

# PEARL YOUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION



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## BY-LAWS

APPROVED: JANUARY 22, 2009 – LAST REVISED MARCH 5, 2017

## **Article I: Name**

*The association will be known as the Pearl Youth Baseball Association, hereafter referred to as PYBA, and being organized under the laws of the State of Mississippi. The PYBA will be a member of USSSA baseball and will operate as a not for profit organization.*

## **Article II: Mission**

*Pearl Youth Baseball Association is an organization whose goal is to promote the development of strong character, a right attitude and a sense of responsibility and citizenship in the youth using the support of baseball as the vehicle. It is our goal to achieve this through fair play, good sportsmanship and congenial fellowship with competent adult leaders providing the example.*

## **Article III: Membership**

*Membership in PYBA is granted to and open to all parents and/or guardian(s) of active players, active team sponsors, and active volunteer leaders over the age of 18 who have the best interest of the PYBA in mind. Active for the purpose of this article means participation in the current or prior season. Membership into PYBA is excluded to anyone who has been specifically banned from the PYBA by the Board of Directors.*

*Membership into the PYBA shall not be determined by nor discriminated against based on age, sex, gender, race, national origin, or religion.*

## **Article IV: Board of Directors / Executive Officers**

*The Board of Directors will consist of members who wish to actively participate in the organization and operation of the PYBA. Members who are interested in holding a position on the Board of Directors will notify the PYBA President or Secretary of their intentions for nomination. Nominations for positions on the Board of Directors may be made by the existing membership. The election of the Board of Directors will be held at the annual meeting with elected positions to begin their respective duties at that time. The Board of Directors will conduct operations of the PYBA in agreement with the mission statement. **All Board of Directors candidates are subjected to a background check.***

*The Board of Directors will consist of no fewer than 18 members, which will include the Executive Officers, **with no member allowed to hold more than two positions.** The term for each member shall be one year with each member eligible for re-election.*

*The size of the board will be determined by the outgoing board at the annual meeting and prior to elections.*

*A quorum of at least 51% of the Board of Directors will be required for the conducting of all business. Board of Director Members are expected to attend all meetings and participate in PYBA activities. If any member of the Board of Directors is absent from three (3) consecutive meetings, a quorum of 66% of the total Board of Directors may vote to remove this member. The Board of Directors may vote to fill vacancies at any regular board meeting.*

### **Article V: Duties of Board of Directors / Executive Officers**

*The positions on the Board of Directors will be voted on at the annual meeting. The positions for the Executive Officers will be voted on by the members of the Board of Directors. The Executive Officers shall consist of President, Vice President of Operations, Vice President of Administration, Secretary and Treasurer. The Board of Directors shall consist of Head Umpire, Head Scorekeeper, Equipment Manager, Sponsorship Coordinator, Fundraiser Coordinator, Head Groundskeeper, Concessions Manager, Website Director, Coach Pitch Commissioner, Player Pitch Commissioner and General Board Members.*

*The duties and responsibilities of the Executive Officers and Board of Directors positions are attached as "Appendage A".*

### **Article VI: Meetings**

*The PYBA will hold an annual meeting in August for the purpose of electing Board of Director positions and the Executive Officers.*

*General Session meetings will be scheduled by the PYBA President for the purpose of handling league business. The time and place of these meetings will be determined by the President of the PYBA and information disseminated to all members of the Board of Directors. Any person included in the PYBA by definition of „Membership“ may attend a general session meeting but will not have voting rights unless a member of the Board of Directors. The President of the PYBA reserves the right to convene an executive session to handle matters which the Board believes should be handled confidentially. Attending board of director members may handle written proxy votes of non-attending board of director members for specific votes.*

*Special Session meeting may be called by the President of the PYBA or a group of at least nine (9) Board of Director members through a request to an Executive Officer. A special session meeting may be called to discuss and handle urgent association matters. The purpose for the special session will be the only topic(s) to be discussed.*

*Any Board of Director member may introduce items for the board meeting agenda through communication with the President or Secretary. The President is responsible for preparing meeting agendas and will make determined effort to distribute an agenda to the Board of Directors prior to a meeting date.*

### **Article VII: Registration and Fees**

*The PYBA Board of Directors is responsible for establishing the days, dates and times of registration for the league. These days, dates and times will be determined yearly based on the needs of the league.*

*When you register your child for baseball through the PYBA, you obtain membership in the association, as outlined in Article 3. The registration fees will be established and voted on by the Board of Directors on a yearly basis and the league needs will be used to determine these fees.*

### **Article VIII: Team Managers and Coaches**

*The positions for team managers/head coach will be filled based on the need of the league for the current season. Anyone who qualifies under the definition of membership may request a position as a team manager/head coach. A Coaches Registration Form must be completed by anyone who wishes to be considered for a team manager/head coach position. Consideration for a team manager/head coach position will be made based off, although not solely based on, prior coaching experience in PYBA, attendance at league sponsored coaches clinics, complaints filed with PYBA and any other criteria deemed important by the Board of Directors. All coaching candidates are subjected to a background check. The PYBA will supply the team manager/head coach with a uniform.*

