

BY-LAWS PERTAINING TO BASEBALL PLAYERS ASSOCIATION SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

1/8/18

ARTICLE XIII INDIVIDUAL PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

SECTION 1

Player Eligibility is determined by the player's birth certificate.

SECTION 2

A player is eligible to compete as an amateur player as long as the player does not accept payment for participating in the game of baseball.

SECTION 3

A player is considered an amateur player if the player plays the game solely for the pleasure, physical, mental and social benefits derived from participation, and does not accept payment for playing the game of baseball.

SECTION 4

An amateur player may be reimbursed from his team manager for actual necessary expenses incurred for travel, lodging and/or meals.

SECTION 5

An amateur player is eligible to participate in the BPA program as long as the player is listed on an official roster of a team having membership by the Baseball Players Association.

SECTION 6

An amateur player is not permitted to accept awards other than a ring, watch, charm, trophy, jacket, bat or other like award that is acceptable to the BPA, as an award in which amateur status should be retained.

SECTION 7

It is the responsibility of each Zone Vice President (Zone VP) and/or State Director to adopt a system to justly classify participants as to which Class they may participate.

SECTION 8

A player may not participate in a Sanctioned BPA Tournament with more than one (1) team during the same tournament.

SECTION 9

A Tournament Director or the Tournament Umpire-In-Chief of the Baseball Players Association may not manage, coach, play or umpire in any tournament in which he/she serves as a Tournament Director or Tournament Umpire-In-Chief. However, if the Tournament Director or the Tournament Umpire-In-Chief are a Sanctioned BPA umpire, he/she may due to emergencies or other special circumstance, umpire until replacement(s) arrive.

SECTION 10

Championship Play Tournaments – State, NIT and World Series in the Baseball Players Association.

SECTION 11

A player will be required to have a BPA Player ID Number to be added to a BPA Online Roster starting August 1, 2018.

ARTICLE XIV PLAYER ROSTERS

SECTION 1

- a) **Teams must have registered and attained a BPA team membership to entered their roster online with all information correct and complete or the player(s) and/or team(s) will be considered ineligible to participate in any Baseball Players Association sanctioned league and tournaments, including Qualifiers, NIT's or Championship Play Tournaments.**
- b) **Teams must PRINT a copy of the Official BPA ONLINE ROSTER (complete & correct), OBTAIN SIGNATURES of Parents or guardian if Youth (18 years and older must sign for themselves) to turn in at ALL BPA sanctioned league and tournaments prior to their scheduled start or they will not be allowed to participate.**
- c) No written additions to the BPA Online Roster other than signatures shall be made at any tournament site, unless approved by the appropriate State Director with approval of Zone VP.
NOTE: Player additions must be added to the roster prior to the tournament entry deadline.

- d) When a team qualifies for a World Series, the team's roster will be frozen and no player on the qualified team's roster will be eligible to transfer to another qualified team during the current year.
- e) The Official Roster signing date will be the day prior to the State Tournament or in the absence of a State Tournament the signature date shall be the final entry date deadline for the World Series.
- f) Rosters will be frozen by the date of the State Tournament.
- g) Teams may add two (2) players after the State Tournament and before the World Series Tournament deadline. Added player(s) must be of the same or lower class. Approval for a youth player(s) to play in the next highest age group must be obtained from the State Director or the Zone VP.
- h) Player(s) are considered on the Official Roster when the parent(s) have signed the roster, unless the player(s) is 18 years of age or older **and signed for themselves.**
- i) The appropriate State Director shall be responsible and required to contact the Tournament Director to rectify any late additions to the official tournament roster.
- j) Roster is limited to twenty (20) players per roster. A release, injury, relocation or a player quitting the team does not open a new roster position. Only roster positions that were never occupied by a player(s) are eligible or open to add additional player(s).
EXAMPLE: *A team that has all twenty (20) positions filled on their roster shall not be able to add any additional player even though player(s) have been released, injured or quit.*
- k) A roster addition at the discretion of the State Director or Zone VP shall be allowed for injury or other legitimate reason after the cut-off date, but not at the tournament site. Player(s) additions must be added to the roster prior to the tournament entry deadline in the State Championship, NIT, and World Series.
- l) **The youth team membership year is August 1st to July 31st. The cutoff date for the youth age eligibility is April 30th the current sanction season. Whatever age the child is on April 30th of the current year, is the eligible age division for the entire up-coming year. A copy of the original birth certificate**

and/or government issued photo ID must accompany youth players at all times.

