

# BAN JOHNSON AMATEUR BASEBALL LEAGUE RULES 2025

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### I. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

#### A. Age

Generally, all players must be under 23 years old until August of the current year. This means that only players born on or after August 1, 2002, are eligible to play during the 2025 season. Exceptions may be granted by the BJ Rules Committee for various reasons, including but not limited to those who still have college eligibility remaining at the conclusion of the 2025 baseball season, and other situations that may be considered appropriate by the rules committee. Players in these categories must submit information to the League for consideration and approval.

#### B. Residency

1. Player is eligible if he is a full-time student at a high school, junior college, college, or university located in the State of Kansas or Missouri as of the beginning of the spring semester of the current year. See 2d below for exception.

2. Other than those eligible under 1 (above) the following rules apply to non-student players:

a. Player is eligible if his permanent residence is within a 50-mile radius of Kansas City prior to or during the season.

b. Player is eligible if his parents move within the 50-mile radius of Kansas City prior to or during the season.

c. Players must live within the 50-mile radius of Kansas City effective January 1 of the playing year.

d. Players committed to and enrolling in either summer school or the fall semester of the current year in a high school, junior college, college, or university located in the State of Kansas or Missouri may submit a letter to the Rules Committee for determination of eligibility.

3. The Rules Committee may approve the eligibility of other students when warranted by the circumstances of a given situation. Any player desiring special consideration must submit a request in writing to the League for action.

4. There can be a maximum of five (5) players per team, unless specific authority for more is granted by the Rules Committee, whose permanent residence is outside of the 50-mile radius of Kansas City.

C. Team managers are responsible for assuring that their players are eligible. A team will be forced to forfeit any games in which an ineligible player, as determined by the Rules Committee, is used.

D. There may be players whose eligibility is questionable. In these cases, any manager may submit during the current season a written inquiry to the BJ Executive Director for referral to the Rules Committee.

E. The BJ Rules Committee will consist of the executive director, the president and up to three board members appointed by the president. The 2025 Rules Committee is composed of John Stipetich, Nancy Milgram, Tom Prendergast, & Bob McFarlane. The BJ Rules Committee will examine the evidence for each inquiry submitted and will make a decision. The decision of the BJ Rules Committee is final and will be communicated all BJ sponsors and managers.

F. If the eligibility of a player is under consideration by the BJ Rules Committee, the Rules Committee can forbid the player from participating in a BJ game until a ruling is made. During the waiting period, a team will forfeit all games in which the questionable player participates.

G. No more than four (4) players from any NCAA Division 1 school may be signed to the roster of any single team during the season. NCAA Division II and III, NAIA, and Junior Colleges have no player limits.

H. The waiver or selective paying of league registration fees is prohibited, to protect the amateur standing of all participants in accordance with both NCAA & NAIA rules. Each player must pay his own fee.

I. Changes in Amateur status as determined by the NCAA or other governing body of college athletics may result in reinstatement of amateur status and if so the Rules Committee may review any case and make a final determination of the eligibility to participate in the BJ program.

## II. Player Recruitment and Signing

### A. Recruiting

1. It is the responsibility of each team manager, with the assistance of his coaches, to recruit players for his team. Nobody else is authorized to recruit players for the BJ.

2. It is anticipated that outsiders (high school, college or little league coaches, major league scouts or others) periodically will recommend players to BJ managers or coaches. It is the responsibility of the BJ manager or coach to contact a player directly to discuss the possibility of his playing in the BJ.

### B. Signing

1. Prospective players will all register on the BJ Baseball website at [bjbaseball.com](http://bjbaseball.com) and complete the player registration. The Director will assign players to a team subject to approval by the team manager. Once approved the player must complete payment either by check or credit card to be eligible to participate. No refunds of player fees will be possible once the season starts and the player has

appeared in a game. Refunds may be approved by the Executive Director prior to appearance in a game at an amount deemed appropriate. A team will be subject to forfeit for playing any player not properly registered, approved, and paid prior to participation, at the discretion of the BJ Executive Director. The player registration process will fulfill the requirement to be under contract as written contracts are no longer required.