*Persons who are awarded team manager/head coach positions will be responsible for filling assistant coaches' positions. These assistant coaches must meet the definition of membership in PYBA. PYBA will only recognize and purchase uniforms for two assistant coaches. In selecting assistant coaches, rules governing protected players (Article XIII, Player Draft) will need to be considered by team managers/head coaches.*

## **Article IX: Umpires**

*PYBA will provide USSSA trained umpires for all league scheduled games. These umpires will be paid based on a fee schedule determined by the Board of Directors. This fee schedule will be determined on a yearly basis and voted on by the Board of Directors.*

*Umpires will be required to wear USSSA approved attire during games in which they are paid.*

*Umpires should arrive ten (10) minutes before their assigned game begins. Game balls can be picked up at the concession stand. Used game balls MUST be returned.*

*Umpires will address any game issues with ONLY the head coaches of each team.*

*The PYBA will be responsible for providing training to umpires who intend to officiate games in PYBA. PYBA will pay fifty percent of the cost associated with this training. Any USSSA sanction fees required for the purpose of officiating in tournaments will be the responsibility of the individual umpire. It will be the responsibility of the Head Umpire to verify all credentials of umpires.*

*The Head Umpire will be compensated at the rate of \$100.00 per week for league scheduled games. This amount will not be pro-rated for partial weeks but paid at full amount if only a partial week has league scheduled games. In the event that the Head Umpire should work a game, he/she will receive additional compensation only for the amount earned over his/her weekly pay.*

## **Article X: Scorekeepers**

*PYBA will provide scorekeepers for all league scheduled games in which a numerical score is recorded. These scorekeepers will be paid based on a fee schedule determined by the Board of Directors. This fee schedule will be determined on a yearly basis and voted on by the Board of Directors.*

*All scorekeepers will be required to attend a mandatory scorekeeper's clinic to be held at a time determined by the Head Scorekeeper. The purpose of this clinic will be to educate and train personnel in the responsibilities of the position and proper techniques for scorekeepers.*

## **Article XI: Sponsorship**

*As a not for profit organization, the PYBA may solicit suitable financial support in the form of business sponsorship to carry out the mission of the league. It will be the policy of this organization to permit only sponsorship which meets the vision of this organization and selects these sponsors who are contributing to the best welfare of the players. The sponsors who contribute to the organization will be recognized in various ways throughout the year. The PYBA will prohibit the direct advertising and sponsoring of alcoholic beverages and tobacco products in connection with the organization or any league activities.*

## **Article XII: Financial Responsibility**

*The Board of Directors will decide on all matters pertaining to the finances of the PYBA and take on the responsibility to conduct financial affairs in the best interest of the association. The PYBA will prepare through the board Treasurer an annual financial report, which shall be completed by July 31st and made available to the Executive Officers. This annual financial report will be made available to the membership at the annual meeting. All financial records are subjected to an annual audit.*

*No Board of Director member will be permitted to pay out on any particular item or project more than \$100.00 for reimbursement, without prior approval from the Board of Directors*

## **Article XIII: Player Draft / Team Selection**

*At the date and time selected by the Board of Directors, a player draft will be held for the purpose of placing registered players on teams. The player draft will be conducted under the direction of the President, Secretary, and specific League Commissioners. There may be additional assistance from other Board of Director members at the discretion of the President. Each team will be represented by the head coach or, if the head coach is unable to attend and with the approval of the League Commissioner, the head coach's designee. Entry into the draft room by any other person will not be allowed.*

*The PYBA will classify players into age categories described below:*

<i>Age 3 – 4</i>	<i>T-Ball</i>
<i>Age 5 – 6</i>	<i>Coach Pitch/T-Ball</i>
<i>Age 7 – 8</i>	<i>Coach Pitch</i>
<i>Age 9 – 10</i>	<i>Player Pitch</i>
<i>Age 11 – 12</i>	<i>Player Pitch</i>
<i>Age 13 – 15</i>	<i>Player Pitch</i>

*The number of teams will be determined by calculating the number of players registered for each age group and dividing by 12 for the 3 – 8 age groups and dividing by 11 for the 9 and up age groups. The maximum number of players a team will have upon the completion of the draft is 11 or 12 dependent on the age group.*

*If enough participation in the 6 year old age group, PYBA reserves the right to declare this age group separately and combine ages 3 – 5. PYBA will recognize the age cut off established by USSSA as players playing with age group which matches their age on May 1st of the playing season. Players do have the option of playing up one age division but once they are placed on a team, they must complete the season in that age group.*

