

Northside Minor Baseball Association
Constitution



Article 1 - Name

- 1.1** – The name of the organization is “Northside Minor Baseball Association,” hereafter referred to as “NMBA,” a member in good standing of Baseball Prince Edward Island (hereafter referred to as “Baseball PEI”) and Baseball Canada.
- 1.2** – The NMBA’s authorized nickname is the “Cubs”.
- 1.3** – For the purposes of transacting business, the Northside Minor Baseball Association may also be known as the NMBA.
- 1.4** – The Head Office of the NMBA shall be the home address of the current President or Treasurer.

Article 2 - Objective

- 2.1** – The NMBA, operating as a volunteer, not for profit organization, seeks to foster, promote and coordinate amateur baseball, for girls and boys of all ages and abilities within established parameters, in the general communities of the Morell Family of Schools (of the Public School Board) area. In addition to encouraging fun, fair play, and fundamental skill development, the NMBA seeks to give young people the opportunity to learn life skills through sport in a peer setting, which can assist them throughout their lives. Although team success and winning are important, the NMBA strives to make playing baseball an enjoyable experience for all individual players, as well as coaches, executive, officials and parents.
- 2.2** – The NMBA will strive to field as many teams in as many Baseball PEI leagues as possible and equip these teams with all necessary baseball gear and uniforms and pay all registration and dues necessary to Baseball PEI.
- 2.3** – The NMBA will ensure there are suitable playing fields for each team within the NMBA boundaries and pay all necessary rents and dues.

Article 3 - Membership

- 3.1** – The membership of the NMBA shall consist of all players (female and male) registered to play baseball for the NMBA in accordance with Baseball Prince Edward Island by-laws or specific NMBA restrictions, the parent and/or guardian of each NMBA registered player, all persons registered as coaches and/or volunteers of the NMBA, and all persons serving on the NMBA Board of Directors.
- 3.1.1** – Each member of the NMBA Board of Directors and each family with one or more players registered with NMBA shall receive one vote at the Annual General Meeting (each family will receive just one vote regardless of how many children they have registered in the NMBA).
- 3.2** – Members shall receive all rights of participation in NMBA activities as prescribed by the NMBA until such time as they no longer meet the membership qualifications, fail to provide the appropriate fees, or are deemed to be dismissed due to discipline or other inappropriate activities as prescribed by the Board of

Directors.

3.3 – The record of all active members will be maintained by the Secretary/Registrar.

3.4 – Membership is normally restricted to players from all communities of the Morell Family of Schools area; however, players outside this residential area may be accepted if such registration is not in violation of any of Baseball Prince Edward Island's eligibility guidelines or policies.

3.5 – The Board of Directors reserves the right to restrict membership – if deemed necessary – due to the number of players registered. Preference may be given to returning players, and their families, who register during a pre-registration, with new players and the remaining returning players placed on a waiting list if necessary. Requests for late registration shall be referred to the Secretary/Registrar and may be subject to rejection or late charge fees as prescribed by the NMBA.

3.6 – In situations where the NMBA does not have a team for a player to play on due to numbers – for example, 16 players are registered for an 11U/Mosquito team that can only take 12 players, thereby leaving 4 players without a team to play on – the Board of Directors will make every effort to assist those players in finding a team to play for in a neighbouring association.

3.7 – If the NMBA does not offer a calibre ("A", "AA" or "AAA") of baseball a player wishes to play/try out for, that player must get a transfer form signed and approved by the NMBA president – or another member of the NMBA Board of Directors designated by the president – and Baseball PEI. If the player is successful, the player is free to try out with a team of that level or calibre in another association within Baseball PEI.

3.7.1 – If that player tries out for a team of a higher calibre in another association and does make the final roster of that team, they may play in that association for that one (1) season and will cease - along with his/her parents or guardians (unless they have other children playing in the NMBA) - being a member of the NMBA for until the end of the baseball season. Upon the completion of the baseball season, they return to the NMBA.

3.7.2 – If that player tries out for a team of a higher calibre in another association but does not make the final roster of that team, they must return and play in the NMBA.