### III. Team Rosters

#### A. Building Roster for current season.

1. Returning teams from a prior season have until January 31 of the current year to freeze players on the roster from the prior season. All non-rostered players will be considered free agents on Feb 1 and will be eligible to register with any team.
2. The list of non-rostered players is submitted to the Executive Director and is not provided to team managers.
3. Non-rostered players are not informed by the League that they are free agents. It is the responsibility of team managers to communicate roster status to their players.
4. If there is a frozen player on the roster and that player has not registered for the coming season, the manager has the option of keeping him on the team's roster and he will count in the 30- player team limit. If the player does not register or does not participate within the first 20 days of the season, he will become a free agent at his request and may sign with any team.
5. A list of players who become free agents under the 20-day rules is not provided to the team managers. Players involved are expected to reach out seeking a new team and the Executive Director can confirm the situation with an inquiring manager.
6. If a player is on a team frozen roster and desires to play for another team, he may make a request to his manager to either be cut or released. That request then goes through the process outlined in Section 3-C below pertaining to cuts and releases.

## B. Roster Changes

1. A team may have a maximum of 30 active players under contract at any time and these 30 players constitute the team's active roster. Players with confirmed injuries or health conditions requiring nonparticipation can be placed on the injured reserve list with the approval of the Executive Director. This provision is not to be used to merely rotate players to maintain an active 30-man roster. Misuse of this provision will be monitored by the Executive Director and any misuse will be dealt with within the administrative authority of the Executive Director. Injured reserve list players will not count towards the 30-player limit. Every team must have a minimum of 18 registered and paid players on its roster.

2. The opening day roster (including each player's name, address, telephone number, school, height, weight, and email address) must be submitted via website registration to the executive director at least three days prior to the team's first scheduled game.

3. The BJ executive director must be informed immediately when a roster change is made.

## C. Removal of Players from a Roster

1. A player may be taken off a team roster by either a cut or a release. A cut is intended to be the prerogative of the Team Manager, and a release is a player right with regards to being able to change teams for any reason within the guidelines provided.

a. A player cut is originated by the team manager. A manager may cut a player from his roster at any time, except during the frozen roster period, if one exists for the season.

b. A player who is cut is eligible to sign with any other team in the league.

c. The BJ executive director will compile a list of all players who are cut from team rosters. During the season, the BJ Executive Director will advise the managers of those players cut from other teams. During the off-season, the BJ executive director will mail a list of those cut to each manager. During January, or as soon as possible, the BJ

Executive Director will obtain a current roster from each manager and will make it available on the website to each team manager.

2. A release is requested by the player and initiated by his present manager.

a. For players who have played in at least one BJ game for the team they are on:

1. If a player wants his immediate release, the manager must give it to him immediately (except during the frozen roster period). If a player wants to remain in the BJ, the last place team in the standings at the time his release is initiated will have the first opportunity to sign the released player. If the last place team does not sign the player, then the next to the last place team will have the opportunity to do so. This procedure will continue for each team in ascending order of their positions in the standings.

2. If two or more teams are tied for a position in the standings, and more than one team wants to sign a released player, then the flip of a coin by the BJ executive director in the presence of the team managers involved, will determine which team has the right to sign the player.

3. During the season, a team will have no longer than 24 hours to decide about signing a released player.

4. During the off-season, priority for obtaining released players is determined by the final season records (not counting post season) of the preceding season. A new team is considered to be in last place during the off-season.

b. For players who have never played in a BJ game for the team whose roster they are on:

1. If a player is signed by a team before the season begins and has not played in a BJ game within 20 days after the season starts, he is eligible to be a free agent by merely notifying his manager or the BJ Executive Director of his desire to become a free agent. He will then be removed from that team's roster and is free to sign with any team in the BJ.

