

## Atlanta Men's Baseball Association (AMBA) Tournament Stipend Policy

### Purpose

This policy outlines the guidelines for providing a one-time annual tournament stipend to eligible AMBA teams. The goal is to encourage participation in non-MSBL sanctioned tournaments, promoting broader baseball engagement for our members.

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### Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the annual tournament stipend, your team must meet the following requirements:

- **AMBA Player Representation:** At least 75% of your rostered players participating in the tournament must be active members of an AMBA team during the current or immediately preceding AMBA season.
  - **One-Time Annual Stipend:** Each eligible team, as determined by the AMBA Executive Board members, can receive the stipend only once per calendar year to support participation in a single tournament event.
  - **Non-MSBL Tournament Participation:** The stipend cannot be used for any tournament sanctioned by or affiliated with the Men's Senior Baseball League (MSBL). It is exclusively for participation in alternative baseball events.
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### Stipend Details

- **Stipend Amount:** The AMBA Board of Directors will determine the specific stipend amount annually, based on available funds and budget considerations.
- **Use of Funds:** The stipend is intended to help offset direct tournament-related expenses, such as:
  - Team registration fees
  - Umpire fees
  - Field rentals
  - Other direct tournament-related costs
- **Disbursement:** Stipends will be disbursed directly to the team's designated representative once the application is approved and eligibility is verified.

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## Application Process

Teams wishing to apply for the tournament stipend must submit a formal application to the AMBA Board of Directors, including:

- A completed application form (provided by AMBA).
- A roster of the participating team, clearly indicating active AMBA members.
- Proof of tournament registration or intent to register (tournament name, dates, and location).
- A signed declaration confirming adherence to all policy terms, including the non-MSBL participation clause.
- Funds need to be requested at least 60 days in advance of the tournament to be considered for review.

The AMBA Board will review applications and communicate decisions to the applying teams in a timely manner.

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## Compliance and Enforcement

- AMBA reserves the right to request documentation and verify compliance with all eligibility criteria, including player representation and tournament participation.
- Any team found in violation of this policy, especially the non-MSBL participation clause, will be required to repay the full stipend amount to AMBA. Such teams may also face further disciplinary action, including future ineligibility for AMBA programs and stipends.

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## Team Obligations and Reciprocation

In exchange for receiving the tournament stipend, eligible teams are encouraged to reciprocate to AMBA in ways that promote the league and its mission. Examples of reciprocation include, but are not limited to:

- Promotional Recognition: Displaying the AMBA logo or mentioning AMBA on team social media, websites, or during tournament introductions (where appropriate).

- **Tournament Report:** Providing a brief summary or report of their tournament experience, including photos or notable results, to the AMBA Board for potential sharing with the wider league community, within 30 days after tournament conclusion.
  - **Community Engagement:** Participating in or assisting with one AMBA-sponsored event, clinic, or volunteer activity during the calendar year.
  - **Physical Assistance at League Events:** Providing volunteers for tasks such as field preparation (e.g., raking, chalking lines), setup/teardown of equipment for league events (e.g., Opening Day ceremonies, playoff games), or staffing registration tables.
  - **Promotional Material Distribution:** Distributing AMBA banners, flyers, or other promotional materials at tournaments they attend, or at local baseball fields and community centers, with prior league approval.
  - **Contact Information Collection:** Working to collect contact numbers to support future AMBA events.
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#### Policy Review

The AMBA Board of Directors will periodically review this policy and may amend or update it as deemed necessary.

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## AMBA Tournament Stipend Application Form

Please complete this form in its entirety. Incomplete applications may result in delays or rejection.

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### 1. Team Information

- **Team Name:**

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- **AMBA Team Manager/Primary Contact Name:**

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- **Email:**

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- **Phone Number:**

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### 2. Tournament Information

- **Tournament Name:**

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- **Tournament Dates (Start & End):**

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- **Tournament Location (City, State):**

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- **Tournament Website/Link (if available):**

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- **Is this tournament sanctioned by or affiliated with the Men's Senior Baseball League (MSBL)?**

- Yes

- No

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### 3. Roster & Eligibility

Please attach a separate document listing your team's roster for this tournament. For each player, clearly indicate if they are an **active AMBA member** for the **current or immediately preceding AMBA season**.

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### 4. Declaration and Agreement

By signing below, I confirm the following:

- I am an authorized representative of the team named above.
  - All information provided in this application and accompanying documents is accurate and truthful.
  - I understand and agree that the stipend, if awarded, will be used solely for expenses related to the specified non-MSBL sanctioned tournament.
  - I acknowledge and agree that our team will comply with all terms of the AMBA Tournament Stipend Policy, including the non-MSBL participation clause.
  - I understand that any violation of this policy may result in the repayment of the full stipend amount and potential future ineligibility for AMBA programs and stipends.
  - I understand that this stipend can only be received once per calendar year by our team.
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**Signature of Team Manager/Primary Contact:**

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**Printed Name:**

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**Date:**

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**Required Attachments:**

- **Team Roster** (with active AMBA members clearly indicated)
- **Proof of Tournament Registration or Intent to Register** (e.g., screenshot of registration, email confirmation, official tournament invite)

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**Please submit your completed application and all attachments to the AMBA Board of Directors.**

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