*Players will be evaluated on a date determined by the Board. This date will be after the conclusion of the registration period. Each player will cycle through stations designed to demonstrate different skills, allowing the coaches in that division the opportunity to observe the player's performance. In the event that a player is unable to attend evaluations, he/she will not be eligible for draft and he/she will be assigned to a team via a blind draw by the league management system. **If a player is a child or grandchild of a head coach, that player will be evaluated by a group of third party evaluators designated by the PYBA Executive committee which will assign the player to a specific round of the player draft. Head coaches will be allowed to designate one assistant coach before the evaluation period. The coach will be allowed to "lock" the designated assistant's child during the draft process, however, the player will be evaluated and assigned a draft round using the same process described previously for the head coach's child. Assistant coaches MUST be designated prior to evaluations in order for their child to be a "lock" during the draft. In the event that a coach's or designated assistant coach's child/grandchild is unable to attend player evaluations, the player will automatically be assigned to the first round of that coach's draft.***

#### **Article XIV: Rules of Play**

*The PYBA is sanctioned under the rules of USSSA baseball and will conduct league games under these rules. As a recreational league organized for the sport of organized recreational baseball, the Board of Directors recognizes the need for discretion in the rules. The PYBA has established a set of "Park Rules" which will supersede the rules of the USSSA, albeit in a more favorable direction for the mission of the organization. A copy of these "Park Rules" is attached to these By-Laws as "Appendage B".*

## **Article XV: All-Star Selection**

*The PYBA will have a selection of all-stars for each specific age from 6 years of age and up. These all-stars will participate in the National Division as outlined in USSSA rules of play section 15.04.A*

*A date and time for the selection of the all-star teams will be determined by the President of PYBA. This date is not to occur until at least 75% of league games have been played. The head coaches of each age division will be notified at least one week prior to the date for selection of all-stars. Each team's coaching staff will determine which players from their team will be nominated for vote to the all-star team. It is recommended that coaches consult with a player's parent(s) or guardian to determine their commitment to the all-star season prior to nominating a player. Each team in an age classification will have at least one player nominated for vote. The head coaches of the league teams will provide to their League Commissioner the names and primary defensive positions of their nominated players at least three (3) days prior to the all-star selection date.*

*The number of players elected and voted on by the coaches will be determined by the number of defensive positions for the particular league. The ages 8 and under will vote on and place 10 all-stars on a roster selected by the head coaches with at least one at large position to be filled by the all-star head coach from the remaining nominated players. The ages 9 and above will vote on and place 9 all-stars on a roster selected by the head coaches with at least two at large positions to be filled by the all-star head coach from the remaining nominated players. The remainder of the all-star roster up to the minimum requirement stated above will be completed by the head coach of the all-star team. The players selected by the all-star head coach to meet the minimum number requirements must have been nominated for the original all-star ballot. The head coach may not complete his roster with players who were not nominated for all-stars, until all nominated all-stars are contacted by league commissioner.*

*The minimum number of players who may be on a specific age group all-star team will be 12 players for age groups up to and including 8 Under. Age groups 9 Under and older will be required to have a minimum of 11 players. The head coach of the all-star team may select additional players up to the maximum number allowed by USSSA guidelines.*

*The head coach of the all-star team will be determined by a vote of the head coaches of the recreational league for the specific age division. Each league head coach will place a vote for the all-star head coaching position. These coaches will not be allowed to vote for themselves. The ballots will be tallied by the specific league commissioners after the commissioner has determined it is a legal ballot. In the event of a tie, a second vote will take place among the coaches who receive the highest number of votes. The election of the head coach will take place **PRIOR TO** the selection of the all-star players. All All-star coaches and assistant coaches must have served as a recognized head or assistant coach during the season.*



## **Article XVI: All-Star Team Management**

*The PYBA will manage ALL funds received and expended including but not limited player/parent contributions, sponsorships, and donations. All-Star coaches will work with PYBA officials to plan uniform and tournament expenses. Neither coaches nor participants may collect funds related to the All-Star team without them being managed by PYBA.*

## **Article XVII: Discipline / Conduct Violations**

*It is the responsibility of the Membership of the PYBA to promote and maintain good sportsmanship at all times, including practices, games and other league activities. The enforcement of playing rules shall be the responsibility of the umpire(s) assigned to the game. The enforcement of additional PYBA conduct rules will be the responsibility of the Board of Directors or any other league official who has been given the authority by the Board of Directors.*

*In the event of a conduct violation by coaches, players, umpires, Board of Directors, or spectators, the PYBA will establish a Disciplinary Committee which will consist of the Head of Umpires, Vice President of Administration and Commissioner for Division where violation occurred. The President will be available in the event of one or more of the parties on the committee is unavailable or has a conflict of interest.*

*Violations of conduct rules include but are not limited to the following:*

- *Fighting*
- *Indecent or abusive language*
- *Derogatory remarks and/or comments made to umpires, coaches or Board of Directors members*
- *Cheating in any manner*
- *Destruction or intentional damage to any city or league property*
- *Ejection from league scheduled game*
- *Any violation of park rules*
- *Violation of USSSA rules*

