

# Osseo-Maple Grove Athletic Association

## AGE OF PLAY POLICY

(OMGAA Policy 2001.01)

**Section 1 - Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to establish rules regarding participation in OMGAA programs relating to players age and/or grade level, establish enforcement, outline procedures for the OMGAA Board of Director to grant exceptions and set penalties for willful violation.

**Section 2 - Authority:**

The authority to establish this policy is provided by Section 7 - General Duties and Responsibilities of the Board of Directors; Paragraph C of the Osseo-Maple Grove Athletic Association - By Laws.

**Section 3 - Age/Grade Groups Defined:**

OMGAA programs are limited to players between 8 and 18 years of age. For the purpose of this policy, OMGAA shall define age/grade groups and assign their appropriate playing level as shown below. (It is recognized that age/grade may vary. This section is meant to establish policy guidelines only).

League	Age	Grades
House Baseball Leagues:		
Rookie League	9	2-3
10/11 Year Old Recreational League	10	4-5
10/11 Year Old Competitive League	10	4-5
12/13 Year Old Recreational League	12	6-7
12/13 Year Ole Competitive League	12	6-7
14/15 Year Old Recreational National	14	8-9
14/15 Babe Ruth League	14	8-9
Traveling Baseball		
9 Year Old	9	3
10 Year Old	10	4-5
11 Year Old	11	5-6
12 Year Old	12	6-7
13 Year Old	13	7-8
14 Year Old	14	8-9
15 Year Old	15	8-9
16 U Traveling Baseball	15	9-10
18 U Gopher State Traveling Baseball	16	10-12
18 U Sr. Babe Ruth Traveling Baseball	16*	10-12

\*SBR – Senior Babe Ruth must be at least 16 years of age prior to the first game of the season for which they are registered (National SBR Rules).

League	Age	Grade
House Fastpitch Softball		
4-6th Grade	9	
7-9th Grade	12	
10-12th Grade	15	
Traveling Fastpitch Softball		
U8	7-8	2
U10	9	3
U12	11	5
U14	13	7
U16	15	9
U18	17	11

#### **Section 4 - Policy:**

All players in an OMGAA Baseball house program must play in an identified program age/grade group determined by the player's actual age or grade as of May 1st during the year of play for which he/she is registered.

All players in an OMGAA Fast Pitch Softball house program must play in an identified program age group determined by the player's actual age as of December 31st during the year of play for which she is registered.

#### **Exceptions:**

- 1) Players in OMGAA house leagues will be allowed to play up or down one (1) age group for the purpose of playing with school/grade classmates.
- 2) League Directors, by way of motion and approval from the Board of Directors, may allow players in OMGAA house leagues to play down to an appropriate level on the basis of physical or mental challenges.
- 3) Players in OMGAA Traveling Baseball or Fast Pitch Softball programs are governed by the age rules of their affiliated leagues. OMGAA traveling program players may play at their current grade level provided age requirements of the governing affiliated league permits. OMGAA traveling program players who wish to play up ***both one (1) age and one (1) grade level*** must rank in the top five players for that age group tryouts as determined by independent, non OMGAA evaluators. Players in OMGAA Traveling Baseball or Traveling Fast Pitch Softball who wish to play up one age level to remaining at their current grade level may do so only *when a need is demonstrated by the Program Director and approval is granted by the Board of Directors*. Such exceptions will be granted on a case by case basis, and players must finish among the top 12 candidates trying out at the older age.

**(Example : An 11 year old/sixth grade player may play at the 12/13 year old sixth / seventh grade house program, or the 12 year old sixth grade traveling level. An 11 year old/fifth grade player must play at**

**the 10/11 year old fourth / fifth grade level or may play at the 12 year old/sixth grade traveling level only if he/she ranks in the top five players trying out for 12 year old traveling teams).**

**Section 5 - Enforcement:**

Whereas parents or guardians are required to register all players for participation in OMGAA programs, responsibility for compliance with this policy shall fall upon the honor of those parents or guardians. All first time registrants must provide a photocopy of their player's birth certificate for inspection at registration time. When questions of age eligibility arise, the OMGAA Board may require presentation of a certified birth certificate to the League Director as a condition for play. When questions of Grade eligibility arise, the OMGAA Board may require presentation of the most recent school grade report as a condition for play.

**Section 6 - Penalties for Violation:**

Where players are discovered in violation of this policy, the OMGAA Board of Directors may impose one or more of the following penalties:

**Penalty options:**

- 1) Re-assignment - By direction of the League Director and/or the board, the player may be re-assigned to a team in an appropriate league without further penalty.**
- 2) Removal from program - By direction of the Board the player may be removed from the program.**
- 3) Prohibition from future play - By direction of the Board, the player may be forbidden to participate in OMGAA Baseball and/or Fast Pitch programs for a period of time to be established by the board at imposition of this penalty.**
- 4) Forfeiture of fees - By direction of the Board, the Treasures may be instructed to retain all (or a portion of) fees and considerations paid by the violating member.**

Where coaches are discovered to recruit, or encourage players to register in violation of this policy, the OMGAA Board of Directors may impose one or more of the following penalties:

**Penalty options:**

- 1) Removal from position - By direction of the Board, the coach may be removed from his/her coaching position. By the further direction of the board, the coach may also be prohibited from involvement as an assistant to the new head coach.**
- 2) Prohibition from future coaching - By direction of the Board, the coach may be forbidden from coaching or assistant coaching an OMGAA Baseball or Fast Pitch program for a period of time to be established by**

**the board at imposition of this penalty.**  
**Adopted by the OMGAA Board of Directors**  
**October 16th, 2001**

END OF DOCUMENT

Revised by the OMGAA Board of Directors April 16, 2002  
Revised by the OMGAA Board of Directors December 19, 2006  
Revised by the OMGAA Board of Directors January 16, 2007  
Revised by the OMGAA Board of Directors September 29, 2009  
Revised by the OMGAA Board of Directors March 20, 2012  
Revised by the OMGAA Board of Directors July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021