

**BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS
OF
BERKS CITY-COUNTY BASEBALL LEAGUE**

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the organization shall be: **BERKS CITY-COUNTY BASEBALL LEAGUE**

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of the league shall be to provide an organized, competitive and instructional environment for youth ages nineteen and younger to develop their baseball skills. All City County League Regulations shall apply to all divisions unless superseded by changes illustrated in bold type and contained herein.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the BERKS CITY-COUNTY BASEBALL LEAGUE (LEAGUE) is open to any team from Berks, Chester, Montgomery, Lancaster and Schuylkill County that has made application to the LEAGUE and been accepted in accordance with the procedures outlined herein.

SECTION I: APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

- (A) All applications for membership in the LEAGUE shall be made in writing to the President of the LEAGUE.
- (B) In order for any application to be considered by the Membership for entry into the LEAGUE the application must be submitted prior to the December, regularly scheduled meeting of the LEAGUE.
- (C) Any team considered for membership shall be required to make a formal presentation for consideration as a member team at the December meeting of the LEAGUE.
- (D) A vote of the membership on new applications that have complied with the provisions of this section shall be taken at the January meeting at the LEAGUE. A majority of the teams present and voting in the affirmative, provided there is a quorum at the meeting, shall be sufficient to accept a new team into the LEAGUE.

SECTION II: PROBATION, DUES, EFFECTIVE DATE, WITHDRAWAL

- (A) PROBATION:
Any team accepted into the LEAGUE in accordance with Section I shall function in a probationary status for the first season. Provided no incident leading to expulsion or withdrawal occurs during the probationary period the team may be considered a permanent member to be voted on at the first annual meeting of the County Committee.
- (B) DUES:
 - (1) Dues shall be assessed at an annual rate established each year from time to time as necessary by the LEAGUE. Dues must be paid by the opening of the season. Failure to remit dues and other fees as required as provided shall be grounds for disciplinary action by the LEAGUE against the team responsible.
 - (2) Any new application for admission to the Junior Division of the LEAGUE shall be accompanied by a two year advance payment of dues based on the annual dues in effect at the date of application. Provided the team remains in good standing the balance of the dues shall be applied to the second year of their membership.
 - (3) In the event of withdrawal prior to the beginning of a season (i.e., prior to the final schedule accepted by the Committee at its final meeting prior to the start of the season) a team will be entitled to a refund of its dues and such other fees that may have been assessed but as of the date of withdrawal not yet expended.
 - (4) No refund of dues or fees are available to teams that are expelled by action of the LEAGUE.

- (C) PROOF OF INSURANCE:
- (1) Each team will be responsible for providing a certificate of insurance indicating insurability and naming the LEAGUE as an additional insured prior to the May meeting of the LEAGUE. Failure to provide said certificate may result in LEAGUE disciplinary action including but not limited to the forfeit of any game played without Proof of Insurance having been provided.
 - (2) In order to facilitate the efficient operation of the LEAGUE and to protect the players, coaches and officers of the LEAGUE should proof of insurance not be provided as required by the LEAGUE the team responsible for not furnishing the requisite certificate of insurance hereby authorizes the LEAGUE to purchase said insurance on behalf of the team. The team shall then be responsible for payment of that insurance cost by the next regularly scheduled meeting of the LEAGUE or risk disciplinary action by the LEAGUE.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS, ELECTION, VOTING, DUTIES, MEETINGS

- (A) **OFFICERS:** The officers of the LEAGUE shall consist of President, Vice-President, Vice-President of Administration, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-President of Senior Division, Vice-President of Junior Division, Vice-President of Prep Division, and Vice-President of Diamond Division.
- (B) **ELECTION:**
- (1) Officers shall be elected for a two-year term. Election of officers shall be a majority vote of the League permanent members and existing League Officers, provided a quorum of the teams are present. Election of Officers should take place at the January meeting, whereas nominations shall be submitted at the December meeting.
 - (a) The President, Vice President of Administration, and Treasurer shall be elected on odd years and shall serve two years.
 - (b) The Vice President and Secretary shall be elected in even years and shall serve two years.
 - (2) Each organization that has a permanent status (not probationary) shall have a vote to cast by its team representative or an authorized designee (proxy) from the team. To further clarify eligible votes, each organization in each division shall have the ability to cast a vote. No proxies will be allowed or accepted outside an individual team's organization (i.e. Wyomissing cannot allow their vote to be cast by Spring Township).
- (C) **VOTING:**
- (1) On all League matters regarding Bylaws, a vote will be taken by the Officers and the two-thirds majority will win.
 - (2) On all League matters regarding Rules of Play, a vote by the general membership will be taken and the majority will win. In the case of a tie, the matter voted upon shall be tabled until the next regularly scheduled meeting whereupon a second vote shall be taken. Should the result remain tied, the President may, by virtue of his position, break any tie by casting a second vote, regardless of any previous vote he may have as an officer or team representative, if applicable.
 - (a) Division issues shall be made to the League by a majority vote by each division, whereas each team in each division will have one vote
 - (b) Upon voting on a division or league issue, the League officers and all team representatives of all divisions will cast a vote, whereas majority vote will win.
 - (c) In the event of a tie, a second vote will occur at the next scheduled meeting
 - (d) In the event of another tie, the League President shall cast a second and deciding vote to break the tie.

