

Bethel Baseball Association

Amended and Restated Bylaws

Rev 2 – 3.6.2017



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Article I – Name and Purpose

Section 1 – Name

The name of the organization shall be known as the Bethel Baseball Association (“BBA”).

Section 2 – Purposes

- (a) The BBA is established for the purpose of providing supervised instructional recreation for the youth of the Municipality of Bethel Park. The BBA is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes the making of distributions to organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- (b) The BBA will provide an opportunity for children of township residents to learn and play baseball.
- (c) The BBA will create a recreational & instructional environment in which the participants can have fun, learn to play the game and enjoy the experience of a team sport.
- (d) The BBA will develop a league format structured to allow the participants to progress through the various levels of the baseball. Competitive team play, including playoffs will be introduced at the Minor League level (9 & 10 year olds.) AT ALL TIMES THE RECREATIONAL ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM WILL REMAIN THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE WITHIN THE COMPETITIVE FRAMEWORK OF THE LEAGUES.
- (e) The BBA will promote a league where equal playing time for all participants is stressed and exposure to infield and outfield positions is encouraged. Minimum playing time, in terms of innings played will be established for all age groups and must be adhered to by all managers. (See specified rules for each league.)
- (f) The BBA will strive be to implant firmly in the youth of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and reverence, so that they may be finer, stronger, and happier and will grow to be good, clean, healthy adults. The supervisors shall bear in mind that the attainment of exceptional athletic skill or the winning of games is secondary to the molding of future men and women.

Article II – Membership

Section 1

Membership in the BBA shall be those who are parents, or legal guardians of registered players, and those residents of Bethel Park at least 18 years of age who manage, coach, or serve on the Board of Directors, or serve in an official capacity on a BBA Committee. Other residents of Bethel Park at least 18 years of age may become members of the BBA by applying to the Board of Directors in writing. The Board, by majority vote, will accept or reject each application. Any past member of the BBA who has shown an active participation in the organization (i.e. manager, coach, committee work, etc.), and who is no longer a resident of Bethel Park may apply for membership under the above provision. If accepted to membership, applicants must also pay the membership fee established by the Board of Directors by September 1, in order to

vote in the affairs of the BBA. All members must be interested in the purpose of objectives of the BBA and willing to subscribe to its policies and principles.

All applicant memberships are annual, and any such member who desires to renew his membership shall remit the appropriate membership fee by September 1 of each year and shall have his membership renewed each year by majority approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 2

Membership in the BBA shall be for the period of one year from September 1 to August 31.

Section 3

Any member found guilty by a majority vote of the Board of Directors of violation of any rules, regulations, or policies of the BBA shall be suspended or expelled from membership as appropriate.

Section 4

Membership may be terminated by death, transfer of residence from Bethel Park, resignation, or action of the Board of Directors. The duly constituted meeting shall have the authority to discipline or suspend or terminate the membership of any member when the conduct of such person is considered detrimental to the best interests of the BBA. If said person is a Board member, by a majority vote of the Board, a member shall be elected to fill said vacancy for the balance of the term.

Article III – Governing Body

Section 1

The activities of the organization shall be directed by a Board of Directors consisting of fifteen (15) members who shall be elected for a term of two (2) years. Term of Office shall be so that alternately eight (8) members' terms expire one year and seven (7) members' terms expire the next year. The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer of the organization must be one of the fifteen (15) Board Members.

Article IV – Meetings

Section 1 – Meetings

Meetings of the Board shall be held at such time and place as the Board shall from time to time determine. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held once a month on such date as the Board shall from time to time determine. A special meeting of the Board may be called at any time by the President or any three Directors, to be held at the time and place designated in the call. At least seven days' notice, written or oral, of all meetings of the Board shall be given to each Director specifying the place, day and hour thereof. Any business may be transacted at any regular or special meeting of the Board, with or without reference to such business in the notice of such meeting, except as otherwise provided herein or by law. All regular meetings shall be

open to all members who have a paid annual registration fee and are members in good standing of the BBA.

Section 2 – Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the BBA shall be held in August of each year at a date and place to be fixed by the Board of Directors. The membership shall be notified of the time and place of the annual meeting by the Secretary in due time in advance of such meeting. An article in a local paper announcing the meeting shall constitute due notice thereof.

Section 3 – Quorum

A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum of said Board for the transaction of business. The President shall establish the routine and order of business, consistent with parliamentary usage.