*In the event of an ejection from game for coach, player or spectator, the ejected party must immediately leave the playing field. It will be the responsibility of the coach on ejected parties' team to ensure the ejected party leaves the playing field. Failure of the coach to act on this ejection will result in a forfeiture of the active game. The League Commissioner needs to be notified of any ejection from a game. The Board of Directors has the discretion of pursuing criminal trespassing charges against an ejected party, if deemed necessary.*

*It will be the policy of the PYBA on ejections or conduct violations to impose the following penalties in addition to ejection (if applicable):*

<i>1st offense</i>	<i>Suspension for the game following Committee Ruling</i>
<i>2nd offense</i>	<i>Suspension for one calendar week and exclusion from All-star activities following Committee Ruling</i>
<i>3rd offense</i>	<i>Suspension for remainder of season and exclusion from All-Star activities following Committee Ruling</i>
<i>4th offense</i>	<i>Lifetime Ban from all PYBA activities following Committee Ruling</i>

*In the event a violation occurs during the last game of the season, the enforced penalty will be carried over until the next season which the violator participates. A party determined to be in violation by the Disciplinary Committee may appeal its decision to the President of PYBA and make an argument before a special meeting of the Board of Directors who will vote to determine a final disposition. The majority of votes from the Board of Directors will determine the outcome of the disciplinary procedure. There will be a non-refundable appeal fee of \$50.00.*

### **Article XVIII: Amendments**

*These By-Laws may be amended, repealed or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at annual or special session meetings provided advance notices of intent to change are made aware prior to the meeting.*

**In witness whereof, these by-laws have been duly adopted on the 5th day of APRIL, 2010, on approval by vote of hands of the elected membership of the Pearl Youth Baseball Association.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
PYBA President

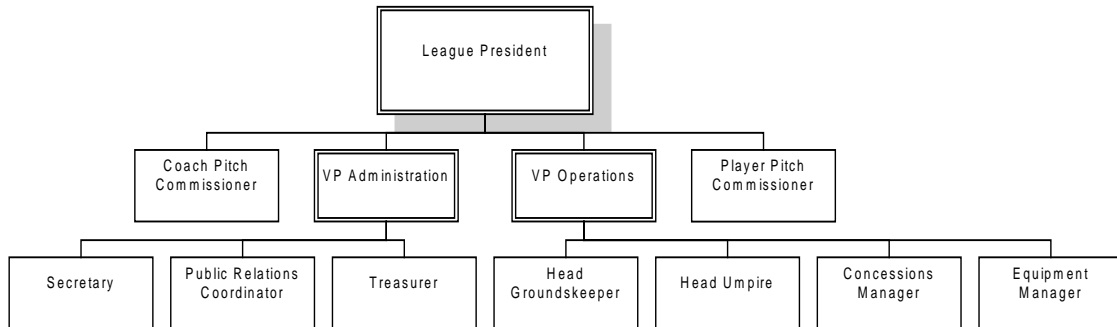
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PYBA VP of Operations

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PYBA VP of Administration

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PYBA General Board Member

## APPENDAGE “A”

### Board of Directors Roles and Responsibilities



The following roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors is provided to give guidance for the volunteers who are committed to the PYBA. The members of the Board of Directors are expected to aid in the day to day operations of the PYBA and all functions during the season which may not be indicated in specific roles and responsibilities listed below.

#### **President**

- Coordinate preparation of agenda with Secretary.
- Preside over all Board Meetings.
- Develop strategic plans for association.
- Approve dispersing funds.
- Organize schedules for league.
- Participate in draft.
- Participate in sign-up.
- Make final decisions related to PYBA activities.
- Coordinate operation/administration/marketing of PYBA.
- Participate in scheduled workdays.
- Serve as authorize signer

#### **Vice President of Administration**

- Coordinate administrative activities of the association to including ordering of equipment, uniforms, bank deposits, All-Star requirements, insurance for league, fund-raising, dispersing of funds.
- Preside over Board Meetings in absence of President.
- Coordinate All-Star Tournaments for all Leagues.
- Organize schedules for league

- Develop strategic plans for association.
- Participate in draft.
- Participate in sign-up.
- Recommend PYBA activities to President.
- Participate in scheduled workdays
- Serve as authorize signer

### **Vice President of Operations**

- Coordinate operation activities of the association including communications with League Commissioners on scheduling, facility availability, and rainouts.
- Preside over Board Meetings in absence of Vice President of Administration and President.
- Organize schedules for league
- Develop strategic plans for association.
- Participate in draft.
- Participate in sign-up.
- Recommend PYBA activities to President.
- Participate in scheduled workdays
- Serve as authorize signer

### **Secretary**

- Coordinates efforts with the VP of Administration
- Prepare agenda for meetings as defined by President.
- Record minutes to all meetings.
- Prepare correspondence as defined by President.
- Coordinate Board Meetings as called by President or designee.
- Communicate minutes to all Board Members.
- Develop strategic plans for association.
- Participate in draft.
- Participate in sign-up.
- Recommend PYBA activities to President.
- Participate in scheduled workdays.

