

2024 Official Regulations



DYBUSA.org

2024 League Insurance

Endorsed By DYB, Inc

2024 Insurance Rates

Accident (\$250,000) – No Deductible

DIVISION	RATE PER TEAM
AAA Majors (12 & under)	\$16.50
O-Zone (12 & under)	\$16.50
AA Minor (10 & Under)	\$14.30
Coach Pitch (8 & Under)	\$11.05
A T-ball (6 & Under) / Instructional (4U)	\$11.05
Buddy Ball (16 & Under) (Player Assisted)	\$15.35
General Liability (\$2,000,000)	\$43.21

Directors & Officers Liability

\$315 flat charge per league - \$1,000,000 Limit of Coverage

\$473 flat charge per league - \$2,000,000 Limit of Coverage

Crime Insurance (\$25,000)

\$200 flat charge per league

Equipment Insurance

\$2.00 per \$100 of coverage (\$200 minimum premium)

Fall Ball coverage is automatically included in the Accident & General Liability for no additional charge.

(Applies to same age groups insured in the spring)

Apply for Coverage Online and Print Your Proof of Coverage Documents, Certificates of Insurance for Property Owners, and Claim Forms Within Seconds!



John Sadler

SADLER
SPORTS & RECREATION INSURANCE

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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

DYB SUPPLY CENTER

PO BOX 877

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dyb@dybusa.org

SUPPLY CENTER WEBSITE

<http://dybstore.org>

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“Train up a child in the way he should go and, when he is old, he will not depart from it.” - Proverbs 22:6

OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

DYB Inc. (“DYB”) is a non-discriminatory community-based organization which aims to promote fair play for all participants through the uniform adherence to DYB Official Rules, Policies & Regulations. DYB is fully committed to equal opportunity and abides by all applicable federal, state and local laws pertaining to nondiscrimination and fair practices. DYB, Inc. does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, region, ethnicity or disability.

It is the policy of DYB to promote the development of strong character, a right attitude, a sense of responsibility, and citizenship in youngsters, using the game of baseball as a vehicle. It is the purpose of DYB to achieve this goal through fair play, good sportsmanship, and congenial fellowship, with adult leaders providing the example while attempting to limit injury caused by overexertion. It is strictly against the policy of DYB for any person, either as a participant or a spectator, to engage in arguments, to use abusive language, to harass umpires, or to exhibit any behavior not in concert with the general intention of this policy statement. Team coaches are required to abide by this policy statement, and all parents and other adults are strongly encouraged to do so.

INTENT OF DYB ORGANIZERS

The fundamental intent of the organizers of Little Boys Baseball, Inc., was to develop a program which would emphasize local autonomy. It was their philosophy and belief that the parents and volunteer workers in each local league know what is best for them and their children. Since the mores (customs) of our people vary from community to community, even within the same districts, it was necessary to leave such things as night baseball, team selections, and league operation up to the local leagues. Certain fundamental rules were imposed upon the leagues that were deemed necessary for good organization and to keep one league from gaining an unfair advantage over another such as boundary and population limitations, the number of teams in a league, and the age brackets.

The next important philosophical belief was that the leagues affiliated with the program should have a voice in the running of the program. Thus, the provision for electing national board members from among the leagues to serve with the organizers was made. It should be borne in mind that at the outset there were no provisions for state organizations, nor state or district directors. The original concept of governmental structure was the Board of Directors and the leagues. The necessity for state directors was realized shortly after organizing and soon after the need for district directors became apparent. There is nothing specific in our constitution concerning state organizations, state directors, or district directors. Any governmental structure between the local leagues and the national board exists for one reason—to serve the local leagues as administrative adjuncts of the board. The idea of local leagues being dominated by a district or state organization is in direct conflict with the original philosophy. The imposition of any rule on a local league should be done with utmost reluctance and absolute necessity.

“Train up a child in the way he should go and, when he is old, he will not depart from it.” - Proverbs 22:6

DEMOCRATIC ACTION

The Constitution provides for the election of each member of the National Board of Directors to four-year terms of office.

The nominations for the National Board of Directors and State Directors are mailed to the President on or before May 15 each year and the President or a National Board Member designated by him shall conduct national board and state director elections. Nominations may be made by any league holding a current franchise. The list of nominees is mailed by June 1 to each league, and an online ballot will be used to elect the board members and state director. June 10 is the deadline for leagues to submit their ballots online.

Each state shall elect a member of the board each year for a four-year term.

Newly elected members of the National Board and State Directors terms of office shall commence on October 1 of the year following their election and terminate on September 30 of the year in which their successors are duly elected and qualified. Officers will be elected by the Board of Directors and shall serve three-year terms.

Except for school leagues or the *Boys & Majors Baseball* program, no National Officer, National Director, or State Director shall be permitted to participate in an official capacity in any other organized youth baseball program. Complete qualifications for any person to be eligible for nomination, election, or appointment to any official position within the DYB program above the local level are included in the By-Laws which govern its operation.

Only a duly authorized representative of a franchised league can vote in any matter before district or state meetings. No one person can represent more than one league. NOTE: A duly authorized representative of a league is the league president, or a person designated by him in writing who is active currently in the voting league.

Leagues are assigned to districts within a state and are under the direction of a district director. District and state directors are under the direction of the national commissioner. There shall be no State Constitution or By-Laws in conflict with the intent, aims, purposes, and the policies and rules of the National DYB organization.

All tournament sites are determined by each state organization with all leagues having equal opportunity in hosting the event provided the league can comply with the requirements established by the state organization. The state requirements are to be determined in advance by each state and announced accordingly.

When the Board of Directors is not in session and a proposed change is of the utmost importance and urgency, the Rules Committee may authorize an online ballot to be sent to each committee member and/or a conference call will be conducted by a quorum of the committee for discussion and approval to submit recommendation to the Executive Committee for approval. Any adopted rule changes will become effective for the next printing of the rule book following adoption by the National Board of Directors.

The National Board of Directors has granted the states the right to charge a fee for operating state programs. The states have the right to charge these fees and to penalize any league that does not pay their fees provided that the State Constitution, authorizing such charges, is on file with the Commissioner.

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Education Courses

Visit our website for access to free online education and training courses emphasizing a culture of development, safety and fun focused on youth baseball players, coaches, and umpires.

DYBUSA.org

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

YOUR DISTRICT DIRECTOR—YOUR SERVICE MANAGER

Every person who serves as an elected official of DYB is elected to SERVE the leagues. This is the one and only reason he holds office. Each league, therefore, is encouraged to take advantage of the services offered by each official. The District Director is the nearest official and certainly the most informed on matters dealing with a league and its need. We strongly suggest that league officials use the services offered by their District Director as their first move in obtaining help. Naturally, the State and National Directors from their state also stand ready to help, if needed. The Commissioner is also available to help.