Article V – Directors

Section 1 – Requirement of Directors in General

All Directors must be Members in good standing of the BBA and: (i) not be in a position to gain financially as a result of any activity of the Board, or be associated with any company or organization contracting or doing business with the Board. Directors are required to attend at least one game or one practice per week other than those games or practices to which the Director has a family relationship. Directors are required to attend all Board Meetings, unless a valid reason for their absence has been forwarded to the Secretary prior to a scheduled Board Meeting.

Section 2 – Election of Directors; Term of Office

Election to the Board of Directors shall be by majority vote of the membership in attendance at the annual meeting for candidates nominated by the nominating committee or candidates nominated from the floor. The nominating committee will be appointed by the President from the current Directors who have an additional year remaining on their term of office. Candidates nominated from the floor must be those present at the annual election meeting. Those on the ballot must be present at the meeting or present a letter of intent prior to the annual meeting. Term of office shall be so that alternately eight (8) Directors' terms expire one year and seven (7) Directors' terms expire the next year.

Section 3 – Election of Officers

Each year, as soon after the election of Directors as practical, the Board of Directors in attendance shall duly elect the officers of the BBA. Officers of the organization shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Those board members elected as Officers shall perform the functions of their respective office as defined in Article VI below. The

Directors who are not Officers of BPJF shall be elected in an open election at the annual meeting.

Section 4 – Attendance at Board Meetings

In accordance with these Bylaws, all Directors are required to attend all Board Meetings, unless such Director has a valid excuse for not attending a Board Meeting. If any Director fails to attend two (2) or more consecutive meetings, for which no valid excuse for his or her absence has been offered or forwarded to the Secretary, the Board may vote to have the Director removed. Valid excuses for absence from a Board Meeting shall include, but are not limited to the following: sickness, travel (business or pleasure), vacation, other family commitment, and conflict with another sporting event.

Section 5 – Resignation and Removal of Directors

Any Director of BBA may (a) resign at any time by giving notice to such effect to the Board and (b) may be removed at any time when it is determined by two-thirds of the individual Directors present at any meeting at which a quorum is present that it would be in the best interests of BPJF to remove such Director.

Section 6 – Vacancies

Any vacancies occurring on the Board between regular elections will be filled by the candidate who received the next highest votes from the previous election and a majority of the vote of remaining Directors, even if less than a quorum, for the remainder of the term of the vacant position.

Article VI – Officers

Section 1 – Designation of Officers

The Officers of the BBA shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. All Officers of the Board shall have served as a Director before being considered for election as an Officer. All such Officers shall be elected by the Board and shall serve for a term of one (1) year. The Board shall have the right at any time to remove any one or more Officers when it is determined by two-thirds of the individual Directors present at any meeting at which a quorum is present that it would be in the best interests of the BBA to do so. Any vacancy in any of such Officer position shall be filled by the Board.

Section 2 – President

The President shall (a) preside at all meetings of the membership and the Board of BBA, (b) appoint chairmen of the standing committees necessary to conduct the activities of the BBA, (c) be an ex-officio member of all committees, (d) enforce strict observance of the Constitution and the Bylaws, (e) exercise general supervision and control over the affairs of the BBA subject to the authority of the Board and perform such other duties as custom and parliamentary usage require.

All past Presidents of the BBA shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Directors for a period of one year or longer if requested by the Board of Directors. The past President shall have no vote in electing any of the officers or other matters brought to a vote of the Directors. He shall be an advisor to the new President on unfinished business and guide the new President regarding any problems that he may have.

Section 3 – Vice President

The Vice President shall assist the President and, in the President's absence, assume the duties of the President, and shall have and perform such other powers and duties as may from time to time be prescribed by the Board or the President. In particular, the Vice President shall (a) direct all fundraising activities of the BBA; (b) oversee the duties of the other members of the Board appointed by the President as listed in Article Seven of these Bylaws.

Section 4 – Secretary

The Secretary shall (a) keep a record of proceedings at meetings of the Board of the BBA, (b) arrange for issuance of meeting notices, (c) provide written monthly minutes of all regular and special meetings to all the members of the Board, (d) keep a register of the Directors' attendance at meetings, and (e) perform such other powers and duties as may from time to time be prescribed by the Board or the President.

Section 5 – Treasurer

The Treasurer shall (a) have custody of all the moneys and securities of the BBA, (b) keep regular books of account, (c) prepare a monthly report for presentation at each regular meeting, detailing revenue and expenses of the BBA, (d) shall see that all bills are paid after purchase and receipt acknowledged by an authorized member of the BBA, and (e) perform such other powers and duties as may from time to time be prescribed by the Board or the President to ensure the sound financial operation of the BBA. Financial records will audited annually by a committee appointed by the President before the end of the financial year, August 31st, and the annual tax records are filed with a 3rd party agency for tax filing proposes. All moneys shall be deposited to the credit of and in the name of the BBA in a depository designated by the Board. All expenditures of the BBA shall be made by the Treasurer, or in the Treasurer's absence, the President on the authorization of the Board. All extraordinary expenditures in excess of \$500.00 must have prior approval of the Board.

