

# **RUSSIAVILLE YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE**

## **CONSTITUTION**

Adopted January 2000

Most recent revisions/edits approved February 2025

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### **Article I - Name**

This organization shall be known as the Russiaville Youth Baseball League, hereafter referred to as RYBL.

### **Article II – Objective**

#### **Section 1 - Primary Objective(s)**

1.The objective of RYBL shall be to implant firmly in the children of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect, so that they may be well adjusted, stronger and happier children and will grow up to be healthy, trustworthy men and women.

2.RYBL shall seek to foster interest in, training in, and appreciation of youth baseball through not-for profit athletic, social and educational activities and to affiliate with such state and national baseball organizations as the Board of Directors deems appropriate; and to exercise all powers conferred by the laws of Indiana upon a corporation formed under the Indiana Not-For-Profit Corporation act of 1971, as from time to time amended.

#### **Section 2 - Means to Achieve Objective(s)**

**1.**To achieve objective(s), RYBL will provide a supervised program of competitive baseball games under the Rules and Policies of Babe Ruth Baseball, Incorporated.

**2.**All directors, officers and members shall bear in mind the attainment of exceptional athletic skill or the winning of games is secondary to our primary objective of molding mature men and women.

### **Section 3 - IRS Status**

RYBL is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

### **Section 4 - Earnings and Activities**

**1.**No part of the net earnings of RYBL shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers (excluding the Umpire In Chief, if he/she umpires), or other private persons except that the association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article II hereof.

**2.**No substantial part of the activities of the association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the association shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

**3.**Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an association exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by an association, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

## **Section 5 - Dissolution**

**1.**Upon the dissolution of RYBL, The Board of Trustees shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the association, dispose of all of the assets of the association exclusively for the purposes of the association in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Trustees shall determine.

**2.**Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of RYBL

is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

## **Article III - Statement of Affiliation**

The RYBL shall be affiliated with Babe Ruth League, Inc., a New Jersey Corporation, and shall be governed by, and shall comply with, the

principles, rules and regulations enunciated or decreed by Babe Ruth League, Inc.

#### **Article IV - Principal Sites of Operation**

The principle operations of this organization shall be in and about the town of Russiaville, Howard County, Indiana, and the Western Howard County Public School System but may extend to such areas as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors, or as provided by the State, Regional and National Babe Ruth League Incorporated Headquarters' rules and regulations.

#### **Article V – Powers**

##### **Section 1 – Expressed Powers**

1.RYBL shall have the power to make and enforce rules and regulations necessary to govern itself on a local basis.

2.Such rules and regulations shall not be inconsistent with or contrary to any rules established by Babe Ruth League Inc. or by the Regional or State administration of Babe Ruth League Inc. to which this league is subject.

3.The RYBL shall have the power to solicit funds through fundraising campaigns or any other means approved by the Board of Directors, providing such solicitation does not conflict with state or local laws or the rules and regulations of Babe Ruth League Inc.

4.The RYBL shall have the power to enter into contracts and to hold and own property as deemed prudent by the Board of Directors.

##### **Section 2 – Additional Powers**

RYBL shall have all powers expressly or implicitly conferred to it by law.

## **Article VI – Membership**

### **Section 1 – Active Members**

1.Any adult person having interest in this organization such as managing or coaching a team or having a child participating on a team, may be a member. All active members shall perform any reasonable service required as deemed necessary and requested by the Board of Directors.

2.All Board members, directors, officers, managers and coaches must be members in good standing.

3.A membership may be terminated by resignation or by action of the Board of Directors.

### **Section 2 – Voting Membership**

1.Voting membership shall be limited to the Board of Directors.

2.Voting rights for the general election of the Board of Directors shall be extended to any active member in good standing present at the general election.

3.No individual shall have more than one (1) vote under any circumstance.

## **Article VII – Officers**

### **Section 1 – Designations**

1.The Officers of RYBL may also be known collectively as the Board of Directors, the Board of Trustees, the Executive Board, or the Board.

2. Individual officers shall include: President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Player Agent, Umpire-In-Chief and Equipment Manager.

## **Section 2 - Election**

1. All officers shall be elected by vote of the active members in good standing who are present at the Annual Meeting to be held each October.

2. The term of office for each officer shall be for two (2) years on an alternating schedule with President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Treasurer, Umpire-in-Chief and social media/Sponsorship elected in even-numbered years, and with 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Secretary, Player Agent, and Equipment Manager elected in odd-numbered years.