- (D) DUTIES:
- (1) President shall preside at all meetings of the League and of its Officers and shall carry on those responsibilities assigned to him.
 - (a) Preside over all scheduled meetings of the LEAGUE
 - (b) Provide an agenda for each meeting based upon submissions received from teams prior to the meeting date. Agenda items must be received by the President in writing, at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting.
 - (c) Interact with team managers, assigners, umpires regarding agenda items.
 - (d) Establish the following Committee structures both standing and special that will also be listed on the current website.
 - (1) Competition Committee: Establish schedule based upon geography, number of teams each year following the December meeting where teams accepted for membership each year will be known. Schedules shall be ready for presentation by the February meeting or as determined by the LEAGUE.
 - (2) Playoff Committee: Establish playoff schedule, including selection of fields, umpires, game details and handling of protests.
 - (3) All-Star Game Committee: Establish framework for handling of game activities including securing date from municipal stadium, contact with teams, photographers, announcer and such other details necessary for a successful event.
 - (4) Banquet Committee: Establish committee to research location for banquet, program, speakers, award presentation, and press coverage.
 - (5) Protest Committee: Establish a standing Protest Committee of up to twelve (12) members, three from each division that shall be empanelled by the President to receive any protest. The committee empanelled shall consist of three members selected by the President that in the judgment of the President have the least bias of the nine committee members to hear the protest.
 - (2) Vice-President shall preside at all meetings of the League and of its Officers in the absence of the President. He shall also be responsible for the following:
 - (a) Preside, in the absence of the President, over all meetings of the LEAGUE
 - (b) Supervise organization & conduct of annual LEAGUE All-Star Game.
 - (c) Assist in dispute resolution prior to referral to LEAGUE.
 - (3) Vice President of Administration shall prepare the scheduling of all games throughout the regular scheduled season and assist other officers as may be necessary.
 - (4) Secretary shall keep an accurate account of all meetings of the organization and shall keep an accurate roll of the membership.
 - (a) Record minutes of all regular and special meetings of the LEAGUE.
 - (b) Record votes of all members on issues before the LEAGUE.
 - (c) Record attendance at all meetings of the LEAGUE.
 - (d) Provide notice of all meetings of LEAGUE to members with agenda as provided.
 - (5) Treasurer shall receive and is accountable for all funds of the organization. A record of all monies as expended or received shall be kept by the Treasurer,

whereas a report shall be provided the General Membership at all meetings. All expenditures shall have the prior approval of the Officers and Board Members. All checks should be signed by the Treasurer and President or by the Treasurer and Vice-President in the event the President is not available.

