

BYLAWS

Section I: Eligible Candidates

- A. Every child who will be at least five (5) years of age before May 1st of a given year but will not attain the age of 19 before May 1 of that year will be eligible to register to play. A 6 year old player may be able to play in 8U with the Board of Directors consent, but will only be eligible for the 7U all star team. A 5 year old player will only be eligible for Tball. Also players must reside within the boundary of the HendersonBoysBaseball Association as shown on a boundary map filed with the Dixie Association or attend school in Henderson to play All Stars.
- B. A child transferring into the association boundaries after the close of school shall be eligible to register provided a parent, guardian, conservator or custodian of such child has legal residence within the association boundaries.

Section II: Player Registration

- A. The Player Agent immediately following the draft will give each coach a player roster form provided by the Dixie Association. This form will be filled out at this time, making sure that the full name as set forth on the registration form is so recorded. The Player Agent will collect and recheck for accuracy and present to the Association Secretary within 10 days for mailing to the Dixie Association.
- B. The Player Agent will assign late signees to an age group for the purposes of the draft. After the draft the Player Agent will assign a move-in player to a team. The basis for this assignment will be the next team in the draft order at the conclusion of that league's draft. There shall be no late signees after the close of registration. The Player Agent will be responsible for providing the Dixie Association with any team roster changes.

Section III: Leagues

- A. Every child who registers will belong to a league based upon age and assigned to a team based upon the draft within that league. Each team will have approximately the same number of players in each age group.

- B. The league names and age categories are as follows:
 - 1. Dixie Pre-Majors Ages 15 & 16
 - 2. Dixie Boys Ages 13 & 14 (Pony)
 - 3. Dixie Youth (Majors) Ages 11 & 12 (Little)
 - 4. Dixie AAA Ages 9 & 10 (Texas)
 - 5. Dixie AA Ages 7 & 8 (Peanut)
 - 6. Dixie T Ball Ages 5 & 6

- C. Age Classification for each league shall be governed by the playing rules adopted pursuant to Article VIII of the Constitution.

Section IV: Draft

The following is the method of assigning players and coaches in the Dixie Youth (Majors), Dixie AAA & Dixie AA.

- A. The system will be an open draft and instituted in all leagues.

- B. A parent who has a first-year player entering a league where they already have a child participating, may request that the incoming player be placed in the general draft rather than automatically being placed on his brother's team as outlined above. This request must be in writing to the Commissioner.

- C. In single division leagues, lots will be drawn for draft order, then drafted in order 1-X, then X-1, 1-X, then X-1.

- D. In two or more division leagues, lots will be drawn within their division, then draft 1-X, then X-1, 1-X then X-1. Throughout their division.

- E. The head coach and assistant coach's child will automatically be removed from the draft and placed on their team. If a coach has more than one child then the second child will be taken in the third round. If the coach(s) do not have a child in the draft then they will receive a free pick before the draft starts. If there are two coaches without a son then they will flip a coin to decide the order of free picks. If there are more than 2 coaches without a son then they will draw number to decide order of free picks. If the assistant coach does not participate on the field in a majority of the games, the head coach shall be disqualified from coaching All Stars.

- F. All leagues will draft with a head coach and one assistant.

Section V: Coaches

- A. Anyone wishing to coach must submit request to the board via letter or email prior to the draft. The Board of Directors will review all requests and vote on approval annually.

- B. All coaches, head or assistant, in all leagues must submit to annual background checks to be completed prior to the season opening weekend. See policy in Appendix A.

- C. If the Board of Directors has reasonable cause to suspend a coach for a year, the following shall take place:
 - 1. A certified letter will be mailed to the coach in question

 - 2. The coach will be asked to attend the next business meeting held by HBBA to discuss the issues pertaining to the suspension

 - 3. The Board of Directors will convene in closed session to review the information presented by the coach and make a final decision by majority vote

Section V: Spring tryouts and Preseason Training

- A. The Board of Directors may set a day for spring try-outs.
- B. During the spring try-outs, each boy shall be given the opportunity to throw, field and/or bat. These try-out periods shall be conducted in the presence of all coaches who shall observe the ability of each boy.
- C. Each team shall have no more than two (2) scheduled events each week, beginning on a date to be set by the Board of Directors. No mandatory practice sessions shall be held on Wednesdays and Sundays. Only one optional practice will be allowed a week.