3. Any vacancy or position not filled in the general election shall be filled by appointment by the President and approved by the Board.

4. Any elected office vacated before the full two-year term of service may be filled to end of term by appointment of the President and approved by the Board.

5. All board members, coaches and managers will undergo background checks by appropriate governmental bodies as determined by the board.

## **Article VIII - Meetings and Quorum**

### **Section 1 - Regular Meetings**

1. The RYBL shall meet on the third Thursday each month except December, for the purpose of conducting the business of the League as the Board sees fit.

2. The time and place of each meeting will be determined by the Board.

3.The Board may alter the regular meeting schedule (i.e., Third Thursday, No December meeting) provided that notice of the change is announced.

## **Section 2 - Special Meetings**

1.Special meetings may be called by the President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Secretary, or by two (2) Board members with two (2) days' notice.

2.Special meetings may be called with less than two days' notice to deal with emergency matters such as discipline issues, provided that a quorum is present for the meeting.

3.At the discretion of the president, motions and votes to facilitate day to day operations of RYBL by the Board of Directors may be conducted via conference call or computer mediated technology (e.g., e-mail or text). For such votes, the one-third quorum (i.e., participation) is still required. The secretary shall record any action taken via conference call or computer mediated technology and append the record to the minutes of the most recent regular meeting for approval at the next regular meeting.

## **Section 3 - Annual Meeting**

1.The Annual Meeting shall take place in October each year for the purpose of electing Officers.

2.Members in good standing shall have one (1) vote each elected office.

3.The time and place of the meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors and announced at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

4. When the meeting has been properly announced in advance, the body of members in good standing present at the Annual Meeting shall constitute a quorum.

#### **Section 4 - Quorum and Motions**

1. For regular meetings, one-third of the Executive Board shall be considered a quorum for conducting business.

2. Introduction of motions and voting on such motions shall be limited to the Board of Directors.

3. With the approval of the President, recommendations from official committees may come to the board as motions.

#### **Article IX - Amendments**

This Constitution and by-laws may be amended, repealed or altered in whole or in part by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors at any duly organized meeting of the Board, provided that notice of the proposed changes is included in the announcement of the meeting and occurs at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

## **RUSSIAVILLE YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE**

### **By-Laws to the Constitution**

Approved January 2000

Most recent revision/edit—March 2012.

## **Article 1 – Officers’ Duties**

### **Section 1 - President**

1.It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of this league and to perform all duties usually pertaining to this office.

2.In the event the President is not available, the order of succession to conduct the business of the league will be as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Player Agent, Umpire in Chief and Equipment Manager.

### **Section 2 - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

It shall be the duty of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President to oversee the operations of the Major League and T-ball leagues.

### **Section 3 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

It shall be the duty of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President to oversee the Minor and Rookie leagues.

### **Section 4 - Secretary**

1.The Secretary shall record and keep the minutes of all proceedings.

2.S/He shall give notice of all meetings, notify all officers of election and perform other such duties as the office may require.

### **Section 5 - Treasurer**

1.The Treasurer shall receive and safely keep all funds (per Article 3, Sections 5 and 6 of these by-laws) of the league.

2.S/He shall make regular financial reports to the board of directors, provide an annual report of receipts and disbursements, and perform such other duties as the office may require.

### **Section 6 - Player Agent**

1.The Player Agent shall receive and review applications for player candidates and verify residency and age eligibility requirements.

2.S/He shall organize the player draft and all other player transactions as deemed appropriate by the board.

3.S/He shall prepare for the President's signature and submission to Babe Ruth Headquarters, the team rosters, including players claimed and tournament team eligibility affidavit.

4.S/He shall notify Babe Ruth Headquarters of any subsequent player replacements or additions and meet any other obligations imposed by Babe Ruth and/or Cal Ripken governing bodies.

5.S/He shall make sure all teams are setup and ready to go in a timely manner. This way managers have enough time to touch base with teams before each season starts.

### **Section 7 - Umpire-In-Chief**

1.The Umpire-In-Chief is responsible for organizing all umpiring for the League, by use of both volunteer and paid help.

2.The Board will approve where/when paid help is used.

3.The Umpire-In-Chief is responsible for training all coaches/managers on the rules of the game.