- m) Age chart is available on www.playbpa.com
- n) Players can't be added to a roster after the tournament has started.
- o) Players must play in one age group only.
- p) Player(s) cannot play in two (2) age divisions in one tournament.
- q) Player may play up two (2) age group but not down in an age group.
- r) **GUEST PLAYERS**
 - 1) **If a team uses a guest player and plays in another state, they have to play under the guidelines set in the state they are playing in. Not all states may offer this program. Contact your State Director.**
 - 2) **Request must be approved by the State Director or his representative 24 to 48 hours prior to the start of the tournament.**
 - 3) **The State Director or his appointed representative must also receive written or electronic approval from her current coach.**
 - 4) **A player can only guest play maximum of four (4) times per sanctioned season.**
 - 5) **Guest Players are NOT allowed in World Series Tournaments.**
- s) Teams "home state" shall be determined by:
 - 1) BPA League Registration.
 - 2) Where the majority of players reside with their primary residence.
 - 3) Where coach resides with his/her primary residence.

SECTION 2 PLAYER ID NUMBERS

Beginning August 1, 2018 it will be required that all youth players have a BPA Player ID number to be added to a BPA online roster. Parent, guardian, or player if 18 years of age will be responsible for acquiring a BPA player ID number through the www.PlayBPA.com website.

ARTICLE XV INSURANCE

Youth Team Insurance - all teams must submit a current copy of their team insurance certificate.

- a) Youth teams are REQUIRED to meet the BPA Westpoint insurance policy coverages.
- b) If the team has a BPA Westpoint yearly policy no further action is needed.
- c) **If the team does not have a yearly BPA Westpoint Policy**, team can still participate by turning in a copy of their Yearly Insurance Policy (**no matter the company**) and the **Tournament Director is required to use the Weekend Insurance Program to ensure those teams meet the BPA Westpoint requirements for the one weekend they are playing BPA.**

ARTICLE XVI CLASSIFICATION

SECTION 1

Under the guidelines set by each Zone VP and/or State Director, an equitable system of classifying teams and controlling team roster will be instituted. The Zone VP or State Director may re-classify a team at any time and has the authority to upgrade or lower a team in class at any time.

SECTION 2

Under the guidelines set by each Zone VP and/or State Director, an acceptable system must be developed to qualify teams for Championship Play Tournaments. Teams can qualify directly from BPA league play. Must be approved by Zone VP and/or the State Director in conjunction with the National Headquarters and for determining how many berths will be awarded from BPA league play.

SECTION 3

- a) GOLD Elite travel teams
- b) SILVER Travel teams
- c) BRONZE Recreation All-Star teams

NOTE: *Players having sufficient skill, may play in a higher classification. The players may return to their regular age classification team the following year.*

NOTE: *Tournament Directors may combine divisions if not enough teams are entered in the tournament.*

ARTICLE XVII STATE AND QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS

NOTE: *To participate in a State Tournament a team must participate in an approved BPA league, WSQ or NIT and if they do not they could be required by Zone VP or State Director to play at the “GOLD” level for State and if they qualify for World at the State Tournament.*

SECTION 1

A team may only participate in their home state championship. If a team wishes to participate in more than one state championship, it must be held within the borders of that team’s particular state. (i.e. East, West, North, South.)

