

# Welcome to Peachtree Baseball and Softball



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Peachtree Baseball and  
Softball League 2019-2020

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# **Peachtree Baseball and Softball League of Albemarle**

## **Constitution and By-Laws**

<b>Articles</b>	<b>Page #</b>
<b>I.</b> Mission.....	<b>4</b>
<b>II.</b> Membership .....	<b>4</b>
<b>III.</b> Boundaries .....	<b>4</b>
<b>IV.</b> Meetings.....	<b>4</b>
<b>V.</b> Board of Directors .....	<b>5</b>
<b>VI.</b> Voting .....	<b>6</b>
<b>VII.</b> Financial.....	<b>7</b>
<b>VIII.</b> Duties of the Board of Directors .....	<b>8</b>
<b>IX.</b> Committees .....	<b>11</b>
<b>X.</b> Sponsor Rules .....	<b>12</b>
<b>XI.</b> Coaches.....	<b>12</b>
<b>XII.</b> Player Selection .....	<b>14</b>
<b>XIII.</b> League Governing Rules.....	<b>17</b>
<b>XIV.</b> Miscellaneous Rules .....	<b>19</b>
<b>XV.</b> League Specific Governing Rules .....	<b>20</b>
1. Pitching	
2. Babe Ruth Division	
3. Major and Minor General	
4. Major Only	
5. Minor Only	
6. Rookie Division	
7. TBall Division	
8. Blastball Division	
9. Fall Ball Rules	
<b>XVI.</b> All Star Team Selection .....	<b>28</b>
<b>XVII.</b> Code of Ethics.....	<b>31</b>

## **ARTICLE I – MISSION STATEMENT**

Peachtree Baseball League of Albemarle, Inc. is a non-profit organization that offers baseball and softball to boys and girls league age 4-18. Peachtree Baseball and Softball abides by Babe Ruth League, Inc. baseball and softball rules and regulations. Additionally, Peachtree maintains league governing rules in order to further the best interest of the players it represents. Peachtree Baseball and Softball teaches baseball and softball rules and skills, mental and physical development, a respect for the game, sportsmanship and fairplay.

Peachtree Baseball and Softball is committed to providing our participants the very best sports experience possible. It is the fundamental belief of Peachtree Baseball and Softball that every child with a desire to play baseball can do so.

## **ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP**

- A) Requirements for general membership in the Peachtree Baseball League:
  - 1) Must be 18 years of age or older
  - 2) Must meet one of the following criteria:
    - a. Have a child or children participating in the program during the current year.
    - b. Active participation in the league for the current year.
- B) Members will have one (1) vote per family. (Ex: Dad and Mom equal one vote). You must be present at the Annual meeting to have a vote.

## **ARTICLE III – BOUNDARIES OF THE LEAGUE**

The principal operations of the league shall be in and around the town of Crozet, VA within those boundaries set by the State/Regional Commissions.

## **ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS**

### **IV.1 - GENERAL**

The first 15 minutes of meetings are open to members and the general public to discuss matters brought to the board's attention. After comments/concerns are addressed all present, except for board members, will be excused and the board will continue the meeting to handle operations of the league.

## **IV.2 - TERMS**

- A) The board of directors shall be elected for two (2) year terms, and be eligible for re-election. The term of the Board shall be from Nov 1st to Oct 31st of the following year.
- B) The league's annual meeting is to be held in October of each year. New members of the Board shall be seated at the first meeting in November.

## **IV.3 - QUORUM**

- A) A quorum must be present at any meeting before any official business may be conducted (voting issues).
- B) A quorum shall consist of 50% or more of the seated Board of Directors for that year.
- C) Any Board member missing three (3) consecutive meetings may be replaced at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

## **IV.4 – SPECIAL MEETINGS**

- A) Any member of the league may request a special meeting with just cause, which must take place within seven (7) days from the date of the request.
- B) The member making the special meeting request must notify the President of this request in writing.

## **IV.5 – ANNUAL MEETING**

- A) The league will hold one (1) general membership meeting per year before registration for the upcoming season.
- B) The meeting's agenda will include plans for the upcoming season, voting in of said new board positions, and notification of any changes to the by-laws or league governing rules for the upcoming season.
- C) Members who want to run for a Board Position must express their intentions via email to the President by October 1st. No nominations will be accepted at the meeting.

## **ARTICLE V – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **V.1 - AUTHORITY**

The government of the local league (Peachtree Baseball League of Albemarle, Inc) shall be under the supervision of the president of the Board of Directors and Babe Ruth League, Inc.

### **V.2 – BOARD ROLES**

The Board of Directors shall consist of the following: President, 3 Vice-Presidents (Greenwood, Major/Minor, Rookie/T-Ball), Secretary, Treasurer, Equipment Manager, 3 Coach Representatives (Greenwood, Major/Minor, Rookie/T-Ball), Umpire-In-Chief, Public Relations Manager, Historian and Past President. (13 voting directors and past president)

### **V.3 - ASSISTANTS**

Any assistant positions (except for Pres, VP, Secretary and Treasurer) desired by the Board of Directors shall be appointed by their respective positions.

### **V.4 - DISCIPLINE**

- A) The Board of Directors shall have the authority, by two-thirds (2/3) majority of the voting board members, to discipline, suspend, or remove any director, officer, or committee member of the league.
  - 1. Said person(s) shall be notified of the pending action so they may be in attendance to present their side of the issue.
  - 2. All board members shall be notified of any pending action.
  - 3. Such action may be taken at any scheduled or special board meeting.
  - 4. The meeting shall be held within seven (7) days of notification that action is being taken.

### **V.5 - SCOPE**

The Board of Directors shall decide all matters concerning the operations and policies of the local league, and shall operate exclusively in the best interest of the league, its members and its participants.

### **V.6 – BYLAW CHANGES**

- A) In order to change the league by-laws, a two-thirds (2/3) majority of all voting board members must approve the proposed changes.
- B) The Board of Directors shall adopt any changes to the local rules of the league (Constitution & By-Laws and League Governing Rules) at a meeting to be held no less than one (1) month prior to the start of games for any upcoming season.

### **V.7 – VOTING PROCEDURES**

- A) With the sole exception of the October Board of Director's meeting, Board members do not need to be present in order to vote provided that the remote voting medium used is verifiable and timely at the discretion of the President.
  - 1) E-mail shall be deemed an acceptable remote voting medium provided it is delivered to the President in a timely manner.

### **V.8 – REPLACING BOARD MEMBERS**

If for any reason, an elected member of the Board of Directors shall be unable to finish his/her term of office, the remaining members of the board, by 2/3 majority vote, shall choose the replacement. The appointment shall be for the duration of the term. If no one runs and is elected for an open board seat during the November general election, the board can seek out a candidate and fill that position with a 2/3 majority vote of the current board.

## **ARTICLE VI- VOTING**

### **VI.1 – GENERAL RULES FOR VOTING**

- A) Members who want to run for a Board Position must express their intentions via email to the President by October 1st. The nomination process closes at close of business

(5pm) on October 1st. No nominations will be accepted after this deadline or at the annual meeting.

- B) On October 2nd, an email will be sent by the President to the board for their approval of the nominees.
- C) On October 3rd, an email will be sent by the President to the league reminding them about the annual meeting and announcing the nominees.
- D) The election of the board members will take place at the October meeting, which will be an annual general membership meeting.
- E) Notice of the election shall be made prior to the election, by emails to the membership, on the website, by coach communication with his/her parents, and by news media.
- F) Each Member can vote for only one candidate per open position.