Section VI: Playing Field

The Henderson Boys Baseball Association shall maintain regulation playing fields. The use of the fields for practice and exhibitions by organized teams in the Henderson Boys Baseball Association shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors. There will be no practices on fields starting the day of the draft thru the end of the regular season by any team.

Teams may hold tournaments at the Henderson Boys Baseball Complex outside of the dates for the Dixie season. The fee for such tournaments shall be \$100 per day-per field with a minimum of \$300. Teams may practice at the Henderson Boys Baseball Complex. The fee for practicing at HBBA will be \$25 per player who is not registered with HBBA. A team roster must be submitted to a commissioner prior to practicing.

Section VII: Umpires

The umpires shall be selected and supervised by the Board of Directors. The umpire rates shall be as follows:

Dixie T Ball	\$25 per game
Dixie AA (Peanut)	\$30 per game
Dixie AAA (Texas)	\$40 per game
Dixie Majors (Little)	\$40 per game
Dixie Boys (Pony)	\$50 per game
Director of Umpires	\$175 per week

Significant or repetitive issues with umpires will be reviewed by the Board of Directors and the Director of Umpires and handled in the following manner:

1. Conference between the Director of Umpires and the umpire in question.
2. If issues persist the Director of umpires will remove the umpire in question from the schedule for future games.

Section VIII: Official Scorer

Each league shall have an official scorer who shall record: at-bats, hits, runs, errors, extra base hits, strike-outs, walks, innings pitched and number of pitches by the individual pitchers. The official scorer shall be the home team. The visiting team shall be responsible for running the scoreboard and keeping an accurate pitch count affidavit for all leagues with player pitching.

Scorekeepers will be confined to the designated area at all times in an effort to promote communication and accurate record keeping between both teams.

Any official scorekeeper not participating in the designated area will cause that team to forfeit its ability to protest a record in question.

Section IX: Field Decorum

- A. The actions of players, coaches, umpires, and league officials must be above reproach. All actions and conduct are subject to the judgment of the Board of Directors.
- B. Uniformed players, coaches and umpires only shall be permitted within the confines of the playing field just prior to and during games.
- C. The number of coaches on the field during games shall be limited to TWO (2) except Dixie TBall & AA which will be allowed three.

Section X: Sunday Baseball

The facilities and equipment of the Henderson Boys Baseball Association shall not be available for Sunday baseball without written permission of the Commissioner.

Section XI: Minimum Play

Every player must be allowed the opportunity to play a minimum of two (2) innings per regulation game. Every player must also be allowed to play a minimum of one (1) inning per game, regardless of the number of innings played. A player must also have at least one at-bat per each game regardless of the number of innings played. A player forfeits this right if he displays a bad attitude, fails to attend practice regularly, or does not follow the established training rules.

The exercise of this forfeit shall be left to the discretion of the coach. The Head Coach must notify the Head Umpire and the commissioner on duty before the start of the game of any players facing disciplinary actions. If the coach fails to comply with the above, he may be called before the Board of Directors.

Section XII: Method of Determining Division or League Champ

The champion in each league or division will be determined as follows:

1. On the basis of overall won-lost record. A tie game shall constitute one-half of a win & one-half of a loss.
2. Head-to-Head
3. Divisional Record
4. Play-off game

Section XIII: Procedure for Selecting All Stars

All-Star Teams will consist of the following

Dixie TBall - 12 members (10 elected, 2 Head Coach)

Dixie AA – 12 members (10 elected, 2 Head Coach)

Dixie AAA - 12 members (10 elected, 2 Head Coach)

Dixie Majors - 12 members (10 elected, 2 Head

Coach) Dixie Boys - 13 members (11 elected, 2 Head

Coach) Dixie Pre-Majors -18 members (16 elected, 2

Head Coach)

A. The following procedure for selection of All-Stars will apply to the Dixie Tball, Dixie AA, Dixie AAA, Dixie Majors, Dixie Boys & Dixie Pre-Majors.

1. The older team in each league will be selected first. Players for this team shall be selected first regardless of age.
2. Each coach of a division or league team will nominate players for his team or any other players on other teams in that division or league. There will be no minimum or maximum number he can nominate.
3. Each coach of a division or league team will vote on ten (10) players including players from his own team. A player must

be unanimous to be selected on the first ballot. NOTE: To be selected on the second and succeeding ballots, a player must receive four (4) out of five, five (5) out of six (6), etc. votes.

