

# EAST PEORIA COMMUNITY BASEBALL BYLAWS

*.... to promote the growth of baseball at all levels of competition for the East Peoria community. Safety and the development of sportsmanship, teamwork, honesty, courage, respect for authority, and physical fitness are the organization's priorities.*

Revised September  
2015

# **EAST PEORIA COMMUNITY BASEBALL PROGRAM INC.**

## **BYLAWS**

ARTICLE 1: The Program .....	5
Section 1: NAME AND ADDRESS .....	5
Section 2: PURPOSE .....	5
Section 3: DISSOLUTION CLAUSE.....	5
Section 4: OBJECTIVE.....	5
ARTICLE 2: East Peoria Community Baseball Program, Inc .....	6
Section 1: VISION .....	6
Section 2: MISSION.....	6
Section 3: A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION .....	6
Section 4: VOLUNTEERISM .....	6
Section 5: FACILITIES.....	6
Section 6: FINANCING THE EPCB PROGRAM.....	6
Section 7: INSURANCE HEALTH AND ACCIDENT .....	7
Section 8: LIABILITY.....	7
ARTICLE 3: Members .....	8
Section 1: MEMBERS .....	8
ARTICLE 4: Board of Directors .....	9
Section 1: OFFICERS OF EAST PEORIA COMMUNITY BASEBALL .....	9
Section 2: EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF EAST PEORIA COMMUNITY BASEBALL.....	9
Section 3: GENERAL OFFICERS OF EAST PEORIA COMMUNITY BASEBALL .....	9
Section 4: ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBERS.....	9
Section 5: VACANCY NOTIFICATION AND CANDIDATE FILING .....	10
Section 6: ELECTIONS.....	10
Section 7: COMPENSATION.....	10
ARTICLE 5: Board Meetings.....	11
Section 1: BUSINESS AND AFFAIRS OF THE CORPORATION.....	11
Section 2: MEETING DATES AND TIME .....	11
Section 3: ABSENT FROM MEETINGS.....	11
Section 4: QUORUM.....	11
ARTICLE 6: Committees.....	13
Section 1: COMMITTEES OF EAST PEORIA COMMUNITY BASEBALL.....	13
ARTICLE 7: Duties of the Officers.....	14
Section 1: PRESIDENT.....	14
Section 2: VICE PRESIDENT / DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS .....	14
Section 3: TREASURER .....	14
Section 4: SECRETARY .....	15
Section 5: PAST PRESIDENT .....	15
ARTICLE 8: Duties of Committees.....	16
Section 1: DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS/WEB MASTER .....	16
Section 2: DIRECTOR OF UNIFORMS .....	16
Section 3: DIRECTOR OF EQUIPMENT .....	16
Section 4: DIRECTOR OF FUND RAISING .....	16
Section 5: DIRECTOR OF UMPIRES.....	17
Section 6: DIRECTOR OF TRAVEL BASEBALL .....	17
Section 7: DIRECTOR OF REGISTRATIONS/SCHEDULING .....	17
Section 8: DIRECTOR OF TOURNAMENTS .....	18
ARTICLE 9: League Commissioner(s) .....	19
Section 1: DUTIES OF LEAGUE COMMISSIONER(S).....	19

ARTICLE 10: Field Duty .....	20
Section 1: FIELD DUTY .....	20
ARTICLE 11: General Procedures.....	21
Section 1: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.....	21
Section 2: AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES.....	21
ARTICLE 12: Finances.....	22
Section 1: PURCHASES.....	22
Section 2: CHECKS .....	22
Section 3: BANK ACCOUNTS .....	22
ARTICLE 13: Registration.....	23
Section 1: REGISTRATION PROCESS.....	23
Section 2: REGISTRATION FEES.....	23
Section 3: REFUNDS OF REGISTRATION FEES.....	23
Section 4: EPCB TRAVEL TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEE .....	24
ARTICLE 14: In House Age Requirements.....	25
Section 1: AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH LEAGUE .....	25
ARTICLE 15: Game Times .....	26
Section 1: TIMES GAMES CAN BE PLAYED IN-HOUSE.....	26
ARTICLE 16: In-House Draft Rules.....	27
Section 1: EPCB EVALUATION AND DRAFT PROCEDURES.....	27
Section 2: SAVED PLAYERS .....	27
ARTICLE 17: Coaches Handbook.....	29
Section 1: COACHES DUTIES (GENERAL) .....	29
Section 2: TEAM MANAGEMENT AND LEAGUE PLAY .....	29
ARTICLE 18: League Rules .....	30
Section 1: COACHES EXPECTATIONS .....	30
Section 2: PARENTAL EXPECTATIONS .....	30
Section 3: CONDUCT .....	30
Section 4: RULES GOVERNING LEAGUE PLAY.....	31
Section 5: GENERAL PLAYING RULES .....	31
Section 6: SAFETY.....	31
Section 7: LEGAL TEAM ROSTER.....	32
Section 8: GENERAL PARTICIPATION RULES .....	32
Section 9: BATTING ORDER.....	32
Section 10: LENGTH OF GAMES .....	32
Section 11: RAIN OUTS.....	33
Section 12: UNIFORMS .....	33
Section 13: UMPIRES.....	33
Section 14: APPEAL.....	33
Section 15: PROTEST.....	33
Section 16: PENALTIES .....	33
Section 17: GAME EJECTION.....	34
Section 18: IN-HOUSE TOURNAMENT GAMES.....	34
Section 19: MODIFYING LEAGUE RULES .....	34
Section 20: QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS.....	34
ARTICLE 19: T-Ball League Rules.....	35
Section 1: BUNTING .....	35
Section 2: FIELD DIMENSIONS .....	35
Section 3: INFIELD FLY RULE.....	35
Section 4: LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY.....	35
Section 5: LENGTH OF GAMES.....	35
Section 6: PARTICIPATION RULES .....	35
Section 7: PITCHING RULES.....	35

Section 8: RUNS PER INNING RULES.....	35
Section 9: SAFETY BASES.....	36
Section 10: SPEED UP RULES.....	36
Section 11: STEALING OF BASES.....	36
Section 12: THIRD STRIKE.....	36
Section 13: WALKS.....	36
Section 14: SPECIAL T-BALL RULES.....	36
ARTICLE 20: Pinto League Rules.....	37
Section 1: BUNTING.....	37
Section 2: FIELD DIMENSIONS.....	37
Section 3: INFIELD FLY RULE.....	37
Section 4: LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY.....	37
Section 5: LENGTH OF GAMES.....	37
Section 6: PARTICIPATION RULES.....	37
Section 7: PITCHING RULES.....	38
Section 8: RUNS PER INNING RULES.....	38
Section 9: SAFETY BASES.....	38
Section 10: BASERUNNING.....	38
Section 11: SPEED UP RULES.....	39
Section 12: STEALING OF BASES.....	39
Section 13: THIRD STRIKE.....	39
Section 14: WALKS.....	39
ARTICLE 21: Mustang League Rules.....	40
Section 1: BUNTING.....	40
Section 2: FIELD DIMENSIONS.....	40
Section 3: INFIELD FLY RULE.....	40
Section 4: LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY.....	40
Section 5: LENGTH OF GAMES.....	40
Section 6: PARTICIPATION RULES.....	40
Section 7: PITCHING RULES.....	41
Section 8: SAFETY BASES.....	41
Section 9: BASERUNNING.....	42
Section 10: SPEED UP RULES.....	42
Section 11: STEALING OF BASES.....	42
Section 12: THIRD STRIKE.....	42
Section 13: WALKS.....	42
Section 14: BALKS.....	42
ARTICLE 22: Bronco League Rules.....	43
Section 1: BUNTING.....	43
Section 2: FIELD DIMENSIONS.....	43
Section 3: INFIELD FLY RULE.....	43
Section 4: LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY.....	43
Section 5: LENGTH OF GAMES.....	43
Section 6: PARTICIPATION RULES.....	43
Section 7: PITCHING RULES.....	44
Section 8: SAFETY BASES.....	44
Section 9: BASERUNNING.....	44
Section 10: SPEED UP RULES.....	44
Section 11: STEALING OF BASES.....	44
Section 12: THIRD STRIKE.....	44
Section 13: WALKS.....	45
Section 14: BALKS.....	45
ARTICLE 23: Pony League Rules.....	46

Section 1: BUNTING .....	46
Section 2: FIELD DIMENSIONS .....	46
Section 3: INFIELD FLY RULE.....	46
Section 4: LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY.....	46
Section 5: LENGTH OF GAMES.....	46
Section 6: PARTICIPATION RULES .....	46
Section 7: PITCHING RULES.....	46
Section 8: SAFETY BASES.....	47
Section 9: SPEED UP RULES.....	47
Section 10: STEALING OF BASES .....	47
Section 11: THIRD STRIKE.....	47
Section 12: WALKS.....	47
Section 13: EQUIPMENT.....	47
Section 14: BALKS.....	48
Article 24: Colt League Rules.....	49
Section 1: BUNTING .....	49
Section 2: FIELD DIMENSIONS .....	49
Section 3: Infield Fly Rule.....	49
Section 4: LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY.....	49
Section 5: LENGTH OF GAMES.....	49
Section 6: PARTICIPATION RULES .....	49
Section 7: PITCHING RULES.....	49
Section 8: SAFETY BASES.....	50
Section 9: SPEED UP RULES.....	50
Section 10: STEALING OF BASES .....	50
Section 11: THIRD STRIKE.....	50
Section 12: WALKS.....	50
Section 13: EQUIPMENT.....	50
Section 14: SPECIAL COLT RULES.....	50
ARTICLE 25: All-Star Teams.....	51
Section 1: TEAM SELECTION PROCESS .....	51
Section 2: NUMBER OF GAMES FOR ALL-STAR TEAMS .....	51
ARTICLE 26: Travel Teams.....	52
Section 1: TRAVEL TEAM AGE GROUPS .....	52
Section 2: AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH TRAVEL LEAGUE .....	52
Section 3: BIRTH CERTIFICATES .....	53
Section 4: SELECTION OF TRAVEL TEAM COACHES.....	53
Section 5: SELECTION OF PLAYERS .....	53
Section 6: FINANCIALS.....	54
Section 7: NUMBER OF TRAVEL TEAM GAMES.....	54

# **ARTICLE 1: The Program**

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## **Section 1: NAME AND ADDRESS**

This organization shall be known as the East Peoria Community Baseball, Inc. (EPCB). The organization is a non-profit corporation. EPCB mailing address is P. O. Box 8047, East Peoria, IL 61611.