NOTE: *A team that wins its respective State Championship Tournament shall be awarded a berth to the World Series.*

SECTION 2

All sanctioned tournaments conducted by a State or Area Director shall be conducted in accordance within the Rules and Regulations of the Baseball Players Association. That Director must ensure that proper administration is being conducted at all times.

- a) All Tournament Directors must supply all baseballs to be used in any BPA Sanctioned N.I.T, State or World Series Tournaments. Under no circumstances will teams be asked to provide baseballs for these tournaments.
- b) The official baseball shall be a sphere formed by yarn wound around a small core of cork, rubber, leather or similar material, covered with two strips of white horsehide, leather or cowhide tightly stitched together. It shall weigh not less than 5 nor more than 5 ¼ ounces in weight and measure not less than 9 nor more than 9 ¼ inches in circumference. Must have the BPA stamp.

SECTION 3

Only a properly registered team with the Baseball Players Association may complete in a BPA qualifying or State Tournament sanctioned by the Baseball Players Association.

NOTE: *Teams must have registered and entered their roster online with all information correct and complete or the player(s) and/or the team(s) will be considered ineligible to participate in any BPA Qualifiers or Championship Play Tournaments.*

SECTION 4

The National Headquarters of the Baseball Players Association shall determine the amount to be charged as entry fees for all Championship Play Tournaments.

EXCEPTION: *BPA Qualifying tournaments are left up to the discretion of the State Director, but should remain within the accepted guidelines of the industry.*

SECTION 5

All applicable team and umpire registration fees must be paid to the National Headquarters of the Baseball Players Association before any tournament is considered a sanctioned BPA tournament.

SECTION 6

All BPA league and qualifying tournaments in which a berth to a Championship Play Tournament is awarded, must be completed one (1) week prior to the particular Championship Play Tournament

NOTE: *All teams except those that qualify through an NIT, must play in the State Tournament before playing in a World Series Tournament.*

SECTION 7

Only BPA approved baseballs may be used in any BPA league, qualifying, invitational or Championship Play Tournaments. The Executive Committee of the Baseball Players Association must approve any changes to this procedure.

SECTION 8

All Invitational and Championship Play tournaments must be scheduled on a minimum of a double elimination format or a three (3) or more game(s) schedule.

NOTE: *Any change to this format prior to the start of the tournament, must be obtained from the National Headquarters of the Baseball Players Association.*

NOTE: *The Tournament Director once the tournament has begun may change this format only because of weather conditions or other acts of God that would jeopardize the completion of the tournament.*

NOTE: *The Tournament Director will decide on an alternate plan at the tournament site. This alternate plan should be posted as quickly as possible, with a plan to ensure that the managers of the participating teams are informed of any such change.*

SECTION 9

No State Tournament is allowed to be conducted the same day/weekend of a World Series Tournament within that region that is being conducted in the same age classification.

NOTE: *No competitive tournament can be run on the same weekend as a BPA World Series. (Example: 12U sanctioned tournament on the same weekend as a 12U World Series).*

ARTICLE XVIII

NATIONAL INVITATIONAL (NIT) & WORLD SERIES TOURNAMENT

NOTE: *In all World Series, it will be mandatory that all team rosters be checked prior to the first game and may be checked at any other time during the tournament.*

SECTION 1

Once a World Series Tournament is scheduled a State Director may issue a travel permit (or grant permission) with the approval of the Zone VP and the National Headquarters to a team to participate in a World Series outside of the scheduled area that the team is from; provided that the World Series Tournament that the State Director is sending the team to is geographically closer and more economical for the team. The National Headquarters must approve any such permission. If there are not enough teams to conduct a scheduled World Series, a team may be allowed to travel to the closest World Series available to them provided the National Headquarters grants permission.

SECTION 2

Berths for Championship Play Tournaments are passed down unless otherwise stipulated.

SECTION 3

The Executive Committee and the Zone VP's of the Baseball Players Association will decide each year at the annual National Convention, what tournaments will be Classified as NIT.'S or World Series Tournaments. The Executive Committee will also determine all dates and locations of such tournaments.