4.The Umpire-In-Chief will be a certified umpire by the national organization.

### **Section 8 - Equipment Manager**

1.The Equipment Manager shall be responsible for all equipment for all RYBL leagues and teams.

2.All equipment dispersed by the equipment manager remains property of the league and shall be returned to the equipment manager at the end of the season.

3.The equipment manager shall inventory all league-owned equipment by each September.

4.S/He shall prepare a list of equipment needs and a corresponding budget for the upcoming season, which shall be presented to the Board at the January Board of Directors' meeting each year.

### **Section 9 – Social Media/Sponsorship Manager**

The Social Media Manager is responsible for running all online platforms the league uses. They should also be responsible for sending out invoices to sponsors and actively trying to bring more sponsors into the league. This person should be posting sponsor shoutouts, league information, game highlights, etc.

### **Section 10 - Minor, Rookie and T-Ball League Directors**

1. Subject to Board approval, the President will appoint a Minor League Director, Rookie League Director and T-Ball League Director.
2. Each League Director will be responsible for and direct the day-to-day operations of their respective leagues including but not limited to game schedules, umpires, announcers, scorekeepers, nominating manager and coach candidates and assuring the games start on time and that the Minor League grounds and facilities are properly maintained.
3. Each League Director will work closely with the President to ensure that each respective program runs effectively and in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth by Babe Ruth League Incorporated and the RYBL.

### **Section 11 – Recalling of board member.**

1. Any board member has the right to make a motion to recall a board member. The process will go as forward.
  - a. Member makes the Motion.
  - b. Motion then requires a second from another board member.
  - c. Motion is then up for debate.
  - d. After debate the motion then gets voted on. Takes 2/3s to approve/decline motion.

## **Article II – Committees**

### **Section 1 - Committees**

1. Committees and the persons to chair such committees shall be appointed by the President as s/he sees fit.
2. The president may allow appointed chairpersons to recommend committee members. However, all Committee Members serve at the discretion of the President.

## **Section 2 - Standing Committees**

### **1. *Concession Control Committee***

**a.** The Concession Control Committee (i.e., Concession Board) shall consist of the President of the RYBL and the President of the Russiaville Girls Softball League (RGSL) who shall be the co-chairpersons with powers to appoint up to twelve (12) committee members.

**b.** The purpose of this committee is to oversee the day-to-day operations of the concession stand, and control moneys, receipts, and books associated with the business. The RYBL President and RGSL President will jointly appoint the Concession Board President. Other officers are elected by members of the Concession Board. Committee members (Concession Board) will represent both the boys and girls leagues.

### **2. *Competition Committee***

**a.** The Competition Committee will review competition issues (e.g., rules, safety, training, competitive balance, etc.) for all RYBL leagues and make recommendations to the board of directors.

**b.** At the discretion of the President, such recommendations may come to the board as motions.

### **3. *Babe Ruth Committee***

**a.** The Babe Ruth Committee shall oversee the operation of a Babe Ruth League (ages 13-15) if player interest is sufficient to create such a league.

**B.** In cooperation with the RYBL Board of Directors, the Babe Ruth Committee shall be responsible for raising necessary funds and for all other details pertaining to the Babe Ruth League.

**c.** The chairperson of the Babe Ruth Committee may be called the Babe Ruth Director.

#### **4. *Fall Ball Committee***

**a.** The Fall Ball Committee shall oversee the operation of a Fall Ball League including Rookie, Minor and Major teams depending upon player interest.

**b.** The chairperson of the Fall Ball Committee may be called the Fall Ball Director.

#### **5. *Advanced Play Committee(s)***

**a.** Advanced Play Committee(s) shall work in cooperation with the Board of Directors to oversee opportunities for RYBL players above and beyond the regular (spring) league play.

**b.** Such opportunities shall include travel ball teams for each age (8 – 12) dependent upon player interest. It may also include Sandlot Ball Weekends, Travel Tournaments, and other options as determined by the Board of Directors.

**c.** Chairpersons of Advanced Play Committees may be designated as directors (e.g., travel ball director, sandlot director, travel tournament director, etc.), and the committees

associated with each respective advanced play activity may be designated as such.

## **Article III – Financial**

### **Section 1 - General**

- 1.The Board of Directors shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of RYBL.
- 2.The Board shall place all income in a common league treasury, directing the expenditure of league monies in such a manner as will give no individual or team a competitive advantage over any other individual or team.
- 3.The Board shall not allow the disbursement of any funds for any reason other than the specific business of RYBL as approved by the Board.