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DYB, Inc.

Operational and Non-Operational Control DYB Inc. for Liability Purposes

1. As concerns all pre-season activities; regular season; intra-league tournaments; and all other league activities; DYB, Inc., shall have no operational control responsibility over the following:

(a) **Premises**—including, but not limited to, playing fields, practice fields, player dugouts, spectator areas, concession areas, parking lots, adjoining areas, and player or spectator entertainment areas whether on site or off site.

(b) **Activities**—including, but not limited to, preseason and off-season meetings and preparation, "implementation of a child abuse/molestation risk management program, player registration tryouts, practices, games, intra-league tournaments, fundraising activities, banquets, team or league outings and all other activities that are team or league approved and travel to and from the above.

(c) **Actions**—including all actions (including inactions) and decisions on a league or team level that are initiated by league or team officials, directors, administrators or volunteers, including the selection of volunteers and league security.

2. As concerns sanctioned all-star tournaments including subdistrict, district, area, regional, state, and world series, DYB, Inc., shall have no operational control or responsibility over the following:

(a) **Premises**—including, but not limited to, practice areas, spectator areas, concession areas, player accommodations, and player or spectator entertainment areas whether on site or off site.

(b) **Activities**—including, but not limited to, activities within housing, player or spectator entertainment on site or off site, outings, and travel to and from the above.

(c) **Actions**—including all actions (including inactions) or decisions initiated by the tournament host or by team volunteers or employees, including the selection of volunteers and tournament security.

3. (a) DYB Inc. has operational control and responsibility only to the extent of requiring that any violation of official rules and regulations be corrected in accordance with the official rules and regulations.

(b) DYB Inc. has joint operational control and responsibility with the tournament host over all game playing fields and dugout areas for all-star tournaments including subdistrict, district, area, regional, state and world series.

4. DYB Inc. is primarily an "all-volunteer" organization with limited resources, it is not responsible for taking affirmative action to police all premises, activities, and actions for compliance with the official rules and regulations, except as outlined under 3. (b) above. However, DYB Inc. will make best efforts to enforce all such official rules and regulations once a violation has been brought to its attention.

DYB Child Protection Plan

(A child abuse/molestation risk management plan)

Congress enacted a new Federal law (Public Law 115-126) in 2018 which establishes a nationwide standard “duty to report” suspected child abuse. The “Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017” (“Safe Sport Act”) mandates that all amateur sports organizations, which participate in an interstate or international amateur athletic competition and whose membership includes any adult who is in regular contact with an amateur athlete who is a minor must report suspected child abuse, including sexual abuse, within 24 hours to law enforcement.

The Safe Sport Act subjects all DYB franchised leagues to the provisions of this federal law because each league has adults working with youth who are in repetitive contact with minor athletes.

(A) Child abuse/molestation can take many forms including verbal abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, and sexual abuse. Any form of child abuse/molestation is contemptable and goes against the policies and mission of DYB.

(B) DYB is committed to addressing concerns over child abuse/molestation by informing and educating its affiliated leagues on this risk by providing the DYB Child Protection Plan (a child abuse/molestation risk management plan) for adoption by all DYB leagues. This plan may significantly lessen but not totally eliminate the chance of an occurrence. Failure to implement the DYB Child Protection Plan or a similar comprehensive plan may expose leagues and its officials, volunteers and other representatives to significant legal liability.

(C) DYB requires that all franchised leagues adopt and implement the DYB Child Protection Plan or a similar comprehensive child abuse/molestation risk management plan. The league may download the DYB Child Protection Plan from the DYB website at DYBUSA.org for adoption by the league or its sponsoring organization.

(D) DYB has no operational control over league security including the selection of volunteers associated with independent leagues which affiliate with its program. Therefore, it is the sole responsibility of the independent leagues to act by adopting and implementing the DYB Child Protection Plan or a similar comprehensive child abuse/molestation risk management plan.

(E) Any plan adopted by a league and/or its sponsoring organization must include a provision for conducting criminal background checks which searches the National Criminal Database and the National Sex Offender Registry in all 50 states (not limited to just sexual offender records) from state and county databases on all managers, coaches and other authorized adult participants in the league who have repetitive access to and close contact with minor athletes.

(F) Due to the fact DYB has no operational control over league security including the selection of local league volunteers, each franchised league shall be required to indemnify and hold harmless DYB against all legal actions based on child abuse/molestation allegations arising from any team, league, tournament or other activities of such league.

2024 DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY – FEBRUARY – 2024 State Meetings Schedule – See schedule on the DYB website at DYBUSA.org under State Websites tab.

MARCH

1–Deadline for DYB scholarship applications.

APRIL

1–Latest date for submitting Annual Billing for Franchise Fees form and applicable fees online or by postmarked mail to DYB to renew franchise privileges. **FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN A LATE FEE OF \$50.00.** Late fees will be donated to the DYB Scholarship Fund

1–Deadline for letters of intent to bid on a 2026 DYB World Series

MAY

1–Scholarship winners announced no later than this date

1–Leagues must submit all “O” Zone, AAA, AA and A rosters online for review by the District and State Director.

1–Deadline for selection of sub-district, district, & State Tournament sites

15–Deadline for nominating National Board of Directors and State Directors.

JUNE

1–Deadline for submission of proposed rule & policy changes to Deputy Commissioner

1- District Directors shall notify leagues of the date and location of the District Credentials Meeting on or before this date

1–Deadline for selection of sub-district, district, & State Tournament sites

1–Deadline for distributing online ballots for election of National Board Members and State Directors

10–Deadline for submitting ballots in National Board and State Directors elections

JULY

16 – All Division I and II state tournaments must be completed by this date

25 – Division II Majors, “O”Zone, AAA, World Series begins – Bossier City, LA

26 – Division I & II AA World Series begins. Orangeburg, SC

AUGUST

1 – Board of Directors’ Annual Meeting -Bossier City, LA

2-7– DYB Division I “O Zone”, Majors, AAA World Series- Bossier City, LA



DYB REGULATIONS

I. The League

(A) The League shall be the smallest unit of organization and shall be governed by those active in the local program which makes up the managing personnel, such as officers, executive committee, team managers, volunteer umpires, sponsors and player agent, serving as the volunteer operating personnel. The community aspect of the program should be the goal and be maintained.

(B) Each league or group of leagues shall operate within a single boundary, shall adopt a set of local rules and regulations for the operation of the league or leagues, and elect officers to manage the operations of the league(s). Local leagues may not adopt administrative rules and regulations which are in conflict with DYB Official Rules and Regulations.

