



**Junior Baseball Organization, Inc. Minutes
Board of Commissioners Meeting
September 20, 2015
3:00pm-5:00pm**

Meeting called to order at 3:15 pm by JBO President Rachael Skelton.

Members Present: Rachael Skelton, Alex Skelton, Lynn Robinson, Terrence Haimoto, Michael Read
Brian Mills.

Members Absent: Shari Smith, Jason Seibel, Dwayne Bates, Casey Humphrey

Guests Present: Walter Gay, Phil Gendhar

Meeting Minutes: September meeting minutes were approved via email and are posted on the website.

Pitch Count: Walter Gay, former JBO coach, spoke on the importance of pitch count and the importance of the safety of the kids.

Running of the Bulls: We will take up Running of the Bulls again

- ◆ Looking at April 9th
- ◆ Saturday, mid-morning through early afternoon
- ◆ JBO meeting, coach clinic (pitching), Umpire clinic for coaches, vendors, invitational tournament sign ups, raffle items
- ◆ Check if Mid Valley wants to host, run concessions as a fundraiser for their association. Lynn will check with Christy about getting high school.

Bylaws: The changes that the Executive Committee made to the Bylaws need to be approved by the Board of Commissioners. The document was emailed to all, with changes noted in red.
Motioned by Alex to approve the changes.
2nd by Lynn
Approved 5-0

Board of Commissioners

Code of Conduct: Bylaws state that we can have a board code of conduct, so the executive committee has created one. Lynn will email it out, put it in dropbox, and after elections next month all will sign a copy.

Rulebooks: We will need to bump up the number of rulebooks so that we can get them to the umpires. 200?

RFP: Consider getting the RFP's out in February and selecting hosts and umpires at the same time.

National Level: Consider moving Championship Tournament for National level teams to before July 4th holiday.

- ◆ National level only
- ◆ 3 teams on Westside qualified for State but did not go because they did not have enough players
- ◆ D.C.s please ask your area heads what they think about this
- ◆ Potential dates: a) Nat 6/23-26, Amer 7/7-10, Fed 7/14-17
b) Nat 7/7-10, Amer 7/14-17, Feb 7/21-24
c) Nat 7/14-17, Amer 7/21-24, Fed 7/28-31

Cubs Program: No update at this point
Sherwood cuts about 12-15 each year.
Mike said Putnam doesn't cut anybody.
Phil thought Tualatin, OC, and possibly Clackamas would have enough for teams
Alex reported possible teams from Westview, Sunset, Glencoe, and possibly Reedville
Terrence will reach out to Nick and see what kind of help he needs from us.
D.C.s please reach out to your associations and see what they know.

Rule Proposals: Discussed all rule proposals. Some will go to the Districts for voting and some will be voted on by the Board only due to administrative nature.
All proposals are attached.

Sponsorships: Rachael will contact Dick's, Sports Authority, Wilson. Probably will have to sign a non-compete clause in order to get a better deal.

Elections: Voting is next meeting.

- ◆ New commissioners should be voted on at the District level and here and on board at the October meeting.
- ◆ JBO positions up on the Executive committee are President and Treasurer.

New Business: Division Names: Midget, Junior, Senior, Cubs

- ◆ D.C.s please go back to your Districts and get a consensus if they feel there is a need to change the names of our divisions and/or levels (National, American, Federal).

Meeting Adjourned at 5:27 pm

Next Meeting: October 25, 2015
3:00 pm-5:00pm
Wilsonville Public Library

RULE PROPOSAL #1

PROPOSED JBO PITCHING REGULATIONS

The pitch count is based on pitches thrown for strikes, balls, foul balls, and outs. Warm-up pitches, pick off attempts, 'no pitch' call by the umpire do not count towards the pitch count.

The maximum number of pitches is based on the level of play. Specific rest periods are in place when a pitcher reaches specific thresholds of pitches delivered in a day.