### **Section 2 – Solicitation of Funds**

- 1.The Board shall not permit the contribution of funds or property to individual teams but shall solicit same for the common treasury.
- 2.The Board will not allow solicitations of funds by an individual or team unless those funds are received by the common treasury for equal distribution.

### **Section 3 – Private Inurement**

No Officer or Member of the RYBL shall receive directly or indirectly any salary compensation or inurement from the RYBL for services rendered as an Officer or Member.

#### **Section 4 - Deposits**

All money received, including 50/50 raffle money, shall be deposited within 10 business days in a depository as approved by the Board of Directors.

#### **Section 5 – Budget**

- 1.RYBL shall operate under approved budget.
- 2.Any person responsible for an area that may have expenditures from time to time must submit a budget request to the Board at the January meeting.

#### **Section 6 – Expenditures**

- 1.The equipment manager is the only member authorized to purchase any baseball equipment for the league.
- 2.Any other purchases by members shall be authorized in advance by the Board of Directors.
- 3.Any expenditure in excess of fifty (\$50.00) dollars must be approved by the Treasurer unless the expenditure has received prior Board approval.
- 4.Any expenditure submitted for payment or reimbursement shall include an itemized listing and proper receipt.

#### **Article IV - Parliamentary Authority**

“Robert’s Rules of Order” shall be the parliamentary authority on all matters not covered by the Constitution and By-Laws of this league.

## **Article V - Order of Business**

For all duly organized meetings, the following order of business will be followed unless specified otherwise by the Board:

- 1.Call to Order
- 2.Roll Call - by Secretary
- 3.Reading of the Minutes (discussion and vote to approve the minutes)
- 4.Treasurer’s Report
- 5.Officer and Committee Reports
- 6.Unfinished Business
- 7.New Business
8. Adjournment

## **Article VI – RYBL Divisions**

### **Section 1 - General**

- 1.The RYBL will follow the recommendations of Babe Ruth Inc., regarding formation and objective of Major, Minor, and Rookie leagues.
- 2.Babe Ruth Baseball sanctions and encourages Minor and Rookie Leagues. The Minor and Rookie League policy is in effect and can exist only if the league parent (Major League) program is an accepted and chartered Babe Ruth League. The Minor and Rookie League shall be subordinate to the Parent Organization.

3.All Babe Ruth Rules and Regulations shall apply to the Minor and Rookie League except those changes approved by the Board of the RYBL.

## **Section 2 - Developmental Leagues**

1.It is basic that every candidate be given the opportunity to play Youth Baseball.

2.The Minor and Rookie programs are an attempt to protect younger players while endeavoring to nurture and promote these players to the higher caliber of the Major League. Additionally, the RYBL will provide a T-Ball league.

3.It is the intention of RYBL to attempt to build a “farm system” or “feeder system” for advancing players to the Major League level of play. Managers and coaches should endeavor to develop Minor, Rookie, and T-ball players for advancement to Major.

4.The age groupings for RYBL shall be:

- a. Major League: 9-12 years old
- b. Minor League: 8-12 years old
- c. Rookie League: 6-8 years old\*
- d. T-Ball: 4 – 6 years old\*.

5. Rookie teams shall select one six-year-old player for their respective rosters during the draft. The league with board approval may allow additional 6-year-old players to be drafted if required to balance team rosters.

## **Article VII - Manager Selection and Duties**

### **Section 1 - Selection**

1. Managers and coaches for all RYBL teams shall be approved by the Board of Directors prior to the start of the season.
2. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, managers of Major, Minor and Rookie teams will be required to interview with the Board of Directors as part of the selection process.
3. After the start of the regular season, a replacement or new manager or coach may be approved by the president if the board is unable to meet in a timely fashion for approving the candidate.
4. A manager or coach is not eligible for even a short period of time without president/board approval.