2. If a player is signed by a team during the season and does not appear in a game at all for the remainder of the season his registration is void and he is a free agent as of the end of the season and can sign with any team in the BJ. If he desires to stay with the prior team or play with a new team, he must execute a new registration in accordance with the regular registration rules.

c. A player may request only one release under rule 2-A-1 during his BJ career.

d. All releases under rule 2-A-1 must be in writing, signed by the team manager, and the player involved, and is approved by the BJ executive director. A release form is available for this purpose.

e. Tampering with players on rosters of competing BJ teams is strictly prohibited. Managers and coaches may not approach players under contract to competing teams to encourage them to ask for their releases. A breach of this rule could result in suspension from the BJ for a period to be determined by the Rules Committee.

f. A released player will not be allowed to play for another BJ team until he has returned all team property to his previous team.

#### C. Trades

1. Players may be traded from one BJ team to another at any time and all players involved in the trade must approve.

2. All trades must have the approval of the BJ Executive Director to take effect.

#### IV. Relations with Other League

A. A player may be on both a BJ roster and the roster of a team in a league composed of younger players. In the case of conflicting games on the same date, a player will be allowed to participate in the BJ game only if the manager of the other team or parents of the player provides a written statement of approval, and the statement is in the possession of the official scorekeepers prior to the start of the conflicting game. Otherwise, the player must play in the other league. A violation of this rule will result in a

team forfeiting any game in which an ineligible player participates.

B. A player on a BJ roster may not play in other leagues in the KC area with the same or older age limits (i.e., Jr/Sr Men's League, Jayhawk League, M.I.N.K., Mid Plains League, KC Collegiate League etc.) during the BJ scheduled season. A player rostered on and playing for one of the competitive leagues will be ineligible to participate in BJ games. Once removed from the roster by the team a player will be eligible to participate in BJ games subject to all eligibility requirements as stated elsewhere in these rules. Participation by ineligible players may lead to forfeiture of any games in which a player played as determined by the Executive Director.

#### V. Scheduling

A. Each team will play a League schedule of games in either two halves or single season in a number set annually by the Rules Committee.

B. The BJ executive director provides the official BJ schedule prior to the beginning of the season. The Executive Director as required by circumstances may change the schedule.

C. The BJ Executive Director shall make all final decisions regarding postponements, (which shall be done only due to poor weather conditions, unplayable field conditions, or any other circumstance deemed to be detrimental to, or for the best interest of the league). The BJ executive director will notify the sponsors and managers of the teams involved.

D. The BJ executive director is responsible for drafting the official BJ schedule prior to the season and the scheduling of all make-up games but may delegate the responsibility. The game will be scheduled as soon as possible, and in most cases will be played in the order of the original postponement if possible. The BJ Executive Director will make sure that sponsors, managers, umpires, and playing field officials are notified of the dates of the make-up games.

E. Postponed games may not be rescheduled after the conclusion of the first or second half (if halves are

played) unless a game could have an impact on the determination of the championship of that half.

F. The first half games (if halves are played) of significance will be completed prior to the start of the second half, if possible. First half games may be played after the start of the second half. Scheduled games at the start of the second half may be moved to accommodate this rule.

G. It shall be League policy that all reasonable efforts will be exercised to provide each team with the opportunity to play all regular season games. The Executive Director shall be responsible for all decisions concerning scheduling and rescheduling.

H. The first team listed on the schedule will be the visiting team and will occupy the first base dugout. In the second game of a double header the teams will switch dugouts if either manager requests to do so, otherwise they will stay in the same dugout as the first game.

I. The League does not consider itself a travel league and will not approve games under such circumstances. Teams who play games outside the league are responsible for all of their own expenses including necessary insurance.

## VI. Procedures on Game Dates

### A. Pre Game Procedures

1. For any single game or the first game of multiple games, the home team can take batting practice any time up to one hour prior to the scheduled game time, if cages are unavailable.