Article VII – Other Members of the Board

Section 1

Members of the Board of Directors other than elected officers will be appointed by the President to one of the following assignments:

- a) Colt and American Legion Commissioner
- b) Pony League Commissioner
- c) Senior Little League Commissioner

- d) Junior Little League Commissioner
- e) Minors League Commissioner
- f) Tee Ball League Commissioner
- g) Fields Commissioner
- h) Fields Commissioner
- i) Equipment Commissioner
- j) Website Commissioner
- k) Tournaments Commissioner
- l) Uniforms & Pictures Commissioner
- m) Umpires Commissioner
- n) Summer & Fall League Commissioner
- o) Concessions Commissioner

All Commissioners are responsible for managing and maintaining committees under and in addition to their job functions. Committees may include fields, rules, and anything having to do with the BBA. Committees are subject to change at any time.

Article VIII – Committees

Section 1

Operations of the BBA shall be planned, organized, and conducted by several standing committees. These are:

- a. **Travel Committee** – There shall be a Travel Committee to oversee the planning, staging, rules and function of the travel process, tryouts and any other functions regarding travel baseball. The committee shall be responsible for the all age groups that require a Travel program.
- b. **Grievance Committees** – (1) Each tee ball league shall have a grievance committee. Each Tee Ball League Grievance Committee shall consist of the Commissioner of the League and two members appointed by the President. Each committee will investigate and rule on all League matters brought to its attention.
 (2) Each little league shall have a grievance committee. Each Little League Grievance Committee shall consist of the Commissioner of the League and two members appointed by the President. Each committee will investigate and rule on all League matters brought to its attention.
 (3) The Pony League Grievance Committee shall consist of the Commissioner of the League and two members appointed by the President. The committee will investigate and rule on all League matters brought to its attention.
 (4) The Colt League and American Legion Grievance Committee shall consist of the Colt and American Legion Commissioner and two members appointed by the President. The committee will investigate and rule on all Colt and American Legion matters brought to its attention.
- c. **Equipment and Awards Committee** – shall be chaired by the Equipment Commissioner and have as members the Commissioners of all leagues. The committee shall assess the

equipment needs of the various leagues and advise the Board of the needs. The committee shall assemble specifications, solicit bids, and make recommendations to the Board, for final approval, concerning such equipment. In like manner the committee shall determine and make recommendations concerning all awards to teams and players to be made by the BBA.

- d. **Audit Committee** – shall be chaired by a Board member as appointed by the President and have as members as may be appointed by the President. The Treasurer will not serve on this committee. The committee will audit the Financial records annually or as directed by the President.
- e. **Fundraising Committee** – shall be chaired by the Vice President and other members as may be appointed by the President. The committee will be responsible for finding ways and means of raising revenue.

The President shall function as an ex-officio member of all standing committees. The President may appoint additional ad hoc committees for such he deems advisable.

Article IX – Miscellaneous

Section 1

All resolutions, complaints, proposals, or recommendations of changes in the Bylaws as well as all proposed expenditures of \$100.00 or more shall be referred to the Board of Directors for final action. Any expenditure in excess of \$100.00 must be approved prior to committing the BBA to the expenditure.

Section 2

No member of the BBA shall collect any money or incur any debts against the credit of the BBA, or make any statements to the press or otherwise in the name of the BBA, nor cause to have printed anything pertaining to the organization unless authorized to do so by the Board of Directors.

Section 3

The President, Treasurer, and Equipment Commissioner shall have authority to sign contracts and all legal documents with the provision that all contracts and legal documents must be signed by any two of the four officers as authorized by the Board of Directors.

Section 4

A Board member may manage or coach in the BBA with the following exceptions:

President

Excluded from all Leagues

Umpires Commissioner

Excluded from all Leagues that use the BBA in-house umpires

Colt and American Legion Commissioner

Excluded from Colt and American Legion teams

Pony League Commissioner

Excluded from Pony League

Senior Little League Commissioner

Excluded from Senior Little League

Junior Little League Commissioner

Excluded from Junior Little League

Minors Ball League Commissioner

Excluded from Minor Ball League

Tee Ball League Commissioner

Excluded from Tee Ball League

Section 5

The Equipment Commissioner, after consultation with the Equipment and Awards Committee, shall solicit sealed bids from all appropriate Bethel Park sporting goods stores and any other stores the commission selects. The Equipment Commissioner will be to be opened in the presence of at least three Board members in addition to the Equipment Commissioner on a date pre-determined and made known to all Board members.