## **VI.2 - VOTING PROCEDURES FOR BOARD ELECTIONS**

- A) At the Sept meeting the board will vote on the Election Committee. The board will elect a minimum of 2 board members who are not running for a position to organize and run the Election Committee.
- B) The Election Committee shall consist of a Chair and a Teller and assistants, if available.
- C) The Chair of the Election Committee will greet members, have members sign in and give members a numbered ballot at the door. The Chair will verify the # that have signed in and compare to the # of ballots distributed.
- D) Ballots will be a paper ballot with each person's name and the position they are running for. The ballot will be organized in the order that open positions are listed in the bylaws.
- E) The Chair will announce all positions and nominees.
- F) Members running for a board position will speak briefly on their behalf.
- G) The Chair will collect the ballots.
- H) The Chair Committee will count the ballots together. Votes will be recorded by the Teller.
- I) Winner is decided by majority vote. If there is a tie, votes will be recounted. If there is still a tie then a revote will be taken including only the candidates who were tied.
- J) The Chair will announce those elected.
- K) Once all positions have been voted on and announced, the Chair will close elections and move on to the next order of business.

## **ARTICLE VII - FINANCIAL**

### **VII.1**

- A) The league's finances shall be conducted in a way to deter any stealing or borrowing of monies.
- B) No board members related by blood or marriage will be allowed to co-sign checks written on any league bank account.
- C) The bank statements and all billings will be sent to the league's PO Box address, not to one's home.
- D) All funds received shall be deposited to the credit of the Peachtree League in any accredited bank approved by the Board of Directors and all disbursements shall be made by check.
- E) All checks written for \$500.00 & over must have either verbal or written approval from President. Items will be discussed at Board meeting, via telephone, in person or by email

and notations need to be made on invoicing.

- F) All deposits and written checks must have a copy for verification by the financial review committee.
- G) Deposits must be made in a timely manner. Do not hold more than \$500 at one's house before deposits.
- H) The fiscal year of the local league shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December.
- I) Treasurer is to provide the board with up to date financial reports at monthly meetings.
- J) The concession stand(s) should have a daily open/close cash log that is distributed to the Board once per month.

## **VII.2**

- A) The board of directors shall not permit the contribution of funds or property to individual teams, but shall solicit them for the common treasury of the local league, thereby discouraging favoritism among teams and to endeavor to equalize the benefits of the local league.
- B) The board of directors shall not permit the solicitation of funds in the name of Peachtree Baseball League unless all funds are placed in the local league treasury.
- C) The board of directors shall not permit the disbursement of local league funds for any reason other than to conduct local league activities in accordance with the rules and policies of the local league.
- D) With board approval, fundraising is allowed for all Peachtree affiliated teams in order to help offset player costs in tournaments, additional uniforms and other team related expenses.
- E) No director, official, or member of the local league shall receive (directly or indirectly) any salary, compensation or gift of goods from the local league for service rendered as director, officer or member.
- F) Upon dissolution of the local league and after all outstanding debts and claims have been satisfied, the members shall distribute the property of the local league to other such organization(s) maintaining an objective similar to that set forth herein, which are or may be entitled to exemption under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or any corresponding provision.

## **ARTICLE VIII – DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **VIII.1 – PRESIDENT**

- A) Preside over meetings of the Board of Directors
- B) Appoint all committee members.
- C) Look after the general welfare of the league.
- D) Preside over the annual general membership meeting.
- E) Ensure that meeting minutes are taken.
- F) Ensure that state sex offender security checks are done on all managers, coaches, and volunteers of the league.
- G) Supervise registration, check birth certificates, and eligibility of players to include residents within league boundaries.
- H) Coordinate team picture scheduling and photo disbursement.
- I) Sign checks in the event the Treasurer is unavailable.

## **VIII.2 – VICE-PRESIDENTS [Greenwood (Babe Ruth), Major/Minor, Rookie/T-Ball, Softball]**

- A) Act in the absence of the president.
- B) Solicit head coaches if needed for their respective divisions.
- C) Preside over try-outs and team formation and/or draft in their division.
- D) Act as safety officer to establish procedures that are understood and practiced by players and adult personnel. Provide periodic inspection of playing facilities and equipment. Prepare for emergencies and training in first aid. Investigate accidents and recommend corrective measures.
- E) Prepare rosters for their respective division(s).
- F) Assign late registrations to their respective divisions.
- G) Prepare all-star rosters/ballots for their division.
- H) Ensure scores and pitch counts of their division are received and posted timely as appropriate.

## **VIII.3 – SECRETARY**

- A) Act in the absence of the president and vice-president.
- B) Keep accurate minutes of all general membership, board, and special meetings.
- C) Distribute via email Meeting Minutes to the Board in a reasonable amount of time after each meeting and keep a record book marked with the year with all meeting agendas and meeting notes for year
- D) Responsible for copies of by-laws with all up-to-date changes, which shall be the official by-laws of the league.
- E) Assist with ensuring all league documentation is kept appropriately throughout the season

## **VIII.4 – TREASURER**

- A) Keep accurate records of all league funds and books.
- B) Provide receipts in exchange for monies received.
- C) Sign all checks for the league.
- D) Prepare budgets and provide monthly reports of status on the league's funds/budgets at the monthly board meeting.
- E) Responsible for all fundraising monies.
- F) Responsible for putting forth a budget for approval by the board for the following year.
- G) Keep accurate records of all monies received and note in the ledger.
- H) Pay from invoices only and receipts when presented by board members when purchases have been made from their personal accounts and have been board approved.
- I) Annually apply for, obtain, and maintain a charter from any youth organization, as directed by league membership.
- J) Obtain insurance for the league.
- K) Follow up on all insurance claims submitted due to baseball-related activities.

## **VIII.5 – EQUIPMENT MANAGER**

- A) Act in the absence of the president, vice-presidents, secretary.
- B) Solicit bids as requested for uniforms and consumable equipment items prior to the beginning of each season to be submitted to the board for approval.

- C) Oversee the purchase of materials, equipment and supplies in accordance with the budget.
- D) Responsible for original equipment being returned before replacement is made. Equipment should be logged out and tracked on a spreadsheet at the beginning of the season and cross referenced at the end of the season.
- E) Responsible for all equipment being turned in at the end of the season.
- F) Responsible for an inventory report to the Board of Directors at the end of the fiscal year. Inventory should include (at a minimum) pitching machines, batting cage condition, L-screens, balls, helmets, catcher's gear, soil conditioner, lime, liners, and rakes.

### **VIII.6 – COACHES' REPRESENTATIVES [Greenwood (Babe Ruth), Major/Minor, Rookie/T-Ball, Softball]**

- A) Responsible for coaches complying with the League Constitution and League rules.
- B) Represent all head coaches at the board of director meetings.
- C) Hold coaches' clinics.
- D) Disperse all coaches' packets.
- E) Responsible for leading and appointing a discipline committee when needed.
- F) Assist with evaluation day.

### **VIII.7 – UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF**

- A) Attend the district umpire school if one is available.
- B) Arrange and conduct a local umpire clinic and require all league umpires to attend before the start of each season.
- C) Schedule or delegate the scheduling of umpires for all Minor, Major & Babe Ruth division games. Schedule umpires & coordinate with President who schedules the games.
- D) Responsible for seeing that all league umpires are approved by the board of directors and are Babe Ruth nationally certified for the Minor, Major & Babe Ruth Division.
- E) Responsible for deciding if fields are safe to play on before and during games.
- F) Responsible for coordinating umpire equipment with the equipment manager.

### **VIII.8 - PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER**

- A) Responsible for promoting the league programs and reporting the league activities to the community through print, news media and other means available in order to encourage interest, support and an understanding of the league ideals.
- B) Responsible for pre-season promotion and advertising of league signups including procurement of any necessary signs or ads.
- C) Assist Fundraising Coordinator with fundraiser activities.