JBO League Pitching Regulations

Division	Max. Per Day	Pitch Count	Days Rest						
Seniors	95	1-30	0	31-45	1	46-66	2	66+	3
Juniors	85	1-20	0	21-35	1	36-55	2	56+	3
Midgets	75	1-20	0	21-35	1	36-55	2	56+	3

A pitcher reaching the maximum daily pitch count limit in the middle of an at bat is allowed to finish that batter without penalty.

At all levels of play, in a double-header league contest, a pitcher may pitch in 2 games in the same day, provided they do not pitch more than 20 pitches (Midgets/Juniors) or 30 pitches (Seniors) in the first game.

Monitoring Process: each team's scorekeeper or designated official tracks the pitch counts. After each half-inning, the scorekeepers confer with each other. If there is a conflict, home book's count becomes official. It is the head coach's responsibility to know when his/her pitcher needs to be removed. Pitch counts for each pitcher are logged on the game card, which is signed by each coach at the conclusion of the game. Game cards must be submitted by the winning team to the governing District within 24 hours of game completion.

Days of Rest: 1 calendar day equals 1 day of rest.

Example: if a Senior pitcher pitches more than 66 pitches on Tuesday, he may not pitch again until Saturday.

Example: if a Midget or Junior pitcher pitches 48 pitches on Monday, he may not pitch again until Thursday.

Example: if any division pitcher pitches 30 pitches on Tuesday, he may not pitch again until Thursday.

Violation of this rule

The team in violation forfeits the game in which the violation occurred.
The head coach is suspended for 1 game.

JBO Championship Tournament

We believe we will eventually have a pitch count rule for Championship Tournament. For this first season, we will leave the Championship Tournament as is: the current Championship Tournament pitching rules based on innings. Once we are all more educated on the logistics of the new league pitch count rule, then we will ask for all of the District's input so we can enact a sound pitch count rule for post-season play.

Justification: The benefit of a pitch count rule is first and foremost the SAFETY of the players. It puts regulations in place to reduce the risk of injuries to our pitchers. It also fosters the development in the number of pitchers and the efficiency of those pitchers.

RULE PROPOSAL #2

Rule Proposal – Pitcher Substitutions

Article VIII. Game Playing Regulations, Paragraph F, shall be amended as follows:

F. There shall be free defensive substitutions. **However, once a pitcher is removed as pitcher, that player may not return as a pitcher in that game.**

Justification.

According to USA Baseball Medical & Safety Advisory Committee:

“Because a youth pitcher usually stays in the game at another position after pitching, the player is eligible to return to the mound later in the game, according to the rules of baseball. While it may be good strategy to have a starting pitcher come back in and finish a game, it is not a good idea from a health and safety perspective. Muscles, tendons, and ligaments need time to “cool down” after physical activity, just like they need to “warm up” before activity.”

Further, there is altogether too much gamesmanship going on. As a coach, I have seen pitchers, either to conserve innings or because they have limited inning left, pitch every other inning in an effort to face the strength of the opposing team’s lineup. One game, a team’s pitcher pitched the 1st, 3rd and 5th inning, facing the top of the lineup each inning he pitched. It is also common for a starting pitcher to return to pitch the final open inning. For the safety of our young athlete’s arms, and the integrity of the game, this rule should be adopted.

RULE PROPOSAL #3

Matrix Proposal by High School Affiliation

A

6A/5A High Schools			
#	Federal	American	National
1	1 (6A)	1 (5A)	
2	1 (6A)	1 (5A)	1 (6A/5A)
3	1	1	1
4	1	1	2
5	1	2	2
6	1	2	3
7	1	2	4
8	1	3	4
9	1	3	5
10	2	3	5

4A/3A/2A/1A High Schools			
#	Federal	American	National
1		1 (4A)	1(3A)
2		1	1
3		1	2
4	1	1	2
5	1	1	3
6	1	2	3
7	1	2	4
8	1	3	4
9	1	3	5
10	2	3	5

A. For associations not directly affiliated with a high school, classification will be determined by the high school(s) their program will feed into. If the program feeds into multiple high schools or multiple associations feeding into one high school , the District Commissioner will determine the appropriate classification.

