

Minutes to the state board meeting September 30, 2022, at Greenbrier, TN

Attending the meeting were Alan Reed, State Director, Assistant State Director Aaron Prince, National Directors Tony Brown, Don Rudolph, and James Tidwell, District Directors Phillip Dorris, Mike Neisler, Denise Lineberry, Rory Osborne, George Lankford, David Conrad, Matt Reed, Assistant Director Robert Puckett, and Secretary Marilyn Tidwell.

Alan Reed called the meeting to order and introduced the new Assistant District 8 Director Robert Puckett. James Tidwell followed with a word of prayer.

Don Rudolph gave the financial report. We have \$17,729 before meeting expenses. All fees for 2022 are now collected. Tony Brown followed with the scholarship report. We sent Dixie National Scholarship fund \$20,300 this year. Money was also sent in memory of some loved ones that passed during the year. We have a balance in the scholarship fund of \$16,519.53. Tony estimated that around 36,000 people came to our tournaments this year. Tennessee awarded six \$1000 scholarships this year. One district did not have any applications. Dixie National was fully funded for scholarships for the first time. They awarded \$210,000 in scholarships in 2022.

#### World Series Reports:

Tony Brown and Don Rudolph were over the press box at the Division II World Series at Anderson, South Carolina. Springfield represented Tennessee in the AAA series and Humphreys County represented Tennessee in the Ozone tournament. Springfield won the sportsmanship award in AAA. It was an exciting time by all the teams.

AA at Dothan Alabama. Phillip Dorris attended this tournament. Springfield represented Division II and Savannah represented Division I for Tennessee.

AAA – Division I World Series in Lumberton, North Carolina. Greenbrier represented Tennessee,

Ozone- Division I World Series in Lumberton, North Carolina. Sweetwater represented Tennessee.

It was a valuable experience for both teams. They were competitive and had an exciting time.

#### Division I and Division II tournaments:

When we were ready for the state tournaments, a few teams decided to drop out. A review was made of the number of teams participating in each tournament and the dates in which the tournaments are held. Don Rudolph put the motion on the floor to keep the Single A tournament at sixteen teams. For the AA, AAA, and Ozone we will have eight Division I teams and fourteen Division II teams in the state tournaments. Division II state tournaments will be comprised of the Champions and Runner Ups in each district or Champion and Host. Aaron Prince seconded the motion. The motion carried, all ayes.

Aaron Prince put the motion on the floor to start the A and AA tournaments on July 6<sup>th</sup> and the AAA and Ozone tournaments will start on July 13<sup>th</sup>. Phillip Dorris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

If a league thinks they are not competitive enough, they can request a waiver from the state director to play in Division II. The waiver may or may not be approved depending on circumstances.

Discussion was made regarding leagues hosting teams who do not have participants in the tournament. Aaron Prince put the motion on the floor that a league can not host a DYB tournament unless they have a franchised and rostered team participating in that division. They are not eligible. David Conrad seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. This should be added to the handbook on page 9, Section C2 as (G).

Discussion was made regarding host fees and scholarship fees not being submitted timely. The handbook has provision for scholarships under 4(a)(5). Don Rudolph put the motion on the floor to add host fees to this provision. It will now read, "If a host league of any Tennessee Dixie Youth tournament does not collect and forward hosting fees and scholarship funds to the State DYB by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the year of the tournament, a \$750 fine will be assessed and the League will forfeit their tournament hosting rights for two (2) years." James Tidwell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Don handed out copies of the tournament requirements to be reviewed and discussed at the Saturday meeting.