NOTE: DYB recognizes that in communities where there are two or more franchised leagues, it may be advisable to have a common set of officers and adopt a single set of local rules and regulations. This is optional and shall be determined by the various leagues. DYB recommends that league officials who have financial responsibility with the league be covered by insurance.

(C) Leagues are assigned to districts within a state and are under the direction of a district director. All district directors and the state directors are under the direction of the National Commissioner.

(D) No district, state or national director or any designated tournament director shall have the authority to add, change, or waive any current rule or regulation, or to permit the violation of any rule or regulation.

(E)(1) Each franchised league shall be composed of a minimum of three (3) teams and not more than nine (9) teams in the Majors, "O"Zone, AAA and AA divisions; and not more than eleven (11) teams in the A division (6U & 4U).

(E) Each league shall elect to participate in either the Majors or "O"Zone division for 12U teams by notifying the District and State Director on or before a date specified by the State Board of Directors.

(E) Each league may be divided into as many as four (4) playing divisions: Majors or "O"Zone, AAA, AA and A for local league play. If the AAA, AA or A divisions has more than the maximum teams allowed in one league and is operating under a single franchise, the divisions with excess teams will be required to form another league with an equal (or almost equal) number of teams in each division in each league. An additional franchise number will be assigned to the additional league for the excess teams by the DYB Commissioner. **EXCEPTION**—The State Director may approve a two-team major league on a year-to-year basis.

(F) A franchised league shall be one which meets all qualifications of DYB and which is granted a certificate of franchise by the DYB Commissioner.

(G) All leagues having AAA, AA and A division teams shall be required to register all teams in each division with DY. **Exception:** With the approval of the State Director, DYB will accept a new league or leagues having only AAA, AA and/or A division teams.

(H) The annual franchise registration fee shall be \$14.00 per team per year for the Majors, "O"Zone, AAA divisions and AA division teams and \$8.00 per team per year for the A division teams. All leagues shall pay the same franchise registration

fees.

(I) State registration fees, if any, shall be established by the state organization and shall be paid with the national franchise fees. The maximum state registration fee per league shall be \$50.00.

(J) A league's annual franchise renewal form and all franchise fees must be sent to the Commissioner's office on or before April 1. Franchise renewals postmarked after April 1 will result in a \$50.00 late penalty assessment which must be paid prior to the District Credentials meeting in order to participate in DYB sanctioned tournaments.

(K) Majors, "O"Zone, AAA, AA and A divisions are operated under the direction of a franchised league. Divisions are hereby construed to mean all activity in the following age divisions:

Majors/"O"Zone — League age twelve and under

AAA — League age ten and under

AA — League age eight and under

A — League age six and under

Exceptions to these age divisions may be made by league officials as they see fit during regular season play.

(L) Each state organization may adopt its own playing and tournament rules for A division and shall make these rules known to all leagues. However, the A division shall be subject to all the "REGULATIONS" in the "Regulations" section of this rulebook.

(M) With respect to the A division, all matters relating to both local league play and tournament play shall be under the exclusive supervision of the District Director unless otherwise provided for by the state organization.

II. League Boundaries

(A) Each league shall submit an actual boundary from within which it will select its players for approval by the District and State Director. New leagues establishing boundaries and old leagues altering their boundaries shall have the approval of the State Director and the District Director prior to such establishing of a new league's boundary or a change in the old league's boundary.

(B) If a league fails to submit a boundary map for approval, the state may establish a policy that sets the league boundary using the city limits, the local independent school district and/or other established boundaries as the league boundary.

(C) Two or more leagues operating under separate boards may operate within the same boundary or an overlapping boundary area shown on their boundary maps by written agreement of the leagues concerned and approved by the State Director.

(D) Small Towns or Communities - Small nearby towns or communities unable to field a league within their own area shall be permitted to form three (3), four (4), five (5), six (6) or seven (7) teams with each town or community forming teams without a common draft with the other small towns or communities in the league.

(E) No new league shall be franchised in the territory of an existing league or leagues without the written approval of the existing league or leagues. Organizations franchised with DYB the previous year shall always have first refusal of franchising in succeeding years except as noted below:

EXCEPTION: Under certain circumstances

the renewal of a franchise may be denied upon the recommendation of the state board if it is in the best interest of DYB within a particular state that the existing

organization not be franchised for the current year.

EXCEPTION: In the case of a request for a new league which is located in an area already claimed by a franchised league but the existing league has made no effort to provide a program for the new group, the State Director with the approval of the District Director and the National Directors in that state, may allow the new league to be franchised. (**Note:** This will only apply in cases where an existing league is obviously preventing a new league from entering DYB.)

(F) An updated copy of a league's boundary will be furnished to the District and/or State Director upon request.

(G) The Board of Directors of DYB allows each league and players accepted by a league to continue playing in the league, any player:

(1) whose residence changes after he becomes a member of the league, and/or;

(2) who lives outside of the league's boundaries because of a revision of such boundaries, even though now residing in the territorial boundaries of another league.

NOTE: A player must elect to remain in league or join the new league in which boundary he now lives in the year of change. Once an election is made, he must remain in the chosen league until he reaches league age 13. Exception IV(F).

(H) Players who are members of a league or leagues within a defined boundary, including players acquired under Regulations IV(F) and IV(G) shall remain the property of the league unless they move to a new permanent address within the boundary of another DYB league(s); or, unless otherwise provided for in these rules.

(I) (1) With the written approval of the State and District Director a league may extend their boundary to include players that do not currently reside within the boundary of a league franchised by DYB. This area to be included must be contiguous to the current boundary of that league.

(2) With the written approval of the State and District Director a group of leagues **may** extend their boundaries to include areas contiguous to the group of leagues that do not currently have a franchised DYB league. Such an area will become a common boundary for that group of leagues. Players from the common boundary may register with any of the contiguous leagues. Once such a player registers and is accepted by a league, that player shall remain the property of that league unless otherwise provided for in these rules.

III. Teams

(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 be in 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.

(B) League age is that age attained by a player prior to May 1 of the current season.

(C) Local league officials shall adopt their own rules in regard to the replacement of players on team rosters. **NOTE:** League officials shall not allow managers to drop players from their rosters without cause regardless of the playing ability of the player. Reasons for the replacement of players shall include moving out of a community, sickness or injury, disciplinary measures, failure of the player to attend practice or games, and safety precautions. The reason for replacement of players shall be included in a written statement by the team manager filed with league officials.

