

# Delta Baseball League

## Bylaws

(Revised and Approved January 2017)

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### 1. Membership

1.1. All Managers, Coaches, and Team Parent Representatives of the Delta Baseball League and/or the Delta Softball League (herein after referred to collectively as the “Delta Baseball League”, “the League” or “DBL”), and all members of the Board of Directors of the League shall be considered members of the Delta Baseball League, and shall have all rights, responsibilities and privileges associated with membership.

1.2. All Players in the League are considered non-voting members of the DBL.

1.3. Any member whose conduct is detrimental to the best interest of this organization may be suspended or removed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at any duly constituted Board of Directors meeting.

1.4. A written code of conduct will be part of the league rules.

1.5. No person(s) associated with the operation of this League may invoke the aid of the court system without first exhausting all available remedies with the Delta Baseball League.

## 2. Finance

- 2.1. All revenues received through player fees, sponsor fees, donations, fundraisers, or by any other source shall be placed in bank accounts as specified by the Board of Directors.
- 2.2. All funds shall be utilized only for the benefit of the organization as specified by the budget mandated by the Board of Directors.
- 2.3. All checks must be completely filled out prior to leaving the ledger.
- 2.4. The Board of Directors shall designate the bank in which the League funds shall be deposited.
- 2.5. All checking accounts and bank statements are to be addressed to Delta Baseball League.
- 2.6. Champs League Players shall play in the Delta Baseball League free of charge. The Board of Directors shall determine the player fees for all other players annually.
- 2.7. The Board of Directors shall determine the annual sponsor fee.
- 2.8. The financial records shall be audited by the Finance committee on a semi- annually basis and presented to the Board of Directors for approval.
- 2.9. All purchase requests not planned or budgeted greater than \$250 must be approved by the Board of Directors.
- 2.10. A budget will be created. Its purpose is to provide a financial plan for the upcoming season.

## 3. Team Selection – Non Competitive Divisions

- 3.1. With the exception of the Cal Ripken Majors/Minors Baseball Division, all DBSL programs and divisions shall be by definition Non-Competitive. Teams for all non-competitive divisions shall be selected each year on a random basis. All applications will be segregated (for purpose of the draw) by age. The draft will be blind without tryouts. Trading of players will not be allowed.
- 3.2. The player's DBSL age as described in Section 8 will be the age used for drafting purposes.
- 3.3. The Board of Directors shall organize and conduct the draft.
- 3.4. With the exception of TBall, Each team will be permitted a maximum of six pre-selected players. A pre-select is defined as **any** player placed on the team prior to the draft. This includes (but is not limited to) the child(ren) of the Manager, Coaches, and Sponsors.
- 3.5. All sponsors may elect to have their child(ren) assigned to their team(s) as a pre-select. Only one family per team sponsored may be designated to be sponsors children from any sponsoring business. In addition, each sponsor name used shall be responsible for a full sponsorship fee.

3.6. The league shall not accept as a candidate or continue as a player, a youngster who participates in another organized softball/baseball program except authorized Elementary /Church school teams, and only during regulation school term. If during the regular season, it were established that a player has participated or is participating in another program, the player would not be eligible for further regular season play and special games.

3.7. All Champs players will be on the Delta Baseball League Freedom team. Players will be assigned to Freedom divisions and teams based on attendance and ability and may switch between Freedom teams and divisions as needed.

#### **4. Team Selection – Competitive Divisions**

4.1. The Senior Boy's Cal Ripken Major/Minors Competitive Baseball Division shall assign teams by means of tryouts and a live draft. Draft order for the first year of Cal Ripken play shall be by chosen by random selection. For subsequent years, draft order shall be based on the win/loss record of each team during the previous year. The last place team from the previous year will be the first to draft. The first place team will be the last to draft. If a tie exists, a coin flip will determine the drafting position. If more than two teams are tied, their drafting position will be drawn from a hat. The draft shall continue in a serpentine fashion numerical order until all rosters are filled (e.g. First round, team with #1 pick through team with #12 pick; Second round team with #12 pick through team with #1 pick, etc.).