#### NEW ADOPTED RULES:

Don Rudolph went over the 2023 Adopted Policy and Rule Changes attached:



## **DYB, Inc. 2023 Adopted Policy and Rule Changes**

**The following Policy and Rules changes were adopted by the DYB National Board of Directors at the annual board meetings held in Lumberton, North Carolina. Please distribute these suggested changes to all league officials.**

**As a democratic organization, DYB, Inc. provides officials from each franchised league the opportunity to express their views and opinions through elected representatives. State and National Directors, who serve on the National Board, actively seek each league's input and advice to help them vote the convictions of the leagues they represent.**

### **2023 ADOPTED POLICY CHANGES**

#### **BYLAWS**

The name of this Corporation shall be DYB, INC. (The "Corporation") In addition, this change shall be made on other national publications, rule book, website, and all other records, etc. Leagues will still have the option to use the Dixie name in their community if they choose. States may use DYB or Dixie Youth Baseball, an affiliate of DYB if deemed appropriate for their state program.

## **BYLAWS**

### Article V: Committees

Section 2. Committees (a) The following committees shall be appointed for a term of one year:

Finance	Safety & Equipment
Insurance	Scholarships
Policy	WS Min Requirements
Rules	WS Umpires

### **III. TEAMS** **Page 67**

**CHANGE to read:** (A) Each team may consist of a maximum of 13 uniformed players whose names shall be with the League President not later than five days prior to the first regularly scheduled game of the league season. Team membership shall be within the sole discretion of each league, provided such membership shall not conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws and the Rules and Regulations of DYB. **EXCEPTION:** A league with the District and State Directors approval, may allow a league to add to the 13-man roster because of age division numbers, such as a league has only two teams and they want to add two extra players to make a 14-man roster and adding these two players would not be enough to make another team.

### **IV. Selection of Players** **Page 68**

**DELETE** section (D) (Player Releases) in its entirety.

*(No Player Releases beginning with the 2023 season. Player Releases obtained before May 1, 2022, will continued to be honored)*

### **IV. Selection of Players** **Page 68**

**ADD new section:** (D) Should a franchised DYB league not have enough players registered to franchise team(s) in the 12U, 10U and/or 8U divisions the State Director may grant written approval to allow a player to be eligible for league and tournament play in an adjoining league to their league of residence. The written approval must be obtained from the state director prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>. This approval shall be issued on a season-by-season basis and a player must return to their league of residence for the next season unless subsequent approval is granted by the state director.

### **IV. Selection of Players** **Page 69**

**CHANGE to read:** (G) Any player may play local league and be eligible for tournament play for a league in either the boundary where he/she resides or the boundary of the league where he/she attends public school or private school (excluding home school) as of January 1st of the current school year. The player can only transfer from school to school one (1) time and cannot go back and forth. A player that is accepted by the league where he/she goes to school becomes property of that league.

### **V. Player/Coach Eligibility and Registration** **Page 70**

**CHANGE to read:** (F) Each league shall determine its own method for the selection of managers and coaches. All managers and coaches shall be adults of at least 18 years of age. In accordance with the Safe Sport Act (Federal Law 115-126), all managers and coaches must pass a third-party criminal background check which searches the National Criminal Database, the National Sex Offender Registry in all fifty states and state and county databases. After the initial background check, the league should run a subsequent background check at least every three years, or more often as the league deems appropriate.

**IV. Player/Coach Eligibility Requirements** **Page 78**

**CHANGE to read:** (C) (2) A player, replacement player, manager or coach shall not miss any of his team's scheduled games in DYB tournament play due to participation in another tournament or travel delays from participation in another tournament. **PENALTY:** Any player, or replacement player, manager or coach who violates this rule shall be ineligible to participate in this level of play and must be replaced.

**ADD new section:** (C) (3) A player, replacement player, manager or coach shall not miss the first game of each level of DYB tournament play due to travel delays from a family vacation. **PENALTY:** Any player, or replacement player, who violates this rule shall be ineligible to pitch in this level of play but may pitch in the next level of play if his team advances. Any manager or coach who violates this rule shall be suspended for the second game of the tournament.

**VI. Replacing Players** **Page 81**

**ADD new section:** (B) A player added to a tournament roster after the first game of any level of tournament play will not be eligible to pitch in that level of tournament play.