IV. Selection of Players

(A) Each league shall determine its own method for the selection of players for team rosters. However, any player selection system used shall be in the form of a draft system, a talent distribution system, or an auction system and shall be under the direction of a player agent who shall see that all teams have an equal opportunity in the selection of all players. DYB recommends that much care be taken in the selection of the individual to fill the position of player agent. Leagues should also be encouraged to charge an assigned draft pick when children of managers or assistant coaches do not go through a player selection system.

(B) The DYB Commissioner shall furnish suggested player selection systems upon request by the leagues.

(C) Players who do not register in time to participate in the player selection system shall be ineligible, with these exceptions:

(1) any who were sick or injured during registration period and confirmed by a physician's written statement; or

(2) any who became new permanent residents of the community after the registration period. A new resident arriving after the selection may be assigned to a team provided all managers of teams participating in the player pool and the league president approve the assignment in writing.

(3) **Local League Option:** A player may be signed up after the local league drafts are completed prior to or on the first game day of a league's regular season provided the regular season team(s) with the least number of players on its roster(s) will be eligible to draw for the right to select the player.

(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 1st. 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.

(E) Managers shall not drop a player from their rosters in order to sign a new player. **PENALTY:** The penalty for violation of this regulation shall be loss of tournament eligibility for the player illegally picked up and grounds for protest in local league.

(F) Any player to whom the courts have appointed a custodial parent or guardian may play local league and be eligible for tournament play for a league in either the boundary of the custodial parent or the boundary of the non-custodial parent.

(G) The state Board of Directors has exclusive authority to determine the proper boundary for eligibility purposes for any player whose parents claim to own or rent dual residences located in more than one league boundary.

(H) Any player has a choice to 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 or private school (excluding home schools) as of January 1st of the current school year. The player cannot go back and forth between the league of residence and the league where they attend public or private school (excluding home schools). A player that registers and is accepted by the league where he/she attends school must remain in that league until he/she reaches the league age of 13. EXCEPTION: A player that opts to play in the league where he/she attends school is eligible to use the school option again in the event they move their physical address into another DYB league's boundary.

(I) Two or more leagues operating within the same defined boundaries which select players using a single player agent must put all returning players from all teams in any dropped league into a common draft where all managers in the remaining league(s) have an equal opportunity in the selection of players.

V. Player/Coach Eligibility and Registration

(A) All leagues shall file a roster of players, managers and coaches of each team in the league using the online rosters system on or before May 1.

(B) The online roster form shall include the name of the player, his date of birth and his residence in detail. **NOTE:** Should there be changes to these rosters the District and State Directors must be notified in writing of the change.

(C) A maximum of three managers/coaches may be registered on each Majors, "O" Zone or AAA team. A maximum of four managers/coaches may be registered on each AA or A division team. Only those managers/coaches so registered shall be eligible to coach tournament teams.

(D) An eligible player shall become subject to DYB Rules and Regulations when he/she registers with the league for the current year.

(E) Any player that registers and plays in any DYB league shall be ineligible to participate as a member of the league's tournament team if he does not reside within the league's approved boundary under any circumstance except as provided in IV(E) or IV(F). Any such player will be designated as an "ineligible player" for tournament eligibility purposes. **No waivers or releases are allowed for any reason.** The parent or guardian of the player shall be responsible for determining if his/her child is eligible to participate on any of the league tournament teams under DYB Rules and Regulations. A player shall not register and play with two different franchised leagues.

(F) Any league that registers and allows a player who does not reside within its approved boundary or does not meet the requirements of Regulation IV(F) or IV(H) to participate in its league shall not allow such player to participate as a member of the league's tournament team under any circumstance. Any such player shall be designated as an "ineligible player" for tournament eligibility purposes. No waivers

or releases are allowed for any reason. All league officials including coaches and volunteers in a league shall be responsible for determining if a player is eligible to participate on any of the league tournament teams under DYB Rules and Regulations.

PENALTY: The player shall be ineligible to participate on any of the league's tournament teams. If the league places an ineligible player on a league tournament team roster, the player shall be subject to disqualification and removal from the team upon protest, prior to the conclusion of the player's first tournament game. See Tournament Rule XII (H)(2).

(G) 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 50 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.

(H) Local leagues have the authority to establish league rules to suspend managers and coaches for unsportsmanlike acts or willful violation of local rules and regulations as well as rules and regulations established by DYB.

VI. Player Age Limit and Birth Certificate

(A) The Age Determination Date for a DYB baseball player is the actual age of a player on April 30 of the current year.

(B) Dates of birth of players shall be certified by birth or baptismal certificate, U.S. passport or other legally accepted proof of age to a designated league official prior to the league's first scheduled game. Each league president is responsible to ensure that no player is over league age and that records of proof of age are available upon request. One of the following documents shall be used to verify age:

(1) Birth certificate issued by a government agency which has a raised or affixed seal and is accepted as legal proof of age.

(2) Hospital certificate issued at birth.

(3) Baptismal certificate issued within first six years after birth which shows actual date of birth. **NOTE:** A photo static copy of one of the above certificates, which has a statement on the document stating that it is an exact and true copy of the original, signed by the parent or legal guardian shall be accepted.

(4) Unexpired passport issued by the U.S. Government.

(C) The local league shall have the authority to determine the age limits within the league's Major or "O"Zone, AAA, AA and A divisions during regular season play. Any player of league age ten and under who was registered on a major league or "O"Zone team during the regular season shall be eligible to participate in the appropriate AAA, AA and A division (age ten and under) tournaments. A player can participate on only one tournament team. See Tournament Rule IV(B) for age restrictions in tournament play.

VII. Regular Season Schedule

(A) Each major and AAA team shall play a regular schedule of not less than twelve (12) games nor more than twenty-five (25) games, exclusive of championship games. The number of 8U and 6U division league games shall be determined by the local league.

(B) Two or more leagues shall be permitted to play an interlocking schedule of games, but all such games shall count in the won and lost column of each league.

(C) Exhibition games shall be permitted but all pitching rules shall be followed. Permission for exhibition games must be secured from the league president or his delegated authority.

(D) It is recommended that each team play a schedule of two games per week.

(E) Any game played before the league's franchise is renewed shall not be considered as an official game and cannot be counted in the minimum number of games required to qualify for tournament participation.

(F) CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES are playoff games played by two or more teams tied at the end of regular season play with identical won/loss records to determine a league champion; or when applicable, first or second half winners to determine a league champion or playoff games between tied teams to determine first or second half winner. These are not scheduled regular season games, but additional games required to determine a league champion or first or second half winner. They are not to be considered as tournament games and are to be played according to regular season rules with the exceptions provided in Rule 8.07 (f), (g), (h).

VIII. Team Sponsors

(A) No firm or company who's advertising primarily reflects the sale or use of alcoholic beverages or tobacco products (including e-cigarettes) shall be permitted as a sponsor of the DYB program, either locally or nationally, and shall not be permitted to display any form of such advertising in connection with the program.