Matrix Proposal by High School Affiliation

B

6A/5A High Schools			
#	Federal	American	National
1	1 (6A)	1 (5A)	
2	1 (6A)	1 (6A/5A)	1 (5A)
3	1	1	1
4	1	1	2
5	1	2	2
6	1	2	3
7	1	2	4
8	1	3	4
9	1	3	5
10	2	3	5

4A/3A/2A/1A High Schools			
#	Federal	American	National
1		1 (4A)	1(3A)
2		1	1
3		1	2
4	1	1	2
5	1	1	3
6	1	2	3
7	1	2	4
8	1	3	4
9	1	3	5
10	2	3	5

A. For associations not directly affiliated with a high school, classification will be determined by the high school(s) their program will feed into. If the program feeds into multiple high schools or multiple associations feeding into one high school , the District Commissioner will determine the appropriate classification.

RULE PROPOSAL #4

MATRIX

CURRENT MATRIX

V. Leagues

ALL DIVISIONS:

Number of Teams	Federal	American	National
1			1
2		1	1
3	1	1	1
4	1	1	2
5	1	2	2
6	1	2	3
7	1	2	4
8	1	3	4
9	1	3	5
10	2	3	5

PROPOSED MATRIX

ALL DIVISIONS:

Number of Teams	Federal	American	National
1		1	
2		1	1
3	1	1	1
4	1	1	2
5	1	2	2
6	1	2	3
7	1	2	4
8	1	3	4
9	1	3	5
10	2	3	5

RULE PROPOSAL #5

Current Rule:

- N. For the National skill level, a runner may not steal home and may only advance as a result of a hit ball, walk, pickoff attempt, rundown, or penalty. A base runner will be called out if he reaches home plate, except as specified above.

Examples are as follows:

- a) Play 1: batter hits baseball and advances all the way to home plate while the ball is still alive, even though some bases are advanced as a result of misplays by fielders. Ruling: batter and all preceding runners may advance at their own risk as long as the hit ball is in play.
- b) Play 2: runner on second base steals third base and an overthrow is made out of play. Ruling: ball is dead and the runner advances according to the standard penalty.
- c) Play 3: pitcher attempts to pick runner off third base or overthrows the baseball out of play in a pickoff attempt. Ruling: runner may advance at their own risk or if out of play, the ball is dead and the runner advances according to the standard penalty.
- d) Play 4: runner on third base is caught off the base in a rundown and is either (a) tagged out (b) returns to third base without being tagged or (c) advances to home plate without being tagged. Ruling: (a) runner is out, (b) runner is safe and (c) runner is safe.
- e) Play 5: runner stealing home on a pitch or pass ball. Ruling: runner is out.
- f) Play 6: if an attempt is made on other runners (a) either attempting to advance or in a (b) pick-off of runners on other bases. Ruling: (a) & (b) a runner at 3rd may advance at their own risk. If ball goes out of play, the ball is dead and the runner(s) advance according to the standard penalty.

(1) Proposed Rule Change:

- N. For the National skill level, a runner may not steal and may only advance as a result of a hit ball, walk, or penalty.

a) Runner may not lead off until the pitch crosses the plate.

Reasoning – All National levels per JBO is defined as Beginner or Recreational. Midget National is showing to be nothing but running around the bases and what is being left behind is pitching, catching, and defense. MN is also where we get 1st time coaches with little experience and slowing the game down to the fundamentals will better the players and coach's long term. The last reasoning is we have had associations leave and for marketing purposes for JBO this change will help with the possibility of bringing more teams to JBO.

(2) Proposed Rule Change:

- N. For the National skill level, a runner may not steal and may only advance as a result of a hit ball, walk, pickoff attempt, rundown, or penalty.

Add

- g) Play 7: if a runner is advancing a base on a walk the runner(s) may not advance additional bases unless directed to do so by the umpire or when the next pitch has been made, unless a catcher is making a play against another base runner. Ruling: runner would be out if advancing additional bases without permission from the umpire or before the next pitch made, unless the catcher is making a play against another base runner.

Reasoning - Players at this level do not have the advanced skills to defend against this type of aggressive base stealing. This is an advanced base stealing skill that should be utilized in the upper levels. At the National level the emphasis should be on fundamentals and understanding of the game.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RULE PROPOSALS

PROPOSAL A

THIS IS ON OUR WEBSITE – SHOULD BE IN THE RULE BOOK.