# 2023 ADOPTED RULE CHANGES

## 1.10 Approved Bats Page 21

**CHANGE to read:** (d) Illegal Bat Penalty: A bat which does not meet the specifications in Rule 1.10 (a) and Rule 1.10 (b) shall be deemed an illegal bat. A batter who uses an illegal bat shall be called out and all runners shall return to the bases occupied by them at the time such batter took his position in the batter's box if protested by the opposing team manager prior to the first pitch to the next batter. The bat becomes illegal when the batter receives the first pitch during his turn at bat. He does not have to hit the ball. The batter shall be called out and any runners must return to the base they occupied prior to the first pitch to the batter. 2nd Penalty: After the first occurrence that a batter is called out for using an illegal bat, if a second batter is called out for using an illegal bat in the same game by the same team the team manager shall be ejected from the game.

## 1.10 Approved Bats Page 21

**ADD new section:** (e) The use of pine tar or any other similar adhesive substances on a bat is prohibited in all levels of DYB play. Use of these substances will result in the bat being declared illegal and the bat will be removed from play pursuant to 1.10(d).

## 3.00 Game Preliminaries Page 33

**DELETE** 3.03(d) (1) Local League Option #1

**DELETE** 3.03(d) (3) Local League Option #3

**CHANGE to read:** 3.03 (d) The Continuous Batting Order will be used in regular season play.

## 3.00 Game Preliminaries Page 33

**CHANGE to read:** 3.04 - A "courtesy runner" may be used for the pitcher or the catcher, only. The "courtesy runner" will be the last out made or, if no out has been recorded in the game, the batter in the line-up farthest away from the batter who the "courtesy runner" is being used for. This rule will apply in regular season and all 10U & 12U DYB tournament games.

## XII. Conduct and Sportsmanship Page 72

**ADD new section:** (E) Slings the Bat: After one warning per game, per player for slinging the bat, the batter will be out, a dead ball called, and no runners shall advance.

## I. Tournament Play Page 74

**CHANGE to read:** (5)(b) Advancing More Than One Team from Tournament Bracket - After the completion of a double elimination bracket if any two teams are tied, with the same won-loss record, the head-to-head tiebreaker will be used if the tied teams played each other during the tournament. If the head-to-

head tiebreaker does not break the tie or if the two tied teams did not play each other during the tournament there must be a one game playoff to determine which team advances to the next level of play. No other tiebreakers may be used in double elimination brackets.

### **III. Team Eligibility Requirements** **Page 77**

**CHANGE paragraphs (B), (C) and (E)** to reflect that “All DYB tournament team affidavits must consist of a minimum of 11 players and a maximum of 12 players, a manager, and the required number of coaches. All players listed on the team’s tournament roster must fulfill all offensive and defensive participation requirements.” A dropped player affidavit must be presented if a team drops from 12 to 11 players.

### **IX. Player Participation Requirements** **Page 84**

**DELETE (C)** Reverting to Nine Man Batting Order

**CHANGE to read:** The Continuous Batting Order will be used during all levels of tournament play.

Alan brought up that player releases have been deleted from the rulebook for 2023. Unless a release was submitted before May 1, 2022, which will still be honored.

#### **Regional Class A Tournament**

A Regional Class A tournament was discussed with Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and Georgia as the areas of interest. Ideas for this is to have two teams from each state to participate with the host being a third team. South Carolina has more teams than the other states so they could always have three teams. A zoom call to discuss this is planned for the near future.

Tony Brown put the motion on the floor to give Alan Reed authority to proceed with plans for this for Tennessee. Aaron Prince seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Aaron Prince put the motion on the floor to adjourn the meeting for the night. Tony Brown seconded the motion.

The focus of the Saturday meeting was to review the Handbook and Tournament Requirements before bids were presented for 2023 tournaments.

Don distributed a handout of Handbook Requirements for State Tournaments in **Addition to DYB Checklist**. We went through to see what was obsolete and to make changes necessary.