### **Treasurer**

- Coordinates efforts with the VP of Administration
- Maintain financial records for the organization.
- Prepare Treasurer's Report for Board Meetings.
- Coordinate collection and dispersing of funds for organization.
- Develop strategic plans for association.

- Participate in sign-up.
- Recommend PYBA activities to Vice President of Administration and President.
- Participate in scheduled workdays
- Serve as authorize signer

### **Head Umpire**

- Coordinates efforts with the VP of Operations
- Recruit, train, schedule and coordinate all umpire activities for association.
- Report weekly timesheets of umpires to Treasurer
- Coordinate and schedule umpire clinics.
- Develop strategic plans for association.
- Recommend PYBA activities to Vice President of Operations and President.
- Participate in scheduled workdays.
- Participate in sign up.

### **Head Scorekeeper**

- Coordinates efforts with the VP of Operations
- Recruit, train, schedule and coordinate all scorekeeper activities for association.
- Report weekly timesheets of scorekeepers to Vice President of Administration.
- Coordinate and schedule scorekeeper clinics.
- Develop strategic plans for association.
- Recommend PYBA activities to Vice President of Operations and President.
- Participate in sign up
- Participate in scheduled workdays

### **Equipment Manager**

- Coordinates efforts with the VP of Operations
- Maintain safe, clean, reliable equipment as directed by the Vice President of Operations and President
- Distribute equipment at start of season.
- Collect equipment at end of season.
- Maintain inventory control of equipment.
- Develop strategic plans for association.
- Participate in sign-up.
- Recommend PYBA activities to Vice President of Administration and Vice President of Operations.
- Participate in scheduled workdays.

### **Public Relations Coordinator**

- Coordinates efforts with the VP of Administration  Develop marketing strategy for association.
- Coordinate requirements based on number of teams participating.
- Develop and coordinate all fund-raising activities of the association.
- Recruit corporate sponsors.
- Develop strategic plans for association.
- Participate in sign-up.
- Recommend PYBA activities to Vice President of Administration and Vice President of Operations.
- Participate in scheduled workdays.

### **Head Groundskeeper**

- Coordinates efforts with the VP of Operations
- Coordinate grass cutting, lining of field with City of Pearl.
- Schedule and coordinate workdays.
- Recruit parents to participate in workday activities.
- Develop strategic plans for association.
- Maintain restroom facilities.
- Participate in sign-up.
- Recommend PYBA activities to Vice President of Operations.
- Participate in scheduled workdays
- Assists VP of Operations in determining field play ability
- Responsible for field preparations and maintenance for league sponsored tournaments.
- Coordinates volunteers for field crew for league sponsored tournaments.

### **Concessions Manager**

- Coordinates efforts with the VP of Operations
- Coordinate all activities associated with the PYBA Concessions to include ordering and preparing foods/drinks, cups, etc.
- Review current purchasing practices and recommend alternative to President.
- Recruit other volunteers (friends, siblings) of players to work in concession stand.
- Maintain quantity/quality control of supplies/food/drinks.
- Limit access to concession stand.
- Develop strategic plans for association.
- Participate in sign-up.
- Recommend PYBA activities to Vice President of Operations.
- Participate in scheduled workdays
- Report Weekly timesheets to Treasurer
- Recruit other board members as needed

**General Board Member**

- Volunteer for committee assignments as needed.
- Develop strategic plans for association.
- Participate in sign-up.
- Recommend PYBA activities to President.
- Participate in scheduled workday

**League Commissioners**

- Schedule, coordinate, communicate with coaches on team activities as directed by Vice President of Operation, President.
- Coordinate with Concessions on communications for volunteers.
- Coordinate with Vice President of Operations on communications to coaches on rain-outs, re-scheduling of games, practice facilities, game schedules.
- Facilitate draft for respective league.
- Facilitate All-Star selection for respective league.
- Facilitate activities of Board with parents.
- Develop strategic plans for association.
- Participate in sign-up.
- Recommend PYBA activities to Vice President of Operations.
- Participate in scheduled workdays.
- Participate in a rotation for opening and closing of park gates
- Provide written coaches evaluations to the Board of Directors

## **Appendage “B”**

### **GENERAL PARK RULES**

All games will be played according to the league schedule which will be provided to the teams at least two weeks prior to the start of the season. Any change in the schedule of games will be coordinated between the head coaches of the teams involved. The specific league commissioner will be present to ensure there is not additional conflict with a reschedule. The league commissioner will notify the Head Umpire and Head Scorekeeper of the new date/time of the game to avoid confusion of having league personnel available. A team may be required to play two games in one day or three games in one week due to scheduling constraints.