- (a) Establish all accounts necessary for the operation of the LEAGUE.
 - (b) Establish procedure for payment of invoices and signature authority on all accounts.
 - (c) Collect all fees, dues and fines attribute to payor and provide receipt for same.
 - (d) Issue financial report monthly or as required by LEAGUE.
 - (e) Supervise promotional book fund raising activities of LEAGUE.
 - (f) Supervise annual LEAGUE end of season banquet.
- (6) The following division officers shall be elected annually for one year:
- (a) Vice-President of Senior Division shall preside at all Senior division meetings and shall be responsible to oversee and manage that division, as well as carry on those responsibilities assigned to him.
 - (b) Vice-President of Junior Division shall preside at all Junior division meetings and shall be responsible to oversee and manage that division, as well as carry on those responsibilities assigned to him.
 - (c) Vice-President of Prep Division shall preside at all Prep division meetings and shall be responsible to oversee and manage that division, as well as carry on those responsibilities assigned to him.
 - (d) Vice-President of Diamond Division shall preside at all Diamond division meetings and shall be responsible to oversee and manage that division, as well as carry on those responsibilities assigned to him.
 - i. Within each division, an assigner and secretary/ treasurer shall be appointed by the League Officers for a term of one year. These appointed positions are not to be considered League Officers or Board Members.
 - ii.
- (7) Division Assigner shall be responsible for recording wins, losses, scores, assignment of field locations, pitcher innings, and the rescheduling of games due to postponement, inclement weather or other type cancellations. In addition, each assigner shall be responsible to post game day data on the website. All cancelled games shall be scheduled within two weeks from the originally scheduled date. If teams cannot agree upon a makeup date, time or location, the Assigner shall designate the date, time and location of said makeup game.
- (8) Division Secretary / Treasurer shall be responsible to keep an accurate account of all division meetings and shall keep an accurate roll of membership, including names and addresses. Records of meetings, rules of each division, etc. shall be turned over to the League Secretary. In addition, shall receive and be responsible for all funds and monies that are collected from teams relative to, but not limited to, special events, insurance, playoffs and awards. Funds and monies shall be accurately itemized and turned over to the League Treasurer.

If any Officer or Board Member is unable to perform their respective duties due to death, illness, resignation or termination (based on behavior which is detrimental to City County), their office can be filled by another member or team representative of the organization which is appointed by a majority vote of the Officers and Board Members. Any new officer appointed onto the Board must be elected by the General Membership at the General Meeting which is designated for election of officers.

(E) MEETINGS:

- (1) The League shall convene and have meetings a minimum of once every two months, whereas all business of the League should be discussed and reviewed.

Meetings shall be scheduled by the League President. Only those present or by proxy at League meetings will be to cast a vote.

- (2) Division meetings shall convene and have meetings once every two months, except during the months of August and December. Meetings shall be scheduled by the respective Divisional Vice-President. Attendance is mandatory at all divisional meetings and subject to fines if absent.

ARTICLE V: RULES OF PLAY

ISSUE	DIAMOND Division	PREP Division	JUNIOR Division	SENIOR Division
Bats:	Wood or Wood / Composite for ALL Divisions			
First Aid Kits:	Mandatory for ALL Divisions			
Game Balls:	Babe Ruth (BRO) or equivalent	BRO 1 or A 1010		BRO 1
Umpire Fees: (Each team pays half)	\$45 each for 2 umpires \$67.50 for 1 umpire	\$50 each for 2 umpires \$75 for 1 umpire	\$57 each for 2 umpires \$85.50 for 1 umpire	\$63 each for 2 umpires \$94.50 for 1 umpire
Age Eligible:	12 year olds (not 13 before April 30 th)	14 year olds (not 15 before May 1 st)	16 year olds (not 17 before April 30 th)	19 year olds (not 20 before May 1 st)
Restricted Players - Age:	None	(8) - 14 year olds maximum	(8) - 16 year olds maximum (only 2 may turn 17 between May 1 st and August 1 st)	No restrictions
Restricted Players – Leagues:	No restriction	Legion prep or junior legion players may NOT double roster		No restrictions
Geographic Limits:	School District (1 team per school district except 2 for Boyertown & Wilson)	Player ties to an organization once a member for the duration of the division player is within, unless released or waived		No restrictions
Pitching: (Week = Monday – Sunday)	- 9 innings max. per week - 3 innings max. per game - 3 innings max. in two consecutive days - Balks called after one warning PER pitcher - Pitched inning= 1 pitch, 1 inning	- 12 innings max. per week - 7 innings max. per game - 7 innings max. in two consecutive days - Over 5 innings per game, mandatory 2 days rest - Max pitches per game is 95, allowed to finish batter -Innings pitched recorded in 1/3 innings	12 innings max. per week - 9 innings max. per game - 9 innings max. in two consecutive days - Over 5 innings per game, mandatory 2 days rest - Max pitches per game is 105, allowed to finish batter. -Innings pitched recorded in 1/3 innings	- 14 innings max. per week - One pitch = one inning - Pitcher must be off mound to touch mouth -Innings pitched recorded in 1/3 innings
Play Rule:	Minimum of 3 innings, including defensively, unless game shortened.	No Minimum Playing Time Required		