### **VIII.9 – HISTORIAN**

- A) Responsible for taking photos and documenting events throughout the season and creating and maintaining a medium to store the history of the league.
- B) Before the beginning of the next season, the Historian is responsible for compiling a notebook containing all pictures, team rosters, standings, newspaper clippings, summary of past year's significant happenings. All meeting minutes, audit report with concessions, general funds, account balance(s), and a list of expenditures shall be included in this notebook.
- C) Gathering information from previous yrs. Ex: Board members, District Champions, State

- Champions, Regional Champions.
- D) Assist the league during registration.
- E) Update current technology with information such as Facebook and Twitter.
- F) Assist the VP's with updating scores and pitch counts as appropriate.

### **VIII.10 – PAST PRESIDENT**

- A) Attend Peachtree board of directors' meetings and participate in board discussions throughout the year.
- B) Be available to help and advise the president on his/her duties.
- C) Chair and/or participate on ad hoc committees as they become necessary.
- D) Be a mentor for new leaders.
- E) Support other officers, board members, committee chairs as needed.
- F) Represent Peachtree Baseball at other functions in the community.
- G) Be a liaison at district and state Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken league meetings.

### **VIII.11 - FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR**

- A) Work with local businesses to promote Peachtree's fundraising efforts through advertising.
- B) Oversee any fundraisers and to serve in any capacity to promote the general welfare of the league.
- C) Work with President to secure sponsors for all teams and Concession Sponsor plates.
- D) Responsible for securing prizes for fundraisers as appropriate from area businesses and coordinating any fundraising committees.
- E) Assist the Secretary with team photos.

## **ARTICLE IX – COMMITTEES**

### **IX.1 – COMMITTEE LISTING**

- A) Primary committees, which may or may not be formed each year on an as needed basis, include, but are not limited to the following:
  1. Board Nomination/Election Committee
  2. League Financial Review Committee
  3. Scheduling Committee
  4. All-Star Selection Committee
  5. Protest Committee
  6. Tournament Committee
  7. Budget Committee
  8. Disciplinary Committee
  9. Fundraising Committee
  10. Team Formation Committee
  11. Appropriate Level of Play Committee

### **IX.2 - ELECTION COMMITTEE**

- A) The board shall appoint an election committee of three (3) league members. The

committee will consist of members who are not running for a position.

### **IX.3 – FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**

- A) There shall be a financial review committee formed for the purpose of reviewing the financial state of the league.
- B) The committee will be appointed by the President and approved by the board of directors, and will be comprised of at least three (3) league members.
- C) One member of the committee must have a background or understanding of financial and business reporting practices.
- D) No person in the capacity of signing checks for the league during the reviewed period is to be on the committee (president, vice-president, treasurer).
- E) The review committee is to check a representative sample of all invoices with checks (front and back), check a representative sample of all deposits with bank statements, and verify a sample of ledger checks with returned checks from the bank (front and back).
- F) The committee must verify that all expenditures exceeding \$500 are noted in board meeting minutes and approved by the board of directors.
- G) The review committee is to report its findings at the first meeting in October to the board of directors in a written format.

### **IX.4 - SCHEDULING COMMITTEE**

- A) The President shall appoint a committee of three (3) chaired by the Vice-Presidents, which shall prepare the league game & make-up schedules.

## **ARTICLE X – SPONSOR RULES**

- A) Returning sponsors will have priority.
- B) When openings become available, sponsors with the most seniority within the Peachtree Baseball League will have priority. Sponsors will be assigned in order of seniority.
- C) When all other conditions are equal, sponsors will be assigned in order in which payment is received (i.e., first come, first served).
- D) When a Sponsor expresses interest in supporting a team, they will sponsor the team that their player is drafted onto. If their player is already on a team, they will be offered the opportunity to sponsor that team. If the team is already sponsored, the Sponsorship Coordinator will work with the Sponsor to come to an agreement on another team.

## **ARTICLE XI – COACHES**

### **XI.1 – HEAD COACHES**

- A) As mandated by Babe Ruth, all head coaches and assistants must have completed the Cal Ripken Babe Ruth online coaches' certification prior to draft day in order to coach or manage a team at Peachtree Baseball.
  - 1. Failure to comply with these rules will result in the removal of the manager or coach from the team.
  - 2. The cost of the coach's certification is the responsibility of the coach.
  - 3. The coaching certification is valid for their entire coaching career with Babe Ruth League, Inc.
  - 4. All coaches must complete a Peachtree Baseball Coaches Application and have it

on file with the league in order to coach (The application does not need to be redone every year).

5. In addition, each coach, assistants, and any other persons, volunteers or hired workers, who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to or contact with the players are required to complete a nationwide background check and abuse prevention training valid for 2 years in accordance with the Safe Sports Act.
- B) The vice-presidents and coaches' representatives from each division shall solicit a pool of qualified head coaches annually to be presented to the board of directors for approval.
  - C) Each head coach shall be responsible for the actions of his/her respective team, coaches, and parents on the field and shall possess the following qualifications:
    1. Leadership and Ability
    2. Teaching Ability
    3. Good Sportsmanship
    4. Knowledge of Baseball Rules
  - D) Each head coach, except for T-Ball Head Coaches, shall be responsible for the selection of his/her respective team during the yearly draft.
  - E) If a team doesn't show for a scheduled game, and does not make prior arrangements to reschedule the game, the head coach may be suspended for the rescheduled game.
    1. The head coach must notify the opposing team's head coach and Vice-President to reschedule the game prior to gametime.
    2. If a second no-show occurs, or the head coach refuses to play the rescheduled game, the team shall forfeit the game (forfeits are not applicable in Rookie League and below).
  - F) If the board of directors finds that a manager/coach is not properly fulfilling the duties/responsibilities of his/her position as manager/coach, they may be required to appear before the board of directors for an explanation. The board of directors has the right to remove said manager/coach from the active roster with at least a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the voting members present.
  - G) A head coach may coach only one (1) team during a current season in the Peachtree Baseball League, however, he/she may be an assistant coach of a team in another division of Peachtree Baseball (i.e., Major's, Minor's, Rookie, T-Ball). It is strongly recommended however, for both team quality and player stability, that a person coach only one team at a time.
  - H) Coaches will be removed from their positions if that person fails to fulfill their obligations, including, but not limited to, missing games, practices, abusive language etc...
  - I) The Head Coach is responsible for returning league equipment to the league equipment manager by the end of the season.
    1. Failure to do so will result in monetary action against that person.
    2. Failure to pay for missing equipment will result in a one-year suspension and/or legal action.
    3. All damaged equipment should also be returned and only the equipment manager will make the decision to discard any piece deemed not suitable for play.
  - J) Coaches will undergo a criminal background check conducted through the US National Sex Offender website. Full disclosure is required as stated in the coaches'

contract.

- K) If a head coach position opens, all potential candidates will be solicited and voted on by the Board. This applies to all divisions of the Peachtree Baseball League.
- L) A Peachtree Baseball League Coaches' Contract must be signed by all head and assistant coaches and applicable scorekeepers. All coaches, assistants, umpires, board members, players and parents will sign the Peachtree Code of Ethics.
- M) A Head Coach cannot leave one team to go to another team unless it is to fill a vacant head coaching position. All coaching moves/changes are subject to the Boards approval. The board will NOT approve a coaching move/change that it believes is being done for the purpose of stacking a team. The Board has the duty to make sure the spirit of the bylaws are being followed.