No game will be made up after the end of the season unless it would change the standings of both teams.

The Umpire is the official time keeper and will notify the scorekeeper of the official start time.

Teams will bat on offense the extended line up. All players will be included on the official line up card and bat in this order.

Each team is responsible for cleaning their dugout after the game.

A team is allowed a maximum of 2 time outs per inning. Coaches are encouraged to not unnecessarily delay the game.

A player who refuses to bat when it is his turn will be recorded as an out.

A player who becomes sick or injured may miss his turn at bat without penalty to the team.

All players must play three defensive outs.

An injured base runner may have a courtesy runner if he is injured while running the bases. The courtesy runner will be the player who made the previous out.

The mercy rule will be in effect for some leagues. See Chart Below. The rule will be any team ahead by 8 runs at the end of 4 inning or ahead by 15 runs at the end of 3 innings will be declared the winner. If home team is ahead by 8/15 runs at the respective ½ inning of a game will not be required to bat.

The PYBA will prohibit the use or consumption of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products or illegal substances during any league-scheduled activities.



## 3/4 T-Ball

1. Teams will play all players on defense. Players are expected to play infield and outfield positions during each game.
2. Game times and innings will be in accordance to the chart at the end of these rules
3. Teams will bat the entire roster each inning.
4. No score will be tallied
5. Outs by the defense will count against the offensive team although three (3) outs will not cause the offensive team at bat to end. All players will bat each inning.
6. The tee will be placed on top of home plate.
7. The hitting coach will place the ball on the tee and upon a batted ball, this coach will be responsible for removing the tee from the playing area.
8. Coaches are prohibited from touching or physically assisting players during a live ball situation. Exception is hitting coach aiding batter in positioning in the batter's box.
9. The batter will be allowed three (3) strikes or attempts to put the ball in play.
10. A ball knocked off the tee during "measuring up" will not be considered a strike.
11. A batted ball must travel past the safety arc to be considered a fair ball, otherwise a strike will be called.
12. The hitting coach will notify the defensive team/coach when the last batter is at bat.
13. Play is stopped for the last batter when the batted ball is thrown to the catcher and the catcher steps on home plate. Runners on base during the last batter may advance until the catcher has possession of the ball and has stepped on home plate.
14. Play will be stopped when an infielder has possession of a live ball in front of the lead runner and all advancement of this runner has stopped. Additional runners will return to the previously passed base unless ½ way to an unoccupied base when play has stopped.
15. Runners may not leave a base until the ball is hit.
16. The defensive team will be allowed a maximum of four coaches in the field to assist players. The coaches will not provide physical assistance once a ball is live.
17. Players should be taught to throw out advancing runners. Players will not be permitted to chase players around the base paths in order to make an out.
18. The catcher will wear protective headgear and be positioned to the rear and back shoulder of the batter until the ball is put in play.
19. Overthrow lines will be determined by the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base foul lines. A thrown ball will be ruled overthrown after it crosses the foul line. Play will be stopped and runners will be awarded bases obtained prior to the overthrow ruling. This is intended to speed up the game and encourage defensive teams to attempt to make outs at the proper bases while not penalizing them for errant throws.

## 5 / 6 Division

1. Teams will play all players on defense. Players are expected to play infield and outfield positions during each game.
2. Game times and innings will be in accordance with the chart in Appendage "C".
3. Game mercy rules will be in accordance with the chart in Appendage "C".
4. The inning will change once the defensive team has registered three (3) outs or the offensive team has scored seven (7) runs.
5. A batted ball must travel past the safety arc to be considered a fair ball, otherwise a strike will be called.
6. The batter is allowed six pitches. After two swings and misses on a pitch, the batter will be allowed one attempt off a tee. If the batter swings and misses again, it will count as a strike and the batter is out. If the batter makes contact with the tee or the ball, but doesn't put the ball into legal play, it will be counted as a strike and the batter is out. If the batter puts the ball in play off a tee, the batter and any runners currently on base can advance only one base unless the defense makes a play and gets a runner out. A batter will be out if they have not put a ball in play fairly by the 6<sup>th</sup> pitch.
7. A batter must make a full swing. No bunting or partial swings are allowed.
8. Play will be stopped by the umpire when in his judgment, an infielder has possession of a live ball in front of the lead runner and all advancement of this runner has stopped. Additional runners will return to the previously passed base unless ½ way to an unoccupied base at the time the umpire called time.
9. Runners may not lead off and may not leave a base until the ball is hit. The team will be given a warning after the first offense and the play will be ruled a No Play. Second and subsequent offenses, the runner will be called out.
10. The defensive team will be allowed a maximum of four coaches in the field to assist players. The coaches will not provide physical assistance once a ball is live.
11. Players should be taught to throw out advancing runners. Players will not be permitted to chase players around the base paths in order to make an out.
12. The catcher will wear protective headgear and be positioned to the rear and back shoulder of the batter until the ball is put in play.
13. Overthrow lines will be determined by the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base foul lines. A thrown ball may be ruled overthrown after it crosses the foul line on the judgment of the umpire. Time will be called by the umpire and runners will be awarded bases obtained prior to the overthrow ruling. This is intended to speed up the game and encourage defensive teams to attempt to make outs at the proper bases while not penalizing them for errant throws.