## **Section 2 – Duties and Responsibilities**

1. The RYBL Manager must be an individual who is well respected in the community and can act as a leader.
2. The manager shall be always responsible for his players, coaches, and fans.
3. Managers must be present at no less than 80% of team functions. Any Manager who falls below 80% shall (at the board's discretion) be required to attend a disciplinary hearing. The Executive Board shall determine what, if any, disciplinary action to impose. Disciplinary action could include, but is not limited to, loss of Manager's position.
4. All managers and coaches are subject to the league's code of conduct.
5. All managers, coaches, umpires, and all other people directly concerned with the running of a team must be an adult of at least eighteen (18) years of age.
6. Each Major, Minor, and Rookie team is permitted a manager and four (4) coaches in the dugout.
7. No one is permitted in the dugout or on the playing field other than managers, coaches, umpires and other officials during games.

## **Article VIII – Code of Conduct**

### **Section 1 - General**

- 1.** In order to advance the principles of sportsmanship and fair play, RYBL has established the following “Code of Conduct” (Code).
- 2.** It shall be the obligation of ALL program participants including, but not limited to, coaches, spectators, volunteers, and players to comply with the terms of the Code.
- 3.** Individuals attending RYBL events, participating in RYBL activities or otherwise representing RYBL give implied consent to abiding by the Code.
- 4.** The Code is not presented as addressing every possible situation. Rather, it is a list of guidelines that shall serve as the standard for evaluating attitudes and actions in RYBL.
- 5.** Any person violating the Code shall be subject to administrative action by the board of directors, up to and including termination of his/her privilege to participate in or attend any or all RYBL sponsored activities.
- 6.** There will be no smoking on RYBL premises at any time.
- 7.** There will be no alcohol allowed on the premises.
- 8.** If a manager or coach is found drinking alcohol, possessing alcohol, or in an intoxicated condition on the grounds, s/he shall be immediately removed as manager or coach.

### **Section 2 – Positive Role Modeling**

All coaches, spectators, and volunteers shall be positive role models in their attitudes and actions in RYBL. Positive role modeling includes the following general guidelines:

1. Displaying and teaching the principles of good sportsmanship and team play.
2. Acting in a manner that best serves the interests and development of the players.
3. Not ridiculing or demeaning players, coaches, or umpires.
4. Treating all players, parents, spectators, coaches, umpires, and league officials with respect.
5. Protecting players from behaviors by others that endanger the health or wellbeing of players.
6. Accepting umpire calls without verbal abuse, physical abuse, or abuse of any type.
7. Complying with the decisions of league officials and observing all rules, policy, and procedures as established and/or endorsed by RYBL.
8. Being drug and alcohol free while at any RYBL sponsored event.
9. Not using abusive or profane language.

### **Section 3 – Player Sportsmanship**

All Players will display good sportsmanship and team play at all times. Good sportsmanship includes the following general guidelines:

1. Following the direction of the coaching staff.
2. Respecting all coaches, players, league officials, umpires, and spectators.
3. Not using abusive or profane language.
4. Not taunting or humiliating any other player.

5. Not questioning an umpire's call.
6. Not abusing, mistreating, or mishandling any equipment or property (e.g.,
7. throwing helmet or glove).
8. Accepting defeat with courage and dignity
9. Accepting victory with modesty and tolerance.

#### **Section 4 - Discipline**

1. The following infraction levels will be used by the executive Board to guide possible sanctions against managers, coaches, volunteers, spectators, players or other participants who fail to abide by the code of conduct.

**2. Level 1**—*general* unsportsmanlike conduct as determined by the Executive Board in consultation with any umpires observing the offending behavior. Penalty: Ejection from the game and/or ballpark. Alternatively, one game suspension if no ejection occurs but discipline is deemed necessary by the executive Board.

**3. Level 2**—*excessive* unsportsmanlike conduct as determined by the Executive Board in consultation with any umpires observing the offending behavior. Also, any person committing a second level 1 infraction during the same season shall have the second infraction elevated to level 2. Penalty: Ejection from the game and/or ballpark. Suspended from the premises for a minimum of the next two games to which the person could be expected to be involved (in any capacity) as determined by the Executive Board. Probation for the remainder of the season. If insufficient games are left in the current season to complete the suspension. The suspension will be extended to the following season.

**4.Level 3**—*flagrant* unsportsmanlike conduct that includes, but is not limited to, threatening, endangering, or committing violence upon another RYBL participant. Also, any person previously on probation for committing a level 2 infraction shall have the next infraction elevated to level 3. Penalty: Suspension from RYBL property and activities (including contests and tournaments taking place in other locations) for the remainder of the season. The Board may also revoke membership in RYBL, make the suspension extend to a subsequent season(s), and/or seek additional legal action as deemed necessary.

