure to Pay

- A. Coaches are responsible to solicit and gather the sponsor’s fee. Failure to gather a sponsor could jeopardize future appointments as head coach;
- B. The League may subsidize players whose parents declare or otherwise indicate need for scholarship help for the player;
- C. In cases of players unable to pay, the Treasurer or Player Agent shall inform The Board of the circumstances’
- D. Coaches or managers are responsible to collect all team and league fees as required.

Section III – Sponsors

- A. The League may accept multiple sponsors for a single team.
- B. The League may accept partial sponsor payments provided that full payment arrangements are made.

Section IV – Player Fee Refunds

- A. The League shall refund a player’s fee:
 1. When received by the President in writing stating the player is leaving The League according to the following schedule:
 - a. 100% if quitting before the draft;
 - b. 50% from the draft to the first game;
 - c. no refund for quitting after the first game;
- B. The League shall retain the full membership fee for a player dismissed from the League by Board action.

ARTICLE XIV – LEAGUE AND GAME RULES HIERARCHY

Section I – Rule Hierarchy is:

- A. First, local league rules as adopted and approved yearly by The Board;
- B. Second, Official Babe Ruth Cal Ripken Rules;
- C. Third, Official Major League Baseball Rules.

Section II – Local League Rules

- A. Local league rules (by Division) will be approved each year by The Board prior to evaluation.

ARTICLE XV – PLAYER, MANAGER, AND COACHES CONDUCT

Section I – Responsibility

- A. The League considers managers and coaches responsible for their actions and the actions of their players and parents while engaged in a recognized League activity;
- B. Managers and coaches shall report directly to the Board behavior by other League officials that is not in the best interest of the League or its participants.

Section II – Ejections

- A. Players:
 1. The League shall suspend for one game a player ejected by an umpire;
 2. The suspension applies to the next game the player attends. The player must be in complete uniform and listed in the scorebook;
 3. The umpire's call will be final, there will be no Board review;
- B. Managers and coaches
 1. Upon learning that a manager or coach has been ejected, The Board shall interview the person and determine why the manager or coach should not be considered as resigned from the League. Failure to appear at the hearing shall constitute a League resignation;
 2. The Board may consider a second ejection as a league resignation from the manager or coaching position.

ARTICLE XVI – LEAGUE FINANCE POLICY

Section I – Disbursements

- A. The League shall recognize the annual budget as the authority for allocating and disbursing money;
- B. The League shall make annual budget adjustments by:
 1. The Treasurer informs the President for a budget review when disbursement will exceed funds or the annual budget deficit;
 2. Consenting to reallocate disburseable funds specified in various budget items provided there will not be a budget deficit;
- C. The League shall authorize cash expenditures not covered specifically in the League annual budget by:
 1. Treasurer approval for \$100 or less;
 2. Board approval for over \$100;
- D. The Board shall monitor League expenses according to Article I of these by-law's.

Section II – Audit

- A. The League shall provide at any reasonable time the books for open inspection to any League member, legal agency of the State of Washington, or Federal Agency, or League Audit Committee.

ARTICLE XVII – LEAGUE FUND RAISING

Section I – Purpose and Scope

- A. The League fund raising will be to reduce league financial obligations;
- B. The League will conduct time limited projects designated for players of League age.

ARTICLE XVIII – COMMERCIAL USE OF LEAGUE INFORMATION

Section I – Purpose

- A. The League shall not:
 - 1. Provide any information to the public concerning player registration information;
 - 2. Sell or otherwise issue information concerning parents or guardians, i.e., addresses and telephone numbers;
- B. Names and addresses for 12 year olds moving up to the Babe Ruth prep Leagues will be forwarded upon request by those Leagues.