## **XI.2 – ASSISTANT COACHES**

- A) Each head coach may select one assistant coach prior to the draft (Rookie allows for 2 assistant coaches).
  - 1. Once that coach declares that one coach his assistant, he will remain an assistant coach on the roster as long as his child is on the roster.
  - 2. Once the coach names an assistant coach, he cannot pick up another declared assistant until that player is no longer on the team roster.
  - 3. If the one declared assistant decides that he no longer wants to coach but the child is still on the team, the head coach cannot pick up another assistant until after draft until that player is no longer on the team roster. This is to prevent head coaches from switching coaches to automatically get players.
  - 4. The children of coaches will be evaluated each year. The names must be submitted to the board of directors for approval.
  - 5. The intent of the assistant coaches must be to act as an active member of the team and not serve in name only.
  - 6. There will be no pre-selection of scorekeeper.
- B) In the absence of the head coach, the assistant coaches are to take over all the responsibilities required of the head coach.
- C) During their games, coaches of record will either be on the playing field as base coaches, in the dugout, or in the score booth conferring with the scorekeeper.
- D) If the board of directors finds that a head/assistant coach is not properly fulfilling the duties/responsibilities of his/her position as head/assistant coach, they may be required to appear before the board of directors for an explanation.
  - 1. The board of directors has the right to remove said head/assistant coach from the active roster with at least a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the voting members present.

## **ARTICLE XII – PLAYER SELECTION**

### **XII.1 – PURPOSE**

The purpose of the draft is to create an evaluation system that allows the league to distribute playing talent evenly among each team in each division of the league.

## XII.2 – GUIDELINES

- A) All teams will be redrafted each season.
- B) No player may quit during the season and resume play during that season. If a child returns the following year they will be placed in the draft in the minor and major league divisions. Exceptions will be made for medical reasons.
- C) Players may participate in interscholastic sports outside Peachtree Baseball League.
- D) Players may only move once within a division if Board approval is granted.
- E) If a player decides not to play during regular season a partial refund may be issued. The amount refunded will be the amount of registration less the cost of the uniform, this includes hat, pants and shirt. This includes any taxes and shipping that Peachtree is charged.
- F) Rookie, Minors and Majors will draft teams based on the overall evaluations of players. All head coaches and one assistant will evaluate all players, including head coaches' children. Coaches' children will be drafted according to the rank in which they were evaluated.
- G) Divisions will be based on age (Majors 11-12, Minors 9-10) except where a child ranks either very high or very low at try-outs.
  - 1. Coaches from each division and parents of said child will decide whether the player should be placed up or down a level.
  - 2. Parents will be informed of the risks and/or benefits of having their child (not within the standard age range) placed up or down a level.
  - 3. Any player seeking to play up in a division older than their league age must be drafted in the top half of the rounds during the draft for that higher division. I.E. any league age 10-year-old looking to play in Majors in an 11 player (11 round) draft must be selected within one of the first six rounds.
  - 4. No player can play up in a division whose lowest normal league age is more than one year beyond the players current league age. I.e. a league a 10-year-old can play up in majors if drafted appropriately, a league age 9-year-old player cannot play in majors.
  - 5. The League will try to accommodate requests in the Tball division to place two players on the same team if the request does not supersede the primary goal of evenly distributing playing ability across the teams of those divisions.
  - 6. This does not apply to Rookie Minor, Major or the Babe Ruth divisions. Players in the Rookie, Minor, Major and Babe Ruth must play on the team they are drafted on; there will be no special requests.
  - 7. Siblings in the Rookie, Minor, Major and Babe Ruth divisions will be placed on the same team, unless there is a special request from the parent to not place the siblings on the same team.
- H) All children must be evaluated.
  - 1. Exceptions will be made for players who cannot try out due to unavoidable

circumstances such as moving into the area, illness, and vacation.

2. If a child is unavailable for evaluations:
  - a. The division VP will attempt to arrange a separate evaluation of the player.
  - b. If that can't occur the division VP will solicit input on skill level from previous and/or current coaches
  - c. Lastly, if necessary, the division VP will call, and interview said child's parents to assess the player's abilities. (This promotes full disclosure and Equal Access to All Players).
  - d. At the draft, the division VP that spoke to the child's parents will speak on the child's behalf.
  - e. Coaches that know the players abilities will also have the chance to speak about the player's abilities.
- I) All 12 yr old's must be drafted by a major team. The board may vote during draft to keep that 12 yr old player in the minors if they think that it is a safety issue for that 12 yr old to play in the majors.
- J) 11yr olds must play in the division that they are drafted in.
- K) All applicable players are eligible for the majors if drafted with parent consent. All players ages are determined by the Babe Ruth birth chart.

### **XII.3 – EVALUATION (Minors, Majors, Babe Ruth)**

- A) A standard form will be given to all head coaches and independents evaluating various skill areas with an emphasis on and separate category for pitching
- B) Each head coach will add the different categories and give each player a total score.
- C) Head coaches'/Independent's ratings will be averaged (discarding the individual player's highest and lowest scores) giving each child one final score or rating. Children will be ranked according to their average score.

### **XII.4 - EVALUATION (Rookie)**

- A) Rookie evaluations are done by league board members including the Rookie VP and Rookie Coaches Rep. with the mission of balancing the teams.
- B) Coaches do not need to be present to evaluate the Rookie players but are welcome to join. Rankings will be handed out prior to the draft, so that the coaches can use them as a draft tool.
- C) A standard evaluation form will be completed by the Rookie VP, Coaches Rep, and any coaches present with a basic evaluation of an ability to hit, throw, catch, and run. The emphasis is heavier on throwing and catching.
- D) 6-year old's and below should be evaluated as a safety risk based on whether they show an ability to throw and catch, and an ability to routinely and safely stand in the batter's box.

## **XII.5 - DRAFT**

- A) A representative example of draft will be given to coaches to establish the following proceedings.
- B) Head coaches will establish their declared players (coaches' children) for their individual teams.
- C) Players to be drafted will be set in numerical order by their evaluation ranking from highest to lowest.
- D) Any player seeking to play up in a division older than their league age must be drafted in the top half of the rounds during the draft for that higher division. I.E. any league age 10-year-old looking to play in Majors in an 11 player (11 round) draft must be selected within one of the first six rounds.
- E) Round 1: Move up one player from the bench for each team ONLY IF that players rank is higher or equal to that of the highest ranked, draft-able player.
  - 1. For teams whose highest ranked player is below the highest ranked draft-able player: those teams will draft one player from the draft-able player list, in order of their highest ranked player on their bench, from least to greatest.
- F) Round 2 and beyond: Teams will select players in order of their teams overall score, from least to greatest.
  - 1. When it is a team's turn to select a player, they will select a player from the draft-able list ONLY IF the highest ranked player on their bench is below the rank of the highest ranked available player.
  - 2. If that team has a player on the bench whose rank is equal or greater than the highest ranked draft-able player, then that player will move off the bench in that round and that team does not select from the draft-able player list.
- G) When selecting from the draft-able player list, if a team selects a player with a lower rank than the highest-ranking player available, i.e., selecting a player ranked "six" when one ranked "nine" is available, then the "six" will automatically become a "nine" and registered as such in the draft chart.
- F) After the draft is complete, each team's players' scores should add up to the same or similar total score, +/- a reasonable margin.
- G) No new players will be added to the teams after the draft. However, the Board may make a special exception in hardship cases with extraordinary circumstances.
- H) Balance should be achieved and evaluated by the President and league VPs.
  - 1. Any additional players who are permitted to sign up after the draft will be placed on a team by a majority selection by the President and VPs.
  - 2. Number of players on each team, draft scores, and number of pitchers on each team should all be considered.)
  - 3. All head coaches will be responsible for contacting their players within 48 hours of draft.
- I) Privacy - The player rankings will be strictly confidential and shall not be discussed with anyone outside the Board of Directors, Commissioner, Head and Assistant coaches for that specific level. All draft ranking sheets will be returned to the League President upon completion of the draft.