## **Section 2: PURPOSE**

The program is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The constitution bylaws were adopted initially in 1957 with the latest version being dated 2015.

## **Section 3: DISSOLUTION CLAUSE**

Upon dissolution of the program, “the Board” shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all the liabilities of the program, dispose of all the assets of the program exclusively for the purposes of the program in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated consistent as possible with the objectives of East Peoria Youth Baseball Program, as “the Board” shall determine, exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as “the Board” shall determine.

## **Section 4: OBJECTIVE**

The East Peoria Community Baseball Program's objective is to provide a supervised baseball program that will be enjoyable, educational, and challenging for all the youth within the East Peoria School District 309 boundaries, or other geographical area as described in these Bylaws as determined by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The attainment of exceptional athletic skill and the winning of games are secondary to this objective. The program will be an evening and weekend program, and will be comprised of uniformed teams.

The number of teams will be determined by the Board of Directors with the goal of providing enough teams for all boys and girls interested in participating.

# **ARTICLE 2: East Peoria Community Baseball Program, Inc.**

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## **Founded**

Founded in 1957 to provide recreational activity for the youth of the City of East Peoria and the surrounding areas feeding the East Peoria High School District #309.

## **Section 1: VISION**

To provide an opportunity for the youth of our community to grow, both mentally and physically, by participating in the EPCB summer baseball program.

## **Section 2: MISSION**

- A. To manage a program with Safety being our # 1 priority.
- B. To manage a proper balance between teaching the game of baseball and providing a fun and rewarding experience for our youth.
- C. To manage a nonprofit and economical baseball program using volunteers to comprise our Board of Directors (elected by program membership) and coaches (approved by the Board of Directors).

## **Section 3: A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

EPCB is managed by the Board of Directors who are responsible for monitoring the conduct of its volunteers and participants. The Board also must manage the fiduciary responsibilities of the program.

## **Section 4: VOLUNTEERISM**

Volunteerism is the substance from which this program has evolved and upon which it is dependent; not only from the Board of Directors and coaches but from each parent and player. The sharing of our time and resources so that our youth can participate in an active full summer of baseball has made EPCB Inc. one of the premier youth programs in the country.

## **Section 5: FACILITIES**

East Peoria Community Baseball seeks the use of economical baseball facilities that provide the best possible playing experience for its members. EPCB is not part of the Fon du Lac Park District or the City of East Peoria, but works closely with the Park District and City Boards & Staff to provide the best organized baseball experience possible.

## **Section 6: FINANCING THE EPCB PROGRAM**

Financing the EPCB Program comes from several different sources. They include team sponsor fees, registration fees, donations of cash and services, and possibly a fundraising project. The costs incurred for this program includes umpire salaries, insurance, , baseball equipment, uniforms, awards/trophies, tournament costs, etc. .

## **Section 7: INSURANCE HEALTH AND ACCIDENT**

All players, coaches, assistant coaches, youth non-licensed umpires are covered by an accident policy which will provide certain secondary medical benefits when injuries are sustained during EPCB sanctioned activities. Parents should consult an insurance advisor if they have questions about what coverage is not provided.

## **Section 8: LIABILITY**

EPCB carries liability protection For EPCB Sponsored Programs Only. Participation in non-sponsored programs is not covered. This insurance is a secondary insurance coverage. Licensed Umpires are considered Independent Contractors, and are not covered by EPCB Insurance.



## **ARTICLE 3: Members**

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### **Section 1: MEMBERS**

Membership in East Peoria Community Baseball shall be open to all persons who sincerely desire to further the objectives as expressed by these Bylaws. Members of East Peoria Community Baseball shall be any parent or guardian of youth duly registered in the baseball program, approved coach, or Officer from the day of registration to the first day of registration of the following year.

## **ARTICLE 4: Board of Directors**

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### **Section 1: OFFICERS OF EAST PEORIA COMMUNITY BASEBALL**

The Board of Directors will consist of seventeen members. The Board of Directors known jointly as the "Board" will be:

- A. 5 Executive Officers
- B. 12 General Officers

Any Executive Officer, General Officer or Associate Board Member may be subject to disciplinary action for conduct unbecoming or detrimental to EPCB by a simple majority opinion of the Board of Directors. Any Officer may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board (not including those positions which are vacant).

### **Section 2: EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF EAST PEORIA COMMUNITY BASEBALL**

The purpose of the Executive Officers is to meet and discuss matters that are important to EPCB and its members. The Executive Officers will set a direction for the Program, keep the Program organized, and help stream line the administration of EPCB. At times the Executive Officers will meet separately to discuss particular issues as a recommendation to the General Board. This discussion does not obligate EPCB in any way. The General Board will hear the recommendation of the Executive Officers and will vote as to approve such recommendation. The Executive Officers will review all expenses each month to insure all committees stay within their approved budget. Executive Officers will approve the Treasurer report so it can be presented to the General Board for final approval. The Executive Officers will consist of:

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Treasurer
- D. Secretary
- E. Past (Ex) President

All elected Executive Officer positions will be for a term of two years. All Executive Officer positions will start and end on the same date. If an Executive Officer resigns before the two year term expires, the Board may appoint a temporary replacement until it is permanently filled at the next election.

### **Section 3: GENERAL OFFICERS OF EAST PEORIA COMMUNITY BASEBALL**

The purpose of the General Officers is to meet, discuss, agree, and execute on matters that are important to EPCB and its members. The General Officers will support the Executive Officers in setting the direction for the Program, keeping the Program organized, and helping to stream line the administration of EPCB. The General Officers will chair the committee's outlines in Article 6.

### **Section 4: ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBERS**

If the Board is full and more individuals are interested in being associated with it, associates may be appointed as Associate Members. They will not be voting members. Travel and in-house coaches are should be encouraged to be Associate Members and attend scheduled board meetings.

## **Section 5: VACANCY NOTIFICATION AND CANDIDATE FILING**

All vacancies must be communicated to the public at least 30 days prior to any vote to fill those vacancies. The vacancies should be communicated to the public at a minimum via the following methods:

- Notification posted to the EPCBB website
- Notification posted to the EPCBB Facebook page
- Notification posted in East Peoria Times Courier and Peoria Journal Star
- Notification sent via e-mail to all current Members

Provided a vacancy exists, anyone is eligible for election to the board. Board Candidates need not be "Members". Anyone interested in serving on the board, should contact an Executive Officer to be placed on the ballot at least (7) seven days prior to the election.

## **Section 6: ELECTIONS**

### General Officer

A special Board meeting to fill General Officer vacancies will be scheduled immediately after the public communication timeframe and candidate filing deadlines have passed. All who are seeking a General Officer position must state to the Board why they want said position and be willing to answer questions by other members. After all those seeking a position have stated why they want said position and have answered all questions must temporarily leave the meeting so current members can speak openly about each candidate. After all ballots have been counted said members may return to the meeting.

### Executive Officer

Election of the Executive Officers shall be held no later than September 15, in accordance with Article 5, Section 2. The Board shall secure proper voting so ballots can be cast in privacy.

Usually, unless he declines or an exception is deemed necessary, the current president will be appointed a board member for the subsequent year known as Past President and that year only. Should the President decline or an exception be necessary, the new Board member will be elected as described above.

Ideally the Treasurer's term will run from January 1 to December 31. The Interim period shall be used to transfer information to the new Treasurer, and allow for the filing of annual tax forms. The Old Treasurer's term will terminate upon the filing of the annual tax forms.

## **Section 7: COMPENSATION**

All Officers of the corporation shall be elected volunteers receiving no compensation for performance of their duties. No Officer of the corporation shall willingly use his position for personal gain or to obtain any benefits that are not available to the entire membership.

# **ARTICLE 5: Board Meetings**

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## **Section 1: BUSINESS AND AFFAIRS OF THE CORPORATION**

The business and affairs of EPCB shall be managed by the Board. The Board shall establish all policies, rules, and procedures not covered by these Bylaws.