NOTE: *Anyone wishing to hold/host such tournaments must submit a written request at the National Convention.*

a) All NIT'S will be treated the same as World Series Tournaments. The National Headquarters must approve any changes to this procedure.

b) The Executive Committee at the National Convention will determine the number of NIT's per Zone or Region.

NOTE: *No tournament will be considered an NIT unless approved in writing by the National Headquarters and accompanied with a contract executed by the proper personnel.*

c) The Champion of an NIT will win a direct berth to the World Series Tournament.

NOTE: *A direct berth means that the Champion of an NIT is exempt from playing in a State Tournament. All other teams must compete in a State Tournament before advancing to the World Series Tournament.*

d) If the Champion of an NIT does not accept the automatic World Series berth, the berth may be awarded to the next highest finishing team.

NOTE: *Approval must come from the appropriate Zone VP.*

SECTION 4

An applicant is eligible to submit a written request to conduct such tournaments, provided the applicant has one (1) year of proven participation with the Baseball Players Association.

NOTE: *Only in the case where a new program in a State has less than one (1) year of proven experience, will it be handled by the Zone VP and Executive Director to conduct an NIT and/or World Series Tournament.*

SECTION 5

Any written application requesting to conduct a NIT or World Series Tournament must include complete and detailed information concerning all aspects of the tournament. This information will be included in the mandatory contract for these tournaments.

- a) Any Tournament Sponsor must be approved and specified by the National Headquarters.
- b) A complete description of the facilities must be submitted. This description must include the number of playing fields, dimensions, lighting, location, seating arrangements, scoreboards, sound systems and any other details pertinent to the tournament location and the facilities it may provide.
- c) A complete list of motels/hotels and their accommodations, prices, addresses and phone number along with their proximity to the playing fields must be submitted. Included in this listing must be the discounted team rates, with adequate complementary rooms for out of state umpires and BPA personnel being provided.
- d) The availability of any media which would include newspaper(s), radio and television coverage.
- e) A list of special events or attractions for participating teams. This would include parties, opening ceremonies, manager breakfast and any other social activities provided.
- f) The financial responsibilities of the tournament must be specified between that of the Sponsor, Tournament Director, Park Owner and the Baseball Player Association.
- g) The intent of awards is to acknowledge the accomplishment of teams during the entire season. Awards presented must represent these accomplishments and be of the finest quality possible. All awards presented must represent the high quality and standards for which BPA is known for. It is mandatory that the following trophies or awards be presented at all World Series tournaments. All World Series must give a minimum of first through fourth place awards. All World Series with twenty or more teams must award a first through sixth place awards.

- h) Any other facts or aspects of the tournament not covered in (a-g) will be incorporated and made a part of the application and contract for the specific tournament being requested.

SECTION 6

Any Sponsor of a NIT and/or World Series Tournament must sign a contract with the National Headquarters of the Baseball Players Association. This contract will define the Roles and Responsibilities of both the Sponsor and the BPA, as they pertain to the specific tournament.

SECTION 7

The playing fields under contract and used in a NIT or World Series Tournament must meet the guidelines and specifications as outlined in the Official Rulebook of the Baseball Players Association. All playing fields must have outfield fences. The Executive Committee of the Baseball Players Association must approve any on field specifications that deviate from the Official Rulebook in advance.

SECTION 8

The Executive Committee of the Baseball Players Association will decide the amount a team is to pay as an entry fee for a NIT or World Series Tournament.

NOTE: *The Executive Committee will also decide the distribution and percentage of this entry fee.*

SECTION 9

All NIT, State and World Series Tournament play will be under the jurisdiction and direction of the Executive Board with full cooperation from the Host City Committee.