#1 was changed to read “Pay to the State Organization Hosting fees of \$50.00 per team. (The limit was removed.) Rory Osborne put the motion on the floor to remove the limit. Denise Lineberry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#3 was changed to read “Pay to the State Organization the cost of individual and team trophies, Team coach’s plaques for champions and runner ups and Sportsmanship plaques including shipping charges. All players, managers, and coaches will receive an individual trophy, individual plaque, or medallion. Sportsmanship will have individual awards (trophies, plaques, or medallions) for all players and coaches.”

Rory Osborne put the motion on the floor for Tennessee DYB to purchase all trophies, individual trophies, rings, and plaques needed and let the host reimburse for the costs. Denise seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#6 was eliminated.

#8 Collect \$1 Daily for the Scholarship Fund. A check should be remitted to the State DYB for the money collected within one week of the conclusion of the tournament. The invoice should accompany the check.

#10 should be amended to specify "Provide a Birthday cake or twelve cupcakes to any player having a Birthday during the Tournament."

#12 was eliminated since programs are not required.

#17 was changed to read "Provide adequate seating for the spectators while roping off area behind home plate for the directors and other officials with no recording equipment attached to the fence behind home plate."

Rory Osborne put the motion on the floor to add the roped off area. Denise Lineberry seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#22 Change wording from TSSAA to DYB for the Heat Index and weather policy as attached:

## **DIXIE YOUTH BASEBALL**

### **WEATHER PROCEDURES**

**The DYB Weather Procedures are our minimum acceptable procedures to deal with weather at our tournament sites. A local tournament host may have stronger policies in place but in no instance can they be less than listed herein.**

#### **LIGHTNING –**

- When lightning is detected within 8 miles of the facility play will be suspended.
- No place outside is safe if lightning is in the vicinity. Partially enclosed areas like picnic shelters and dugouts are not safe.
- All players, coaches, spectators, officials, etc. will be directed by the public address system to clear the park and go to their vehicles until the lightning threat has ended.
- On-field activities will resume after 30 minutes of no detected lightning strikes within a 6-mile radius of the facility.
- At any time during the 30-minute delay subsequent lightning strikes occurring within a 6-mile radius of the facility will restart the 30-minute clock before any on-field activities may be resumed.

## **TORNADO WARNINGS –**

- No activities will occur at the tournament site as long as that location is under a Tornado Watch/Warning.

## **HEAT –**

- On any day that the local forecast calls for a Heat Index at or above 105°F there will be a mandatory Heat Break of no less than 5 minutes at the end of every 2 innings of play in every game on that day of tournament play.
- This mandatory break should be used to hydrate and rest the participants.
- No on field activities will occur during this time.

#23 Don Rudolph put the motion on the floor to have a minimum age of eighteen for umpires during all tournament play. Aaron Prince seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#25 change to read “If a Hospitality Room is offered, provide light snacks, drinks, and juices. If a hospitality room is not provided, arrangements should be made to feed the Directors from the concessions stand or have meals catered or brought in.”

Aaron Prince put the motion on the floor to provide a meal for the directors either by catering or concession stand. Rory Osborne seconded the motion.

Discussion on #27, we are now posting flags instead of having an opening ceremony.

## **Changes to Tennessee Dixie Youth Baseball Checklist for State Tournaments**

A (1) Furnish Score keepers for all fields being used. Furnish Pitch count person for each field being used for AAA and Ozone games.

Don Rudolph put the motion on the floor to add the pitch count person to the list of requirements for AAA and Ozone tournaments. Denise Lineberry seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Change these to read:

B (1) Teams are responsible for a team cooler with water/Gatorade/Powerade as needed

B (4) Have fields lined off each day at least 30 minutes prior to opening game. Drag, rake, remark after each game.

C (1) Have a cake or twelve cupcakes for any player who has a Birthday on the day his/her team plays. This will be presented after their game concludes and Happy Birthday will be sung by all.

C (20) If no hospitality room is provided, make provisions to feed directors from the concessions stand or have catered food brought in.