## **Section 2: MEETING DATES AND TIME**

Regular meetings of the Board will be held the second Sunday of each month at such time and place as determined by the Board.

Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President from time to time. Any three (3) Officers may call a special meeting of the Board with three (3) days written notice to the President or in his absence, the presiding Vice President.

At the October meeting the Executive Officers will appoint duties/directors for Board Approval. If more than one member is serving on the same committee the Executive Officers will appoint a Chairman of said committee, excluding executive officer member.

At the November meeting the committee chairs will submit their budget for their respective committee. The Executive Officers will review each budget and make their recommendation to the general board at the January meeting for board approval.

All Officers of EPCB will have one vote during Board meetings except for the President or presiding Officer. The President or presiding Executive Officer will only vote in order to break a tie vote during all meetings.

## **Section 3: ABSENT FROM MEETINGS**

Any Officer who is absent from two (2) consecutive regular Board meetings will lose his/her power to vote until the following conditions are met: 1) attend one complete Board meeting without voting status, and 2) review minutes of all meetings previously missed. The President or presiding Executive Officer may ask for Board approval to waive the first condition for a Board Member, if circumstances warrant.

Any Officer who is absent from three (3) consecutive regular Board meetings, will be subject to dismissal from the Board.

## **Section 4: QUORUM**

Seven voting board member Officers of the program with voting powers constitute a quorum at a regular scheduled board meeting. A previously adopted resolution (excluding bylaws) can be amended/rescinded with a two thirds majority vote or by a majority vote if there was prior notice. Prior notice requires notice of the proposed amendment/recession to each board member when notice of the meeting is given, or is satisfied if the proposed amendment/recession was discussed in the preceding meeting. Absentee votes and how that works

Notwithstanding the forgoing, the following actions of the Board requires a majority vote of at least eight votes:

1. Amendment of the Bylaws,
2. Resolution for any purchase in excess of \$2,500, not previously budgeted, and excluding the customary purchases of equipment and uniforms before each season,
3. Wages and salary increases, and
4. Appointment to vacant Board position.

Officers of the program, including the president, must be present, and will constitute a quorum at any regularly scheduled Board Meeting. Any Special Meeting as defined in Article 3, Section 2 and Article 5 Section 2, will require seven voting members plus the president present at the meeting. Any resolution (excluding by-laws) brought to the floor for a vote must pass with a majority of the votes, without the vote of the president.

## **ARTICLE 6: Committees**

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### **Section 1: COMMITTEES OF EAST PEORIA COMMUNITY BASEBALL**

Standing or special committees shall be appointed by the President or Executive Officers from time to time. The President shall be an ex officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. All Standing Committee compositions and duties will be written in the Bylaws of EPCB.

Each committee will compile and submit a detailed budget at the November meeting for board approval as well as a report at each board meeting informing the board of all progress or important issues of that committee. All Committee budgets must be approved before any purchases or spending for said committee can be made. All Budgets must provide a detailed list of all items to be purchased. Each committee will keep a checklist relating to their work, by month to be provided for the following year's committee to help insure successful transition and provide a copy to the Secretary.

- A. Director of Public Relations and Webmaster
- B. Director of Equipment & Uniforms
- C. Director of Fund Raising
- D. Director of Umpires
- E. Director of Travel Baseball
- F. Director of Registrations/Scheduling
- G. Director of Tournaments

## **ARTICLE 7: Duties of the Officers**

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### **Section 1: PRESIDENT**

- A. Preside over all meetings.
- B. Break any tie vote.
- C. Call Executive Officer meetings as needed.
- D. Communicate and work with the City of East Peoria, Fon du Lac Park District, and all school districts feeding East Peoria High School District #309 towards our goal of providing the finest supervised baseball for the youth of this community.
- E. Manage the Officers of the program and ensure that all duties of the Board are completed in a timely fashion.
- F. Appoint committees, and act as an ex officio member at committee meetings.
- G. Prepare an agenda for each meeting and make that agenda available to all Board Members no later than 3 days prior to said meeting.
- H. Notify all Officers of the Program of Executive Officer Meetings.
- I. Appoint a committee to review all surveys and submit recommendations to the board.
- J. Attend at least two Fon du Lac Park District and two East Peoria City Council meetings per year. One of the meetings should be immediately after taking office to introduce them self.
- K. Perform such other duties as the Board prescribes.
- L. Assist as needed any operations that pertains to the functions of EPCB.
- M. Make Field Duty Schedule
- A. Preside over all meetings in the absence of the President.
- B. Oversee the in-house draft and travel team try outs.

### **Section 2: VICE PRESIDENT / DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**

- C. Oversee the coach's clinic and player clinic.
- D. Mediates between league commissioners.
- E. Organize a calendar of all events to be distributed to all board members and coaches.
- F. Provide all dates to the Fon du Lac Park District and City of East Peoria.
- G. Submit any changes with regards to rules etc. to the Board for their approval.
- H. To oversee the drafts for the in-house baseball teams.
- I. Perform duties as assigned by the President.

### **Section 3: TREASURER**

- A. Collect all funds.
- B. Dispense all bills and charges under the direction of the board.
- C. Maintain the financial status of the program.
- D. Provide a full report of receipts and expenditures, deposit balances, and financial condition at each regular meeting and the Executive Officers.
- E. File tax returns and forms required to maintain nonprofit status and report all filings to the board.
- F. Notify all banking institutions each year of the changes of Officers and obtain signatures of the President, Vice President, and Treasurer for the appropriate accounts.
- G. Obtain inventory reports from all Officers and committees so the appropriate limits of insurance can be purchased.
- J. To procure and manage the insurance for EPCB with Executive Board Officer approval.
- H. Write payroll checks for all In-House umpires and hired help.
- I. Keep and maintain computer, printer and all other office equipment in good working order.
- J. Secure and maintain the Programs not for profit tax exempt status.

- K. At the end of each fiscal year turns over all books and reports to the EPCB Accountant for review.
- L. Perform the duties as assigned by the President.

#### **Section 4: SECRETARY**

- A. Make and preserve the minutes of all meetings.
- B. Keep all committee reports.
- C. Maintain the record books in which the bylaws, standing rules, and minutes are entered, with any amendments to these documents properly recorded, and to have the current record books on hand at every meeting.
- D. Maintain a complete list of all voting Officers of the program and maintain a list of the entire membership.
- E. Make and distribute copies of the bylaws, standing rules, keys, shirts, and hats to board members of the program as well as new board members packet.
- F. Collect all files from all Officers and committees at the end of each year and for future reference. Forward all files to Treasurer for safe keeping.
- G. Assist league commissioners with making and distributing copies of the following materials to each coach through the appropriate League Commissioners:
  - EPCB rules for the appropriate league/division
  - Update the list of current Board Members, committees, Chairperson of each committee on the EPCB organizational flow chart.
  - Medical release forms and Consent to Treat Form
- H. Update information that changes every year such as the list of Officers etc.
- I. Provide a copy of the minutes of the last meeting for Board approval.
- J. Maintain a list of all committee and Chairman of said committees.
- K. Compile any proposed By-law changes for submittal to the Board
- L. Perform duties as assigned by the President.

#### **Section 5: PAST PRESIDENT**

- A. Act as an advisor to all members
- B. Distribute surveys to all participants.
- C. Perform duties as assigned by the President.



## **ARTICLE 8: Duties of Committees**

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### **Section 1: DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS/WEB MASTER**

- A. Run advertisements in the local media regarding registration, board vacancies, and coaching positions.
- B. Write and submit articles to the local newspaper for the program.
- C. Write a yearly newsletter and distribute electronically.
- D. Maintain and improve EPCB's Internet web site.
- E. Update and maintain the program's Member contact database.
- F. Create, Distribute (with board approval), and summarize yearly survey to members.
- G. Submit a progress report at each Board meeting for Board approval.
- H. Submit a yearly budget at the November meeting for Board approval.
- I. Perform duties as assigned by the President.

### **Section 2: DIRECTOR OF UNIFORMS**

- A. Coordinate with the Director of Registrations on obtaining uniform sizes at time of registration.
- B. Solicit bids for team uniforms from all local business as well as any other sources that are available. .
- C. Select and purchase all required in-house and with board approval.
- D. Coordinate the distribution of uniforms to league commissioners (at least one week prior to the season start).
- E. Organize EPCB "Spirit Wear" for both in-house and Travel teams.
- F. Submit a yearly budget at the November meeting for Board approval.
- G. Submit a progress report at each Board meeting for Board approval.
- H. Perform duties as assigned by the President.

### **Section 3: DIRECTOR OF EQUIPMENT**

- A. Develop beginning and ending equipment inventory report for each league and submit to the board for approval.
- B. Select and purchase all required in-house equipment with board approval.
- C. Coordinate the distribution and collection of all equipment to league commissioners
- D. Oversee the storage and security of all equipment.
- E. Provide keys for the equipment and uniform storage to the President and Director of Umpires.
- F. Submit a yearly budget at the November meeting for Board approval.
- G. Submit a progress report at each Board meeting for Board approval.
- H. Perform duties as assigned by the President.