2. The visiting team will have the opportunity to take batting practice from the time of one hour to 30 minutes prior to the scheduled game time, if cages are unavailable.

3. If a team does not want to take batting practice, the manager of the team should notify the other team manager so that the other team can use the field during that time, if desired, if cages are unavailable.

4. Each team is allowed 10 minutes of infield practice, with the home team taking infield first from 25 minutes to 15 minutes prior to scheduled start time. The visiting team will take 15 minutes to 5 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. Failure to use the allotted time results in a lost opportunity. Managers are expected to keep track of time because games will start at scheduled times even if one or both teams have not had an infield.

5. Game time is forfeit time. BJ games are expected to start at scheduled times. Starting times will be delayed only in case of rain, light failure, the playing field not being ready, or other circumstances determined by the Executive Director to be in the best interest of the Program.

6. A team will be forced to forfeit any game in which it does not have at least nine players ready to play by scheduled or revised starting time. There is no grace period. Managers cannot agree to changing the starting times. Forfeit time on 2<sup>nd</sup> game of double-header is start time listed on schedule or 20 minutes after completion of first game whichever is later. A manager can agree to forfeit the second game early if he knows he will not have enough players, but he cannot be forced to forfeit early.

7. A manager or coach must submit a completed line-up card to the home plate umpire and the scorekeeper ten minutes prior to the start of each game and the person acting as manager for that game must be identified to the umpire. It must include the following information: each player's first and last name, number and position. A player may accompany the manager or coach but cannot go alone. Failure to submit a completed line-up card on time could result in the game not being played.

#### B. Game Procedures

1. The Ban Johnson League follows the rules of the Official NCAA Baseball Rules, as well as special league rules set by the Rules Committee. Each BJ manager and coach is responsible for completely understanding the rules.

2. As a manager or coach, you are responsible for running your ball club on the baseball field. The umpires officiate the games, and you handle your own teams. Umpire jurisdiction regarding personal confrontations and

unsportsmanlike conduct directed toward them begins when the umpires enter the game site (parking lot) and ends when the umpires have left the parking lot.

3. Only managers, coaches and eligible players are allowed on the playing field or on the bench during a game, and all must be in uniform. No one else will be allowed on the field or the bench without League approval. Uniform and personnel exceptions are subject to approval by the Executive Director. Failure to comply may result in ejection.

4. While the game is in progress, all managers, coaches and players must remain on the field or in the dugout, and nobody is allowed to converse with anyone in the stands or behind the dugouts. Violators can be ejected from the ballgame.

5. Any manager, coach or player ejected from a game by the umpire must leave the field and the grandstands immediately. The ejected person must remain out of sight of the umpires for the remainder of the game. Failure to do so will result in a one game suspension from the BJ.

6. Only managers and coaches are allowed in the coaching boxes. Players can only be used if a manager or coach is not in attendance at a game. All must wear appropriate head gear and uniform while on the field.

7. Only the manager may approach an umpire to talk about a call or the umpire's decision. The official team manager will be the person listed on the official Team Roster or a designated person in his absence. At the pregame meeting with the umpires the name of the manager will be communicated to the umpire.

8. Pitch timing rules will be as outlined in the NCAA Baseball Rules for 2025.

9. Managers cannot enter the dirt circle at home plate for appeals or interpretations of the rules of play. They must initiate those actions at the midpoint of their team's respective foul line.

10. Run spread: Any team that is ahead by 10 runs after 5 innings (7 inning game) or after 6 innings (9 inning game) will be declared the winner of the game.