Article 4 – Board of Directors

4.1 – The Board of Directors of the NMBA shall consist of the following elected members:

- **President:** The president shall be responsible for the overall operations of the NMBA by ensuring the bylaws are adhered to and that activities are coordinated and offered in line with the NMBA's guiding principles. The president shall preside at all meetings and sign all official documents and will represent the NMBA at official meetings and act as official spokesperson. Although the Board of Directors will provide guidance and decision-making on most matters, it is recognized that in cases of urgency or in minor matters, the president shall have the power to act on behalf of the NMBA. The

president has the authority to create committees or positions to action specific issues or to create certain policies, procedures or guidelines to be brought forth to the Board of Directors for approval. The president shall also represent the NMBA in any meetings of presidents or directors at Baseball PEI meetings. The president shall be one of the signatories for the NMBA.

- **Vice-President:** The vice-president shall act on behalf of the president at various times when the president is unavailable and may oversee specific areas within the NMBA as directed by the president.
- **Past-President:** The past-president was the president previous to the current one and shall act as someone who provides guidance to the president, vice-president, and the Board of Directors due to their previous experience as president. S/he shall act on behalf of the president at various times when the president/vice-president is unavailable and may oversee specific areas within the NMBA as directed by the president.
- **Treasurer:** The treasurer shall maintain the financial records of the NMBA, submit financial statements at Board of Directors meetings and provide an annual report of the NMBA's financial position. The treasurer is also responsible for all banking related activities. S/he must be one of the signing authorities of the NMBA.
- **Secretary/Registrar:** The secretary/registrar shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings at all meetings. S/he shall plan the annual registration and keep an accurate account of persons registered in the NMBA and provide such a list to the President and Baseball Prince Edward Island as required.
- **Directors-at-Large** - Between one (1) and four (4) elected positions who have voting powers; however, they are not specifically assigned duties but are expected to provide direct support and involvement in the NMBA's operations.

4.2 – All Board of Directors positions are for a term of two (2) years. The president, vice-president and two directors-at-large shall be elected in years ending in an even number at an AGM while the secretary/registrar, treasurer and the other two directors-at-large shall be elected in years ending in an odd number at an AGM. The past-president shall be a member of the Board of Directors as long as the successive president fills the position of president of the Board of Directors.

4.3 – When there is no past-president, or the past-president is unwilling to fill their position on the Board of Directors, that position will not be filled and there can only be a maximum of eight (8) positions on the Board of Directors.

4.4 – The Board of Directors may appoint an umpire coordinator and coordinators for the divisions of 8U/Rally Cap, 9U/Junior Mosquito, 11U/Mosquito, 13U/Peewee, 15U/Bantam and 18U/Midget for one (1) year terms. These coordinators may already be members of the Board of Directors or separate from the Board of Directors. They may take part in all Board of Directors meetings; however, unless the coordinator is already on the Board of Directors in another position, they are not privy to a vote at Board of Director

meetings.

Article 5 - Powers of the Board of Directors

5.1 – The Board of Directors is the primary decision-maker for the NMBA and can prescribe such policies and procedures to provide guidance in the operations of the NMBA.

5.2 – The NMBA has the right and role of determining discipline for any member of the NMBA who behaves with a lack of respect and dignity towards any player, coaches, fan or umpire involved with a NMBA or Baseball PEI game, practice or function.

5.2.1 – If this behaviour is potentially of a criminal nature, the NMBA is obliged to report it to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Article 6 - Registration

6.1 – The NMBA will hold registration for players each year in accordance with the date set by Baseball PEI and one or more other dates set by the Board of Directors.

6.2 – Registration will be held in at least two (2) separate locations, and can take place in/or Morell, St. Peter's Bay, Mount Stewart and Tracadie Cross.

6.3 – Registration costs will be examined at least bi-annually and may be examined annually depending on certain mitigating factors.

6.4 – Unless negotiated prior to registration with the Board of Directors, late registration will also include a \$20 penalty.

Article 7 – Meetings

7.1 – Meetings of the membership shall be called by the president with reasonable advance notice, stating the time, place, and expected agenda. At least four (4) meetings – including the Annual General Meeting (hereafter referred to as the “AGM”) – shall be called annually.

7.2 – Special meetings of the membership may be called by the president as deemed appropriate to deal with specific business.

7.3 – The AGM of the NMBA shall be held upon the end of the baseball season and prior to next season’s Provincial Registration Day, for the reading of reports, passing of amendments and resolutions, and election of officers for the following season. The Board of Directors will hold additional meetings throughout the year to administer the affairs of the NMBA.

7.3.1 – The secretary/registrar will deliver notice to each member, local media and Baseball PEI at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the AGM. This notice states the place, date and time of the AGM, and any business requiring a special resolution.