### **Section 4: DIRECTOR OF FUND RAISING**

- A. Plan, organize, and run all of the board approved fund-raising activities.
- B. Submit to the board for approval a list of planned fund raising activities with a schedule.
- C. Organize and contact business to become a sponsor of EPCB
- D. Maintain a working relationship between the sponsors and EPCB.
- E. Approve team fund raising and report to Board.
- F. Update Sponsorship Signage.
- G. Order and organize the delivery of sponsor's plaques.
- H. Have Photo packet in place by March 31.
- I. Consider bids from local photographers and submit for Board approval.
- J. Organize and schedule the dates for picture taking.
- K. Submit budget for board approval

- L. Provide monthly report to the Board
- M. Perform duties as assigned by the President.

### **Section 5: DIRECTOR OF UMPIRES**

- A. Appoint, with board approval, a Coordinator of Umpires.
- B. Instruct and Assist the Coordinator of Umpires with:
  - Scheduling patched umpires for the Bronco, Pony and Colt in-house League and all travel teams (except Pinto).
  - Scheduling umpires for in-house tournaments, all ages.
  - Scheduling all needed umpires for the EPCB Travel Tournament.
  - Supervise all Umpires.
  - Providing needed materials for the umpires and provide a list to the Director of Equipment.
  - Organize a yearly umpiring clinic.
  - Verify that all umpires will be at least 14 years of age at time of games.
  - Supervise all in-house umpires, and address issues between umpires and fans, parents, and coaches.
- C. Verify with all Umpires that they are considered Independent Contractors, and are “subject to” (responsible for complying with) all State and Federal Tax Laws.
- D. Verify that All Licensed Umpires are in good standing with the Illinois High School Association (IHSA).
- E. Submit all Licensed Umpires names to the Board for approval
- F. Submit all In-house umpires names to the Board for approval
- G. Submit a yearly budget at the November meeting for Board approval, including proposed wages.
- H. Submit a progress report at each Board meeting for Board approval.
- I. Perform duties as assigned by the President.

### **Section 6: DIRECTOR OF TRAVEL BASEBALL**

- A. Coordinate between the Board of Directors and the Travel Coaches
- B. Verify that the tryouts for travel baseball are performed within the guidelines of the Bylaws.
- C. Perform Ombudsman duties between Parents, Coaches, and the Board of Directors.
- D. Collect and report on issues and comments from Parents, Coaches and Officials.
- E. Oversee scheduling and field time between teams and the master scheduler.
- F. Collect all schedules from all travel team coaches and deliver to master scheduler.
- G. Coordinate with travel coaches to select and purchase uniforms.
- H. Ask Each League Commissioners to manage their respective leagues evaluations. .
- I. Submit a yearly budget at the November meeting for Board approval.
- J. Submit a progress report at each Board meeting for Board approval.
- K. Perform duties as assigned by the President.

### **Section 7: DIRECTOR OF REGISTRATIONS/SCHEDULING**

- A. Produce registration information flyers and distribute them to all local schools and public bulletin boards.
- A. Ask league commissioners to handle their respective leagues at sign up.
- B. Schedule league tryouts; Reserve Eastside fields for all tryouts.
- C. Schedule league draft; Reserve Folepi Building for in-house draft.
- D. Submit weekly standings to local media and web master.
- E. Coordinate with league commissions on inter-lock when applicable and coordinate with other communities
- F. Coordinate with master scheduler for in-house games and rainouts.
- G. Get tentative league schedules ready for approval for January Board meeting.
- H. Schedule a date for coach’s clinic and contact EPCHS coach’s to conduct the clinic.
- I. Get East Peoria Grade School District 86 school calendar to plan around for our schedule.
- J. Submit any changes with regards to rules etc. to the Board for their approval.

- K. Provide evaluation forms for evaluations for all leagues for consistency
- L. Ask each Travel Team coach to manage their respective team evaluation.
- M. Submit a yearly budget at the November meeting for Board approval.
- N. Submit a progress report at each Board meeting for Board approval.
- O. Perform duties as assigned by the President.

## **Section 8: DIRECTOR OF TOURNAMENTS**

### General/In-House

- A. Coordinate with league commissioners
- B. Order all trophies.
- C. Create & Update brackets
- D. Schedule games/fields
- E. Work with Director of Umpires ensuring we have enough umpires for all games.

### Travel

- A. Solicit teams
- B. Collect all entry fee money and deliver to Treasurer.
- C. Work with the Director of Public Relations for advertising of our tournament. .
- D. Add Director of East Peoria Tournament name to web site for main contact.
- E. Provide directions, brackets, and rules to all teams.
- F. Provide all teams' information regarding but not limited to hotels, restaurants, EPCB web site address etc.
- G. Work with East Peoria Chamber of Commerce providing assistance with discounts for eating and hotels for teams.
- H. Coordinate with Director of Fundraising on fundraising opportunities
- I. Update brackets throughout tournament

## **ARTICLE 9: League Commissioner(s)**

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Each league will be assigned a League commissioner. League commissioners will be comprised of General Officers. Executive Officers may not be commissioners. It is recommended that travel coaches also not be league commissioners.

### **Section 1: DUTIES OF LEAGUE COMMISSIONER(S)**

- A. Serve as a communicator/facilitator between the Board and the Managers/coaches in their respective leagues.
- B. Implement rules, policies, and procedures as established by the board.
- C. Coordinate with Director of Scheduling to schedule all games, make ups, tournaments, and practices for the teams in their league.
- D. Coordinate with directors in the operation of their league with regards to equipment, pictures, trophies, fund raiser, newsletters and other items.
- E. Submit, for board approval, a list of registered coaches in the appropriate league/division.
- F. Distribute a list of approved coaches, team names, along with their e-mail and phone numbers to the Director of Registrations.
- G. Maintain accurate team rosters.
- H. Submit, for board approval, any requests for registration refunds from players/parents that have left the program.
- I. Attend and/or assist in the umpire training.
- J. Report any injury's to players in their league immediately to the President and Secretary.
- K. Provide the following information to each coach/manager in the league/division:
  - EPCB rules for the respective league
  - Roster of the EPCB Board
  - Schedule of games and tournaments
  - List of coaches in the respective league/division and phone numbers
  - To assign late registrants to teams.
- L. Oversee Evaluations and Player Draft of their respective Leagues. .
- M. Mustang and Bronco League Commissioners will determine whether there is interest in an All Star Team for the league in which they represent. If there is interest, the commissioner will have the following responsibilities:
  - Work with team coaches to select players
  - Select All-Star coach
  - Schedule games with local All-Star teams
  - Communicate schedule with All-Star coach
- N. Submit a progress report at each Board meeting for Board approval.
- O. Perform duties as assigned by the President.

## **ARTICLE 10: Field Duty**

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### **Section 1: FIELD DUTY**

All board members will be assigned specific days to supervise the EPCB facility throughout the baseball season. Field duty will consist of the following responsibilities:

- A. If unable to attend on scheduled date it is required to find a replacement.
- B. Arrive to the fields at least 30 minutes before the first game.
- C. Put your name and phone number on the dry erase board outside the concession window.
- D. Check the fields that are scheduled to have games. Make sure they have been striped, raked, dugouts fairly clean, etc. so they are ready to play. This should already be done by the field maintenance crew, but doesn't hurt to double check.
- E. Confirm that the Umpires are / have arrived for each game.
- F. To assist with umpiring if any game is short an umpire
- G. Once the games are underway you can watch, pick stuff up, and be available for questions.

# **ARTICLE 11: General Procedures**

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## **Section 1: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the program in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the corporation may adopt.

Regular meetings shall follow the following general order / agenda:

1. Roll call
2. Reading and approval of previous meeting's minutes
3. Reports of commissioners
4. Reports of directors
5. Old business
6. New business
7. Adjournment

## **Section 2: AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES**

These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed at any meeting of the membership by the affirmative vote of a majority of members present, but in no event, less than eight votes. Notice of the proposed alteration, amendment, or repeal must be contained in the notice of the meeting.

Standing Rules are rules which are related to details of the administration of the program. Standing Rules may be altered, amended, repealed, or granted an exception at any General Board Meeting by the affirmative vote of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of voting Board Members present (excluding the President or presiding Officer).

These by-laws will be reviewed and affirmed every two years, starting in 2017 at the annual meeting. A simple Majority of Directors can reaffirm, or can call for the formation of a by-law review committee. The By-law Review committee will make recommendations to amend the bylaws by the May board meeting of the following year. June, July and August will be the comment period. A vote will be made at the September meeting for the adoption of the revised by-laws.

By-laws will become effective upon the Approval of the board. If the board rejects the proposed by-laws, the existing by-laws will remain in effect.

## **ARTICLE 12: Finances**

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### **Section 1: PURCHASES**

All purchases of the program over \$250 (check or cash) must be approved by the board. Requests for purchase/reimbursement should be submitted to the Treasurer who will submit the requests to the board for approval. Requests must include an invoice and/or receipt. Items pertaining to routine bills (utilities, umpires, all-star team entry fees) may be paid without board approval in the interest of good business practice; however these items must be itemized at the following board meeting. Any purchases over \$250 not approved in advance will not be reimbursed.

If the President needs approval on a purchase that cannot wait until the next regular meeting he may call each individual member and ask them for approval. All members must be contacted and their vote recorded. At the next scheduled meeting the vote results must be announced by reading how each member voted.

A sales tax exempt form should be used for all retail purchases. Treasurer will supply the sales tax form to those who request one.

All purchases over \$1,000 shall be competitively bid. The board must approve the final selection on all bids.