## ARTICLE XIII - LEAGUE GOVERNING RULES

- A) The “Regulation and Playing Rules of the Babe Ruth Baseball League, Inc.” and “Softball Rules and Regulations and Official Playing Rules of the Babe Ruth League, Inc.” are the official rules and regulations for the current season play followed by Peachtree Baseball League. Additional rules and regulations authorized by the Peachtree Baseball League will also apply.
- B) Good sportsmanship is always required, including board members, coaches, umpires, scorekeepers, players and parents.
- C) A zero-tolerance policy is always in effect regarding alcohol, tobacco, illegal substances, etc., during practices, games, travel to and from related Peachtree programs, or while on the grounds used by the League during season and/or tournament activities.
  - 1. This applies to all participants; board members, coaches, umpires, concession stand operators, groundskeepers, parents and spectators etc.
  - 2. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an immediate one-year suspension from the League.
- D) Violation of the “rules and regulations” will result in an ejection from the present game and a one-game suspension. The Board will review two ejections during a season and penalties can include a one-year suspension from the League from the date of the second ejection.
- E) No physical confrontations will be tolerated. Any violation of this rule will result in a minimum one-year suspension from the League from the date of incident and /or legal action.
- F) Any person, including players, coaches, parents, assistants, etc., must leave the physical premises immediately after being ejected.
  - 1. The premises are defined as the playing field and/or any area within view of the playing field.
  - 2. Failure to do so may result in suspension from future games.
  - 3. All suspensions stemming from ejections are subject to Board approval.
- G) Active fenced in playing area is limited to only those two teams and their coaches, assistants and scorekeepers
- H) In the T-ball division children will be placed on a team. In Rookie, Minor, and Major and 8U, 10U and 12U softball divisions, players are drafted by the head coaches. Procedures for the draft are set forth in greater detail in the draft section of the bylaws.
- I) Cal Ripken Umpires
  - 1. Cal Ripken plate umpires must be 17yrs of age and must be Babe Ruth certified.
  - 2. Cal Ripken Field Umpires can be 13yo league approved Field Umpires. They do not need to be certified and there will be no background checks. Field umps will ONLY be paid if an adult (17+) and Babe Ruth certified.
- J) Babe Ruth umpires
  - 1. Babe Ruth umpires must be 21yrs of age and certified to be a plate umpire and 17yrs of age to field umpire.
  - 2. Babe Ruth can use 17+ year old non-certified league approved Field Umpires. To be paid, Babe Ruth umpires must be 17+ years old, league approved, and certified.

- J) Volunteers are a large part of the Peachtree Baseball League and those assisting with the concession stand are no exceptions. Team Parents are responsible for assigning times and generating volunteers for the appropriate games to “work” the concession stand.
- K) Once a child is registered in the League, you will be required to assist with the concession at least once during the season.
- L) **RULE CONFLICTS** - Where provisions in the Local League Bylaws conflict provisions in other governing rules and regulations, the Bylaws will govern.

#### **ARTICLE XIV – Miscellaneous**

- A) Lightning policy will coincide with NATA, NCAA and NSLI safety minimums as follows:
  - 1. A chain of command shall be designated as to who monitors weather conditions and who makes the decision to remove teams and individuals from the field.
  - 2. The person designated to be the weather monitor shall, when the flash-to-bang (lightning to thunder) count reaches 30 seconds, inform all participants and parents, etc to clear the field and go to their cars.
  - 3. Games may resume once at least 30 minutes has passed since the last flash of lightning or sound of thunder.
  - 4. There is a weather monitoring system in each concession stand. It is to be monitored by the concession workers. The machines are to be turned on & off each evening. In the event of lighting & severe storms they need to quickly communicate with umpires and coaches on each field to alert them of the imminent danger.
  - 5. All players, parents, concession workers, umpires, anyone at the field, must go to their vehicles. No one is to sit in the dugouts or be under the pavilion once the weather monitor goes off.
- B) Scholarship Policy
  - 1. As a nonprofit organization, it is the desire of Peachtree Baseball that all children be able to participate, regardless of financial constraints. The League offers scholarships on an as-needed individual basis each season. All conversations and information may be shared with the Board but will be held in the strictest of confidence.
  - 2. Whenever possible the League asks that families pay a partial payment of what they can afford at the time of the arrangement. When granting full or partial scholarships the League requires the family to cover two, two-hour concession stand shift per child, with a 6 hour max per family for the season that the scholarship is provided. Concession times will be set by the Concession Stand Coordinator before the season begins.

## ARTICLE XV – LEAGUE SPECIFIC GOVERNING RULES

### XV.1 – PITCHING RULES

- A. A Cal Ripken Baseball pitcher, regardless of age may pitch six (6) innings per calendar week.
  - 1. Applies to all games regardless of when played. This includes rescheduled and make-up games.
  - 2. If a pitcher delivers one pitch in an inning he shall be charged for one one inning pitched.
- B. No pitcher may pitch more than 3 innings in any one game.
- C. The calendar week of Babe Ruth League, Inc. is Monday through, and including Sunday. Peachtree has adopted the Babe Ruth recommendations for Maximum Daily Pitch Counts (baseball) and prescribed rest days based on total daily pitches thrown. See table:

**PITCH COUNT LIMITS AND REQUIRED REST**

Division	Daily Limit	Required Rest Days per Pitch Count				
		0 Days	1 Days	2 Days	3 Days	4 Days
Minor	75	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+
Major	85	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+
Babe Ruth	95	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+

- D. An official game pitch counter will be appointed by the home baseball team.
  - 1. The in-game pitch tracker will notify the head coaches and umpire regarding pitch counts between innings.
  - 2. The in-game pitch counter will complete a form indicating, per pitcher: final game score, number of pitches thrown per inning, total pitches thrown, and total innings thrown for the game.
  - 3. A smartphone image of this form will be submitted to the official pitch count tracker and VP via contact information on the form.
  - 4. The hardcopy will be turned into the concession stand.
- E. Metrics will be recorded on a publicly accessible spreadsheet for accountability.

### XV.2 - BABE RUTH DIVISION (13-15 YOA)

- A) Teams will bat a continuous line-up of all present, eligible, uniformed players.
  - 1) All players other than the nine (9) defensive position players are extra hitters and may move freely in defensive positions except for the pitching position (see rule C below).
  - 2) Any player(s) arriving after the game has begun, shall be added to the bottom of the batting line-up.

- 3) When using the continuous line-up and a player must leave the game for any reason, that position in the line-up will be skipped; the offense will not take an out for that at-bat
- B) No pinch runner/courtesy runners are allowed, except in the case of injury, where the player last recorded out will take the place of the injured runner.
- C) The only exception to the defensive free substitution rule is for pitchers. No player may reenter as pitcher once removed from the pitching position.
- D) A Babe Ruth Baseball pitcher, regardless of age may pitch seven (7) innings per calendar week. The calendar week is Monday through, and including Sunday. This applies to all games regardless of when played, including rescheduled and make up games.
- E) If a pitcher delivers one (1) pitch in an inning he shall be charged for one (1) inning pitched.
- F) Babe Ruth rules dictate that players MUST participate in each seven-inning game, regardless of time, to include a minimum of (9) defensive outs and a (1) time at bat. This applies to Babe Ruth divisions. Coaches are strongly encouraged to provide more than the minimum requirements to all players and violation of this rule will result in a one-game suspension for the head coach.
- G) In the Babe Ruth division, the slaughter rule will apply if a team is ahead by 10 or more runs in the fifth inning.
- H) Coaches should be aware that during inter-league play, teams will play according to the rules of the host league.
- I) Protests must be made at the time of the incident directly to the plate umpire and forwarded to the League President, in written format within 24 hours.
1. The plate umpire must also be notified immediately at the time of the incident that the game is being played under protest.
  2. The board will review the incident.
  3. This applies to rule and/or regulation violations and does not apply to umpire's judgment calls.
  4. Decisions will be relayed by the Vice President of the affected division.
- J) Home Team is responsible for prepping the field before the game, concession duty and making sure that their dugout and bleachers are clean after the game. Visiting team is responsible for working the scoreboard, raking the field after the game, and making sure that their dugout and bleachers are clean.
- K) Any time a player or coach behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner (throwing equipment, abusive language, etc.), he/she may, at the discretion of the umpire or

any attending Board Member, be removed from the game.