4. After the first ballot, the result will not be announced as to which players have been chosen. The coaches will be told the number selected (Example: 6) and that they will vote again to fill the remaining team (Example: 4) from the list of those that received one (1) or more votes.
 5. Players receiving no votes will be removed from the list after each round of voting.
 6. Each additional ballot will be conducted in the same manner until ten (10) players are chosen.
 7. If ten (10) players have not been chosen after ten (10) rounds of balloting, the criteria for election shall be reduced by one (1) vote in the ensuing rounds.
 8. The All-Star Head Coach will select two (2) players from the remaining nominees.
 9. The names of those chosen will be given to the Commissioner to be kept secret until the formal announcement.
- B. The Head Coach of the All-Star teams will be the coach of each division or league champion. Should the division or league champion head coach decline the All-Star head coach job then the runner-up head coach of said division or league shall be named the head coach. He shall select his assistant coach from the roster of coaches within the division or league.

Section XIV: Procedure for Concessions

- A. The contract for concession work shall be awarded annually by majority vote of the Board of Directors. Pay for the annual contract will be determined at that time.
- B. At the end of each day the concession stand is operated, both commissioners on duty will count both the money earned and the starting balance of the till. Both commissioners will initial the daily deposit slip and verify amount to ensure accountability.

Appendix A.

Henderson Boys Baseball Association

Child Safety Policy Regarding Criminal Background Checks

Purpose: Criminal Background checks will be used to determine if any youth sports volunteer has a criminal history that could jeopardize the safety and welfare of any child participating in any League on any team Background checks and coaching certification will help to improve the quality of volunteers that serve the youth sports programs.

Description: A criminal background check (CBC) is a manual or data base search of state and/or local government files to determine if the individual applying to volunteer has a previous criminal conviction. Such CBC must be sufficiently comprehensive to ensure that all convictions are revealed. For example, a check of records in only one state will likely not reveal a conviction that occurred in another state where the individual previously lived. Further, a check only for child molestation convictions will likely not uncover a burglary or assault conviction. A CBC should be conducted annually on all volunteers who have direct contact with youth participants that register in Henderson Boys Baseball Association. The CBC should include any state where the volunteer / applicant currently resides, or previously resided, or has been charged with any criminal offense, other than simple traffic offenses and/or violations of the transportation code not involved with any criminal offense listed below.

Rationale: Parents enroll their children in a league fully expecting that they will be safe from harm. Conducting a CBC is one of several actions that youth administrators must take to protect their participants from abuse. Other actions include training and certifying their volunteers, setting guidelines on parental behavior and direct supervision of the league or program being conducted.

To be effective, a CBC must be conducted before the volunteer is permitted to associate with children and must be conducted annually on all volunteers, regardless of their position or the number of years the volunteer has been involved in the league.

Mandatory Disqualification for Service as Volunteer

A person will be disqualified and prohibited from serving as a volunteer for Henderson Boys Baseball Association if he/she has been found guilty of the crimes listed in numbers 1, 2, and 3, below. For purposes of these guidelines, “guilty” has the following meanings:

- A. Finding of guilt following a bench trial or jury trial;
- B. Entry of a plea of guilty, or a plea of nolo contendere (no contest), accompanied by court’s finding of guilty, *regardless* of whether there was an adjudication of guilt (final conviction) or a withholding of guilt or the record has been expunged.

The policy of mandatory disqualification does not apply if criminal charges ultimately resulted in acquittal or dismissal. However, Henderson Boys Baseball Association retains the right, after careful consideration, to determine the volunteer's fitness for service.

1. All sexual offenses, regardless of the amount of time since the offense. Examples include, but are not limited to, child molestation, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sodomy, prostitution, solicitation, and indecent exposure.

2. All felonies constituting offenses against the person, regardless of the amount of time since the commission of the offense. Examples include, but are not limited to, murder, manslaughter, aggravated assault, kidnapping, robbery, and aggravated burglary.

3. Any crimes involving children, regardless of the amount of time since the commission of the offense.

Potential Disqualification for Service as Volunteer

A person may be disqualified and prohibited from serving as a volunteer for Henderson Boys Baseball Association if he/she has been found guilty of any criminal offense listed in numbers 4, 5, 6 and 7, below.

The staff, in its complete and sole discretion, may consider accepting the applicant. Such consideration shall be on a case-by-case basis. Careful consideration will be given to the nature of the offense, the rehabilitation of the individual, and the offense as it relates to the position being applied for and the potential risk to children. Such offenses shall require a mandatory appearance before the Henderson Boys Baseball Association representative and the Background Check Subcommittee as defined below.