4.2. The player's DBSL age as described in Section 8 will be the age used for drafting purposes.

4.3. No Cal Ripken Majors Team shall have more than 8 Twelve Year Olds.

4.4. At the discretion of the Board of Directors 13 year olds maybe allowed to play in the Cal Ripken Majors Division. Should 13 year olds be drafted onto Cal Ripken Majors Teams, the following special rules apply:

4.4.1. 13 year olds are not allowed to pitch in the Cal Ripken Division

4.4.2. 13 year olds are not eligible for post-season tournament play

4.4.3. For the purposes of team age balance, 13 year olds count as 12 year olds.

4.5. The Board of Directors shall organize and conduct tryouts prior to the draft.

4.6. The league shall not accept as a candidate or continue as a player, a youngster who participates in another organized softball/baseball program except authorized Elementary/Church school teams, and only during regulation school term. If during the regular season, it were established that a player has participated or is participating in another program, the player would not be eligible for further regular season play and special games.

4.7. Any Cal Ripken Manager that is found to have traded players without the Board of Directors approval shall be relieved of all managing duties.

## 5. Sponsors

- 5.1. The Board of Directors reserves the right to accept or deny any sponsor.
- 5.2. Prior year sponsors in good standing shall have preference as to the team they wish to sponsor.

## 6. Managers and Coaches

- 6.1 There shall be one Manager and up to three assistant coaches per team. An additional assistant coach or coaches may be added at the Board's discretion so long as each team has the same number of assistant coaches.
- 6.2 Each team will be required to have at least one coach or parent representative present at each coaches meeting during the playing season. Teams who miss more than two meetings are subject to disciplinary action. As described in section 14.
- 6.3 News articles of game highlights or Delta Baseball and Softball League announcements or information must be handled through the Board of Directors. Coaches writing their own articles without the Board of Director's approval will be subject to suspension or dismissal by the Board of Directors. Publishing of game scores in the newspaper is beyond our control and not guaranteed.
- 6.4 All coaches and teams must participate in all league activities (i.e. fundraising, field preparation, etc.). Non-participation shall be subject to Board review and possible dismissal from the league. As described in section 14
- 6.5 Any coach thrown out of a game will be subject to a review by the Board of Directors. As described in section 14
- 6.6 Only certified DBSL coaches or certified umpires will be allowed to umpire games
- 6.7 In case of a removal, the removed party will not be allowed to attend the game at issue, in any capacity (coach, parent, scorekeeper, spectator, umpire, etc.) If they are anywhere on the property where the game is to be played, the game will not be allowed to start. If they fail to remove themselves from the property by five minutes prior to the scheduled start time, the removed parties' team will forfeit the game. If the removed party shows up during the game and refuses to leave within 5 minutes the game will be stopped by the umpire and declared a forfeit. A Board member must notify the opposing coach prior to the start of the game in the event that a coach has been removed.
- 6.8 All coaches **MUST** be certified. Only certified personnel will be allowed on the field during game time.
- 6.9 All prospective coaches must be reviewed and accepted by the Coaching Committee. Coaches can only MANAGE one team unless otherwise approved by the board.
- 6.10 In T-Ball and Peanut divisions, coaches will umpire their own games. The defensive team coaches will umpire Home plate and the bases.
- 6.11 A home plate umpire will be provided by the league for the Junior and Senior Divisions. Additionally, to the maximum extent possible, a second umpire will be

provided for all Senior Division games. The defensive team shall provide additional base umpires as needed.

## 7. Board Members

7.1. Any Board member that is absent 2 times from a combination of Board or Coaches meetings (without prior approval of the President or Vice President) will not be able to participate in any Board decisions following his or her last absence and will be issued a warning. **Any** further absences will result in possible dismissal from the Board of Directors and will forfeit all league discounts (pending review by the Board).