11. Regulation Game: Shall be 7 innings per game in double headers and single games.

a: It shall be a regulation game if called by the umpire at any time after 5 innings in a 9 inning game or after 4 innings in a 7 inning game have been completed, and the score shall be that of the last equal inning played, except that in the following circumstances the score of the game shall be the total number of runs that each team has scored:

1. If the team second at bat has scored more runs at the end of its fourth (9 inning game) or third (7 inning game) than the team first at bat has scored in five (9 inning game) or four (7 inning game) completed innings.
2. If the team second at bat has scored in an unequal number of innings more runs than the team first at bat, or;
3. If the team second at bat is a bat when the game is called and has scored in the uncompleted inning the same number of runs or more runs than the team first at bat.

b. It is a regulation game if it is called by the umpire for any cause that puts patrons or players in peril such as for darkness, inclement weather, a facility problem, crowd behavior, etc., or if a curfew has been met, provided the conditions in 11-a have been met

12. Second games of doubleheaders will start 20 minutes after the first game is completed or the scheduled time whichever is later. If both Managers agree the 2<sup>nd</sup> game can start before the time listed on the League schedule once the 20-minute time period has passed.

13. Protests must be made at the time of the alleged infraction per the Official Rules of Baseball and noted properly in the official scorebook. The protester must deposit \$50.00 with the BJ executive director within 48 hours to become official. The BJ Rules Committee will rule on the protest. The \$50.00 will be returned only if the protest is upheld.

14. If the BJ executive director is not in attendance at a BJ game, or cannot be contacted via electronic means, his appointed representative will be in charge and will be authorized to act on his behalf.

15. BASEBALL COURTESY RUNNER/SPEED-UP RULE

- a. At any time, the team at bat may use courtesy runners for the pitcher, and/or the catcher. It shall be mandatory with 2 outs. The same runner may not be used for both positions. Neither the pitcher nor the catcher will be required to leave the game under such circumstances.
- b. Players who have participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners.
- c. A player may not run as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or the catcher and then be used as a substitute for another player in that half inning. If an injury, illness or ejection occurs and no other runners are available, the courtesy runner may be used as a substitute.
- d. The home plate umpire shall record courtesy runner participation.
- e. A player who violates the courtesy runner rule is an illegal substitute.

Exception: Should an injury, illness or ejection occur to the courtesy runner, another courtesy runner for the pitcher or catcher may run.

16. Extra Inning Games. All extra-inning games will start with a runner at 2<sup>nd</sup> base.

C. Equipment

1. Every player must wear a double earflap protective helmet while batting and running the bases. In addition, base coaches are required to wear a helmet. Play will not continue until compliance with this rule is met. It is recommended that the coach's helmet meet NOCSAE/standards.
2. Catchers must wear throat protectors and protective helmets when fielding their positions.
3. Wood bats meeting official Baseball specifications and approved composite bats are allowed, no other bat may be used unless approved by the League.

D. Conduct at the Ballpark

1. Managers and coaches are responsible for informing their players about the rules of the BJ and for assuring that good sportsmanship is always practiced.

2. The consumption of beer and other alcoholic beverages by the BJ managers, coaches, players, umpires or other BJ officials, is prohibited at the site of a BJ game when it violates Park Rules. The site includes the ballpark itself, the grounds surrounding the ballpark and the parking lot. Violators will be suspended from the BJ for 10 days.

3. Smoking, chewing tobacco, sunflower seeds, metal spikes cell phones and ipads (except for official scorekeeping). are prohibited on the playing field or in the dugouts for all personnel.

4. Managers, coaches and players are expected to exercise restraint in the use of their language during the games. Anybody who, in the opinion of the BJ executive director, uses excessive, profane language, is subject to suspension from the BJ for a period of up to one year.

5. Any BJ business that is conducted between the BJ Executive Director, the BJ managers, and coaches must be handled in a quiet and businesslike manner. The BJ executive director has the authority to suspend for one game any manager or coach who engages in loud, verbal abuse that the BJ executive director considers disrespectful or unbecoming to the image of the BJ.

6. Managers, coaches and players cannot make derogatory remarks to each other. The umpire is in charge of enforcing this rule. It is his decision as to what is out of line. If this is violated, the umpire will issue a warning first. Then, he can eject said parties from the ballgame. In addition, the BJ Executive Director can suspend violators for one game.