L) Babe Ruth Games will have a 2.5-hour time limit; this includes weekday and weekend games. No new inning shall start after the 2.5-hour minute mark.

M) The Board suggests that games be rescheduled for the following Sunday.

1. If the participating teams are unable to play the game on that Sunday, the coaches of those teams will work together, and with the counsel of the Coaches Representative, to ensure that the game is made up prior to the close of the regular season, generally during one of the team's scheduled practices.
2. Coaches must ensure that any game reschedule is communicated with their division representative on the Board.
3. A player cannot be penalized due to religious beliefs for not attending the game.

N) Teams will come back and only finish the game to the end of the time limit that was left from the original game.

1. Umpires will be owed the pre-determined amount once the game has started (first pitch thrown). If a game is cancelled for any reason, the umpire is to receive the amount agreed upon by the board."

### **XV.3 – MAJOR AND MINOR DIVISIONS GENERAL**

A) Free substitution of players is allowed during the game.

1. An exception is for pitchers: no pitcher may re-enter the game as a pitcher once removed as pitcher.

B) A continuous batting line-up consisting of all all present, eligible, uniformed players is required.

1. When employing a continuous line-up, free substitution of defensive players is allowed during the game, but the batting order shall remain the same.
2. All players other than the nine (9) defensive position players are extra hitters and may move freely in defensive positions except for the pitching position. Non-starting pitchers are not allowed to return to pitching.
3. The pitcher that came in to pitch as a sub pitcher cannot leave the game and re-enter as a pitcher.
4. Any player(s) arriving after the game has begun, shall be added to the bottom of the batting line-up.
5. When using the continuous lineup and a player must leave the game for any reason, that position in the line-up will be skipped; the offense will not take an out for that at-bat.

C) A ten (10) run slaughter rule will be implemented. If a team is leading by ten (10) runs at the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning, the game is over.

D) A pitcher will be removed from the game if he/she hits 3 batters in a half inning or 5 in a game.

E) Home Team is responsible for prepping the field before the game, and making sure that their dugout and bleachers are clean after the game. Visiting team is responsible for working the scoreboard, raking the field after the game, and making sure that their dugout and bleachers are clean.

F) Protests must be made at the time of the incident, directly to the plate umpire, and

sent to the League President, written up, within 24 hours.

1. The plate umpire must also be notified immediately at the time of the incident that the game is being played under protest.
  2. The board will review all protests.
  3. This DOES NOT APPLY to umpire's judgment calls, only rule and/or regulation violations.
  4. Decisions will be relayed by the Vice President of the affected division.
- G) Disciplinary problems, resulting in the non-participation of a player for a game, must be reported to the opposing teams' coach and the umpire prior to that game. Disciplinary problems during the game resulting in non-participation for the remainder of the game must also be reported to the opposing teams' coach and the umpire.
- H) Cal Ripken rules dictate that players must participate in each six-inning game, regardless of time, to include a minimum of (6) defensive outs and a (1) time at bat. Coaches are strongly encouraged to provide more than the minimum requirements to all players and violation of this rule will result in a one-game suspension for the head coach.
- I) Batting Rule: All players present at the game will remain in the batting order. The batting order will remain unchanged during the game.
- J) Any time a player or coach behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner (throwing equipment, abusive language), he/she may, at the discretion of the umpire, may be removed from the game.
- K) If a runner attempting to reach home plate intentionally and maliciously runs into a defensive player in the area of home plate, he will be called out on the play and ejected from the game.
1. The objective of this rule is to penalize the offensive team for crashing the defensive player, rather than trying to reach homeplate.
  2. This is an umpire's judgment call.
  3. If there is a play at home, the offensive player must slide. If they do not slide, they will be called out.
- L) Only head coaches may speak with umpires during the game.
- M) The Board suggests that games be rescheduled for the following Sunday.
1. If the participating teams are unable to play the game on that Sunday, the coaches of those teams will work together, and with the counsel of the Coaches Representative, to ensure that the game is made up prior to the close of the regular season, generally during one of the team's scheduled practices.
  2. Coaches must ensure that any game reschedule is communicated with their division representative on the Board.
  3. A player cannot be penalized due to religious beliefs for not attending the game.
- N) Teams will come back and only finish the game to the end of the time limit that was left from the original game.

1. Umpires will only be paid one time for each game, if a game is called and has to be rescheduled the umpire that was scheduled originally for the game will also be responsible for finishing the remainder of the makeup game.
- O) Minor and Major games may start and finish with 8 players. At no time will a game may be played with less than 8 players.
- P) The scoreboard will be turned off if one team is leading the other by 15 or more runs. No stealing or advancement of bases on overthrows with a 15-run lead.
- Q) Games will have an 2 hr time limit, this includes weekday and weekend games.
1. No new inning shall start after the 2 hr minute mark, this allows us to finish an inning and a game at 8:05-8:10.
  2. If a game starts at 6:00 then no new inning shall start after 8:00.
  3. Umpires watch will be the determined time.
- R) To minimize the chance of forfeitures and game rescheduling, Peachtree Baseball encourages the use of substitute players when a coach is unable to field a team.
1. Majors can use a maximum of 1 substitute player in order to field 9 players. The substitute player must be from the Minor division.
  2. Minors can use a maximum of 1 substitute player in order to field 9 players. The substitute player must be from the Rookie division or another team within the Minor division.
  3. The player will bat last and play left or rightfield.
  4. The manager must first receive approval from the opposing manager OR the Vice President of Major/Minor for the proposed replacement player.
  5. When using a substitute player, every attempt should be made to maintain complete balance between the teams.
- S) End of season tournament
1. Single Elimination
  2. No time limit on any games
  3. 6 innings if you don't finish 6 innings come back the next day to finish
  4. Pitching is NOT a rolling 6.
  5. A ten (10) run slaughter rule will be implemented. If a team is leading by ten (10) runs at the end of the 4th inning, the game is over.
  6. No substitute players will be allowed in post-season play.

#### **XV.4 – MAJOR DIVISION ONLY**

- A) Balks for Major Division
1. The plate umpire will call balks
  2. The plate umpire will discuss with both head coaches before the game and let them know what he considers a balk. In the beginning of the season there will be 'flexibility' with calling balks- if there is no advantage gained- no balk will be called. The umpire will warn the coach that a balk has occurred (it is balk). Starting the 4th Monday of the season umpires will be calling balks and the balk ruling will be strictly enforced

#### **XV.5 – MINOR DIVISION ONLY**

- A) Six (6) runs maximum may be scored per inning.
1. Umpire will announce the last inning. The last inning will be unlimited runs.
- B) Minors can play with 4 outfielders.
- C) Minor Base Stealing - Rule: When a pitcher is in contact with the pitcher's plate and in

the possession of the ball and the catcher is in the catcher's box ready to receive delivery of the ball, base runners shall not leave their bases until the ball has been delivered and has reached home plate.