Section 6

All tournaments sponsored by BBA shall require final approval by the Board of Directors.

Section 7

It is the responsibility of the League Commissioners to solicit and accept "written statements of interest in managing a league team" from each candidate manager. All Commissioners shall report their respective league's candidate manager status to the Board and shall recommend a manager list equal in the number of candidate managers to the number of teams in their respective leagues. For all leagues above the Tee Ball Leagues, commissioners must give preference to candidates with BBA experience over candidates from outside the BBA program when recommending managers. The Board of Directors must approve all managers.

Section 8

The BBA shall not accept as a candidate or continue as a player a youngster who participates in another baseball program except authorized Elementary, Junior and Senior High School programs and only during regulation school terms. If, during the regular season, it is established that a player has participated or is participating in another program, the player would not be eligible for further regular season play and not eligible for tournament selection.

Section 9

No member of the Board of Directors shall be a board member of any other baseball association. In addition, BBA Board members who are members of other sports associations must abstain from all voting rights of that association on all matters that relate to baseball activities if such activities are not in the best interest of the BBA.

Section 10

The Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Directors after notice of the proposed change or amendment has been brought to the attention of all Board members.

Bethel Baseball Association Social Media Policy

Bethel Park Baseball Association (“BBA”) recognizes the importance of the Internet in shaping the public’s perception of our organization. BBA also recognizes the importance of our Board members, executive directors, sport coordinators, sport committee members, coaches, and volunteers in leading and setting the tone of social media interactions in a manner that advances BBA’s mission and goals.

Mission Statement

Bethel Baseball Association is dedicated to the development of well-rounded youth through positive sports competition. We strive to develop fundamental skills through active participation of our players and to promote good sportsmanship from our players, coaches, and parents. Bethel Baseball Association is dedicated to the support of the organized sports in the Bethel Park Local School District.

Applicability

This Social Media Policy applies to all Board members, executive directors, sport coordinators, sport committee members, coaches, and volunteers (“BBA Members”). This Social Media Policy applies to all social media content posted by BBA Members in their professional and personal capacity to the extent such content is related to BBA. Aspirations BBA strives to create a positive and inclusive organization that is dedicated to helping young athletes reach their potential. In furtherance of this goal, BBA aspires to engage members of the Bethel Park community in positive, honest, transparent, and knowledgeable dialogue about BBA through social media. BBA views social media as an important tool for communicating its successes and opportunities for athletic and individual development. BBA also views social media as a platform for receiving constructive feedback from the community and for discussing BBA’s challenges and opportunities for improvement in a positive and constructive way.

Guidelines

All BBA Members shall abide by the following guidelines when using social media:

Be positive and respectful, and always take the high road. When disagreeing with others’ opinions, remain appropriate and polite. If you find yourself in a situation online that is becoming antagonistic, ask the BBA Board of Directors or your sport coordinator for advice on how to disengage from the dialogue in a polite and respectful manner.

Use good judgment when posting comments on any official BBA sites. Bear in mind that your comments can create liability for BBA. If you are unsure whether a comment is appropriate to post, either do not post it or obtain prior approval from the Board of Directors.

Be smart about what you publish. Once something is posted, it exists online forever. Ask yourself, “would I want to see this published in the newspaper or posted on a billboard tomorrow or ten years from now?” If the answer is “no,” do not post.

Encourage others to engage in positive interactions on social media. If you are concerned about any BBA Member's use of social media, please bring your concerns to the attention of your sport coordinator or a member of the BBA Board of Directors. Personally identifiable information (information, such as a name and date of birth and/or a street address which, when taken together, can identify a particular individual) should not be disclosed in any manner on official BBA social networking sites without the approval of the sport coordinator or BBA Board of Directors.

Violations of the Social Media Policy

The BBA Board of Directors shall have the authority to monitor and enforce this Social Media Policy. The BBA Board of Directors, and any individual appointed by the Board of Directors, shall have the authority to remove any inappropriate or offensive comments from official BBA sites and to block any individual or organization from posting on any official BBA social media platform if they determine, in their sole discretion, that such removal or block is in the best interests of BBA.

The failure of any BBA Member to adhere to this Social Media Policy shall be considered a violation of the BBA Code of Conduct, and any BBA Member who fails to adhere to this Social Media Policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of such individual's involvement in BBA, in accordance with the BBA Disciplinary Procedures.