### **Section 2: CHECKS**

The Treasurer is authorized to sign checks for day to day operations.

Checks from the general account should be signed by two board members preferably the President and Treasurer when exceeding \$250. The following will have signing authority to the general account; President, Vice President and Treasurer.

The President/Treasurer is authorized to write a check for up to \$500 to handle emergencies.

When checks require two signatures, the other board member signing the check will also be giving consent for the purchase. This purchase must be reviewed by the board at the next scheduled board meeting.

### **Section 3: BANK ACCOUNTS**

A program bank account will be established at a local East Peoria bank using the names of the following Executive Officers President, Vice President and Treasurer. This account will be known as the General Fund, in which all funds will be paid from by the Treasurer. All transactions will be entered into the accounting software.

A program bank account will be established at a local East Peoria bank using the names of the following Officers: President, Vice President, and Treasurer. This account will be used specifically for paying Independent Patched Umpires for Officiating games requiring Patched Umpires. All transactions will be recorded by the Director of Umpires, and will be turned over to the Treasurer by September 1<sup>st</sup> (or sooner) of each year for an audit review.

# **ARTICLE 13: Registration**

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## **Section 1: REGISTRATION PROCESS**

The board shall approve a registration opening date and a registration closing date at least 60 days prior to the opening of registration. All board members shall assist in registration under the direction of the Director of Registration. Open Registration will begin in mid-February. The board shall approve a registration fee for all in-house teams at least 60 days prior to the opening of registration.

The board shall approve appropriate registration forms at least 60 days prior to the opening of registration. The forms must include a medical release and hold harmless statements.

The board shall adequately advertise registration in advance. Advertisement should include but not be limited to the following:

- A. Flyers distributed to all local schools to be sent home with every student.
- B. Flyers displayed in public areas.
- C. Local newspaper advertisements.
- D. Posts to the Web-Site, E-mails and Text Messages.

No individual will be allowed to register after the league opening date with the following exceptions:

- A. New players moving into the area. These persons will be allowed to register at any time. A "late move in" registrant shall be placed on the team with the fewest number of active players at the time of their registration. If more than one team qualifies for the new player then the League Commissioners of the league/division will place the new player on one of the teams that qualify.
- B. The specific instance whereby a team cannot complete its schedule because the roster has dropped below the required number of players. This case will be reviewed by the board and new players allowed on the team if they are available.

In the event a team roster decreases below the required number of players and no new registrants are available, an equitable solution will be established by the board so that the team may continue to play. The manager of the team will be required to give notice in writing to the board (through his/her commissioner) that his team is below the required number of players.

## **Section 2: REGISTRATION FEES**

Each year the General Board will decide at least 60 days prior to registration the registration fee for the upcoming season.

Residency Requirements: Youths eligible to participate in In-house baseball include any youth residing in, or attending public school, in the corporate limits of East Peoria, or within the boundaries of the East Peoria School High School District #309, whichever is greater. In-house players outside of these geographic limits shall be subject to increased registration fees, as set by the Board of Directors. Fee cannot be more than 1.5 times the registration fee.

If parent or guardian is unable to pay the registration fee due to financial hardship the parent or guardian may petition the board for assistance, or waiver of the fees. Any waiver of fees must be approved by a majority of the Executive Officers.

## **Section 3: REFUNDS OF REGISTRATION FEES**

1. After registration but before the first regular season game there will a 50% refund for players leaving a team before the first regular season game.



2. Players that move out of the EPCB area prior to May 31<sup>st</sup> may receive a 50% registration fee refund with board approval.
3. No other refunds will be allowed.

#### **Section 4: EPCB TRAVEL TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEE**

The Board will set the fee for the EPCB travel tournaments at least 60 days prior to the annual scheduling meeting.

EPCB Travel Tournament refund can be made if any of the tournament games are cancelled. The Tournament Director will make the decision on the refund amount if any.

## **ARTICLE 14: In House Age Requirements**

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### **Section 1: AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH LEAGUE**

- A. T-Ball
  - Minimum age 4 years as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
  - Maximum age 6 years as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
- B. Pinto
  - Minimum age 7 years as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm.
  - Maximum age 8 years as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
  - 6 year olds as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm are eligible to play Pinto as long as they've completed at least 1 year of T-Ball
  - In house players currently in 1st Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play Pinto regardless of age
- C. Mustang
  - Minimum age 9 years as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm.
  - Maximum age 10 years as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
  - In house players currently in 3rd Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play Mustang as long as the maximum age criteria is met.
- D. Bronco
  - Minimum age 11 years as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm.
  - Maximum age 12 years as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
  - In house players currently in 5th Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play Bronco as long as the maximum age criteria is met.
- E. Pony
  - Minimum age 13 years as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm.
  - Maximum age 14 years as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
  - In house players currently in 7th Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play Bronco as long as the maximum age criteria is met.
- F. Colt
  - Minimum age 15 years as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm.
  - Maximum age 16 years as of April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
  - In house players currently in 9th Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play Bronco as long as the maximum age criteria is met.

## **ARTICLE 15: Game Times**

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### **Section 1: TIMES GAMES CAN BE PLAYED IN-HOUSE**

- A. T-Ball
  - Friday 5:30 PM and 6:45PM
  - Sunday: 1:00 PM, 2:15 PM, 3:30 AM and 4:45 PM
- B. Pinto
  - Weekdays during School: 5:30 PM; Friday 5:30 PM & 7:00 PM
  - Weekdays after School (summer): 5:30 PM, & 7:00 PM
  - Saturday: 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM 12:30PM & 2:00PM
- C. Mustang, Bronco & Pony
  - Weekdays during School: 5:30 PM; Friday 5:30 and 7:30 PM
  - Weekdays after School (summer): 5:30 PM and 7:30 PM
  - Saturdays: 9:00 AM, 11 00AM, 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM
- D. Colt
  - Weekdays after School (summer): 5:30 PM
  - Saturday: 9:00 AM, 12:00 PM and 3:00 PM
  - Rain outs will be scheduled in accordance with the above listed schedule.

## **ARTICLE 16: In-House Draft Rules**

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### **Section 1: EPCB EVALUATION AND DRAFT PROCEDURES**

The EPCB Board will set a date in Mid-March, three to five weeks after Registration, for In-house player evaluations. The following day will be the In-house Draft. Pinto, Mustang, Bronco and Pony Leagues will hold evaluations. Note that the T-Ball League will not have an Evaluations. The Colt league may postpone, and have its evaluation prior to the beginning of its season in order to conform to IHSA Rules.

The League Commissioner will assemble a list of coaches and assistant coaches for his league. Coaches may choose one assistant to help with the evaluation and draft. Coaches who do not have assistants may be assigned one from the League Commissioner's list. No team will have more than one assistant before the draft.

T-Ball League Coaches will meet on Draft day, and will discuss team selection and player requests. The League Commissioner will discuss T-Ball League Rules and EPCB guidelines as contained in the Coaches Handbook (Articles 19 through 23 of these By-laws.) Players will be assigned teams via preference, if possible. Coaches will then draft by familiarity, then by random selection.

- A. The EPCB Board of Directors (League Commissioner and Board Evaluators) will determine which tier each child is in based on their performance at the evaluations and/or their known ability of the individual player. Additionally, an attempt will be made to rank the unevaluated players. 1- being one of the best in the league, 2- being better than avg, 3- avg to slightly below avg, 4- little to no ability.
- B. Coaches will examine the player draft board. If the coaches feel that an error exists concerning the ranking of any individual player, they must voice their concern BEFORE the draft begins. The majority decision of the coaches will rule. Non-evaluated players will be discussed, and may be ranked according to coaches' vote.
- C. Coaches will draw cards to determine the order for drafting players. The Ace will select 1st, the two will select 2nd and so on. The highest card will select last, as well as have the 1st pick in the next round. The 2nd highest card will have the next, pick, and so on back to the Ace having the last pick of that round. This procedure continues until all the players have been selected.
- D. Coaches are required to attend the draft.

### **Section 2: SAVED PLAYERS**

- A. A team will be allowed to save a maximum of 3 players (exceptions must be approved by the league board). These may consist of a coach's child, an assistant's child, and the sponsor's child, but they MUST be evaluated. (Reserved players that are not able to be evaluated will be an automatic 1 unless agreed upon by the majority of the coaches).
- B. Saved players will be taken with the first pick in the tier that they were placed. If a team has multiple players in a tier, they must use their picks on saved players before picking from other players in that tier. Coaches may not pick out of a lower tier if there are still available players in the higher tier.
- C. If a team has more saved players than full rounds of a tier, they must use their first pick of the next tier for that player. (example: if a team has 3 #1's but we only have 2 rounds of #1's then their first pick of the 2's will have to be on their last saved player)
- D. The draft will start with tier 1 until available players are gone and then tier 2 and so on until all available players within that tier have been drafted. Reserved players must be taken first within their respective tier. After that, the unevaluated players will be assigned to teams. For registrations received after the draft, as the registrations are received, the players will be assigned to the next team in the team draft order.
- E. Drafting Brothers
  - All brothers will play on the same team if they so desire

- When the first brother is taken that team must select the second brother with their first pick in the tier in which they are ranked. If both brothers are in the same tier, the team must select the other brother with their next pick.