ISSUE	DIAMOND Division	PREP Division	JUNIOR Division	SENIOR Division
Bunting:	- Permitted - No swinging bunts allowed - Once batter shows, batter must bunt	No restrictions		
Sliding:	Feet first unless returning to previous base	No restrictions		
Field Dimensions:	- 75 feet base paths - 53 feet pitching distance - 6 inches mound, maximum	- 90 feet base paths - 60'6" feet pitching distance - 10 inches mound, maximum		
Player Eligibility – Playoffs:	No restrictions	Must be present at a minimum of 25% of all regularly scheduled season games to qualify for playing in playoffs		
Courtesy Runners: (a player not in current lineup OR last out if all are active)	Courtesy Runner for active Pitcher & Catcher with 2 outs	Courtesy Runner for Catcher with 2 outs		Courtesy Runner for Pitcher and Catcher at anytime.
Mercy Rule:	15 runs after 4 innings 10 runs after 5 innings	10 runs after 5 innings		10 runs after 5 innings
Forfeit Fee:	\$50			
Substitution:	- Bat 9 or 10, EH allowed - Re-enter 1x, except P - No DH - Bat entire lineup allowed**	- Bat 9 or 10, EH allowed - Starters & Substitutes can re-enter 1x, except Pitcher - DH allowed		- Starters & Substitutes can re-enter 1x, Any Position - EH & DH allowed
Uniforms – Players: (patch on left sleeve)	- T-shirts w/patch & Hats - No metal spikes allowed	UNIFORM (Jersey w/patch, Pants, Hat, & Socks)		
Uniforms – Coaches: (patch on left sleeve)	- Uniform Shirt w/patch - Hat	- Uniform shirt w/patch - Hat, Pants, & Socks	- Uniform shirt w/patch - Hat	
Score Reporting:	Home Team Reports Include Innings Pitched 1 pitch = 1 inning	Home Team Reports Include Innings Pitched & Total Pitch Count Inning measured in Thirds (1/3 rd)		

** If player is injured and can no longer bat, his offensive position in the lineup shall not be considered an out.

** If player is ejected from the game, his offensive position in the lineup shall be considered an out.

ARTICLE VI: TEAM AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

SECTION I: TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- (A) Each team shall have a manager and no more than three coaches on the field. All managers, coaches, bat boys and bat girls shall be in matching team uniforms.
 - (1) Team uniforms shall consist of shirt, hat and pants
 - (2) No rostered coach may be on the bench or in the dugout out of uniform.
 - (a) Each team may have a non-rostered, non-uniformed scorekeeper. Non-uniformed scorekeepers may not be on the bench.
 - (b) All team rosters cannot exceed 18, however Senior Division teams may roster up to 20 players.

SECTION II: PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- (A) Players on any City-County baseball team may play for other teams outside of the City-County League.
- (B) Junior Legion and Junior Legion Prep Players may not double roster on a City-County Team.
- (C) All players on a team roster at the end of the season are in-eligible to play for other teams in their respective Division the following season until a written release is received by the President, signed by the manager of the releasing team. The LEAGUE has the right to provide a release to a player not released by last year's manager on a case by case scenario.
- (D) A roster of players with age certification (see F below) must be filed with the LEAGUE by the last meeting of the Board prior to the start of the season. The roster of up to 18 players must be filed with the LEAGUE President two weeks after the date of the first scheduled game if the roster contains additions or deletions from the original filed with the LEAGUE. Any additions after this date require LEAGUE approval.
- (E) If any team is found in violation of having ineligible players, the team shall forfeit any games in which the ineligible player participated and the coach shall be suspended for the remainder of that season plus the following season.
- (F) Players age must be verified by submission of a Birth Certificate, bearing the appropriate seal or a certified copy of such form the Bureau of Vital Statistics or Department of Health or an accepted certified birth recording agency of that state. Official Department of Commerce certificates area acceptable.
 - (1) In case of foreign birth, the player will present any certificate or document duly issued to the bearer by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Services or by the Department of State which shows the birth date of the bearer. Official birth certificates issued by a foreign country are acceptable when accompanied by an English translation. Military birth records (DD forms) are acceptable.
 - (2) A properly notarized copy of that portion of legal adoption papers showing the place and date of a player's birth shall be acceptable in cases of foster parents.
 - (3) The following ***ARE NEVER ACCEPTABLE AS LEGAL BIRTH RECORDS***:
 - (a) Baptismal Certificate
 - (b) Hospital certificates or records
 - (c) School certificates or records

SECTION III: EQUIPMENT:

- (A) Helmet Rule:
 - (1) All players when batting or base running must wear an approved batting helmet.