NOTE: *The Zone VP of the Region that is hosting the tournament will act as the liaison officer between the Host City Committee and the Executive Board.*

NOTE: *All Championship Play Tournaments will have an appointed Tournament Committee that will ensure that the tournament is run according to the Guidelines, Rules and By-Laws of the Baseball Players Association. This Tournament Committee will also rule on any protest. The Tournament Committee will be under the direction of the Tournament Director and Tournament Umpire-In-Chief.*

SECTION 10

All NIT and World Series Tournaments will be supervised by the **appointed** Tournament Director who is responsible for ensuring that the event is run according to all Rules, Regulations and Procedures of the Baseball Players Association.

SECTION 11

The following is a list of the way teams may qualify to participate in a World Series Tournament:

- a) A registered team of the Baseball Players Association that qualifies either through a league or qualifying tournament must also participate in the State Championship in order to validate the berth.
- b) A registered team of the Baseball Players Association that is named as a Host Team from the area where the World Series Tournament is being played. The Host team must play in the State Tournament and must be approved by the Zone VP and the National Headquarters.

SECTION 12

Only properly registered teams of the Baseball Players Association are allowed to compete in any BPA post season play.

NOTE: *Teams must have registered and entered their roster online with all information correct and complete or the player(s) and/or team(s) will be considered ineligible to participate in any BPA Qualifiers and Championship Play Tournament.*

SECTION 13

The appropriate Baseball Players Association State Director or Zone VP must approve the roster and entry forms of any team participate in BPA post season event(s).

SECTION 14

A team that has qualified to compete in a Championship Play tournament and due to a legitimate reason cannot attend the Zone VP and/or State Director may select the next qualified team to accept the berth.

SECTION 15

A team's roster cannot be changed or altered after the team has begun play in its first game of a qualifying tournament.

SECTION 16

The Tournament Director with approval from the Baseball Players Association Zone VP will set a deadline for accepting entries for World Series Tournaments. A one (1) week minimum is required.

SECTION 17

The Executive Director and the Zone VP's must approve the awards offered for the World Series Tournament.

ARTICLE XVIII

PROCEDURES FOR COMPLETION and REFUNDS OF TOURNAMENTS

SECTION 1

The Baseball Players Association shall use the following format for completing State, NIT and World Series tournaments:

- a) Normal rain delay, push games back without any changes. Look at the option of playing games throughout the night with no changes in the format.
- b) Reduction of time limits
- c) Adjust format to decrease the number of games. (I.e. reduce a 4 or 5 game format to a 3 game or double elimination format.
- d) Drop Pool Play and go directly to bracket play.
- e) Drop the loser's bracket. Refer to Section 2 below, for order of finish at a point and time when the tournament cannot be completed.

SECTION 2

The Baseball Players Association shall use the following methods in determining the order of finish in a Championship Play tournament that cannot be completed: (bracket play)

- a) Any single undefeated team will be declared the Tournament Winner.
- b) If there is more than one (1) undefeated team in the Winner's Bracket, those teams will be declared Co-Champions.
- c) Head to head competition.
- d) Average per game of the total runs allowed in the tournament.
- e) Average per game of the total runs scored in the tournament. If a tie still remains from the results of the above criteria, then and only

then can a Tournament Director use a coin flip or other approved methods to determine the final standings in the Tournament. The National Headquarters must approve any method not listed above.

SECTION 3

A team may receive a refund of an entry fee for a sanctioned BPA tournament only under the following condition:

- a) A request for refund, sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, sent to the Tournament Director and received prior to the published cutoff date for receiving entries. The U.S. Post Office postmark will be considered as the date of the refund request. The Tournament Director will forward a check to the team making the request. A refund is not required, regardless of when the request for refund was postmarked, if received after the tournament is drawn.
- b) NO Refund after tournament deadline
- c) NO REFUND after the brackets have been drawn and posted.

SECTION 4 WEATHER POLICY

NOTE: *Weather policy covers rain, lightning, snow and hurricanes.*

- a) Tournament cancelled due to weather. Seventy-five percent (75%) to one hundred percent (100%) of the tournament entry fee will be refunded.