# ARTICLE 17: Coaches Handbook

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## Section 1: COACHES DUTIES (GENERAL)

EPCB Objective: The EPCB's Youth Baseball's objective is to provide supervised baseball programs that will be enjoyable, educational, and challenging for all the youth of our community. The attainment of exceptional athletic skill and the winning of games are secondary to this objective. The coach's purpose is not only to coach and administrate his/her team but more importantly to act as a role model for the youth in our community. The coaches are responsible for directing the conduct of their players, assistant coaches, player's parents, and themselves towards the accomplishment of the EPCB objective.

Coaches will coach his/her team using the rules described in the programs Standing Rules for the particular League/Division that the manager is assigned.

## Section 2: TEAM MANAGEMENT AND LEAGUE PLAY

Each individual team and the affairs of that team will be supervised and administered by a head coach appointed by the Board. Each head coach will appoint a responsible adult (at least 18 years of age) as his assistant. Each head coach, or assistant coach in the absence of the head coach, will:

- Instruct their players of, and enforce, usual baseball safety rules and general common-sense safety rules as well as other rules which may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Board.
- Remind their players of, and enforce, general Rules of good conduct and sportsmanship.
- Advise players of, and enforce, general rules of common-sense pertaining to the proper use and care of all Program equipment, particularly the uniforms.
- Be responsible for all equipment while in use by his team, and for the return of the equipment to its designated storage area where it will be reasonably secured.
- Instruct his players of, and enforce, any and all Program rules concerning team management and league play.
- Support all Board decisions, Program fund raising efforts, and decisions made by umpires.

Note 1: Each sponsored team will consist of a prescribed number of players as determined by the Board, one head coach and one or more assistant coaches. Each of these individuals will be covered by medical accident insurance. The amount, company, and specific detail will be determined by the Board.

Note 2: Other rules and guidelines are covered in the Coaches Handbook. The Coaches Handbook is part of the by-laws of EPCB.

## ARTICLE 18: League Rules

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### Section 1: COACHES EXPECTATIONS

- A. All coaches and assistant coaches must be approved by the Board.
- B. Coaches are expected to conduct at least 1 and no more than 3 scheduled practices weekly during the season
- C. The coach and assistant coach must attend two thirds of the practices and games, and must be on the playing field during games.
- D. Each Coach must notify the appropriate league commissioners in writing within 48 hours if any player quits their team.

### Section 2: PARENTAL EXPECTATIONS

- A. Spectators are expected to support the entire team. Parents are expected to not coach from the stands.
- B. Spectators will not disrespect the players on either team, coaching staff or officials.

### Section 3: CONDUCT

- A. The East Peoria Community Baseball Program enforces the "Zero Tolerance" Rule: If in any manner the game is interrupted due to a disagreement on the part of a player, coach, or fan, that person will be removed from the field to another spot outside the fence in order to settle the matter. If it cannot be settled at this time in an orderly manner, said coach, fan, or player will be asked to leave the park. If the disagreement continues from this point, the East Peoria Police Department will be contacted to handle the problem further. The East Peoria Community Baseball Program Board of Directors will discuss the situation with the player, fan, or coach at their next regularly scheduled meeting if so requested.
- B. Any EPCB member who is reported to the Board in writing for using profane language, acting in an unsportsmanlike manner, and/or under the influence of intoxicating beverages or illegal and/or controlled substance, any time or place in conjunction with a EPCB function, will be subject to disciplinary action by the Board, or in the case of Managers, Registered Coaches, and Assistants, review by the Executive Officers. The use of tobacco in any form by managers or coaches during games, practice games, or practices is prohibited.
- C. A player will be removed from the game for 1) throwing equipment in anger or disgust 2) using profanity or socially unacceptable language while on the bench or playing field. **NO WARNINGS WILL BE ISSUED!!**
- D. If any person is ejected from a game for any reason, he/she will leave the field area immediately. If the ejected person continues to disrupt the game they will be asked to leave the park. Failure to abide by this rule will constitute a forfeited game. A person ejected may be suspended from the program for the duration of the year upon review by the Board. If a person is ejected twice in one season, they will be subject to suspension from EPCB. A person may be ejected immediately from the park for poor conduct at the discretion of an Official or Umpire.
- E. No fan or coach will be allowed to interact with players or coaches from the opposing team in a negative fashion.
- F. The umpires are employed by the East Peoria Community Baseball Program as a service to our players, fans and coaches. Coaches have the right to question a rulebook violation on the part of the umpire. However, if the opinion of the umpire or his judgment are in question, there will be no grounds for appeal.
- G. Use of any tobacco products, on or around the playing field by coaches or players is prohibited.
- H. The use of alcohol by managers, coaches or spectators, during games, practice games, or practices is prohibited.
- I. Except for sunflower seeds, gum, and water (or sports drinks), eating and drinking in the dugout or on the field is prohibited.

#### **Section 4: RULES GOVERNING LEAGUE PLAY**

All other rules will be the same as in the IHSA Rule Book as governed by the "National Federation of High Schools" (NFHS)

The following are special EPCB rules that apply to the T-Ball, Pinto, Mustang, Bronco, Pony and Colt Leagues. They are divided into general and league specific rules. If a rule is not found in the EPCB rule book rules defined in the IHSA Rule Book as governed by the "National Federation of High Schools" (NFHS) will apply.

#### **Section 5: GENERAL PLAYING RULES**

- A. The "hidden ball trick" is not allowed by EPCB.
- B. Team vacancies will be filled by the league waiting list. If there is no waiting list or if it has been exhausted, and when a team's roster falls below 10.
- C. No regularly scheduled in-house league games may be canceled for any reason, except in case of rain-outs, without the approval of the two head coaches and League Commissioner.
- D. A new inning begins when the final out of the previous inning is made.
- E. The home team shall provide a responsible and qualified person to serve as the official scorekeeper for each ball game. (Using a scorebook) The official scorekeeper may be from the visiting team only if the home team agrees. If at all possible an assistant may be used to run the scoreboard.

#### **Section 6: SAFETY**

- A. It is recommended that **all** boys wear a protective cup.
- B. It is mandatory that all catchers in T-Ball through Colt wear a protective cup.
- C. Catchers must wear a face mask, chest protector, shin guards, catcher's helmet, and a protective cup. When a catcher warms up a pitcher, they must wear at least a mask whether they are on or off the field of play.
- D. The wearing of metal spikes is prohibited in all "In-House" league, Mustang Traveling and Bronco Traveling Team games. Baseball shoes with rubber cleats are acceptable.
- E. Baseball Shoes with metal cleats will be prohibited in the Pony In-House League. The U-14 and above Traveling Teams, and the Colt In-house league will be the only EPCB teams allowed to wear baseball shoes with metal cleats.
- F. Batters, on deck batter and base runners must wear protective helmets at all times -- even when advancing on a base-on-balls, or hit by a pitched ball. A player that intentionally removes his helmet before a play is completed will be ruled "OUT" by the umpire.
- G. Non-batters must stay clear of the batting area. Except for the batter, the only player to be swinging a bat is the "on deck" hitter, and then, only while in their own on-deck circle.
- E. All players, when not involved in an aspect of the game, should remain in the dugout. Players should not make unnecessary trips outside the fenced playing area.
- F. No player may coach the bases at any time. Only adult (18 and over) coaches may coach the bases.
- H. If the defensive player has control of the ball before the base runner reaches the base, the base runner must avoid contact - either by sliding or running to either side of the defensive player (remaining in the base path - 3 feet to either side of the base line) and jumping will not be allowed. If the base runner makes forceful contact with the defensive player or runs outside of the base path, the base runner will be called out. If the contact is deemed excessive, the base runner will be ejected from the game.
- I. A defensive player may not block a base or home plate without control of the ball or make a fake tag. If the player does, they will be called for obstruction.
- J. To avoid insurance complications, if a player is injured and not on the roster at the start of the game, they will not be allowed to play in the game.



## Section 7: LEGAL TEAM ROSTER

- A. A team must have 8 or more players to start and continue a game. Player 9 position left vacant will be recorded as automatic out each time it comes up in the batting order. If additional players arrive after the start of the game, they will be placed into the batting order in the 9 position.
- B. If during the game, a team drops below 8 players, that team will be required to forfeit the game, no matter what inning the game is in, or what the score is. If a player is ejected, or injured, and the team roster falls below 9, that batting position will be recorded as an out in the batting line up.
- C. If both teams are unable to field eight players to begin the game, it will be rescheduled at a later date. A minimum of eight players must be on the field during entire game.

## Section 8: GENERAL PARTICIPATION RULES

All players are to play a minimum of **three (3) innings** in the field during each game. If a team roster consists of fourteen (14) or more players, then each player is required to play a minimum of two (2) innings in the field. No player shall play in the field all six (6) innings in a game. No player may sit out two (2) consecutive innings. No player shall play the same defensive position more than four (4) innings in a single game. **No player shall be allowed to sit out two innings before another player sits out one inning.**

## Section 9: BATTING ORDER

The EPCB uses a consecutive batting order in all In-House leagues. Each team will bat through its entire roster of available players for each game. The batting order for each team should be listed in the **home team's score book** prior to the beginning of the game, including shirt number. If a player arrives after the start of the game, he will enter the batting order at the end of the entire order. If a player is unable to hit at any time during the game, he is then removed from the game and unable to hit or play the field the rest of the game. He will **not** be counted as an out each time his turn to bat arrives.