## **Section 5 – Recalling of Manager or Coach**

**1.**Any board member has the right to make a motion to recall a manager or coach. The process will go as forward.

- a.** Member makes the Motion.
- b.** Motion then requires a second from another board member.
- c.** Motion is then up for debate.
- d.** After debate the VP or Director of that league needs to get a statement from the Manager or Coach regarding the reasoning of the Motion.
- e.** After debate and review of statement motion then gets voted on. Takes 2/3s to approve/decline motion.
- f.** The Manager or Coach has 24hrs to motion an appeal of the board's ruling and request a special meeting with debate and revote. The special meeting will require a 2/3s vote to overturn or support the original vote.

## **Article IX - Draft**

### **Section 1 - Age Balance**

- 1.**The main objective of the RYBL draft (of players to teams) shall be competitive balance rather than competitive advantage. We achieve this by putting a cap of 6 per age group per team.
- 2.**The primary mechanism for obtaining consistent competitive balance year after year shall be age balanced teams in each division
- 3.**In consultation with the league president and the respective league director, the player agent shall prepare a draft matrix wherein teams will age balance throughout the draft with a cap of 6 players of each age group from among available players of that age to achieve as high degree of age balance as possible.
- 4.**At the discretion of the Executive Board, the age-'balance aspect of the draft or a portion of the age-balance aspect may be conducted any time after the end of one season in preparation for the upcoming season.

### **Section 2 - Main Draft**

- 1.**The main draft will disperse all available players of a given age division among the available number of teams, seeking to achieve balance in team roster numbers.
- 2.**At the discretion of the Executive Board, the number of teams in each division may be adjusted annually to account for fluctuating numbers of players in any division.
- 3.**The main draft order will be determined by the previous years' record. The team with the worst record will pick first in each round. The team with the second worst record will pick second, and so on.

- a. In the event of a newly added team/teams they will receive the 1<sup>st</sup> round pick and then continue from last season record being worst to 1st.
- b. All teams will pick in 1<sup>st</sup> round and can pick any eligible player for that division only in 1<sup>st</sup> round. This is pending the six players per age group cap. (for example: If you have six 8-year-olds on your team, you cannot pick up any more 8-year-olds, this applies to all age groups in the divisions.)
- c. 2<sup>nd</sup> round teams balance the age groups in the major, minor and rookie divisions. In major the 12-year-old players will be picked up until all 12's are picked, and all the 11's are picked for minor, and all the 8's are picked for rookie then the draft can start for all the other age groups to be picked until teams are full.

4. At the discretion of the league president in consultation with the player agent and the respective league director, the draft order for each round of the main draft may be determined by an alternative method such as random draw or an S-pattern (team picking last in one round picks first in the next round).

### **Section 3 - Draft Options**

1. For Major, Minor, and Rookie leagues, draft options will be limited to managers (not coaches) and brothers only.
2. The manager's option will be in the fourth round.
3. A brother option will happen in the fifth round. An additional brother option in the draft will move to the sixth round.
4. Any manager or coach's pick that involves an older player for the league (i.e., 12, 10, or 8) will "count" for the age-balance draft portion and result in no pick for the appropriate draft option round in the main draft.

## **Section 4 - Ride Shares**

1. Because the Major, Minor, and Rookie teams are determined by draft, requests by parents for ride-shares or similar accommodations are not guaranteed. Managers will not be obligated to honor such requests while drafting players for their teams.

2. Ride-shares or similar requests for T-Ball teams will be honored to the fullest extent possible. However, such requests are not guaranteed to be fulfilled due to roster-size constraints.

## **Section 5 - Additional/Replacement Players**

1. Additional players may be added to rosters until the final two weeks of the season. However, once the season begins, the eligibility of late signups will be at the discretion of the board of directors.

2. In each league (Major, Minor, Rookie), teams eligible for a late signed up player will be determined by first looking at the total roster number on the team then by looking at the total number on each team that are the age of the late sign up. Team eligibility will be determined as those that have the lowest total roster count AND the lowest specific age that is in question.

3. Registrations from late sign ups may also be “held” for a short up to fourteen days to allow additional late sign ups of a certain age or league to arrive.