## **XV.6 – ROOKIE DIVISION ONLY**

- A) Six (6) runs maximum may be scored per inning.
- B) There is no slaughter rule in Rookie. The emphasis is on fun and maximum repetitions with on the spot coaching and teaching.
- C) 1 hour and 45-minute time limit. No inning will be allowed to start after 1 hour 45-minute time, however if the game is in the middle of an inning at this time the game will continue until the end of the current inning.
- D) Pitching machine shall be set at 7 beginning with the first game. The speed will stay at 7 until spring break.
  - 1. Upon returning to the field after spring break the machine speed will be set to 8 and remain at that speed for the remainder of the season.
  - 2. These speed settings as well as the date to change them are to be followed by every coach in the Rookie division.
- E) Pitcher Position- 1 Player only in this fielding position.
  - 1. Player must have both feet in the pitcher's circle and cannot move out of position until the ball has crossed the plate.
  - 2. A "pitcher circle" will be chalked before the game around the mound with a 10-foot diameter.
- F) One base limit per each overthrown ball.
  - 1. Runner may advance at own risk.
  - 2. Ball is live until the lead runner is held.
  - 3. Runners cannot advance past current base once the ball is in control anywhere in the infield dirt.
- G) Players may not play the same position more than 2 innings in a game.
- H) The coach working the pitching machine for that half inning will be the umpire. All calls made by that coach are final and not open to debate.
- I) The batter will receive a maximum of 5 pitches or 3 strikes, and there are no called balls or strikes.
  - 1. A pitch can be declared "no pitch" if it is deemed unhittable (bounces before home plate or sails above batters' helmet).
  - 2. The umpire of that inning makes that "no pitch" call.
  - 3. Any ball that is swung at is declared a strike.
- J) The ball is declared dead if the ball makes any contact with pitching machine, the umpire, or coach running the pitching machine. This will result in a single and all runners advancing 1 total base.
- K) Runners may not leave the base before the ball is contacted with the bat.
- L) All players hit and field all game long. 4 or 5 outfielders may play.
- M) To minimize the chance of forfeitures and game rescheduling, Peachtree Baseball encourages the use of substitute players when a coach is unable to field a team.
  - 1. Rookie teams can use a maximum of 2 substitute players to reach 9 players. The substitute player(s) must be from the Rookie division.
  - 2. The manager must first receive approval from the opposing manager or the Vice President of Rookie/TBall of the proposed replacement player.

3. Substitute players will bat at the end of the order and play an outfield position only.
- N) Rookie games may start and finish with 8 players. Official games will not be played with less than 8 players.
- O) Any runner is out when he/she does not slide or attempt to avoid the catcher who has the ball in the proximity of home plate and is waiting to make the tag or if he/she maliciously runs into a fielder.
- P) Players may not slide head-first into a base. After having touched a base, player may dive head-first back to the base. (i.e. If a player rounds second and the throw is a is behind the runner, the player may dive headfirst back into second to avoid the tag. If, however, the player continues to third he/she would have to slide feet first.) This is a safety rule.

## **XV.7 – TBALL DIVISION ONLY**

- A) Most important rule- **WE ARE HERE FOR THE KIDS TO HAVE FUN AND TO TEACH THEM HOW TO PLAY THE GAME OF BASEBALL.**
- B) No player sits on the bench. Only one player at each infield position and remainder in the outfield.
- C) Batters, base runners, and catcher must always wear helmets.
- D) No new inning may start 1.5 hours after the official start of the game. Teams can play up to a maximum of 6 innings. Three innings is the norm.
- E) For the 4/5-year-old age group, no new inning can start 45 minutes after the official start of the game. Games are intended to be less than an hour long.
- E) No Stealing.
- F) Each batter is allowed 5 swings. In order to be deemed legal, a hit must travel at least midway between home plate and the pitcher.
- G) No player can play the same position more than once in the same game.
- H) The catcher will be in the on-deck circle with a batting helmet. The catcher will always be in the deck circle behind the hitter (e.g., if a batter is in a right-handed stance, the catcher will be located in the on-deck circle on 3<sup>rd</sup> base side.
- I) The defensive team coaches will be the “umpires”.
  1. Defensive coaches should be located as follows: three in the outfield, and two in the infield, (Infield Coaches should be located between 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> base and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base).
- J) Offensive coaches should be located as follows: one at home base to place the ball on the tee, one at First base, one at 3<sup>rd</sup> base.
- K) Batters and Base runners will advance one base at a time, until the last batter of the lineup. The last batter and all runners at that time will all cycle through home to clear the bases and switch sides.
- L) No base advances on throwing errors.
- M) Home Team is responsible for prepping the field before the game and making sure that their dugout and bleachers are clean after the game. Visiting team is responsible for making sure that their dugout and bleachers are clean after the game.
- N) Head Coaches should have at least 3 assistants and a team parent. A team parent is very important on a TBall team. Team Parent will coordinate volunteers to run the

concession stand when it is your teams turn. Each team will need someone to run the dugout to make sure the kids are safe-no bat swinging in the dugout.

## **XV.8 – BLASTBALL DIVISION ONLY**

- A) Playing field will consist of 1st base loaded with a horn, home plate where batter will hit from a “Tee” and all defensive players will line up at baseball positions.
  - 1. The blast base should be on first base.
- B) All players must wear team baseball cap and team t-shirt supplied by Peachtree. Hat and shirt must be worn during all games.
- C) Baseball/softball gloves are optional. The game ball is foam rubber and will be safe for kids to play without gloves.
- D) Equipment will include: Blast balls, bat, batting tee, blast-ball 1st base, and (2) batting helmets. The equipment will be kept in the equipment room, and must be returned after each game.
- E) Games shall last 45 minutes, at the end of 45 minutes the game will end, and all play will cease. - No score or win/loss records will be kept.
- F) All players must be 4yrs old by April 30th of the playing season.
- G) Teams will have no more than 5 players per team.
- H) Each Blast-Ball team must always have (2) coaches on the field of play. A parent is always to stay with each player on and off the field.
- I) No offensive player will be allowed on the field unless he/she is wearing a batting helmet.
- J) Each team will bat its entire roster in each inning one complete time, which will constitute a half inning of play. Each turn at bat the batting order will be reversed. (example: if a player bats last in the 1st inning he/she will bat first in the next inning).
- K) If the batter reaches the Base (the only base used) before a defensive player either catches the BlastBall in the air (an automatic out) or fields it and yells "BLAST ", he scores a run.
  - 1. If the ball is caught or fielded and "BLAST " is yelled before the runner gets to the BlastBase, then the runner is out. Player returns to the dugout after running to 1st base.
- L) After a fielder catches/stops the ball and yells blast they are then to finish the play by throwing the ball to the coach at home plate. Please have the coach emphasize a good form throw to the coach.
- M) Each batter will receive a maximum of 6 swings in which to hit a fair ball. A fair ball is any ball between the foul lines and past the 10-foot fair ball arc in front of home plate.
- N) No player shall play catcher. Defensive positions will be marked with squares and placed in the infield before the game. Defense will consist of 4 infielders and 1 pitcher.
- O) The home team will be responsible for setting up the field for the game.
- P) Coaches will also serve as umpires while on the field.

## **XV.9 – FALL SPECIFIC RULES**

Fall specific rules supersede any regular season rules for each specific division when the league is playing fall ball.

### **XV.9.1 FALL ROOKIE RULES**

- A) Time Limit is 1hour and 30 minutes or 6 innings. No new inning can start after the 1hr

30-minute mark.

- B) A pitching machine will be used for all league games. Machine will be set at 7 for all games.

## **XV.9.2 FALL MINOR RULES**

- A) Minor Games will have an 1:45 hr time limit, this includes weekday and weekend games.
  - 1. No new inning shall start after the 1:45 minute mark.
- B) No player can pitch more than two innings per game. This is to encourage coaches to develop pitchers during practice.

### **XV.93 FALL MAJOR RULES**

- A) Major Games will have an 1:45 hr time limit, this includes weekday and weekend games.
  - 1. No new inning shall start after the 1:45 minute mark.
- B) Pitchers are limited to 2 innings per game.
- C) Six (6) runs maximum may be scored per inning. Umpire will announce the last inning. The last inning is unlimited runs.

### **XV.10 SOFTBALL ONLY RULES**

- A) All softball divisions will follow the division specific rules for baseball as dictated by their age groups as indicated below. Any deviation from those rules also follows here.
  - a. 12U corresponds with Majors
  - b. 10U corresponds with Minors
  - c. 8U corresponds with Rookie
- B) XV.4.A does not apply to any softball division.
- C) XV.6.N is changed to read all Rookie (8U) games between Peachtree league teams may start and finish with 6 players. Official games will not be played with less than 6 players.
- D) All players in all divisions positioned at first base, pitcher and third base must wear a face mask. All other players are highly encouraged to wear a face mask.