## Section 10: LENGTH OF GAMES

- A. A game is considered a complete game if it is called for any reason after four (4) innings have been completed or if the home team has scored more runs in three (3), or three and one half (3 1/2) innings, than the visiting team has scored in their four completed innings. For Bronco, Pony or Colt the number of innings are five (5) and four (4) or four and one half (4 1/2).
- B. If a game is called for any reason before it is a complete game, as described above, or when the score is tied, it shall be considered a suspended game, and is to be resumed from the point of curtailment at the time scheduled by league officials.
- C. The home team score keeper should record the inning, batter, outs, time remaining, lineups, battery, etc.
- D. If a game is called for any reason in an uncompleted inning, after having reached "complete-game" length as described above, and the visiting team ties the score or takes the lead in the current inning, and the home team has not tied or retaken the lead in their portion of the uncompleted inning, the game shall be a suspended game and is continued from the point of curtailment at the time scheduled by league officials.
- E. No new inning may begin after the time limit has been reached. This includes the time of delays. An inning is considered to begin immediately after the previous inning is completed -- the third out is made. The official time shall be kept by the plate umpire.
- F. During night games, when East Peoria School District #86 has school on the following day, no inning will start after 10: 00 p. m. The game will be suspended and will be continued at another time scheduled by league officials.
- G. Warm ups will be performed in outfield grass, or outside of playing area prior to the game if time allows. Infield practice will be minimized on lined field, unless agreed upon by both teams' coaches. Infield practice will be limited to 5 minutes for each team if time allows.

## **Section 11: RAIN OUTS**

- A. Prior to 4:30 on game days, it is the responsibility of the Eastside Field Maintenance Manager to determine if the field conditions will allow games to be played.
- B. If games are canceled, Vice President will post a notice and send out communications via the web site.
- C. After 4:30 on game days is the responsibility of the league commissioner or board member on duty, who will also determine if the field conditions will allow games to be played.
- D. Determination if games can be played on Saturday and Sunday will be made at game time.
  - If a rain out is possible the coaches should check the rainline or web-site, [www.epcbaseball.com](http://www.epcbaseball.com), and then if necessary notify their players of the rain out.
- E. Rain outs will be rescheduled by the Director of Scheduling if at all possible.
- F. Doubleheaders and Sunday games can be played, but will be avoided when possible. This applies to in-house teams only.

## **Section 12: UNIFORMS**

All players **MUST** be wearing the shirt and hat provided by the East Peoria Community Baseball Program while on the bench or on the playing field. Failure to wear the required shirt and hat will mean the player will not be allowed to play until shirt and hat are worn. Player's shirts are to be tucked in during the game. Players are expected to have baseball style pants on during each contest. The uniform should cover the player from his shoulders to his shoes. If a player is unable to afford this style pants, coach should contact League President

## **Section 13: UMPIRES**

There should be two official umpires present at each ball game (except T-Ball and Pinto). However, the game will be played if only one official umpire is present at game time. In the event no official umpire is available at the scheduled game time, and the league commissioner or Director of Umpires is unable to appoint temporary umpires who are acceptable to both teams involved, the game will be rescheduled at a later date. The Board Member on duty can fill in for either umpire if they feel comfortable doing so.

## **Section 14: APPEAL**

In-House leagues will not use the appeal.

## **Section 15: PROTEST**

A protest based on a play which involves an umpire's judgment shall not be permitted.

When protests are based on an interpretation of the rules, the objecting coach shall, at the time the play occurs, notify the Head Umpire, the opposing coach and the official scorer that the game is being played under protest, and submit the protest in writing to the League Commissioner, within 48 hours of the completion of the game.

When a protest based on the interpretation of a rule is upheld by the League Commissioner, the game concerned shall be replayed from the point of protest.

Umpires should make a public announcement to the crowd when a game is being played under protest.

## **Section 16: PENALTIES**

- A. For the purpose of interpreting this rule, a player shall not be considered in violation of the rules until at least one pitch has been thrown to the batter after that point of violation.
- B. Illegal equipment shall be removed from the game.
- C. Penalty for the use of illegal shoes shall be removal of the shoes from the game, and, if no other legal footwear is available, removal of the affected player or players from the lineup.
- D. Players who do not wear complete conventional uniforms, protective headgear and catching equipment as required by these rules shall be removed from the lineup.
- E. Players who intentionally, in the judgment of the umpire, throw bats or protective headgear, or discard protective headgear while batting or running the bases, shall be ejected from the game following completion of any play in progress at the time the violation occurs. Such action does not constitute an out and such players shall be replaced as batters or base runners if appropriate.
- F. Pitchers in violation of any of the pitching rules shall be considered ineligible players, subject to the penalties stated for use of an ineligible player in this rule.

### **Section 17: GAME EJECTION**

Any coach, assistant coach, player or players that have been ejected from a game will be ejected for two games. Two games will be considered the game in which the initial ejection occurred and the next scheduled game. All ejections can be appealed to the Executive and/or the General Board.

### **Section 18: IN-HOUSE TOURNAMENT GAMES**

- A. The run rule remains in effect for league tournament games.
- B. Time limits remain for league tournament games, except for championship game, which will play out the prescribed innings or mercy rule.
- C. In-House pitching rules apply to EPCB tournament games, and may be extended for the entire tournament (Pitchers will be allowed weekly number of innings for the duration of the tournament, and will not reset if tournament extends into the next week.
- D. Tournament schedules will be determined by league commissioner and the EPCB board of directors.
- E. .
- F. Players may play unlimited innings at the same defensive position.

### **Section 19: MODIFYING LEAGUE RULES**

League rules can be modified on a year to year basis, by the Board of Directors, to facilitate the addition of additional teams, and/or conceptual changes to the league dynamics.

### **Section 20: QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS**

Coaches and assistant coaches should direct all questions, complaints, or other problems to the attention of their league commissioner. If not satisfied, a coach should contact the League President. The board of directors is available to assist in any way to resolve questions or concerns. Please feel free to call them at any reasonable time.

# ARTICLE 19: T-Ball League Rules

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## Section 1: BUNTING

Bunting is not allowed. Any ball that is not hit at least 5 feet from the tee in fair territory must be reset and the batter swings again.

## Section 2: FIELD DIMENSIONS

- A. Bases – 60 feet
- B. Distance between bases 60 feet
- C. Home plate to second base 84 feet, 10 inches

## Section 3: INFIELD FLY RULE

There is no infield fly rule.

## Section 4: LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY

The purpose of T-Ball league is to teach the players proper baseball fundamentals, proper player conduct, and for the players to have FUN. This is not a competitive league. Score will not "officially" be kept. Each game ends in a TIE - Everyone's a winner.

## Section 5: LENGTH OF GAMES

- A. Three (3) innings will constitute a complete game.
- B. All games in the T-Ball League will have a 1 hour time limit. No new inning may begin after the time limit has been reached.
- C. An inning will consist of all offensive team players batting once.
  - A new inning starts when the last out of the preceding inning occurs.

## Section 6: PARTICIPATION RULES

- A. Each player will bat and play in the field each inning.
- B. The fielding positions shall consist of 1 catcher, 1 pitcher, 4 infielders, and the remainder of the team playing in the outfield (in grass).
- C. *The board recommends that all players rotate positions in the field.*

## Section 7: PITCHING RULES

Position of pitcher - Minimum of 44 feet

## Section 8: RUNS PER INNING RULES

Does not apply to the T-Ball League.

## **Section 9: SAFETY BASES**

- A safety base will be used for T-Ball league. The white half will be considered the "defensive side" while the orange half will be considered the "base runner's side. " In order to make an out, the defensive player must make contact with the white side of the base. Once the runner reaches first base the runner then uses the white base only.
- Exception for Offensive Player: on an extra base hit, the runner will use the white side of the safety base to round the corner. Also, when there is an overthrow on a play at first or the defensive player misplays the ball, the runner will not be required to re-touch the white portion of first base, after successfully contacting the orange portion, in order to advance further.

## **Section 10: SPEED UP RULES**

Does not apply to the T-Ball League

## **Section 11: STEALING OF BASES**

No stealing of bases is allowed. Runners must remain in contact with the base until the ball is hit (no leading off).

## **Section 12: THIRD STRIKE**

Does not apply to the T-Ball League

## **Section 13: WALKS**

Does not apply to the T-Ball League

## **Section 14: SPECIAL T-BALL RULES**

A batting tee will be used to hit from for the entire season

At the discretion of both coaches a coach from the batting team may pitch a max of 3 pitches. If not hit fair after 3 pitches, a tee will be used. This rule is only applicable during the second half of the season.

There will be no assigned umpires in the T-Ball League, Coaches will umpire all games.

## **ARTICLE 20: Pinto League Rules**

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### **Section 1: BUNTING**

No bunting will be allowed.

### **Section 2: FIELD DIMENSIONS**

- A. Bases - 60 feet
- B. Position of Pitching rubber - 42 feet
- C. Home plate to second base 84' 10"

### **Section 3: INFIELD FLY RULE**

There is no infield fly rule.

### **Section 4: LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY**

The purpose of Pinto league is to teach the players proper baseball fundamentals, proper player conduct, and for the players to have FUN.