*Zone VP or the BPA National Office must approve refund if less than one hundred percent (100%).

- b) One (1) game played. Tournament cancelled after one (1) game played due to weather- fifty percent (50%) refunded.
- c) Two (2) games played. Tournament cancelled after two (2) games played due to weather- no refund is due.

*Two (2) games played or a combo of a forfeit and a game played- no refund due.

****A game is considered a full game if 4 ½ or 5 innings have been completed. 4 ½ innings if the home team is leading or 5 complete innings if the visitor or home team is leading. If there is a tie after 5 innings and the game/tournament is cancelled due to weather, it will be considered a tie in the standings with no refund due**

ARTICLE XX ACTS OF DISBARMENT OR SUSPENSION

SECTION 1

Any team, player, manager/coach or other team representative who's conduct on or off the field that would be detrimental to the Baseball Players Association will be dealt with immediately. The Baseball Players Association expects that all manager/coaches, players and team representatives to act in a manner where sportsmanship is always practiced. The BPA also expects team coaches or officials to have complete control of their players at all times during the playing of a Baseball Players Association Sanctioned Event. The Baseball Players Association through its Zone VP and the National Headquarters shall have and reserve the right to withdraw Membership during the playing of any BPA Sanctioned Event.

SECTION 2

The Baseball Players Association will not tolerate any of the following unsportsmanlike behaviors:

- a) Any coach, player, team official or parent that displays abusive behavior or language in any form during the playing of a BPA event.
- b) Any coach, player to team official using words or actions that will incite demonstrations.
- c) Using any form of intimidation tactics (profanity, baiting, ridicule, etc.) in the taunting of the opposing team and/or its members.
- d) The use of any behavior that is not conducive to fair play.
- e) Fighting and/or leaving the bench area when a fight has broken out will cause all participants engaged in the altercation to be immediately ejected from the game.
- f) Any type of physical attack on a player, umpire or Tournament Official during the playing of the game or immediately following the game.

EFFECT: *Any coaches, players or team officials that take part in any of the above conduct shall be ejected and/or suspended for one (1) or more games during the remainder of the Tournament.*

NOTE: *Upon further investigation by the BPA Director if any of the above unsportsmanlike conduct is warranted to be severe enough in its nature, the BPA has the right to issue additional*

penalties. Such penalties can involve the suspension of further play of the team and/or its team members in the tournament. Any of the above behaviors can also warrant the BPA to issue further suspensions and even disbarment of the guilty parties from the Baseball Players Association.

- g) Teams that willfully and intentionally forfeit a Tournament game will be subject to penalties at the discretion of the Tournament Director. The coach will be immediately ejected from the Tournament.

SECTION 3 ACTS OF DISBARMENT/OR SUSPENSION

- a) Any type of physical attack of any player, umpire, league or tournament official or any officer of the Baseball Players Association during a game or immediately following a game being held under the administration of/or Sanctioned by the Baseball Players Association.
- b) A team member(s) using audible obscene language or any display of flagrant actions considered as unsportsmanlike gestures.
- c) Any team or player participating in a tournament in which cash prizes are offered.

NOTE: *The following shall define cash prizes: "CASH PRIZES" refers to prizes in cash or in merchandise that can be easily converted into cash that is awarded to a player(s) or team(s) based on the final standings of a tournament or other competition. A player(s) or team(s) may receive reimbursement, if that reimbursement is not dependent on the standings of the event. The above acts shall pertain to a player(s) and/or team(s).*

- d) A player or team receiving money or financial benefits in consideration of participation in baseball competition.
- e) A player(s) or team(s) receiving money directly or indirectly by capitalizing on athletic ability or athletic prominence in baseball; such as allowing the use of a player(s) name to advertise, recommend or otherwise promote the sale of baseball goods, or by accepting compensation for the use of such baseball goods.
- f) A team or player knowingly competes with or against ineligible, illegal or suspended players.