7. The BJ Executive Director may suspend a manager, coach, or player for up to two games at his discretion for violation of any BJ rule. The BJ Rules Committee must approve a suspension for more than two games. The BJ Rules Committee, following a hearing, may authorize a suspension for a longer period. The BJ Rules Committee has the right

to defer decisions on suspensions to the BJ Board of Directors.

8. Scorekeepers are officials of the League and as such will be treated with the same respect as all other officials. Managers, coaches, and players are subject to discipline at the discretion of the Executive Director for violations of this section.

#### VII. All-Star Game

A. The BJ will play an All-Star Game at Kaufman Stadium at a time and date to be announced.

B. The game will consist of two teams of BJ players. Each All-Star Team will consist of players from 1/2 of the BJ teams. Divisions (if used) will divide the teams. In the event that divisions do not exist the BJ Rules Committee will determine how the All-Star Teams will be divided.

C. Each All-Star Team will consist of 27 players: 2 players at each position (including DH), 7 pitchers, and two utility players. These numbers are subject to change depending on the circumstances of a particular season. The Executive Director shall designate the final numbers.

D. The BJ will follow the selection procedure outlined in the Ban Johnson Collegiate Baseball League All Star Selection Policy as of May 5, 2025.

#### VIII. PLAY-OFFS, LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP, POST-SEASON TOURNAMENT

##### A. LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (Divisional/non-Divisional setup)

1. Unless specifically approved by the rules committee, teams with a forfeit during the season will not be eligible for participation in any post-season games and in such case their position will be determined to be the next team in the standings.
2. Games won by forfeit shall not be counted in determining seeding based on overall record.
3. To be eligible for participation in the Post Season Tournament (if played) a position player must have paid league fees and played in a reasonable number of the team's regular season games. A pitcher must have

paid league fees and appeared in a reasonable number of regular season games as a legitimate pitcher and have completed a reasonable number of innings. Position players who have played in 6 games and pitchers who have pitched 10 innings will automatically qualify for post season play. The reasonable number of innings required for all other players will be determined by the Executive Director based on circumstances. The Executive Director will certify all eligible players prior to the start of the post-season games.

4. All questions of eligibility will be subject to review and action by the rules committee.
5. No player who replaced another player under a medical exception will be eligible for the League Championship or Post Season Tournament unless he appeared in the required number of games or is approved by the Executive Director.
6. All games in the post season, except final championship game, will be played under the same rules as regular season including, but not limited to run spread and regulation game determinations.
7. The final Championship game will be played to completion with no run spread rule and in the event the game is halted for any reason it will be treated as a suspended game and will be resumed from the stopping point at the later scheduled date and time, if practical. In a unique situation the Rules Committee may decide to consider the game final even though the full 7 innings did not get completed.

#### B. DIVISIONAL SETUP

1. For 2025 if the Post Season Tournament is played the top 3 teams from each division will advance. The first round will pair the 2<sup>nd</sup> seed vs the 3<sup>rd</sup> seed in a best 2 out of 3 series with the winners advancing to the second round to play the number one seed in a best 2 of 3 series with the winners advancing to the Championship Round which will be best 3 of 5 series. Pairings will be scheduled by the Executive Director. All games will be 7 innings whether part of a double header or single game.

2. Seeding's will be based on final standings. The tie breakers will be as follows:

a. Wins and losses will be the first criteria. Games won by forfeit shall not count as wins for seeding purposes.

b. Head-to-Head play will be the second tie breaker.

c. Record against teams seeded higher will be the third tie breaker.

d. Runs allowed for the season will be the fourth tie breaker.

e. If still tied at any position in the seeding's, a toss of the coin shall determine the seeding.

## IX. Awards

### A. Regular Season

#### 1. Lester Milgram Most Valuable Player

At the end of the season, the league asks each team to submit the name of its Most Valuable Player and provide a brief statement with the reasons for the selection. Team MVPs become nominees for the league MVP. Then the league prepares a ballot including names/reasons/key stats and asks all managers along with the Executive Director and regular scorekeepers to vote for the league MVP.