IX. Other Youth League Participation

(A) No league franchised with DYB shall franchise its teams with any other youth baseball program. **PENALTY:** The penalty for violation of this rule will be revocation of the league's DYB franchise.

(B) With the approval of the local league, players, managers and coaches may participate in other youth baseball programs during the DYB regular season provided such participation does not disrupt DYB regular season play.

NOTE: Leagues may remove any player, manager or coach from a team for the current season for repeatedly missing regular season games and/or practices.

X. Conduct and Sportsmanship

(A) Members of a team shall not ride, kid, heckle, poke fun at or in any other manner do anything that in the opinion of the umpire distracts the opposing team. A player shall not throw a bat, helmet or other equipment in anger or disgust. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be the removal of the guilty player from the game for the remainder of the game. The penalty for violation of this rule by a manager or coach shall be his removal from the game and the dugout for the remainder of the game.

(B) Local leagues may ban noisemakers during local league play.

(C) The use of any alcoholic beverage or tobacco product (including e-cigarettes) within the confines of the playing field, dugout or bench by any manager, coach, player, umpire or league official is prohibited. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be the removal of the guilty manager, coach, player, umpire from the game and from the dugout.

(D) Local leagues have the authority, as permitted by local and state law, to remove or ban from the league's playing facilities any spectator who is flagrantly displaying unsportsmanlike conduct, profanity, or who threatens physical harm to umpires, players, managers, coaches or league officials at all scheduled regular season games or tournament games played at its playing facilities.

XI. The Umpire

(A) The league president shall appoint one or more umpires to officiate at each league game. The umpires shall be responsible for the conduct of the game in accordance with these official rules and for maintaining discipline and order on the playing field during the game.

(B) Each umpire is the representative of the league and DYB and is authorized and required to enforce all of these rules. Each umpire has authority to order a player, coach, manager or league officer to do or refrain from doing anything which affects the administration of these rules and to enforce the prescribed penalties.

(C) Each umpire has authority to rule on any point not specifically covered in these rules.

(D) Each umpire has authority to disqualify any player, coach, manager or substitute for objecting to decisions or for unsportsmanlike conduct or language and to eject such disqualified person from the playing field. If an umpire disqualifies a player while a play is in progress, the disqualification shall not take effect until no further action is possible in that play. The umpire shall be empowered to call a base runner out or safe for an act either by him or by a fielder that in the opinion of the umpire is unsportsmanlike conduct.

(E) All umpires have authority at their discretion to eject from the playing field:

(1) any person whose duties permit that person's presence on the field, such as ground crew members, photographers, news, broadcasting and crew members.

(2) any spectator or other person not authorized to be on the playing field.

(F) Any umpire's decision which involves judgment, such as, but not limited to, whether a batted ball is fair or foul, whether a pitch is a strike or a ball, or whether a runner is safe or out, is final. No player, manager, coach or substitute shall object to any such judgment decisions.

(G) If there is reasonable doubt that any umpire's decision may be in conflict with the rules, the manager may appeal the decision and ask that a correct ruling be made. Such appeal shall be made only to the umpire who made the protested decision.

(H) If a decision is appealed, the umpire making the decision, may ask another umpire for information before making a final decision. No umpire shall criticize, seek to reverse or interfere with another umpire's decision unless asked to do so by the umpire making it.

(I) No umpire may be replaced during a game unless injured or ill.

(J) If there is only one umpire, that umpire shall have complete jurisdiction in administering the rules. This umpire may take any position on the playing field which will enable said umpire to discharge all duties (usually behind the catcher, but sometimes behind the pitcher if there are runners).

(K) If there are two or more umpires, one shall be designated umpire-in-chief and the others field umpires.

(L) The umpire-in-chief shall stand behind the catcher. This umpire usually is called the plate umpire. The duties of the umpire-in-chief shall be to:

- (1) Take full charge of, and be responsible for, the proper conduct of the game;
- (2) Call and count balls and strikes;
- (3) Call and declare fair balls and fouls except those called by field umpires;
- (4) Make all decisions on the batter;
- (5) Make all decisions except those commonly reserved for the field umpires;
- (6) Decide when a game shall be forfeited;
- (7) If a time limit has been established by the league, call the game after both teams have completed an equal number of innings unless the home team is ahead after the time limit expires;
- (8) Inform the official scorer of the official batting order and any changes in the lineups and batting order, on request;
- (9) Announce any special ground rules.

(M) A field umpire may take any position on the playing field best suited to make impending decisions on the bases. A field umpire's duties shall be to:

(1) Make all decisions on the bases except those specifically reserved to the umpire-in-chief;

(2) Take concurrent jurisdiction with the umpire-in-chief in calling "Time," balks, illegal pitches, or defacement or discoloration of the ball by any player;

(3) Aid the umpire-in-chief in every manner in enforcing the rules, and excepting the power to forfeit the game, shall have equal authority with the umpire-in-chief in administering and enforcing the rules and maintaining discipline.

(N) If different decisions should be made on one play by different umpires, the umpire-in-chief shall call all the umpires into consultation, with no manager or player present. After consultation, the umpire-in-chief (unless another umpire may have been designated by the league president) shall determine which decision shall prevail, based on which umpire was in best position and which decision was most likely correct. Play shall proceed as if only the final decision had been made.

(O) The umpire shall report to the league president within twenty-four hours after the end of a game all protests, violations of rules and other incidents worthy of comment, including the disqualification of any manager, coach or player and the reasons therefore.

(P) When any manager, coach or player is disqualified for a flagrant offense such as the use of obscene or indecent language, or an assault upon an umpire, manager, coach or player, the umpire shall forward full particulars to the league president within twenty-four hours after the end of the game.

(Q) After receiving the umpire's report that a manager, coach or player has been disqualified, the league president shall require such manager, coach or player to explain his conduct. In the case of a player, the manager shall appear with the player in the capacity of an advisor. The local league shall impose such penalty as it is justified.

(R) Umpires shall not wear shoes with metal spikes or cleats.

XII. THE OFFICIAL SCORER

(a) The league president should appoint an official scorer for each league game. The scorer shall have sole authority to make all decisions involving judgment, such as whether a batter's advance to first base is the result of a hit or an error. The scorer shall communicate such decisions to the press by hand signals or over the loudspeaker system and shall advise the public-address announcer of such decisions if requested. In the event of a question of eligibility of a pitcher, the record of the Official Scorer shall be deemed official. **NOTE:** When no official scorer has been appointed, the scorebook of the home team shall be the official record.