- (2) Bat boys or girls must wear a double flapped ear protective helmet while on the playing field at all times.
 - (3) All coaches are required to wear an approved batting helmet when coaching within the first and third base boxes.
- (B) Catcher's Equipment:
- (1) Catchers are required to wear, in addition to normal catcher's equipment, a safety helmet, throat protector, and protective cup.
 - (2) Any catcher's mask that does not have a throat protector is required to attach same to mask. Umpires and tournament officials shall halt the game until this rule is complied with.
 - (3) While warming up a pitcher, either in or out of the bullpen, a catcher must wear a mask and helmet. Any player who refuses to do so shall be ejected from the game.

SECTION IV: OFFICIAL GAME; SUSPENDED GAME; WEATHER

- (A) A regulation game consists of seven (7) innings, unless extended because of a tie score, or shortened because:
- (1) The home team needs none of its half or only a fraction of it, or
 - (2) The umpire calls the game.
- (1) If the score is tied after seven (7) completed innings play shall continue until:
- (1) The visiting team has scored more total runs than the home team at the end of a completed inning, or
 - (2) The home team scores the winning run in an uncompleted inning.
- (a) When a game is called, it is a regulation game IF:
- (1) Five innings have been completed.
 - (2) The home team has scored more runs in four and a half innings than the visiting team has scored in five innings.
 - (3) The home team scores one or more runs in its half of the fifth inning to tie the score.
- (b) If each team has the same number of runs when the game ends, the umpire shall declare it a "Tie Game." The game result shall stand as an official "tie game", provided:
- (1) 5 full innings or more have been completed, and
 - (2) the game has been suspended at the end of a full inning of play. One pitch in a subsequent inning constitutes an inning in progress and would not allow the tie game from the prior inning to stand as an official result.
- (c) If a game is called before it has become a regulation game, the umpire shall declare it "No Game."
- (2) The score of a regulation game is the total number of runs scored by each team at the moment the game ends.
- (a) The game ends when the visiting team completes its half of the seventh inning, if the home team is ahead.
 - (b) The game ends when the seventh inning is completed, if the visiting team is ahead.
 - (c) If the home team scores the winning run in its half of the 7th inning (or its half of an extra inning after a tie), the game ends immediately when the winning run is scored.

EXCEPTION: If the last batter in a game hits a home run out of the playing

field, the batter-runner and all runners on base are permitted to score, in accordance with the base-running rules, and the game ends when the batter-runner touches home plate.

(d) A called game ends at the moment the umpire terminates play.

EXCEPTION: If the game is called while an inning is in progress and before it is completed, the game becomes a SUSPENDED game in each of the following situations:

- (1) The visiting team has scored one or more runs to tie the score, and the home team has not scored.
- (2) The visiting team has scored one or more runs to take the lead, and the home team has not tied the score or retaken the lead.
- (3) The game has not become a regulation game (4½ innings with the home team ahead or 5 innings with the visiting team ahead or tied).
- (4) Any regulation game tied at the point play is stopped because of weather, curfew or other reason.
- (5) If a game is suspended before it becomes a regulation game, and is continued prior to another regularly scheduled game, the regularly scheduled game will be limited to seven innings.
- (6) If a game is suspended after it is a regulation game, and is continued prior to another regularly scheduled game, the regularly scheduled game will be a seven inning game.

(3) **SUSPENDED GAMES.**

(a) The league shall adopt the following rules providing for completion at a future date of games suspended for any of the following reasons:

- (1) Light failure or malfunction of a mechanical field device under control of the home club. (Mechanical field device shall include automatic tarpaulin or water removal equipment).
- (2) Darkness.
- (3) Weather, if the game is called while an inning is in progress and before it is completed, and one of the following situations prevails:
 - (i) The visiting team has scored one or more runs to tie the score, and the home team has not scored.
 - (ii) The visiting team has scored one or more runs to take the lead, and the home team has not tied the score or retaken the lead.

(b) No game called because of a curfew, weather, or a time limit shall be a suspended game unless it has progressed far enough to have been a regulation game under the provision of Rule A.1. (a) of Section II. A game called under the provisions of 3.0 shall be a suspended game at any time after it starts.