ARTICLE XIX – DURING SEASON, NON-BLACK HILLS YOUTH BASEBALL, TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION

- A. The Board will support teams and players in their attendance at non-Black Hills Youth Baseball league tournaments provided that the team is composed only of the same roster of players as their Black Hills Youth Baseball team. When the tournament team roster is made up entirely of players from one Black Hills Youth Baseball team The League will allow use of League equipment, uniforms, insurance and the League name at non-league tournaments. The League discourages the formation of a team for participation in non-league tournaments when the team is made up of players from more than one Black Hills Youth Baseball team. The Board requests that the manager who is inviting non-rostered players notify the manager of the other team prior to the tournament. If a team participates in a non-league tournament, and uses members from another Black Hills Youth Baseball team, and as a result of using those players causes any impact to the other team, the manager of the team impacting the other team will be removed as a manager of his/her Black Hills Youth Baseball team. Any Black Hills Youth Baseball games that are missed due to participation in a non-league tournament will result in a forfeit of the game by the team participating in the non-league tournament.

ARTICLE XX – POST SEASON ALL-STAR ACTIVITIES

Section I – Purpose

- A. The League shall participate in Cal Ripken League post-season (All-star) activities provided the efforts do not detract from regular season benefits;
- B. To offer players the opportunity to play in Cal Ripken League competition at levels beyond the local League;
- C. The League shall provide for as many All-Star teams as practical based upon tournament availability and league finances. Teams that are eligible for official state and regional tournaments shall be known as the “American” team. The second all-star team shall be known as the “National” team.

Section II – Manager or Coach Selection

- A. The League shall accept request for consideration from any manager or coach within their respective divisions. In accordance with ARTICLE I Section I, B, 2, The Board shall approve or deny nominations;
- B. The League shall conduct elections for the All-Star Managers. The regular season managers and coaches shall vote by secret ballot. They may vote for themselves. Final selections must be approved by The Board;
- C. The elected Manager from each team shall choose the two Assistant Coaches.

Section III – Player Selection and Manager duties

- A. The Board shall determine, and publish prior to player evaluations the appropriate method of selection for All-Star teams. This shall be reviewed annually and any necessary changes shall be made in order to provide for the most equitable selection of the players;
- B. The All-Star manager will provide for the following:
 - 1. Collect All-Star fees (pay-to-play);
 - 2. Arrange practices;
 - 3. Inform each player of the practices;
 - 4. Arrange to enter post-season All-Star tournaments before the State Tournament;
 - 5. Work with the Equipment Manager to ensure All-Star uniforms are ordered;
 - 6. Secure photos for participants and State Tournament entry;
 - 7. Arrange, through the Equipment Manager, for All-Star team equipment;
 - 8. Work with the League President to compile the State Tournament;
 - 9. The Board shall review and ratify the All-Star State Tournament roster unless the Board can show good cause for doing otherwise;
 - 10. The Board will not review parental complaints that a player should be on or did not make the All-Star team;
 - 11. The Board will determine colors and logos for all All-Star teams uniforms. All, All-Star players and coaches will pay for uniforms and caps.

Section IV – All-Star Post Season Costs

- A. The League will pay up to \$1500.00 towards entry fees for 10, 11, and 12 year old State Tournament Teams. The League will pay up to \$1250.00 towards entry fees for 10 and 11 year old second teams and 9 year old and Rookie teams.
- B. Each All-Star manager will be responsible to pay entry fees for any costs exceeding this amount;
- C. Each All-Star team will receive a stipend (pay to play fee from players) to defray All-Star expenses. Each All-Star manager will be required to submit a detailed account of all expenditures;
- D. Each All-Star player will be required to pay to play;
- E. The amount of the pay to play fee shall be reviewed annually and set by The Board.

Section V – All-Star Player Roster Replacements

- A. When a rostered All-Star player drops off the roster before the roster is submitted to the State Tournament, the Manager must choose the replacement first from the originally nominated players;
- B. If the rostered player drops off after the roster is submitted, the League shall not replace the rostered player until after the State Tournament.

Section VI - All-Star Team Composition

1. 12 year old team – No more than 15 players with no 12 year old limit;
2. 11 year old team – No more than 15 players with no 12 or 10 or 9 year olds;
3. 10 year old team – No more than 15 players with no 9 or 11 or 12 year olds;
4. 9 year old team – No more than 15 players with no 8, 10, 11, or 12 year olds;
5. Rookie team – No more than 15 players with no 9 year olds;
6. Depending upon league finances, the Board may approve a second all-star team (“National” Team) for any or all age groups;
7. Any exceptions are strictly subject to Board approval.