## **Handbook Changes Needed:**



The Handbook has not been remade to reflect changes passed in previous years. These changes need to be made:

Page 4 remove the maximum on hosting fees. Also, on page 5 #4 (A) (1)

(A) (2) change to reflect Division I and Division II

(A) (5) change as previously worded in minutes above

Page 6 (C) (1) programs have been made optional

(C) (5) We are posting flags at the games instead of having a long opening ceremony

Page 7 (D) (9) change to DYB Policy attached in these minutes

Handbook 5 (c) on page 8 should be deleted. We do not house players.

Page 9, 6 (C) needs to be rewritten to accommodate Division I and Division II and remove obsolete items

Page 10, #3 should be glossy picture should be changed to an electronic picture sent to State Director.

Article 4 Section B should add unless appointed otherwise by State Director

Article 4 Section C

Tony Brown put the motion on the floor to change the wording of (IV) (C) to read "Each elected member of the Board of Directors will be allowed to vote in all matters before the Board of Directors." Aaron Prince seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### ARTICLE 5

Tony Brown put the motion on the floor to change the wording of (V) (E) to read "The three National Directors shall be elected statewide with no more than two directors elected from any region but must live in the State of Tennessee." Aaron Prince seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Alan Reed said James Tidwell had been appointed to temporarily fill the National Director position that has been vacant for some time. Denise Lineberry put the motion on the floor to accept the appointment of James Tidwell. David Conrad seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Don Rudolph and James Tidwell will be up for election in 2023.

With the District 5 Director position open, Alan Reed offered the position to George Lankford. Tony Brown put the motion on the floor to accept the appointment of George Lankford to District 5 Director. Don Rudolph seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Article 9 (pg. 12) Amendments should read 2/3 of the votes cast by the Leagues and/or board present

Article 12 (pg. 15) should read majority vote of the Franchised Leagues and/or board present

Tony Brown put the motion on the floor to accept all Handbook changes. Don Rudolph seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Discussion was made regarding shirts like the ones that we all bought. Alan Reed suggested if anyone has a supplier with shirts like the orange shirts to bring it to his attention.

## 2023 Tournament Bids

### Ozone – July 13

Seth Owen with the Springfield League presented a bid for the Ozone tournament July 13, 2023

The umpire meeting will be on the night of July 12<sup>th</sup>. Coaches meeting at the center at 8:00 am on July 13. The Fire Chief will have a tent and they will have EMT on hand.

The tournament was awarded to Springfield with a unanimous vote.

### AAA – July 13

Two leagues presented a bid for the AAA tournament. Loudon and Rockwood were both interested. Anthony Garner with Loudon presented their bid. The umpire meeting would be held at the Lion's Club pavilion on July 12<sup>th</sup>. The coaches meeting would be held at 8:00 am at the Loudon High School Cafeteria on July 13<sup>th</sup>. The police department would oversee the parking. They will have an announcer, scorekeeper, and pitch count official on each field.

Kenny Lower of Rockwood presented their bid for the tournament. He said the coaches meeting would be at City Hall. The vote was cast by paper ballot with Loudon receiving seven votes and Rockwood receiving five votes. The tournament was awarded to Loudon who received the most votes. David Conrad will be the contact person for the AAA tournament.

### Class A and AA – July 6

Two leagues expressed an interest in hosting these tournaments. Mike Neisler presented the first bid for Chester County. Their park has undergone renovations. The umpire meeting would be held on July 5<sup>th</sup> and the Coaches meeting would be held on July 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am. They may want to put together a program and pictures would be emailed to him.

Kyle Smith presented a bid for Decatur. He said he prefers the AA tournament. The coach meeting would be held in the municipal building on Thursday, July 6, at 8:00 am. The umpires would meet the night before (July 5<sup>th</sup>) at 7:00 pm.

Votes were taken by paper vote. Chester County was awarded the Class A tournament and Decatur was awarded the AA tournament. Don will be the tournament director.

We will use the state flags that we have with Dixie Youth on them. When it is time to replace a set, we will replace them with DYB flags.

**The spring meeting will be February 3-4, 2023, at Wavery Methodist Church.**

James Tidwell put the motion on the floor to adjourn the meeting. Aaron Prince seconded the motion.