Prior to participating in any “JBO Inc.” sanctioned event, all adults, those persons in any way assisting/volunteering, including but not limited to coaches, assistant coaches, scorekeepers, umpires or similar positions, must pass a comprehensive criminal background screening. This screening will determine any previous convictions involving the use, possession, or sale of a controlled substance within the last 10 years; a crime involving the use, or threatened use, of violence, or a crime involving a minor child at any time. The cost of this screening will be paid by the association. Comprehensive Criminal Background Checks will be annual. The records will be maintained by the local Association. JBO Inc. retains the right to inspect the records for any team or umpire at any time, including those qualifying for post-season championship play.

DEFINITION OF TERMS page 3 in the rulebook

ADD Approved Adult(s) – any adult who has met the requirement of passing a comprehensive criminal background check for the current season.

IX. Playing Regulations by Age Division page 10, for each division.

C Two adult coaches may coach on the bases, providing an approved adult is on the bench for supervision.

PROPOSAL B

LIABILITY FOR INJURIES page 3 of rulebook

Currently Reads: All teams must carry accident and liability insurance. A copy of the insurance policy or Certificate of Insurance must be attached to the association’s “Application for Participation” when submitted to the JBO Secretary. Associations not represented by a youth agency (where insurance is provided by the agency) must provide a policy, which lists as an “Additional Insured”, “Junior Baseball Organization, Inc.”, and the local association’s name, i.e., “Putnam Junior Baseball”.

Proposed Clarification: **All teams must carry accident and liability insurance. A copy of the Certificate of Insurance must be attached to the association’s Application for Participation when submitted to the JBO Secretary. Associations must provide a Certificate of Insurance which lists as an “Additional Insured” or “Certificate Holder”, Junior Baseball Organization, Inc., including JBO’s mailing address, P.O. Box 784/Sherwood/OR/97140. The Certificate must also include the local association’s name, i.e., “Putnam Junior Baseball” or “Central” (not just Monmouth Kids Inc).**

PROPOSAL C

Where it says “JBO Tournament”, change all to read JBO Championship Tournament

PROPOSAL D

ADD NEW: All eligible layers must wear their assigned uniform number as it appears on the official team roster.

PROPOSAL E

Field Decorum and Conditions page 7, add the words in bold

C. No use of tobacco products, **e-cigarettes**, alcohol or drugs will be tolerated by any coach, player, fan, parent or umpire during games on the field.

PROPOSAL F

Team Eligibility page 4 add words in bold

A. Any Association intending to participate in the Junior Baseball program must have an **approved** "Application for Participation" and "Certificate of Insurance" **received by and** on file with the JBO Secretary no later than April 1 of each calendar year. **After April 1st, Districts will be fined \$50/week (or parts thereof) for each Association that is non-compliant, with a cap of \$250 per Association. Once the \$250 cap is reached, that Association is suspended and not eligible to participate in JBO for the season.**

D. Each team accepted for participation in Junior Baseball must file a team roster and any waivers, **report cards, and all verification paperwork**, to their District Commissioners no later than their first league game. The Commissioners will then submit those rosters **and paperwork** to the JBO Vice President no later than June 1st. **Any District not submitting rosters and paperwork by the deadline will be fined \$50/team, and team will not be allowed in post-season play.**

G. The penalty for a team's failure to meet the above registration requirements shall be ~~forfeiture of all games won prior to the time of filing~~ **an appropriate fine (see A and D above), and/or suspension from post-season play.**

PROPOSAL G

IX. Playing Regulations by Age Division page 10

1 Midget Division

Current: Any youth whose birth date is on or after August 1, 2004 is eligible for participation in Junior Baseball for the 2015 season. An 11-year old 4th grader may play as long as they are still 11-years old by August 1, 2015.

Proposed: Any youth enrolled in 3rd or 4th grade for the 2015/16 school year, is eligible for participation in the Midget Division of Junior Baseball for the 2016 season.