## 7 / 8 Division

1. No leading off base.
2. Runners may not advance until the ball is hit.
3. Play Speed Up Rule: When 2 outs offensive team must substitute a courtesy runner for the catcher if he is on base. A courtesy runner is not allowed after time expires unless the team will be required to play defense in the current inning.
4. No head first sliding at any time.
5. Pitching Coach must make an attempt to leave the field after a ball is put in play.
6. Pitching Coach has the responsibility of removing the batters bat after a ball is put in play
7. No Bunting is allowed
8. A batter may be intentionally walked once per game after the announcement from the defensive teams coach. The pitching coach will not be required to throw four pitches.
9. A 30 foot safety arc from home plate will be extended from 1<sup>st</sup> base foul line to 3<sup>rd</sup> base foul line.
10. Pitching Coach must pitch from a behind this safety arc.
11. Pitching Coach must pitch from a standing position (crouching is allowed but the coach may not kneel on the ground).
12. Pitching Coach must pitch over hand
13. An Umpire will call dead ball if the pitching coach is struck by a live ball. Runners will return to the base they occupied prior to the pitch and the pitch will not count against the batter.
14. Play will be stopped by the umpire when in his judgment, an infielder has possession of a live ball in front of the lead runner and all advancement of this runner has stopped. Additional runners will return to the previously passed base unless ½ way to an unoccupied base at the time the umpire called time.
15. The inning will change once the defensive team has registered three (3) outs or the offensive team has scored seven (7) runs.
16. Games may be played with 8 players although when the 9<sup>th</sup> batter position is due to bat, it will be recorded as an out.
17. If a player arrives late, they will be added to the bottom of the batting line up. If this player is the 9<sup>th</sup> player in the lineup, the automatic out will no longer be charged.
18. If a team only has 7 players, a 5 minute grace period will be extended. If the 8<sup>th</sup> player has not arrived at this point, the team with fewest players will forfeit the game 6-0. Coaches are encouraged to hold a „practice game“ with the players present and they will be allowed to recruit players from the same age group or younger to complete a roster.
19. Game times and innings will be in accordance with the chart in Appendage “C”.
20. Game mercy rules will be in accordance with the chart in Appendage “C”.
21. Only the base coaches are allowed to coach players once a ball is put in play. The pitching coach may assist the batter in getting set in the batter’s box. The catcher will wear full protective equipment including a full helmet with face mask
22. The catcher must receive the ball in the catcher’s box.

23. Teams may play with a maximum of ten (10) players on defense. A maximum of six (6) players will be positioned in the infield and a maximum of four (4) players may be aligned in the outfield.
24. A batter will be allowed 6 pitches maximum. The third swinging strike will be ruled an out. A batter will be out if they have not put a ball in play fairly by the 6<sup>th</sup> pitch.
25. When a fielder has control of the ball and a tag play is evident, the runner must slide or seek to avoid contact with the fielder. If contact occurs and there is no attempt to avoid contact or slide, the runner will be called out.

## 9 / 10 Division

1. Play Speed Up Rule: When 2 outs offensive team must substitute a courtesy runner for the catcher if he is on base. A courtesy runner is not allowed after time expires unless the team will be required to play defense in the current inning.
2. No head first sliding at any time. Exception is on a pick off play where base runner is attempting to get back to a base safely.
3. A batter may be intentionally walked once per game after the announcement from the defensive teams coach. The pitcher will not be required to throw four pitches.
4. Games may be played with 8 players although when the 9<sup>th</sup> batter position is due to bat, it will be recorded as an out.
5. If a player arrives late, they will be added to the bottom of the batting line up. If this player is the 9<sup>th</sup> player in the lineup, the automatic out will no longer be charged.
6. If a team only has 7 players, a 5 minute grace period will be extended. If the 8<sup>th</sup> player has not arrived at this point, the team with fewest players will forfeit the game 6-0. Coaches are encouraged to hold a “practice game” with the players present and they will be allowed to recruit players from the same age group or younger to complete a roster.
7. Game times and innings will be in accordance with the chart in Appendage “C”.
8. Game mercy rules will be in accordance with the chart in Appendage “C”.
9. The inning will change once the defensive team has registered three (3) outs or the offensive team has scored seven (7) runs.
10. Bunting will be allowed.
11. If a batter shows bunt or indicates to the defensive team in any manner that a bunt is intended, the batter may not swing at the pitch. The batter must bunt or take the pitch. A batter will be called out if they swing at the pitch.
12. Base runners may lead off.
13. Runners may steal only after the pitcher has released the ball.
14. Taunting of the pitcher by the base runner will not be allowed. Runners will be provided a warning for the first offense and second or subsequent offenses, the runner will be called out.
15. Umpires will monitor pitchers for balks. No balks will be called and runners will not advance until May 1<sup>st</sup> of the regular season. Up to May 1<sup>st</sup>, umpires will provide instruction to the pitchers.
16. When a fielder has control of the ball and a tag play is evident, the runner must slide or seek to avoid contact with the fielder. If contact occurs and there is no attempt to avoid contact or slide, the runner will be called out.