NOTE: Weather and similar conditions 1.2(a) (1 through 5) - shall take precedence in determining whether a called game shall be a suspended game. A game can only be considered a suspended game if stopped for any of the three (3) reasons specified in Section (a). Any regulation game called due to weather or darkness with the score tied (unless situation outlined in 1.2(a)(3)(i) prevails) is a tie game and must be replayed in its entirety.

(c) A suspended game shall be resumed at the exact point of suspension of the original game. The completion of a suspended game is a

continuation of the original game. The lineup and batting order of both teams shall be exactly the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment of suspension, subject to the rules governing substitution. Any player may be replaced by a player who had not been in the game prior to the suspension. No player removed before the suspension may be returned to the lineup.

- (B) Each game should have two umpires; but if only one umpire is present, the game will not be canceled.
- (C) Team Protocol: The visiting team shall be allowed the field twenty (20) minutes before each game, customarily after the home team has had its pre-game warmup activities. This may be altered upon agreement of the teams at each game.
- (D) Non-participating players are to remain on the team bench or area while the game is being played; except for personal hygiene, to obtain water, or by permission of the manager.
- (E) If the teams agree to play with less than a full team there will be no forfeit fee assessed notwithstanding the official standings will reflect a forfeit for the team fielding less than nine (9) players.
 - (1) If a team fields 9 players and one (1) player is injured and unable to continue, the game shall be played to completion without implementation of the forfeit rule in E. The injured or removed player shall be considered an out when batting (see Diamond division exception).
- (F) A grace period of fifteen (15) minutes will be awarded to the team failing to field nine (9) players. If in this time period a team cannot field nine players, the team will forfeit the game. If a player making a total of nine for the team short players arrives within this time period, the game shall start immediately.
- (G) The first and second forfeits may result in a fine as set by the LEAGUE for each occurrence. A third occurrence will result in expulsion from the LEAGUE while also forfeiting all games previously played and yet to be played plus all fees to the LEAGUE. Non forfeiting team will be reimbursed by the LEAGUE for umpire fees.
- (H) Any of the starting players may withdraw and re-enter once, provided such a player occupies the same batting position in the lineup.
- (I) All games must be completed by date designated to end season with exceptions of rain on last day. Team in violation will forfeit remaining unplayed games.
- (J) In case of injury and a team has no eligible substitutes left, the opposing manager may pick a player previously eligible from the team to replace the injured player.
- (K) A pitcher may pitch twelve (12) innings in a week (Monday-Sunday). Innings will be renewed each Monday for Prep and Junior Divisions. Innings pitched will be recorded in thirds (outs). A team found in violation will forfeit that game and will pay a fine designated by the LEAGUE.
- (L) A ten (10) run rule for the Prep and Junior Divisions has been implemented. If there are ten (10) runs separating the teams and the home team has batted, the game will be official and will be ended provided at least 4½ or 5 innings are completed, depending on the team with the ten (10) run lead.
- (M) Cancelled, postponed, or suspended games must be rescheduled within 48 hours. In the event the game is not rescheduled within the allotted time, the Division Assigner shall check home field availability, arrange umpires, and reschedule the game. In the event a team cannot be present to play at the designated time, it will be considered a forfeit.

SECTION V: CONTACT RULE; BLOOD; COLLISION; SLIDE; TOBACCO; JEWELRY

- (A) Blood Rule: Any player who suffers from a laceration or where the wound is oozing blood, the game shall be stopped at the earliest possible time and the athlete must be

treated immediately. If the bleeding requires extensive treatment, a substitute shall replace the injured player. (Umpires are directed to give reasonable amount of time to allow injured player to be treated.)

- (B) Collision Rule: The LEAGUE is concerned about unnecessary and violent collisions with the catcher at home plate and with infielders at all bases. The intent of this rule is to encourage base runners and defensive players to avoid collisions, whenever possible.
1. When there is a collision between a runner and a fielder who clearly *is in possession* of the ball, the umpire shall judge:
 - a. Whether the collision by the runner was avoidable (could the runner have reached the base without colliding) or unavoidable (the runner's path to the base was blocked)
 - b. Whether the runner actually was attempting to reach the base (plate) or attempting to dislodge the ball from the fielder.