#### 2. Hustle Award: Same process as MVP

#### 3. Bob Allison Offensive Player of the Year

The league compiles offensive stats (including PA, HR, RBI, AVG, OBP, SLG, H, XBH) and prepares a ballot with the top three candidates and their stats. Then the league asks all managers along with the Executive Director and regular scorekeepers to vote.

4. Rick Sutcliffe Pitcher of the Year: Same process as Offensive Player of the Year with pitching stats including IP, Wins, ERA, SO, WHIP, BAA.

5. Frank White Award for Defensive Excellence: Same process as Offensive Player of the Year with fielding stats including GP, Errors, TC, PO, Fielding %, Assists.

6. Offensive Statistical Awards: Batting Champion, Most Home Runs, Most RBI, Most Stolen Bases

7. Pitching Statistical Awards: Most Wins, Lowest ERA, Most Strikeouts, Most Saves

B. Other Player Awards

1. All Star Game MVP: selected by Executive Director and scorekeepers attending the game

2. Post-Season MVP: selected by Executive Director and scorekeepers attending the post-season game

X. Miscellaneous

A. Candidates for managerial and coaching positions in the BJ must submit a resume and two letters of recommendation to the Executive Director. The Board of Directors must then review and approve all new managers and coaches, to be eligible.

B. It is possible that a situation will arise that is not covered by BJ rules. In these situations, it is the responsibility of the BJ Rules Committee to set policy or to delegate the decision to the BJ Executive Director.

XI. Rules

A. The League will play by current NCAA Baseball Rules except as herein modified.

B. BAN JOHNSON & NCAA CODE OF ETHICS 2025

Code of Ethics: Baseball as a game has been played at the colleges and universities of this country for more than 140 years. Only the highest standards of sportsmanship and conduct are expected of players, coaches and others associated with the game.

1. Coaches and Players' Ethics:

a. It is the coaches' duty to always be in control of their players to prevent any unsportsmanlike act toward opponents, officials or spectators.

b. Coaches and players are expected to comply wholeheartedly with the intent and spirit of the rules. The

deliberate teaching of players to violate the rules is indefensible.

c. Coaches must teach their players to respect the dignity of the game, officials, opponents and the sponsors that they represent. Players must always conduct themselves in accordance with these principles.

d. Coaches must confine their discussion with the game officials to the interpretations of the rules and not challenge umpire decisions involving judgment. Players must never get into a discussion with game officials about rules and must never challenge umpire decisions.

e. "Bench jockeying" will not be allowed. Coaches are to prohibit bench jockeying, which would include personal and malicious remarks, cursing and obscene language toward opponents, umpires or spectators. Players are prohibited from participating in "bench jockeying".

f. Coaches and players must refrain from any personal action that might arouse players or spectators to unsportsmanlike behavior.

g. Coaches and players must expect from the umpires a courteous and dignified attitude toward players and themselves.

h. Coaches must seek help from league administrators in controlling unruly spectators.

Violations of this code will subject the violators to suspension from games or if appropriate to removal from the League pursuant to the authority granted to the Executive Director or by action of the BJ Rules Committee.

The specific rules outlined in Rule VI-D above provide guidance with regards to specific disciplinary authority for the listed infractions.

## 2. UMPIRE CODE OF ETHICS

- a. Decisions must be made positively and promptly
  1. Stop to make a decision.
  2. Be confident...sell the call.
  3. Make calls loudly and clearly.
  4. Positive action...accepted judgment.

- b. Totally ignore remarks from the crowd:
  - 1. The spectators believe this is their job.
  - 2. You lose respect by reacting to criticism.
- c. Efficient umpires do not showboat:
  - 1. Execute the duties without flair.
  - 2. Players lose respect for an actor.
- d. Courtesy is a must to players and coaches:
  - 1. A dignified attitude gains respect.
  - 2. We must never argue with players or coaches.