17. Teams may play with a maximum of 9 players on defense. The maximum number of infielders is six (6) and a maximum of three (3) players in the outfield.
18. A batter *may* attempt to advance to 1<sup>st</sup> on a dropped third strike.
19. Pitching rules will be governed by USSSA National Baseball Rules. The limits are noted in the following rules:
  - a). If a pitcher pitches in more than 3 innings in one day, he cannot pitch the following day
  - b). A pitcher may not pitch more than 6 innings in one day
  - c). A player may not pitch more than a total of 8 innings in two consecutive days
  - d). If a player pitches on two consecutive days, the player must rest the third day regardless of the total number of innings pitches
  - e). A pitcher has a pitch limit of 60 pitches per game. Pitcher will not face a new batter after the 60<sup>th</sup> pitch.

## 11/12 Division

1. Play Speed Up Rule: When 2 outs offensive team must substitute a courtesy runner for the catcher if he is on base. A courtesy runner is not allowed after time expires unless the team will be required to play defense in the current inning.
2. Games may be played with 8 players although when the 9<sup>th</sup> batter position is due to bat, it will be recorded as an out.
3. If a player arrives late, they will be added to the bottom of the batting line up. If this player is the 9<sup>th</sup> player in the lineup, the automatic out will no longer be charged.
4. If a team only has 7 players, a 5 minute grace period will be extended. If the 8<sup>th</sup> player has not arrived at this point, the team with fewest players will forfeit the game 6-0. Coaches are encouraged to hold a “practice game” with the players present and they will be allowed to recruit players from the same age group or younger to complete a roster.
5. Game times and innings will be in accordance with the chart in Appendage “C”.
6. Game mercy rules will be in accordance with the chart in Appendage “C”.
7. Bunting will be allowed.
8. If a batter shows bunt or indicates to the defensive team in any manner that a bunt is intended, the batter may not swing at the pitch. The batter must bunt or take the pitch. A batter will be called out if they swing at the pitch.
9. The infield fly rule is in effect.
10. Base runners may lead off and steal bases at their own risk.
11. A batter may advance to 1<sup>st</sup> on a dropped third strike.
12. Pitching rules will be governed by USSSA National Baseball Rules. The limits are noted in the following rules:
  - a). If a pitcher pitches in more than 3 innings in one day, he cannot pitch the following day
  - b). A pitcher may not pitch more than 6 innings in one day
  - c). A player may not pitch more than a total of 9 innings in two consecutive days
  - d). If a player pitches on two consecutive days, the player must rest the third day regardless of the total number of innings pitches
  - e). A players pitch limit is 75 pitches her game. Pitcher will not face a new batter after the 75<sup>th</sup> pitch. *(This rule will not be enforced during interleague games. However, PYBA Coaches are expected to continue to adhere to the rule.)*
13. A batter may be intentionally walked once per game after the announcement from the defensive teams coach. The pitcher will not be required to throw four pitches.
14. Umpires will monitor pitchers for balks. No balks will be called and runners will not advance until April 15<sup>th</sup> of the regular season. Up to April 15<sup>th</sup>, umpires will provide instruction to the pitchers.
15. When a fielder has control of the ball and a tag play is evident, the runner must slide or seek to avoid contact with the fielder. If contact occurs and there is no attempt to avoid contact or slide, the runner will be called out.

16. Teams may play with a maximum of 9 players on defense. The maximum number of infielders is six (6) and a maximum of three (3) players in the outfield.



## Appendage “C”

### GAME DURATION

<b>Division</b>	<b>Innings</b>	<b>Time Limit</b>	<b>No New Inning</b>	<b>Mercy Rule</b>
3 / 4 Tee Ball	3 innings	1 hour	1 hour	No
5 / 6 Tee Ball	4 innings	1 hour 15 min	1 hour 15 min	Yes
7 / 8 Division	6 innings	1 hour 30 min	1 hour 25 min	Yes
9 / 10 Division	6 innings	1 hour 30 min	1 hour 25 min	Yes
11 / 12 Division	6 innings	1 hour 45 min	1 hour 30 min	Yes

The mercy rule will be in effect for some leagues. The rule will be any team ahead by 8 runs at the end of 4 inning or ahead by 15 runs at the end of 3 innings will be declared the winner. If home team is ahead by 8/15 runs at the respective ½ inning of a game will not be required to bat.