7.3.2 – Any member wishing to have an item of business placed on the agenda of the AGM shall advise the secretary/registrars of such, in writing, within seven (7) days of the notice being sent.

7.3.3 – The AGM shall be attended by all members of the Board of Directors and may be attended by members of the NMBA and guests of the Board of Directors of the NMBA.

7.3.4 – Agenda for the AGM:

- Roll Call, Credentials
- Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting
- Business Arising from the Minutes
- Reports
- Consideration of Amendments
- Election of Officers and Directors
- New Business
- Adjournment

7.4 – A special general meeting may be called by the Board of Directors at any time, providing reasonable notice is given. As well, a special general meeting shall be called upon written request of 20% of the NMBA membership.

7.5 – All matters of policy of the NMBA shall be decided by the consensus of the Board of Directors. If consensus cannot be agreed upon as determined by the president, a vote shall be held with a simple majority deciding the issue. In the cases of a tie, the president shall have the authority to break the tie.

7.6 – A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum and all attending Directors are provided one vote.

7.7.1 – If not all Board of Directors members are present at a meeting, and there is no quorum at the meeting, and a crucial vote must take place as soon as possible and cannot wait until a next meeting, voting can be done electronically through email.

7.8 – All meetings will be open to the general membership, however, attendance at Board of Directors meetings would be in the role of the observer only.

Article 8 - Managers and Coaches

8.1 – Managers and coaches of competitive teams shall be selected and approved by the members of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors, if it wishes, may or may not have an application process for coaches.

8.1.1 – While every chance is given for head coaches to select their assistant coaches, the Board of Directors reserves the right to overturn a selection of an assistant coach by the head coach and select their

own assistant coaches.

8.2 – Managers and coaches shall be responsible for their team’s conduct, their own conduct and wherever possible the conduct of team supporters. The NMBA has a reputation of exemplary coaching conduct and expects all coaches to act in a responsible and mature manner.

8.3 – The managers and coaches of competitive teams will select their players, with the selection subject to review by the Board of Directors only in such rare instance whereby there is an allegation of procedural misconduct or a flagrant disregard for fairness. The NMBA recognizes that such player selections are often difficult and subject to individual opinion, however, supports coaches in this area and will intervene only in situations of serious allegations.

Article 9 - Financial Policy

9.1 – The Board of Directors shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of the NMBA as outlined in the annual budget, including the setting of fees.

9.2 – Funds will be disbursed (i.e. cheque signing authority) on the authority of the treasurer, president, and/or one other member of the Board of Directors.

9.3 – The president and treasurer have discretionary powers of expenditures for emergency situations, however, shall report these expenditures as soon as possible to the Board of Directors.

9.4 – All funds raised shall be used for the purposes of NMBA and the Board of Directors shall set fundraising guidelines for all members to follow.

9.5 – An annual financial statement shall be produced and publicized and made available at the AGM.

9.6 – Any audit or review of the documents can be brought forth by motion, however allowing for a reasonable time to produce such records, unless directed by law.

Article 10 – Rules

10.1 – The eligibility, tournament and playing rules of Baseball PEI, as issued each year through the Office of the Executive Director, shall govern the playing of all games in all divisions.

10.2 – The NMBA reserves the right to modify or alter certain rules for local house league operations through local policies approved and adopted by the NMBA as long as they do not materially alter the game or be in material violation of Baseball PEI standards.

Article 11 - Registration of Association

11.1 – The NMBA shall register with Baseball PEI each year, in accordance with the Baseball PEI member organization bylaws and policies.

Article 12 - Affiliation

12.1 – For the purposes of discipline, eligibility, rules, dispute resolution or any issue not specifically covered by this Constitution, the NMBA may utilize protocols established by Policy and Procedures and/or the Constitution and Bylaws of Baseball PEI.

Article 13 – Amendments

13.1 – This Constitution or any section thereof may be amended or repealed in two ways. The first is at an AGM by a vote of 50% plus one (1) of all votes cast. The second is by a vote of 67% or more of the Board of Directors present at any stipulated meeting, provided that notice of such proposed change or changes shall be read at a scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors, and that a copy be mailed to Baseball PEI at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting at which the proposed change or changes shall be submitted for vote.

Article 14 - Dissolution

14.1 – If for any reason, the NMBA ceases to operate for more than three (3) consecutive years, any assets shall be dispersed by the last sitting president of the NMBA to a registered charity with some relation to baseball or to Baseball PEI.

Appendix: Visual Boundaries of the Northside Minor Baseball Association