(b) Scoring Records

(1) To achieve uniformity in keeping the records a league shall conform strictly to the Official Scoring Rules enumerated in Rule 10.00 of the Official Playing Rules of professional baseball. The scorer shall have authority to rule on any point not specifically covered in the Scoring Rules.

(2) If the teams change sides before three are put out, the scorer shall immediately inform the umpire of the mistake.

(3) If the game is protested or play suspended, the scorer shall make note of the exact situation at the time of the protest or suspension, including the score, the number of outs, the position of any runners, and the ball and strike count on the batter.

(4) The scorer shall not make any decision conflicting with the DYB Official Playing Rules or with an umpire's decision.

(5) The scorer shall not call the attention of the umpire or of any member of either team to the fact that a player is batting out of turn.

(6) The scorer is an official representative of the league.

(c) Credit the starting pitcher with a game won only if he has pitched at least three (3) complete innings and his team not only is in the lead when he is replaced but remains in the lead for the remainder of the game.

(d) Please refer to the Expanded Scoring Rules in the Rules & Regulations tab of the DYB website at dybusa.org for detailed Official Scoring Rules.

Tournament Regulations

I. Awards

(A) Team awards shall be presented to the championship, runner(s)-up and/or third place teams at the DYB World Series. Individual awards shall be presented to each player, manager and coach of the championship and runner(s)-up teams.

(B) The Majors team championship award shall be presented and known as the Matt Goyak Championship Trophy. A Majors team sportsmanship award shall be presented and known as the Danny Jones Sportsmanship Trophy.

(C) The AAA team championship award shall be presented and known as “The Tom Linton Championship Trophy”. The AAA team sportsmanship award shall be presented and known as the Bill Harth Sportsmanship Trophy.

(D) The “O”Zone team sportsmanship award shall be presented and known as the George Pinner Sportsmanship Trophy.

II. Tournament Play

(A) A **SANCTIONED TOURNAMENT** is any level of tournament play approved by DYB (including a two- out-of- three series) which allows each franchised league to enter two teams in the Major or “O”Zone, AAA, AA, and A divisions at the first level of tournament play to compete for the right to advance to subsequent levels of sanctioned play. **NOTE:** Any non-sanctioned tournaments supervised by DYB officials must be approved by the respective DYB state organization. **STATE OPTION:** In 12U divisions, one team each may play in “O” Zone and Majors tournament play.

(B) (1) Each state organization may use only double elimination tournament brackets and three, four, five, or six team pool play tournament formats approved by the Commissioner to advance teams to the next level of tournament play. States may advance more than one team to the next level of play.

(2) “Double elimination” is defined as when a team loses two games in a tournament using double-elimination brackets at the sub-district, district, state or World Series, and is eliminated from further participation in that tournament.

(3) “Pool Play” is defined as a round-robin tournament where teams in a designated pool or pools play each other once. The pool play winner shall be the team with the best won-lost record at the completion of pool play. Round-robin tournaments will be played to completion.

(4) Each state organization may advance more than one team from all levels of tournament play to the state tournament. and distribute these procedures in writing to all leagues and DYB officials within the state.

(5) (a) **Two Runners-Up** - If three teams remain with one loss and all have played the same number of games in double elimination brackets approved by the Commissioner, there will be two runners-up in the tournament.

(b) **Advancing More Than One Team from Tournament Bracket** – After completion of a double elimination bracket, if any two teams are tied with the same won-loss record, the head-to-head tie breaker will be used. If the head-to-head tie breaker 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 tie breakers may be used in double elimination brackets.

(6) The tie-breaker rules listed below will be used in all round-robin tournaments to advance a runner-up team or teams in addition to the champion to the next level of tournament play.

TIE-BREAKER RULES

Rule 1. Head-to-Head Record Between Tied Teams

Rule 2. Least Runs Allowed Between Tied Teams

Rule 3. Least Runs Allowed for All Games

Rule 4. Most Runs Scored for All Games

Rule 5. Coin Flip

State Option: The state organization may elect to not use the playoff schedules in the round robin pool play formats and may determine the order of finish strictly by tie-breakers. **EXCEPTION:** If three or more teams are tied with the same won-lost record, apply each tie-breaker rule in order until you break out a team; then, apply each tie-breaker rule in order for the remaining teams until you break out a second team, and so on until all ties are broken.

(7) The state organization may authorize a one game playoff between two teams advancing from separate double-elimination brackets or round-robin tournaments; or, the state organization may use a two-out-of-three Series format.

(8) In double elimination tournaments, two-out-of-three, three-out-of-five or one game playoffs with teams advancing from double elimination or pool play round robin play shall be considered a new level of play for pitching restrictions but all rest requirements for all pitchers shall remain in effect.

(C) Appeals are only accepted through DYB channels for the sanctioned tournaments. Appeals in non-sanctioned tournaments must be handled through the organization sponsoring the tournament.

(D) A Division (T-Ball) tournaments shall be under the exclusive direction of the District Director or his designated representative at the district level.

(E) Each community or league sponsoring a state tournament or a Division I or Division II DYB World Series shall be granted a host team. **Exception:** A Division I league which hosts a Division II World Series must designate a Division II league within its state as the host team. **NOTE:** A host team shall be allowed only in the event there is a tournament, not a series between two teams.

(F) A host city having two or more leagues shall be entitled to hold a playoff to determine the host team, and the other leagues shall be entitled to enter district eliminations.

(G) All tournament hosts shall be determined using guidelines established by the state organization.

(H) Host teams shall not participate in any tournament in any level of tournament play below that in which they act as host. As a matter of interpretation, however, a host is not a host until selected. The penalty for violation of this rule is loss of eligibility for tournament play.

(I) Any tournament team wishing to compete only through the district or state tournament shall be permitted to do so provided the State Director is notified prior to July 1. In the event, such a team wins the district or state tournament, the runner-up team shall be declared the representative to the next tournament level.

(J) The Division I and Division II DYB World Series ("O"Zone, AAA and AA) shall be limited to a maximum of twelve teams of which one shall be the host team

and a maximum of eleven state champions. All teams will be winners/qualifiers of state/regional Division I and Division II competitive play. Any qualifying teams which decline to participate shall be replaced with winners of competitive play as determined by the Commissioner.

(K) The Division I and Division II DYB Majors World Series shall be limited to a maximum of twelve teams of which one shall be the host team and a state champion from each state that plays a Majors state tournament. States that do not offer a Majors state tournament may allow their "O"Zone runner-up to participate in the Division I & II World Series. The Commissioner will take any action(s) needed to ensure that the DYB Division I Majors World Series has a minimum of eight (8) teams participating in the tournament. The Commissioner will take any action(s) needed to ensure that the DYB Division II Majors World Series has a minimum of six (6) teams participating in the tournament.