- g) A team or player participating in or permitting a fraud to be perpetrated.
- h) Any Baseball Player Association Official who refuses to submit collected or owed funds that are due the Baseball Players Association.
- i) Any player or team that competes under an assumed name.
- j) Any person or persons submitting a bad check or credit charge card to the Baseball Players Association.
- k) The failure of a team to show up after entering a NIT, State or World Series Tournament, unless reasonable advance notice is given. Reasonable advance notice in most cases will be five (5) working days.
- l) Any person who purposely uses false information to damage the reputation, image or credibility of the Baseball Players Association.

SECTION 4 SUSPENSIONS

- a) Any Baseball Players Association Officer, Director or person(s) representing the BPA that violates any Articles of this Constitution or its By-Laws or does not adhere to the Policies or Procedures of the Baseball Players Association may be suspended.
- b) Any Baseball Players Association Officer, Director or persons representing the BPA that fail to submit fees and/or information due the BPA in a timely manner may be suspended.
- c) Any Officer, Director, Umpire, Participant or person(s) representing the Baseball Players Association that are suspended for any reason, will not be allowed to participate in any capacity with the BPA, until such suspension(s) have been lifted. This would include any Sanctioned event or any event being conducted under the Administration of the Baseball Players Association.
- d) The Baseball Players Association has adopted the following procedures with regard to disagreements that threaten legal action or that lead to legal action. By any of the following but not limited to, a player, coach, team or related persons against any affiliated person, director, park, umpire or facility of the Baseball Players Association. Any participant, team, coach, sponsor or any other party who threatens in writing, through legal counsel or otherwise

to take legal action against the Baseball Players Association, files a legal action against the Baseball Players Association or has a lawyer contact the Baseball Players Association verbally regarding a dispute will automatically and immediately be suspended from all Baseball Players Association activities until the legal discussions are concluded to the satisfaction of the Baseball Players Association. Additionally, if legal action is filed against the Baseball Players Association or a Baseball Players Association affiliated person, park or facility by any participant, team, coach or any other person, the person filing the action, the person's team (if player or coach), and each of its members may be suspended from any or all Baseball Players Association events until the legal actions are resolved to the satisfaction of the Baseball Players Association.

ARTICLE XXI BASEBALL PLAYERS ASSOCIATION APPEAL PROCESS PROCEDURES

SECTION 1

- a) **STEP 1:** Any team or player affected by the occurrence or condition that would cause an appeal may present that appeal in writing to the appropriate Zone VP within fifteen (15) days after the occurrence or condition. If not filed within fifteen (15) days, the applicant loses their right to appeal.
- b) **STEP 2:** If the appealing team and/or person do not receive a satisfactory resolution to the first appeal, the applicant may indicate dissatisfaction with the first appeal. The applicant may then submit the proper forms within fifteen (15) days to the appropriate Baseball Players Association Executive VP duly appointed by the Executive Director to conduct the second step of the appeal process. If not filed with fifteen (15) days the applicant loses their right to appeal.
- c) **STEP 3:** If the appealing team and/or person do not receive a satisfactory resolution to the second appeal, the applicant may indicate dissatisfaction with the second appeal. The applicant may submit within ten (10) days the proper forms to the Executive

Director of the Baseball Players Association, unless there has been a mutual agreement for an extension. The applicant may submit this final appeal in writing or may request that a hearing be conducted. All parties involved may have legal counsel and any witnesses at this hearing. The applicant must pay all financial responsibilities for such legal counsel or witnesses.

NOTE: *The Executive Director must render a final decision within ten (10) days pertaining to the final appeal. The decision rendered by the Executive Director is final and under no circumstances will another appeal be granted.*

The Executive Director and/or the Executive Vice President must approve any exceptions to the above bylaws.

PENALTY: Violation of any part(s) of the above bylaw will cause the player(s), team(s), umpire and director to become ineligible to participate in any officially approved sanctioned Baseball Players Association league or tournament.