7.2. First year Board members shall pay half price of stated player fees.

7.3. Board members with multiple years of service shall pay no player fees for first child and half price for each additional child

7.4. Board members are held to a higher level Code of Conduct. ***Progressive Disciplinary Action will be more severe for Board Member Incidents.***

7.5. Board members are permitted to hold multiple board positions, however regardless of the number of positions held, each board member is entitled to one vote.

7.6. All items and/or properties, including Intellectual Property, created or produced by a member of the Board of Directors for use by the Delta Baseball and Softball League shall become and remain the property of the Delta Baseball and Softball League.

## 8. Players

8.1. A player must be 4 on or before May 1 of the current year to play in the DBSL. 4 and 5-year-old boys and girls will participate in *co-ed T-Ball*.

8.2. To play in the Delta **Baseball** League, a player cannot turn 13 on or before **April 30** of the playing year. A player's League age will be their age on *April 30 of the current year*.

8.3. To play in the Delta **Softball** League, a player cannot turn 17 on or before ***December 31*** of the prior calendar year. A player's League age will be their age on *December 31 of the prior calendar year*.

8.4 Delta **Baseball** Divisions will be organized by age as follows:

Peanut Baseball: Ages 6 & 7

Senior Baseball: Ages 10, 11, 12

Ripken Minor Baseball: Ages 9 & 10

Ripken Major Baseball: Ages 11 & 12

8.5. Delta **Softball** Divisions will be organized by age as follows:

Peanut Softball ("8U"): Ages 6-8

Junior Softball ("10U"): Ages 8-10

Senior Softball ("12U"): Ages 10-13

14U: Ages 13-14

16U: Ages15-16

- 8.6. A player may play one year older if their parent or guardian coaches. For Cal Ripken Baseball, if a 10 year old is drafted, his parent need not coach for him to play Cal Ripken.
- 8.7. Exception requests to the above rules must be made in writing at sign-ups and approved by the Board of Directors.

**9. Champs Players**

- 9.1. The Champs division is for children with emotional or physical disabilities.
- 9.2. A Champ Player must be 4 on or before May 1 to play in the DBSL.
- 9.3. A Champ Player cannot turn 13 on or before April 30 and play in the DBSL.
- 9.4. A Champ player aged 13-20 may be allowed to play after completing a Board evaluation.
- 9.5. A Champ player's DBSL age will be their age on April 30.
- 9.6. Players will be segregated by playing ability during the season.
- 9.7. Exception requests to the above rules must be made in writing at sign-ups and approved by the Board of Directors.

**10. Parliamentary**

- 10.1. The President shall publish an agenda for each Board of Directors meeting. The agenda will include at a minimum roll call and changes to the agenda.
- 10.2. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings of the Delta Baseball and Softball League, except as here in otherwise provided.
- 10.3. Delta Baseball and Softball League members have the "privilege of debate"any League matters to the Board of Directors for 2minutes prior to the start of a Board of Directors meeting.

**11. Medal Games & All Stars**

- 11.1. Medals will be awarded to each player at the completion of the last game.
- 11.2. All Star Teams and Coaching staff will be matched up at each Division Commissioner's discretion.
- 11.3. All Star games will be held for Peanut, Junior, & Senior Baseball & Softball Divisions.
- 11.4. All Star selections shall be determined by the team's players voting, each manager will be allowed to change 1 player (from the results of the team vote), as long as that player is NOT a Manager/Coaches player.
- 11.5. All Star games will be held the weekend following Medal games. Teams will be allowed 2 Practices during that week prior to All Star Weekend.

## **12. Practice (Non-Comp)**

A practice is defined as a meeting with any manager or coach with any player(s) from their team or any other team(s) that is not their son/daughter or whom they do not have legal guardianship. A league-scheduled game does not constitute a practice.

12.1. Team practice occurrences are limited to a maximum of 3 practices per week prior to the start of the season and AT LEAST 1 practice per week after the season starts. But not more than 3 team meetings per week.