(L) Each state organization shall approve the Division I and Division II status of each franchised league and/or adjust a league's Division I or II status within its state pursuant to guidelines established by the National Board of Directors.

(M) All state and sectional tournament sites shall be selected on or before June 1 of the current year. In the event a state tournament site is not determined by this date, the State Director with State Board approval, shall have the authority to request bids and award the tournament. In the event a sectional tournament site is not determined by this date; the Commissioner shall have the authority to request bids and award the tournament bid.

Tournament Dates

(N) The Division I and Division II DYB World Series for the Majors, "O"Zone, AAA and AA divisions shall begin on the dates recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by the National Board of Directors, annually. These dates will be set five years in advance.

(O) All tournaments qualifying a team for the Division I and Division II Majors, "O"Zone, AAA or AA World Series shall be scheduled to be completed on the dates recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by the National Board of Directors. These dates will be set five years in advance. The penalty for violation of this rule is disqualification of the winning state/regional team from the DVB World Series.

(P) The earliest date a sanctioned DYB tournament may be scheduled to begin shall be determined by each state organization.

III. Financial Responsibility

(A) All teams entering tournament play must be financially able to defray all their travel expenses.

(B) The host city shall file a financial statement for any DYB World Series with the Commissioner following the completion of the event.

(C) **Tournament Admission Fees** – (A) Upon approval of the state director, tournament hosts may charge reasonable admission to tournament games at all levels of tournament play through the state tournament. The Commissioner will approve admission prices for the DYB World Series Proceeds shall be used to defray expenses of the tournament. Each district, state and World Series Host shall collect an additional \$1 for each game day pass sold for the first two days and an additional \$2 for each tournament pass sold which will be donated by the Host to

the DYB Scholarship Fund. The admission fees for the tournament pass and game day pass must be approved by the District Director, State Director, or Commissioner.

(D) Tournament Host & Team Insurance for Sanctioned Tournaments

Tournament hosts must present required insurance coverage to the District Director, State Director or Commissioner, as applicable. Tournament teams must present required insurance coverage to the tournament credentials committee(s). Hosts and all teams participating in sanctioned and other approved DYB tournament play must provide evidence of insurance coverage which meets the following requirements:

(1) **Excess Accident** – The Tournament Host and each tournament team must be covered by an Excess Accident policy under their respective organizations’ names with a medical limit of at least \$50,000. For teams, it is not acceptable for each parent to provide individual evidence of health insurance for his or her child. For the tournament host, coverage must be provided for all umpires, scorekeepers, employees and volunteers; and,

(2) **General Liability** – The Tournament Host and each tournament team must be covered by a General Liability policy under their respective organizations’ names with an “each occurrence” limit of at least \$1,000,000 combined single limits for “bodily injury” and “property damage”. Such policy may not provide “claims made” coverage and may not have exclusion for lawsuits arising out of injuries to athletic participants. If the tournament host or team does not purchase its General Liability insurance through the approved DYB. insurance program, it is required that the General Liability policy name DYB. as an “additional insured”.

IV. Team Eligibility Requirements

(A) Each league shall be entitled to enter either its local league champion or a team chosen from the entire league as its tournament team in each age division.

(B) All DYB tournament team affidavits must consist of a minimum of 11 players and a maximum of 12 players, and manager and the required number of coaches. All players listed on the team’s tournament team 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. Each tournament team must begin each level of tournament play with a full roster of coaches and players. **Alternates are not recognized as part of a tournament team. NOTE:** Non-sanctioned tournaments not supervised by DYB District, State or National officials cannot use the DYB Tournament Team Eligibility Affidavit to qualify teams.

(C) All tournament teams participating in the Majors, “O”Zone, AAA, or AA state tournaments shall be required to deliver an acceptable digital group photo image of the team in uniform (including the team manager and only the required number of coaches) to the State Director prior to beginning state tournament play.

(D) Each tournament team is required to have a minimum of 11 players and a maximum of 12 players, and manager and the required number of coaches present at each tournament game except that any unfilled player vacancy or a player’s absence may be approved by the tournament director for justifiable reasons except for participation in other tournaments or family vacations which are covered under Tournament Rule IV(C). The tournament director may suspend a team manager

from participating in any game where a player vacancy or absence cannot be justified. The tournament director may require a team to replace a player whose continued participation on the team is in doubt.

(E) Participating teams shall completely and accurately complete by the deadline all forms furnished them. Teams failing to comply with this rule may not be eligible for tournament participation and may lose their next opportunity to host a tournament.

V. Player/Coach Eligibility Requirements

(A) Only players who have played in a minimum of eleven (11) of their local league games shall be eligible for tournament competition, with the exception that the state director shall be empowered to rule a player eligible, for good reason, even though the player has not played in eleven (11) games. DYB urges state directors to grant this exception only for good and substantial reasons, such as injury or sickness by the player substantiated by a physician's notarized statement, weather conditions causing postponement of games, and instances in which leagues were late in starting its seasons and therefore unable to complete a majority of its games prior to the start of tournament play. There may be other reasons for granting an exception, and the state director shall exercise discretion.

(B) All players on a major tournament team may be league age 12, if desired. The maximum age for players on minor league tournament teams shall be league age ten (10) for AAA division, eight (8) for AA division and six (6) for A division. A player hat a league allows to play up in the next age group shall be eligible to participate on his/her age-appropriate tournament team. **Local League Option: A league may require that any player can only participate on the tournament team of the age division in which he/she was rostered and played in the regular season**

(C)(1) A player, a coach or a team may participate or play in another tournament between scheduled DYB tournaments. However, a player, or replacement player, coach or a team shall not participate in any other tournament during a sanctioned DYB tournament including any days their team is not scheduled to play during the DYB tournament. **PENALTY:** Any player, or replacement player, manager or coach who violates this rule shall be removed from their DYB tournament team roster immediately. Any team who violates this rule shall be disqualified from tournament play immediately.

(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.

(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.

(4) A team shall not miss the first game of each level of DYB tournament play due to participation in another tournament for any reason. **PENALTY:** Any team who violates this rule shall be disqualified from tournament play immediately.

(D) No manager or coach shall participate on more than one DYB sanctioned tournament team at the same time.

(E)(1) No player shall participate on more than one of a League's DYB sanctioned tournament teams at the same time.

(E)(2) No player shall be listed on the original tournament roster affidavit of more than one of a league's DYB tournament teams during the same year. **Exception:** Players who are rostered under a specific league franchise number who participate on non-sanctioned rosters or the rosters of second sanctioned teams within a playing division may be used as replacement players with the approval of the state director if their original tournament team has been eliminated from competition.