### 3. CODE OF ETHICS FOR UMPIRES

- a. Improve at all times by observing other umpires.
- b. Conduct yourself as to not draw attention to yourself but to the players.
- c. Your conduct should be a good example.
- d. Be fair and unbiased regardless of the score.
- e. Be firm but not overbearing.
- f. Be positive.
- g. Do not be rude.
- h. Be confident without being arrogant.
- i. A fair game is more important than the wishes of players, coaches, or the umpire.

Violations of this Code may result in removal from future assignments or other disciplinary action as approved by the Director of Officials, the League Executive Director, and or the BJ Rules Committee.

### 4. FAN CODE OF CONDUCT

- a. The Fan Code of Conduct requires guests to refrain from the following:
  - 1. Behavior that is unruly, disruptive or illegal in nature.
  - 2. Intoxication or other signs of alcohol or substance impairment resulting in poor behavior.
  - 3. Foul, obscene, threatening, offensive or abusive language, gestures or actions.
  - 4. Interfering with the progress of the game. Throwing any object while at the facility.
  - 5. Failing to follow the instructions of facility or League personnel.

6. Verbal or physical harassment or intimidation of opposing team fans.
7. Smoking outside of designated smoking areas.
8. Fighting or physical violence of any type.
9. Indecent exposure or the wearing of obscene or indecent clothing.
10. Conduct that endangers any other person.
11. Ethnic intimidation.
12. Violating League or facility COVID protocols.

Violators of the Fan Code of Conduct are subject to ejection from the facility.

### 3. Lightning

The League has adopted a policy to the effect that no game shall be played or continued in a situation where the possibility or probability of lightning strikes exists. Once the game is under the jurisdiction of the Umpires it is within his sole discretion as to whether or not a game shall continue. The Umpire may utilize any means available to assist in his determination. If lightning detectors are available at the facility they will be utilized in the decision. The policy of the facility will be followed pertaining to the delay resulting from detection of lightning. Games will be delayed for a reasonable amount of time due to lightning. Prior to the Umpires assuming jurisdiction the Executive Director or his designate will be responsible for the decision. Safety of all personnel is of primary importance and it is expected that all personnel use good sound reasonable judgment. If an error in judgment is to be made it must be made in the interest of safety.

### 4. Concussion Protocol

- a. Safety and player well-being is of vital importance for all participating in Ban Johnson Baseball activities. The League has adopted NCAA Baseball Rules as the foundation of League rules, except as modified
- b. The NCAA Concussion protocols are modified as explained herein:

1. Game officials are often in the best position to observe players up-close, and may be the first to notice the unusual behaviors that indicate a concussion may be present. Players with a suspected concussion must be

removed from competition so that a proper medical examination can be conducted by medical personnel.

2. Importantly, a game official is not expected to evaluate a player. Instead, if an official notices any unusual behavior, the official should stop playing immediately and call an injury time-out so that an appropriate medical examination can be conducted. A simple guide to the official's role is: "When in doubt, call an injury time-out."

3. An official may observe the following behaviors by a player with a suspected concussion:

- Appears dazed or stunned.
- Appears confused or incoherent.
- Shakes head.
- Stumbles; must be physically supported by teammates.
- Moves clumsily or awkwardly.
- Shows behavior or personality changes.

4. A player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion, both at rest or during exertion, should be removed immediately from competition and should not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional. Sports have injury timeouts and player substitutions so that players can receive appropriate medical evaluation.

5. The Ban Johnson rule varies from NCAA Concussion rules concerning reentry to the game as the referenced medical and training staff are not available to League teams.

6. Consistent with the League situation, a player removed from the game for concussion concerns shall not return to the game for the remainder of the day and may only return to participation in League activities on the advice of appropriate medical personnel. Neither game officials nor coaches may decide concerning the player's return to participation without appropriate medical advice