12.2. Practices are to be held only at the team assigned, approved, and DBSL permitted facilities at the dates and time on the permit.

12.3. Batting practices at privately owned and fee based businesses are permitted.

12.4. Practicing on a closed field, as indicated by the League, may result in loss of the permit.

## **13 .Incident Reports**

13.1. The Incident Report Form is to be used to provide feedback to the DBSL BOD. The Incident Report Committee (IRC) is an ad hoc committee consisting of DBSL board members assigned by the President to resolve issues raised in Incident Reports. Incident Reports should be turned in promptly to the President. The IRC will not act without a completed Incident Report Form. Non-discipline matters will be assigned to the proper Board member(s) for resolution. For example if an Incident Report says that the equipment for a field has been stolen, the President might assign the purchasing agent to obtain new equipment and perhaps the Facilities Director to investigate better security.

13.2. Preliminary Investigation: The President will assign a BOD member to, or will, conduct a preliminary investigation. The purpose of the preliminary investigation is to determine if the Incident Report is accurate and complete and what immediate action to take. The preliminary investigation will have 1 of the following results.

13.2.1. The Incident Report is accurate and disciplinary action is to be taken. For example, a coach may admit missing a coaches meeting. The President or assigned BOD member will determine the proper disciplinary action and will inform the coach and DBSL BOD.

13.2.2. The investigation was inconclusive and a formal hearing must be held. The investigator was unable to determine what really happened. Please see formal hearing below.

13.2.3. No action is required. For example, an Incident Report was already filed or the form was filed so late that an effective investigation could not be conducted.

13.2.4. The Incident Report is incomplete and is returned to the filer for completion.

- 13.2.5. Formal Hearing Guidelines
- 13.2.6. The DBSL President will assign a member to chair the hearing.
- 13.2.7. Legal representation is not permitted.
- 13.2.8. The IRC will be created consisting of a minimum of 5 DBSL BOD members.
- 13.2.9. The IRC will inform the parties of the formal hearing date. Hearings will be scheduled at the discretion of the DBSL BOD. It is our intent to give everyone sufficient time to prepare but also to react quickly to serious matters.
- 13.2.10. Both parties will receive copies of the Incident Report in order to prepare for the formal hearing.
- 13.2.11. Each party will have a 5-minute opening statement followed by a maximum of 5 witnesses who will have 3 minutes each to support the Incident Report. The Incident Report filer will go first. Witnesses must speak to the Incident Report. Character witnesses are not permitted. The parties are responsible for providing witnesses.
- 13.2.12. The Incident Report Committee may ask questions as required during the process.
- 13.2.13. Upon completion of the statements the IRC will discuss the evidence and determine if disciplinary action is required and if required what action to take.

## **14. Disciplinary Action**

- 14.1 .Disciplinary action will be progressively administered. Action from previous years will continue to the next season. Disciplinary action, depending on severity, will be administered as follows:
  - 14.1.1. Verbal warning
  - 14.1.2. Written warning
  - 14.1.3. 1 game suspension
  - 14.1.4. Multiple game suspensions
  - 14.1.5. Removal for the rest of the season
  - 14.1.6. Permanent removal from the league
- 14.2. The IRC chair will notify the disciplined party and the BOD in person or by phone of the disciplinary action taken. Additionally, the IRC will provide feedback to the Incident Report Filer.
- 14.3. Disciplinary action may not be appealed.
- 14.4. Disciplinary action from previous years can be removed from consideration under the following criteria:
  - 14.4.1. A verbal warning will clear after 1 complete season without further disciplinary action.
  - 14.4.2. A written warning will clear after 2 complete seasons without further disciplinary action.



14.4.3. Suspensions and removals never clear.

## **15. Equipment**

15.1. A deposit of \$150 is required to receive team equipment at the beginning of the season. Such deposit will be returned at the end of the season, when equipment is returned & inventoried on the league assigned return date.