(F) Only managers, assistant managers or coaches during the regular league season shall be eligible to manage or coach a tournament team, and they shall be registered on their regular season team player rosters as filed with the district and state directors. The state director shall be empowered to grant exceptions to this rule.

(G) No DYB official, elected or appointed, shall serve as a tournament director or any other official capacity in tournaments in which he/she manages or coaches in any tournament in which his team participates including any time after his/her team is eliminated from the tournament. Exception: No National Board member, elected or appointed, shall be eligible to manage or coach a tournament team under any circumstances.

(H) Upon the recommendation of the Tournament Director, the State Director shall have the authority to suspend from tournament play any player, manager or coach for a flagrant display of unsportsmanlike conduct or for a willful violation of DYB Rules and Regulations. A player, manager or coach who is suspended shall not be allowed to participate in further tournament play in any way to include opening or closing ceremonies and trophy presentations. The suspension may be for one or more games or for the remainder of tournament play during the current season. The Commissioner has this authority during the World Series.

(I) After an investigation conducted by the DYB Commissioner's Office, the National Board of Directors of DYB by a majority vote shall have the authority to suspend a player, manager or coach for the next season or impose a lifetime ban to the individual from participation in DYB tournaments.

(J) The State Board of Directors may adopt policies and guidelines to ban managers or coaches from tournament play for one or more years. This decision may be appealed to the Commissioner's Office.

VI. Tournament Team Roster Affidavit

(A) The tournament team roster affidavit shall be completed by the league online for each tournament team and printed in triplicate. The league shall deliver three signed originals of the team roster affidavit to the District Director at the District Credentials Meeting prior to the first tournament game. Each tournament team manager shall keep one of the originals of the tournament team roster/affidavit, properly completed, to present at all tournament games.

(B) The league president shall confirm that the players' names on the tournament affidavit are listed exactly the same as appears on their birth records.

(C) **Tournament Director**– With respect to sub district, district and state tournaments, district and state directors may delegate their authority to a designated tournament director. The National Commissioner shall designate a tournament director for the DYB AAA World Series and may designate a tournament director for the DYB World Series in his absence.

(D) **Credentials Committee**– In addition to the tournament team roster affidavit each team manager shall have a birth record and medical release form for each player whose name appears on the affidavit. The affidavit, medical release form and the birth records shall be publicly inspected and approved by a credentials committee composed of three members, one of whom may be the tournament director, and this public inspection shall be at least one week (seven days) prior to the first sub district or district game. All teams shall be notified of the credentials meeting by the district director or the tournament director at least one week prior to the inspection. This requirement shall be for sub-district and district play only.

(E) Teams failing to be present at the district credentials meeting with the team roster affidavit, birth records and medical release form shall forfeit their right to compete in tournament play. Teams shall have a birth record and medical release form at this meeting for each player listed on the player affidavit. In the event a team does not have a birth record for a player at this meeting, the player for whom there is no birth record shall be ineligible to play in the sub-district or district tournament.

(F) The state or district director shall be empowered, however, to make exceptions to the seven-day inspection rule for hardship cases. A player whose birth record is not accepted by the credentials committee at the inspection meeting shall have the opportunity of submitting another birth record to the committee on the evening prior to the first tournament game at a time and place set by the tournament director. Player affidavits may be corrected for spelling, typographical errors, nicknames and so on at either of the two meetings of the credentials committee. Players whose birth records are not accepted by the credentials committee at either of the two meetings shall be ineligible for all games in the sub-district and district tournaments. There shall be no appeal. **Team Disqualification - A team using a player not approved by the credentials committee shall be disqualified from tournament play.**

(G) Where separate district credentials meetings are held for each division's sub-district tournament, the credentials committee shall inspect the player affidavits and birth records of all the tournament teams in each division at the same time. There shall be a credentials meeting for each division in the district. All credentials' meetings within a district may be held at the same time.

(H) The state director or tournament director shall set the date and time for the inspection of the team roster affidavits and birth records for teams competing in state tournaments, and this time shall be at least three hours prior to the first game of the tournament. Teams not complying with this rule shall be subject to disqualification.

(I) With the exception of the host team, the actual birth certificates may not be inspected at the DYB World Series. Instead, each state director may sign the player affidavit of his state's representative team in the DYB World Series signifying that he or his representative has personally inspected the birth records of the players and found them to be in order. The player affidavit and birth records of the host team shall be inspected by the National Board of Directors. No protest shall be allowed at the DYB World Series on the basis of eligibility because of age unless the protest is substantiated by actual evidence accepted by the Board of Directors as proof of an age violation.

(J) DYB directs all tournament directors and credentials committee members to accept one of the following as proof of age:

(1) Birth certificate issued by a government agency which has a raised or affixed seal and is accepted as legal proof of age.

(2) Hospital certificate issued at birth.

(3) Baptismal certificate issued within six years after birth which shows actual date of birth. NOTE: A photo static copy of one of the above certificates, with a statement on the document signed by the parent or legal guardian stating it is an exact and true copy of the original. DYB Certification of Birth Record properly completed, inspected, signed, and stamped by a DYB district, state or national director or the Commissioner.

(K) Adopted children going by a name other than that which appears on the birth record shall furnish an affidavit of the adoption or name change and a copy of the affidavit shall be attached to the birth record. Players not legally adopted but using a name other than that which appears on the birth record shall be eligible provided a notarized statement of this fact is made before a probate judge or clerk of court or their equivalent and the statement is attached to the birth record with the signature and seal of clerk of court.

(L) A Protest of eligibility based on age may be presented to the tournament director at any time during tournament play. No protest of an age violation shall be allowed after the inspection by the credentials committee without absolute proof of fraud. The burden of proof shall be upon the protesting party. In the event proof of fraud is found and accepted by the credentials committee or a tournament director, Rule IV, Section (H)(3) will apply.

(M) Players who are unable to furnish an approved birth record shall be entitled to mail other documents of proof of age to the Commissioner, who shall be empowered to issue a certificate in lieu of an actual birth record.

VII. Replacing Players

(A) A team may replace tournament players after their selection to the team following investigation and approval by the District Director at District level, State Director at State level or Commissioner at the World Series. The new player must present proper proof of age and be otherwise eligible according to rules and regulations of this program including the restrictions in Regulation V(C). The player who is replaced shall not be entitled to return to the team unless he was a replaced injured player and he replaces another injured player. A replacement certificate shall be available from the District or State Director or Commissioner. Requests for replacements shall be made in writing by the local league President to the District Director at district tournaments, State Director at the state tournament or Commissioner at the World Series.

(B) A player added to a tournament roster after the 1st game of any level of tournament play will not be eligible to pitch in that level of tournament play.