PENALTY - *If the runner, a) could have avoided the collision and reached the base, or b) attempted to dislodge the ball, the runner shall be declared out, even if the fielder loses possession of the ball. The ball is dead and all other bases runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the interference.*

Ruling 1: - If the fielder blocks the path of the base runner to the base (plate), the runner may make contact, slide into, or collide with a fielder as long as the runner is making a legitimate attempt to reach the base or plate.

Ruling 2: - If the collision by the runner was flagrant, the runner shall be declared out and ejected from the contest. The ball shall be declared dead.
 2. If the defensive player blocks the base (plate) or base line clearly without the ball, or is not in the immediate act of catching the ball, obstruction shall be called. The runner is safe and a delayed dead ball shall be called.

Ruling 1: - If the runner collides flagrantly, he shall be declared safe on the obstruction, but will be ejected from the contest. The ball is dead.
- (C) Malicious Contact: The LEAGUE is concerned that some coaches may not have explained to their players that malicious contact is illegal. The majority of intentional collisions occur at home plate where the catcher is blocking the plate. Runners should be instructed to slide directly to the plate, or away from the catcher, or to avoid making contact with the catcher, especially when the defender is in possession of the ball. Any player who, *in the judgment of the umpire*, maliciously runs into another player is automatically ejected and declared out. Umpires have been instructed that if there is any intentional and excessive force, or if there is any intent to injure another player, the offending player shall be ejected from the game. Malicious contact penalty will be enforced whether committed by an offensive or defensive player.
- (D) Force-Play Slide Rule: The intent of the force-play slide rule is to ensure the safety of the defensive player. This is a safety rule, as well as an interference rule. This rule pertains to a force-play situation regardless of the number of outs.
1. On a force play at any base, including home plate, the runner must slide on the ground and in a direct line between the two bases. This is a legal slide even if contact is made with the fielder.
 - a. "On the ground" can either be a head-first slide or a slide with one leg and buttock on the ground.
 - c. Directly into a base means the runner's entire body (feet, legs, trunk and arms) must stay in a straight line between the bases. (*A runner need not slide directly into a base as long as the individual slides or runs in a direction away from the fielder to avoid making contact or altering the play of the defensive player.*)
 2. Contact is allowed if the runner:
 - a. Makes a legal slide directly to the base, or

- b. Is on the ground at the time of contact and the fielder moves directly down the line between the two bases to attempt a play. Interference shall not be called.
- 3. It is an illegal slide if:
 - a. The runner slides or runs out of the base line in the direction of the fielder.
 - b. The runner uses a rolling, cross-body or pop-up slide into a fielder. (A pop-up slide is a legal slide as long as the runner does not make contact with, or alter the play of the fielder.)
 - c. The runner's raised leg is higher than the fielder's knee when in a standing position. (*Beyond the base refers to any part of the offensive player's body that makes contact with or alters the play of the fielder past the base.*)
 - d. The runner slashes or kicks the fielder with either leg.
 - e. The slide is flagrant. (*If the runner's slide is flagrant, the individual shall be ejected from the game.*)
- 4. If the runner, on a force play, makes an illegal slide at any base, including home plate, interference shall be called.

PENALTY - With less than two outs, the batter-runner, as well as the interfering runner, shall be declared out and no other runner(s) shall advance. With two outs, the interfering runner shall be declared out and no other runner(s) shall advance.

(E) Tobacco Rule: The LEAGUE does not permit the use of any tobacco product during play, whether it is smoke or smokeless brands of tobacco. This rule applies to both coaches and players.

(F) Jewelry Rule: The LEAGUE does not permit the wearing of earrings, necklaces, rings, watches, bracelets or jewelry of any type during play, except those items designating medical conditions. Senior Division is exempt from this rule.

SECTION VI: SPORTSMANSHIP

- (A) Sportsmanship: Any player, coach, manager or other party accompanying a team may be ejected for the remainder of the game by the umpire if they;
 - 1. Use profane language.
 - 2. Make unnecessary or obscene gestures in protesting an umpire's decision.
 - 3. Throw bats or other equipment.
 - 4. Make unnecessary or obscene gestures to fans or opposing players.
 - 5. Resort to unnecessary roughness on the playing field.
 - 6. Do not address umpires at all time with courtesy and respect.

Any player, coach, manager, scorekeeper, or other official team representative accompanying a team who is ejected at a game will not be permitted to participate in that team's next game, including playoffs.

Umpires shall be requested to check equipment prior to the start of each game including spikes, bats, helmets, and catcher's equipment.