Same reading for Junior (5/6 grade), Senior (7/8) and Cubs (9/10).

A player may play outside of their division. A player may play "up" with proper documentation and District approval. A player may play "down" with proper documentation, District approval and JBO Board Approval.

Definition of Terms

H Division - A level of play based on **age grade** and skill level. The Divisions will be known as Midgets, Juniors, Seniors and Cubs.

PROPOSAL H

II. Player Eligibility Page 5 of the rulebook

- F. If an Association does not field a Federal team, players in that Association may play in ~~the any~~ Association ~~closest to~~ **that borders** their residence **Association**, and within the player's district of residence, at the Federal level without a waiver, providing that team still consists of a minimum of 50% of eligible players from within their Association boundaries.
- L. Any player may go to ~~the next closest~~ **a bordering** association as long as their home association cannot provide services. This means if a program does not have enough players to field a team at that player's level and must turn away a player, that player may go to ~~the next~~ **a bordering** association without a waiver, becoming a resident of that association for the season. It must be verified that the home association cannot service the child, but it will not count against the 3-waiver rule, as the player does not require a waiver to go ~~the next closest~~ **to a bordering** association that can provide a team to be played on. **Verification must be submitted with the team roster.**
-

PROPOSAL I

IV, Waiver Policy page 7 add in bold

- B. The player/team waiver form must be completed and approved by the appropriate individual(s) for the following, **but not limited to:**
- a) Medical release,
 - b) Team roster not meeting the rulebook requirements,
 - c) Player moves between teams,
 - d) **Playing outside of Association of residence,**
 - e) **Below an 11-man roster,**
 - f) **Release from participation in an Association,**
 - g) Any other condition where the player or team does not comply with the rules as set forth in this rulebook.

ADD NEW Association If an Association cuts players from a certain division and skill level, then that **Association cannot have any waived-in players at that same division and skill level.**

PROPOSAL J

VIII. Game Playing Regulations page 8 ADD in bold

- A. All games are to be played on dates and times as specified in the league schedules, unless a mutually agreed upon change is made 24 hours prior to the scheduled time and date. Teams will be allowed 15 minutes to field a team of nine players prior to the declaration of a forfeit.
- B. **For National level, a team can play with eight players. Each time the ninth spot comes up at bat, an out is given. If the line-up drops below eight, then the game will be a forfeit.**

PROPOSAL K

IX. Playing Regulations by Age Division

1. Midget Division

ADD NEW: For National skill level, for a carelessly thrown bat, at the end of playing action, the umpire will issue a warning to the coach of the team in violation, and the next offending batter on that team will immediately be called out. There will be no ejection for a carelessly thrown bat. The immediate ejection for a maliciously thrown bat is still in effect.

PROPOSAL L

IX. Playing Regulations by Age Division

2. Midget Division

- D. Games are officially terminated after five innings (except ties), **4 ½ innings if the home team is ahead. Due to weather or darkness, three innings constitute a legal game, 2 ½ innings if the home team is ahead. If a legal game is not completed, the game is a continuation. If a legal game is completed, both teams have had an equal number at bat and the score is tied, the game is a continuation. If a legal game is completed, both teams have not had an equal number at bat but the home team has scored a go-ahead run in the bottom of the inning, the final score is recorded.**

Official games for Juniors 6 (5 ½), Seniors 7 (6 ½), Cubs 7 (6 ½) Legal games 4 (3 ½), 5 (4 ½), 5 (4 ½)

PROPOSAL M

XI. Post Season Play #3 on page 14 in the rulebook, add words in bold.

- C. Each team must have a representative at the Mandatory Pre-JBO Championship Tournament meetings. The meetings are at Silverton Health, 1475 Mt Hood Ave., Woodburn, OR. Meetings are the week of the appropriate JBO Championship Tournaments. At the meetings, team rosters will be verified, game scorebooks may be verified, and team fees will be collected. **To these meetings, coaches are required to bring their game scorebooks (hard copy), rosters, waivers and any other paperwork used** to substantiate player eligibility, etc. ~~If the scorebook~~ **these items are** not available and there is a question regarding a player, coaches may lose the case.