4. After the holding period, assignment of players will be done by “blind draw” among eligible teams. If only one late sign up has passed through the holding period, all of the eligible team names are placed in a hat, and a blind draw occurs. The team name pulled is the team to which the player is assigned. If more than one late sign up occurs during the holding period, eligible teams’ names are placed in one hat and players’ names are placed

in another hat. First a team name is pulled, and then a player name is pulled. Players are assigned accordingly.

**5.**As a group, the league president, appropriate vice president (each vice president is attached to a specific league), appropriate league director, and the player agent have a reserved right to review each case and make decisions about player assignments that are in the best interest of the league.

## **Article X - Post Season**

### **Section 1 - Tournaments**

**1.**The post-season tournaments for the Major, Minor, and Rookie leagues will include all teams in each respective league.

**2.**Tournaments will be seeded according to regular season finish with the highest seed playing the lowest seed, the second highest seed playing the second lowest seed and so forth.

**3.**Breaking of seeding ties will be determined by W-L record in head-to-head meetings. If a tie still exists, it will be broken by total runs scored in head-to-head meetings. Any tie that still exists will be determined by a coin flip.

**4.**If an odd number of teams exist in the league, the top seed will be given a first round bye. If an even number of teams exists in a league, the two top seeds may be given first round byes in the tournament, as determined by the Executive Board

**5.**If a league is subdivided (e.g., National and American Divisions), pairings for the tournament will occur “cross division” (e.g., A1 versus N4; N1 versus A4, etc.).

**6.** Home team shall be decided by the highest seed. In the event that teams possess identical seeding (e.g., because of cross division format), the home team will be determined by a coin flip.

## **Section 2 – Tournament Pitching Rules**

1. Pitching rules start over for the League Tournaments.
2. All Pitch rules will be in accordance with Cal Ripken Rule Book starting on page 26 but not limited to.

## **Section 3 - Time Limit**

There will be NO time limit during tournament games.

## **Section 5 - Trophies/Medals**

At the discretion of the board of directors, trophies or medals may be provided for the Major, Minor, and Rookie leagues for first and second place both for the regular season and post-season tournament.

## **Section 6 – All-Star Coaching Staff**

1. The All-Star managers and coaches shall be determined by the winner of the regular season of the current year.
2. In the event that a manager or coach is unable to serve, the league President, in consultation with the respective league director will appoint a replacement(s).

## **Section 7 - All Star Player Selection**

- 1.**All Stars for each division (e.g., Major, Minor, or Rookie) will be selected by the managers of that division in a meeting that will occur near the end of the regular season.
- 2.**The league president or his/her designee will mediate the meeting(s). The appropriate league director may also attend this meeting. No one else will attend the meeting.
- 3.**The managers will reach consensus of a team of ten (10) players for each age group with the manager of the all-star team having the right to appoint up to three (3) additional players to the team. Rosters must be complete and submitted to the league president before the respective all-star manager leaves the meeting.
- 4.**Any replacement player that is required due to a previously selected player's inability to participate for any reason shall be appointed by the league president after consultation with the appropriate league director and the all-star manager.

## **Section 8 - Tournament Fees**

- 1.**RYBL will pay for all Cal Ripken/Town & Country Tournament entry fees.
- 2.**It will be at the Board's discretion and dependent on finances to approve all other expenses and fees associated with post season play.

## **Section 9 - Playing Under RYBL Banner**

- 1.**No team may play under the RYBL banner without prior Board approval.
- 2.**All requests must be submitted in writing, and the Board will determine their naming, participation, and allowable league-covered expenses.

3.This rule (i.e., playing under RYBL banner) applies to all circumstances and teams throughout the year, not just post season all stars.

4.All players will wear their respected RYBL uniform and matching outerwear while playing under RYBL. If their outerwear doesn't match, then their jersey must be over top of the outerwear. Said player will be deemed ineligible for play if she/he is not wearing their respected RYBL uniform.

## **Article XI – Ground Rules**

### **Section 1 – General**

1.Unless specified in this document or by action of the executive board, all rules will be governed by Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken Inc.

2.Unless specified in this document, managers do not have the right to modify or ignore rules as stated in the RYBL by-laws, Board decisions, or Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken documents.

### **Section 2 – Field Prep and Press Box Duty**

1.Field preparation responsibility will be based on the press box schedule handed out to each manager and posted on the RYBL website.

2.Any team not fulfilling its field prep or press box duty may be required to forfeit games or vacate victories, as determined by the Executive Board.