SECTION VII: PROTESTS; REGULATIONS

- (A) The LEAGUE shall appoint a protest committee consisting of three (3) teams that are not affected by the decision of the committee.
- (B) The Protest Committee shall be responsible for rendering its findings in all disciplinary matters brought to the attention of the President.
- (C) All protests must be submitted in writing along with the fee to the LEAGUE Assigner within 48 hours after the game is played. This fee will be returned if the verdict is in

favor of the team, otherwise it will be deposited in the LEAGUE account.

- (D) The protest committee shall render a FINAL verdict within 24 hours from the time the committee receives the protest.
- (E) In the event the Protest Committee recommends expulsion or suspension only that recommendation shall be subject to a confirmation vote by the full LEAGUE at the earliest scheduled meeting unless an emergency meeting is in order based on consultation with the Committee representatives and the President. If such an emergency meeting is necessary the Secretary by order of the President will notify teams of the time and place for such meeting.

SECTION VIII: PLAYOFFS

Separate playoffs shall be conducted by each of the divisions in a double elimination format. The calendar and locations of playoffs shall be established annually by the league.

- (A) Playoff seeding will be determined by tie breaking qualifiers in order of priority:
 - (1) Overall record (best record with the higher won-loss differential, ties excluded)
 - (2) Head-to-head match up
 - (3) Highest number of games won in Division
 - (4) Least total runs allowed in all games
 - (5) Coin flip

This section of the City County Baseball League playoff regulations shall also be in force for all Division playoffs.

- (B) All home teams shall have the score book signed at the completion of each game so as to avoid discrepancies with regard to final scores. Failure to sign, or protest by opposing team, shall result in the home team score declared official.
- (C) All playoff games shall be seven (7) innings which will constitute a complete game. All playoff games shall be continued at the point of termination regardless of the inning.
- (D) The team reflecting the best record in LEAGUE play will be the home team throughout the playoff rounds.
 - (1) Home team for the championship game will be decided by a coin toss.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS

No additions, alteration or amendments to these By-Laws shall be made unless a motion is presented in writing at a stated meeting and agreed upon by a two-thirds (2/3's) vote of the teams present.

Voting in matters involving "Rules of Play" will be taken by the LEAGUE, and the majority will win. In the case of a tie, the matter voted upon shall be tabled until the next regularly scheduled meeting whereupon a second vote shall be taken. Should the result remain tied, the President may, by virtue of his position, break any tie by casting a second vote, regardless of any previous vote he may have as an officer or team representative, if applicable.

ARTICLE VIII: DUES, FEES, and FINES

- (A) All dues, fees and fines shall be set by the LEAGUE prior to the start of the season, but no later than the December meeting of the LEAGUE.
- (B) The following is a list of fees and/or fines currently imposed by the LEAGUE for the year 2012:
 - (1) LEAGUE Admission Fee = \$0
 - (2) Protest Fee = deposit \$50; forfeited if protest is lost
 - (3) Forfeit Fee = \$50
 - (4) Annual Dues = \$350
 - (5) Missed Meeting = \$25
 - (6) All voting rights are suspended until all fines are paid in full.

- (C) All fines and fees must be paid prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the LEAGUE. In the event of protest and entry fees, payment shall be as set by the LEAGUE for entry fees and the protest committee in the case of a protest.
- (D) Voting rights for a team three (3) months in arrears on fines and fees shall be suspended until paid in full.
 - (1) Prior to suspension, a notice in writing shall be sent by the Treasurer noting outstanding amounts due to the team designee.

ARTICLE IX: QUORUM

- (A) A quorum of the LEAGUE shall be 50% plus 1 of all permanent voting LEAGUE members (i.e., not on probation).
- (B) A quorum shall be necessary to conduct LEAGUE business.
- (C) Attendance at LEAGUE meetings is mandatory. Failure to send a representative authorized to vote on behalf of a permanent member shall result in a fine established annually by the LEAGUE.

ARTICLE X: OFFICIAL BASEBALL RULES

- (A) All baseball issues not addressed herein shall be referred to the current version of the “Official Baseball Rules” for resolution.
- (B) Home plate umpires will hold line-up cards for each team. Substitutes will enter through umpires.
- (C) Umpires will check bats, helmets and throat protectors.
- (D) Umpires will be addressed with courtesy. (i.e., “Sir”)