4. All offenses, other than those sexual offenses or offenses against the person, within the past ten (10) years. Examples include, but are not limited to, drug offenses, theft, embezzlement, and fraud.

5. All misdemeanors that constitute offenses against the person within the past 7 years, examples include, but are not limited to, simple assault, battery, domestic violence, and hit & run.

6. All misdemeanor drug and alcohol offenses within the past 5 years or multiple of such offenses in the past 10 years. Examples include, but are not limited to, driving under the influence (DUI/DWI), simple drug possession, drunk & disorderly, public intoxication, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

7. Any other misdemeanor with the past 5 years that could be considered a potential danger to children or is directly related to the functions of the applicant. An example is theft by a person who is handling money.

In addition, applicants will be disqualified if a background check discloses / reveals any of the following about the applicant:

- A. A Judgment in any state finding the applicant liable for civil monetary penalties, damages, or restitution involving sexual or physical abuse of children; or
- B. Applicant has been the subject of any court order involving sexual abuse or physical abuse of a minor, including, but not limited to, a domestic order or a protective order; or
- C. Applicant's parental rights have been terminated by a court.

Appealing Decisions

Any coach denied by Henderson Boys Baseball Association may request an interview/review by the "Background Check Sub-Committee" which will consist of the Henderson Boys Baseball Association, Represented and the background check sub-committee. The vote of the committee regarding the appeal will be final.

How to Appeal

To appeal a decision, a person must file a notice of appeal. The notice of appeal shall be mailed to the Henderson Boys Baseball Association, Representative within 30 days of the date the applicant receives the background check notification letter. A copy of the decision that is being appealed (e.g., the notification letter) should be included with the notice of appeal.

In order for the notice of appeal to be accepted for consideration, it must include:

1. The full name and address of the appellant;
2. The full name and address of any person making the request for an appeal on behalf of the appellant;
3. The ground for the appeal, providing a detailed explanation of the appellant's objections to the decision, setting out any additional facts or factual errors in the decision;
4. The particulars relevant to the appeal, describing any background facts relating to the appeal, including how you are affected by the decision;
5. A detailed description of the requested relief requested (i.e. what you want the Board to do); and
6. The signature of the appellant or the appellant's representative, and the date of appeal.

Handling of Information by Henderson Boys Baseball Association

The Henderson Boys Baseball Association Background Check Sub-Committee chairman will administer the process of background checks as follows:

He/she will be responsible for providing the Consent/Release Forms, providing the received Consent/Release Forms to Henderson Boys Baseball Association, and reviewing all information received. All information received as a result of the screening process will be kept confidential.

The results will not be disclosed to anyone other than the administrative staff of Henderson Boys Baseball Association and the appeal committee.

Should information be found that would prevent a volunteer from being accepted, the Henderson Boys Baseball Association, Representative/or designee will be responsible for issuing any required written notices to the volunteer, and will do so in a confidential manner. The volunteer is responsible for taking appropriate action to have the results of the criminal check report corrected if they believe that information was reported to Henderson Boys Baseball Association in error.

The Henderson Boys Baseball Association, its Representative(s) /or designee(s) is/are also responsible for securing the written results of the criminal background checks in a safe and secure location, and keeping them for the time period required by law, or six years, whichever is greater.

In the event that the background check indicate that a volunteer has criminal charges pending that fit the description of criminal offenses as stated in our detailed infractions list, the volunteer may be rejected from coaching until there is a complete resolution of the charges; At that time, if the volunteer has been found not guilty or the charge has been dismissed, the Henderson Boys Baseball Association shall decide upon the volunteer's fitness for reinstatement.

Should an approved volunteer subsequently have any criminal charges brought against him/her that are listed in the detailed disqualification list during their term of service to Henderson Boys Baseball Association, they will be required to immediately disclose the nature of the charges to the Henderson Boys Baseball Association, and/or its Representative and voluntarily terminate the volunteer's coaching duties until a determination is made by Henderson Boys Baseball Association regarding the effect of the pending charges on the volunteer's functions within the program.

No Henderson Boys Baseball Association Waiver of Discretion

Nothing in this policy shall be construed as a waiver or limitation of the discretion of Henderson Boys Baseball Association to disqualify an applicant for an employment or volunteer position when, in the sole opinion of Henderson Boys Baseball Association, such is in the best interest of Henderson Boys Baseball Association or its program participants.