## **ARTICLE XVI – ALL-STAR TEAM SELECTION FOR ALL DIVISIONS**

### **XVI.1**

- A) The board of directors has the authority, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the voting members present, to disapprove any head coach, assistant coach or player from All Star play for just cause.
  - 1. Any disciplinary action, such as reprimands or suspensions during the regular season by the board of directors, may be considered as just cause for disapproval.
  - 2. Being selected for an All-Star team is a privilege and an honor.
  - 3. An All-Star player must always conduct themselves as a true sportsman and an outstanding representative of our league.
  - 4. All Star players will be held to the highest code of standards.
  - 5. Peachtree Code of Ethics are in effect when playing on an All-Star team.
- B) Players will be given an All-Star form in a timely manner, the form must be filled out and turned in by due date.

1. Every player must turn in a form even if they are not playing. This way a player cannot come back and say they were not asked.
2. If you are interested in playing, payment must be turned in with the form.

## **XVI.2 - FEES**

All fees must be paid (current) before participating on an All-Star team.

## **XVI.3 – COACH SELECTION PROCESS**

- A. The coaches' representative will publicize that the board of directors is accepting applications for All Star head coaches.
- B. Head and assistant coaches must have been a coach of record on a roster during the regular season to be eligible to coach an All-Star team and have completed their coaching certification before draft.
- C. Head coaches must submit their letter of intent to coach three (3) weeks prior to the end of the season, at which time the coaches' representative will submit the names of all eligible applicants to the board of directors for approval.
- D. Coaches will be chosen by board vote.
- E. Upon board approval of the head coach, he/she will then submit the names of two (2) assistant coaches and a scorekeeper, also subject to board approval.
- F. The board of directors must approve the final selection of all coaches for All Star play.

## **XVI.4**

- A. There will be one (1) All Star head coach, two (2) All Star assistant coaches and a scorekeeper or third assistant for each All-Star team.
- B. Coach qualifications shall be identical to regular season, with the addition of 1) past conduct on and off the field; and 2) must attend all meetings requested by the board of directors and/or tournament committee.
- C. If for any reason, the head coach and the board of directors cannot agree upon coaches, the board of directors shall appoint the assistant coaches.
- D. The location and number of All-Star games that All Star teams play will be determined by the board of directors at the recommendation of the division Vice-President.
  1. The only exception to this is if All Star teams can secure funding to take the team to additional tournaments.
- E. A coach may only head or assist on one All Star team.

## **XVI.5**

- A) All Star teams are select teams. Each team will consist of 12 players. The team's head and assistant coaches will select all players for All Star teams as follows:
  1. All coaches will gather names of players who wish to participate in the All-Star teams.
  2. A list of eligible players will be given to each coach in the division for evaluation.
  3. Those players will be ranked highest to lowest by the head coach and his one declared assistant. If the head coach does not have a declared assistant, he can choose one of his assistants. Coaches will evaluate ALL players including their own.
  4. The players scores will be tallied by 2 Board members.
    - a) The lowest and the highest score for each player will be dropped.
    - b) Scores will be averaged, and this will be the score that the player receives.

5. The player with the lowest score will be the first player chosen, the player with the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest will be next, until the team has 6 players. At that point, the head coach may pick 6 remaining players at his discretion.
- B) If enough players are available for two complete teams, there will be an "A" and a "B" team for that age bracket.
- C) All Star teams must always have a minimum of 12 official players. If a player resigns his position after the full team is selected, the Head Coach will fill this open position as follows:
  - a. If the player was one of the top 6 ranked, the Coach will need to fill the position with the player up next according to the rankings. This would be the 7th lowest ranking player.
  - b. If the player was not one of the top 6 ranked, the Coach will select his/her choice from the original list of players
  - c. The Head Coach can choose to not fill the open position if his roster has 12 players on it
  - d. In the event that there are not any players available from the original all-star player list, the Coach will need to contact the Board for advice on how to proceed and it will be discussed & voted on prior to a player being contacted that was not on the original all-star player list.
- D) Select team player selection must follow the appropriate age group per the Cal Ripken definitions that they will be representing in postseason play...
- E) There is a separate All-star fee due with the All-Star Application.
- F) All Star teams are to play up to 4 Tournaments including Districts.
- G) The fee for All Stars will be held until the final team selection.
  1. Checks will not be deposited until you accept your position on the team.
  2. All checks for unselected players will be returned, uncashed.
- H) If a player decides not to play after being selected and accepts their position on the team for an All-Star team, refund of fees or uniform ordered will NOT be issued.
- I) Please contact the league president for scholarship information. All scholarship requests are kept confidential and will be reviewed by our Scholarship Committee.

## **ARTICLE XVIII –Code of Ethics**

### **XVIII.1 - PEACHTREE BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL LEAGUE CODE OF ETHICS**

- A) The Peachtree Baseball League Code of Ethics is applicable to all players, coaches, parents, umpires, scorekeepers, spectators, visiting teams and Board Members. No Exceptions!
- B) All coaches, assistants, umpires, board members, players and parents will be required to sign the Peachtree Code of Ethics.
- C) Board Members will enforce this code and judgments are based on league rules and what is in the best interest of both the child and the league.
- D) Umpires will also be held accountable for the Peachtree Baseball League' Code of Ethics.
- E) The Board will address violations involving coaches, players and/or spectators.
- F) Umpires are responsible under the official Baseball Rule 9.01, to uphold conduct and discipline during the game.
- G) Umpires, in addition to Board Members, have authorization to ask any person not adhering to this code to leave the premises immediately.

## **PEACHTREE BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL LEAGUE -PARENT/SPECTATOR CODE OF ETHICS**

- \* I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care and encouragement for my child by following the Parent Code of Ethics.
- \* I will encourage good sportsmanship with a positive attitude and support for all players, coaches, and officials at all games and/or practices.
- \* I will place the emotional and physical wellbeing of my child above a personal desire to win.
- \* I will adhere to the rules and regulations of a drug-free, alcohol-free, tobacco-free environment and agree to follow all rules for the various locations Peachtree utilizes. There will be no smoking (this includes electronic cigarettes), chewing, or dipping of tobacco products, and no consumption of alcoholic beverages near any field that Peachtree Baseball uses during games or practice.
- \* I understand that firearms are prohibited by the hosts of all locations where Peachtree conducts practices and games including Brownsville Elementary, Crozet Park, Crozet Elementary, Field School, Greenwood Community Center and the Western JV Field.
- \* I will remember the game is for our children, not ourselves.
- \* I will encourage my child to treat other players, coaches, officials, spectators, etc., with respect, regardless of race, creed, color, religion, gender, or ability.
- \* I will remember that volunteering enables the league to operate and creates a structured environment for our children that otherwise would not be available.
- \* I will not criticize the association, board members, coaches, players in public, but will reserve constructive criticism for later in private with those involved after a 24-hour cooling off period.
- \* I will accept the decisions of the game officials as being fair and called to the best of their ability.
- \* I will emphasize with my child that good athletes strive to be good students and citizens.
- \* My guest(s) and I will be positive role models for my child and encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game and/or practice.
- \* My guest(s) and I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player or parent, such as booing, taunting, refusing to shake hands, or the use of profanity or negative gestures.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP CODE OF BABE RUTH LEAGUE**

- \*Develop a strong, clean, healthy body, mind and soul.
- \*Develop a strong urge for sportsman-like conduct.
- \*Develop understanding of and respect for the rules.
- \*Develop courage in defeat, tolerance and modesty in victory.
- \*Develop control over emotions and speech.
- \*Develop spirit of cooperation and team play.
- \*Develop into real, true citizens.

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