XI. Post Season Play #4 on page 15

4.
Add before E.

All protests must be made immediately, prior to the next pitch, play, attempted play, or any kind of action.

XI. Post-Season Play #5 on page 15

5. JBO Championship Seeding and Bracketing

- D. The Higher Seeded Team shall be the Home Team for their first game of the Championship Bracket. If there are two teams with the same seed, then a coin flip will be used to determine home team. **In all succeeding games, home team is determined by a coin flip. The team in the top of the bracket shall make the call of “heads” or “tails”.** The team in the top of the bracket shall occupy the first base dugout unless the opposing team is already in that space as a result of the tournament bracket/field schedule.

PROPOSAL N

Matrix Graph went to Districts to vote. We need to vote on the written portion.

CURRENT This is in reference to whatever Matrix chart we are using.

VI. Leagues

D. For the purposes of determining Team requirements, use the following matrix for the appropriate Division (Districts are responsible for all matrix waivers)

E. The District Commissioner may waive a team up a level or down a level at any point prior to completing fifty percent (50%) of the team's league games. At that time, if it's the decision of the District Commissioner to move the team, the District may do so without JBO Board approval, provided the team does not have a winning percentage at or above .500.

PROPOSED

V. Leagues

D. For the purposes of determining Team requirements, use the following matrix for the appropriate Division (This is a hard matrix; there will be no waivers to play outside of the matrix without JBO Board approval.)

E. The District Commissioners may move a team up a level or down a level at any point after completing 20% of the team's league games and prior to completing 50% of the team's league games. At that time, if it's the decision of the District Commissioner to move the team, the District may do so without JBO Board approval. If moving a team down, the team must not have a winning percentage at or above .500.

PROPOSAL O

Current Rule:

I. Team Eligibility

C. Any team at any level may have no more than 3 waived players on the roster.

(Proposal 1) – National/American level teams may have no more than 3 waived players and Federal may have the following by association high school boundary: 6A (3), 5A (4), 4A,3A,2A,1A (5).

Justification – If you look at the past with the exception of North Marion JF and this past years Banks SF. It is primarily 6A schools in the JBO Championships by schere numbers and by allowing the smaller programs to combine or give more waivers we may see more federal teams. JBO's federal numbers were higher when there was a no waiver limit so by compromising and not removing totally we may see a higher number of federal teams.

PROPOSAL P

Current Rule:

I. Player Eligibility

- F. If an Association does not field a Federal team, players in that Association may play in the Association closest to their residence, and within the player's district of residence, at the Federal level without a waiver, providing that team still consists of a minimum of 50% of eligible players from within their Association boundaries.

(Proposal 2) If an Association does not field a Federal team, players in that Association may sign up and tryout in the Association closest to their residence that offers a Federal level, and within the player's district of residence, at the Federal level without a waiver. You may not skip the closest Federal association to go to the next closest Federal association as that is considered recruiting and would require a waiver from the closest Federal association.

Justification – adding sign up and tryout and taking out play. The rule is intended that you sign up and tryout in your closest association with a federal program.

PROPOSAL Q

Current Rule:

- L. Any player may go to the next closest association as long as their home association cannot provide services. This means if a program does not have enough players to field a team at that player's level and must turn away a player, that player may go to the next association without a waiver, becoming a resident of that association for the season. It must be verified that the home association cannot service the child, but it will not count against the 3-waiver rule, as the player does not require a waiver to go the next closest association that can provide a team to be played on.

(Proposal 3) Any player may go to the next closest association as long as their home association cannot provide services. This means if a program does not have enough players to field a team **at that player's level** and must turn away a player, that player may go to the next association without a waiver, becoming a resident of that association for the season. It must be verified that the home association cannot service the child, but it will not count against the 3-waiver rule, as the player does not require a waiver to go the next closest association that can provide a team to be played on.

Justification – removing at the player's level as we don't know their level and most don't even tryout it is just a late sign up. The rule is intended for players to find a home to play because an association can't field that team. Primarily this is for National players as Federal kids can go to their next closest if the association can't field a federal team.