3.Scoring Books shall be kept by an adult.

### **Section 3 – Time Limits**

1. Major, Minor, and Rookie games will start promptly at the scheduled starting times.

- 2.**Each team will have an equal amount of infield practice time before the start of a game. The umpire will regulate the infield practice time.
- 3.**There shall be a 15-minute warm-up period between games, and umpires will enforce starting all games on time.
- 4.**For regular season games, no inning shall start after 1 hour and 45 minutes from the beginning of the game, which shall be recorded at the first pitch.
- 5.**All games will end at 2 hours and 15-minute time limit. Any game that is tied or short of regulation innings will be rescheduled and completed from the point at which it was stopped. Any game of regulation length will revert to the end of the last completed inning to determine official score and outcome.
- 6.**Games tied at the end of 1 hour, and 45 minutes time frame shall start another inning to declare a winner but shall NOT exceed the 2hour and 15-minute drop dead time limit.
- 7.**All games stopped before being a regulation game (4 innings completed; 3 ½ innings if the home team is leading) due to time limit, weather, or other circumstances will be “suspended” and re-scheduled for completion from the point at which it was stopped.
- 8.**During rain delays, game number one (1) will take precedent. In the event of rain, the game shall be called within thirty (30) minutes of the scheduled starting time, or the time play is suspended. Second game will be played if the weather permits.
- 9.**Rainouts, ties and suspended games will be scheduled the first available day possible. Regular start times are 1 P.M. weekends and 5:15 P.M. weekdays.

#### **Section 4 – Playing Time**

1. For Major, Minor, and Rookie leagues, each eligible and able-bodied player shall play two (2) innings of each game.
2. Two (2) innings is defined as six (6) defensive outs, and one (1) at bat.
3. Exceptions - disciplinary reasons as approved by the Board or the opposing manager, shortened game due to weather or uncontrollable factors.
4. Each player not having met the prescribed minimum playing time shall start and play the entire next game.
5. In non-divisional games (Major), all players will bat, and free substitution is allowed. Each player will still meet the minimum 2 inning requirement.
6. Prior to division games (Major only), opposing managers may agree to bat all players/free substitution. Managers will communicate this decision to the press box and head umpire.
7. Optional courtesy runner can be used for catchers and pitchers. Courtesy runner may be the last runner put out or any player not currently in the line-up (i.e., "in the game").

## **Section 5 – Game Play**

1. Fake bunting, the act of showing bunt and pulling back and swinging the bat at the ball, shall be prohibited. Penalty: Umpire shall rule dead ball and call the batter out.
2. Mandatory slide rule is in effect. Base runners going to 2nd base, 3rd base, home plate, and in the act of returning to any base including 1st, shall slide to the base to avoid collision with players covering that base, if a play is being made at that base. Regardless of whether a play is being made, no unnecessary roughness shall be tolerated. The decision of the umpire is final. Penalty: The runner shall be called out and a dead ball called by the umpire.

3. Intentional Walk shall follow the Cal Ripken Rule Book.

4. For the regular season, Major pitchers are allowed eighty – five (85) pitches per game and/or day. Pitchers will be allowed to finish pitching to a batter if he reaches the pitch limit during the course of pitching to a batter.

5. Press box will keep the pitch count and communicate the count to each respective dugout and umpire.

6. For games resumed (i.e., previously suspended) or rescheduled (i.e., previously canceled) due to weather or other circumstances pitching eligibility (i.e., pitches and innings) will be determined at the time of resumed or rescheduled game rather than at the time the game was suspended or canceled.

7. Games will be terminated if one team is ahead by 15 or more runs after 2.5 or 3 innings and has had equal times of at bats or home team is leading.

8. Games will be terminated if one team is ahead by 10 or more runs after 3.5 or 4 innings and has had equal times of at bats or home team is leading.

9. Games will be terminated if one team is ahead by 8 or more runs after 4.5 or 5 innings and has had equal times of at bats or home team is leading.

## **Article XII – Case Law**

RYBL recognizes that unique circumstances and situations will arise, not covered by the constitution or by-laws. The President and the Board will have the right and power to settle and decide any issue not covered by the by-laws, in the best interest of the League. At the discretion of the Executive Board, a brief description of decisions and rationale may be included in this section to establish precedents and consistency in decision

making. Such a record can then be used to formulate revisions to the constitution and by-laws as necessary.