### **Section 5: LENGTH OF GAMES**

- A. Regulation games shall be six (6) innings in duration.
- B. All games in the Pinto League will have a 1 hour and 15 minute time limit. No new inning may begin after the time limit has been reached.
- C. A new inning starts when the third out of the preceding inning occurs. If three outs cannot be obtained, the inning shall end after all offensive team players have batted once.
- D. If a team falls behind by 15 or more runs and as batted 4 times the game will be over
- E. If the game is tied at the end of the time limit but the inning has already started, finish that inning. If the game is still tied at the end of that inning the game results in a tie.
- F. If the game is interrupted by weather the game is suspended and will be rescheduled at a later date if less than 4 innings have been play. If more than 4 innings the game is over and the score at that time will determine the winner.

### **Section 6: PARTICIPATION RULES**

- A. 10 players shall play in the field: 1 catcher, 1 pitcher, 4 outfielders (in grass), and 4 infielders.
- B. All players present shall be placed in the score book lineup before the start of the game.
- C. The board recommends that all players rotate positions in the field.
- B. When a player arrives late, the player will be added to the bottom of the batting rotation. This player cannot sit out more than two innings in a row after his arrival.

## **Section 7: PITCHING RULES**

- A. The pitching will be done by the coach to his own players. Coach will stand with one foot in the pitchers circle (or within 5 feet of the pitchers rubber when no circle exists). The coach will refrain from interfering with any play of the defensive team.
- B. The "Player Pitcher" stand with one foot in the pitchers circle (or within 5 feet of the pitchers rubber when no circle exists), but not in front of the "Coach Pitcher".

## **Section 8: RUNS PER INNING RULES**

Each offensive team will be limited to five (5) runs per inning for the first four innings of each game. There will be no limit on the number of runs scored after the fourth inning of each game.

## **Section 9: SAFETY BASES**

- A. A safety base will be used for Pinto league. The white half will be considered the "defensive side" while the orange half will be considered the "base runner's side. " In order to make an out, the defensive player must make contact with the white side of the base. Once the runner reaches first base the runner then uses the white base only.
- B. Exception for Offensive Player: on an extra base hit, the runner will use the white side of the safety base to round the corner. Also, when there is an overthrow on a play at first or the defensive player misplays the ball, the runner will not be required to re-touch the white portion of first base, after successfully contacting the orange portion, in order to advance further.

## **Section 10: BASERUNNING**

- A. The umpire will declare a dead ball once an infielder has control of the baseball on the infield dirt; unless the fielder attempts to make a play on a base runner (i.e. attempts to tag a runner or throw to a base to get a runner out); then all league base running rules will apply. Once the umpire has declared a dead ball, if it is in the opinion of the umpire that a runner is more than half the distance to the next base the player will be awarded the next base. If it is in the opinion of the umpire that a runner is less than half the distance to the next base, the runner must return to the previous base.
- B. All runners will be allowed to advance as many bases total as the batter-runner earns at their own risk. All runners are allowed to advance a minimum of one base if proper rules are followed. EXAMPLES:
  - Runner on first and second bases; hitter hits one into the outfield; outfielder throws the ball to second base holding the hitter to one base. All runners are allowed to advance one base which leaves the bases loaded.
  - Runner on third base and batter hits a fly-ball to left fielder. The ball is caught – batter is out; runner on third base tags up and scores; run counts.
- C. A batter may attempt to gain an extra base on the first overthrow ONLY. EXAMPLES:
  - Runner on second base; batter hits ground ball to shortstop, shortstop overthrows first base, batter safely makes it to second base; runner on second scores; run counts.
  - Runner on second base; batter hits ground ball to shortstop, shortstop overthrows first base, batter is tagged out at second base; runner on second scores; run DOES NOT count and runner must return to third base because the batter only earned one base.
- D. Any bad throw which goes past the fielder and rolls or bounces out of bounds (out of play) allows the batter – runner and any other runner(s) to advance one base from where they were when the **throw** was made by the fielder.

### **Section 11: SPEED UP RULES**

A Courtesy runner may be used for Catchers as long as the previously retired batter/runner is be the courtesy runner.

### **Section 12: STEALING OF BASES**

Base stealing is not allowed. Runners may lead off after the ball crosses the plate.

### **Section 13: THIRD STRIKE**

- A. Each batter bats until he hits the ball or strikes out (3 strikes - a foul ball doesn't count as strike three!)
- B. Batters who are not swinging at hittable pitches get a maximum of seven hittable pitches, determined by the coach's discretion.
- C. Foul balls are considered strikes; however, the batter will not be called out on a foul ball.
- D. Caught foul tips on strike 3 follow IHSA rules governed by the NHFS.

### **Section 14: WALKS**

Does not apply to the Pinto League



# **ARTICLE 21: Mustang League Rules**

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## **Section 1: BUNTING**

No bunting allowed in the Mustang League.

## **Section 2: FIELD DIMENSIONS**

- A. Bases - 60 feet
- B. Pitching rubber to home plate 42'
- C. Home plate to second base 84' 10"

## **Section 3: INFIELD FLY RULE**

There is no infield fly rule.

## **Section 4: LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY**

The purpose of Mustang league is to teach the players proper baseball fundamentals, proper player conduct, and for the players to have FUN.

## **Section 5: LENGTH OF GAMES**

- A. Regulation games shall be six (6) innings in duration.
- B. All games have a 1 hour and 45 minute time limit. No new inning may begin after the time limit has been reached. If a game does not begin on time (due to the extended length of a previous game, etc. ) the game times will be adjusted accordingly.
- C. No game shall exceed eight (8) innings. When the game is tied at the end of 8 complete innings, the game shall be declared a tie game.
- D. If the game is tied at the end of the time limit but the inning has already started, finish that inning. If the game is still tied at the end of that inning the game will result in a tie.
- E. If a team falls behind by 12 or more runs and as batted 4 times the game will be over
- F. If a team falls behind by 10 or more runs and as batted 5 times the game will be over
- G. If the game is interrupted by weather the game is suspended and will be rescheduled at a later date if less than 4 innings have been play. If more than 4 innings the game is over and the score at that time will determine the winner.

## **Section 6: PARTICIPATION RULES**

- A. 9 players shall play in the field. One (1) catcher, 1 pitcher, 3 outfielders, and 4 infielders will constitute a team. All players present shall be placed in the score book lineup before the start of the game.
- B. The batting order does not change when field substitutions occur.
- C. A player cannot sit out more than two innings in a row.

- D. When a player arrives late, the player will be added to the bottom of the batting rotation. This player cannot sit out more than two innings in a row after his arrival.
- E. For every inning a player is late to the game, they forfeit an inning of their guaranteed playing time.
- F. When 8 or less players are available, teams are allowed to pull players up from the league below up to a maximum of 9 players for the game.

## **Section 7: PITCHING RULES**

Coaches are encouraged to exercise good judgment, and track pitch count, in addition to the following:

- A. A Pitcher may not pitch more than four (4) innings in any single game, even if the game is suspended, or protested, and completed at a later date.
- B. If more than one game is played on a calendar day, a pitcher may pitch any combination of innings in those games totaling a maximum of 4 innings.
- C. Pitchers shall not pitch in more than eight (8) innings per calendar week. A calendar week is from 12:01 am Monday to 12:00 midnight the following Sunday.
  - If the team has three (3) games in that week – pitchers are allowed to pitch an additional two (2) innings (weekly total of 10 innings) provided he has had thirty-six (36) hours of rest since last pitching.
- D. Pitchers, after pitching in 3 or 4 innings on the same calendar day, must have 36 hours rest, before pitching again.
- E. The maximum number of innings that a player can pitch in a 36 hour period is 4 innings.
- F. The 36 hours rest rule is computed from the scheduled starting time of the game in which the pitching occurred.
- G. As soon as a pitcher delivers one pitch to a batter, that pitcher shall be considered as having pitched one inning.
- H. A pitcher is charged with the number of innings pitched in the specific calendar day and week, in which they are pitched, regardless of whether they are local league games, All-star games or the resumption of postponed, suspended, or tie games.
- I. All pitching records are to be kept in the back of the official scorebook including date and number of innings pitched.
- J. No pitcher, starter or reliever, once removed from the pitching position, will be eligible to return to the mound during that same game, regardless of the games length or pitcher's innings of eligibility.
- K. If a relief pitcher comes in "cold" the umpire shall allow the pitcher to warm up properly with at least 8 warm-up pitches.

## **Section 8: SAFETY BASES**

- A. A safety base will be used for Mustang league. The white half will be considered the "defensive side" while the orange half will be considered the "base runner's side. "In order to make an out, the defensive player must make contact with the white side of the base.
- B. Exception for Offensive Player: on an extra base hit, the runner will use the either side of the safety base to round the comer. Also, when there is an overthrow on a play at first or the defensive player misplay the ball, the runner will not be required to re-touch the white portion of first base, after successfully contacting the orange portion, in order to advance further.

## **Section 9: BASERUNNING**

- A. Any bad throw which goes past the fielder and rolls or bounces out of bounds (out of play) allows the batter – runner and any other runner(s) to advance one base from the base they were originally advancing to when the **throw** was made by the fielder.

## **Section 10: SPEED UP RULES**

A courtesy runner may be used for catchers as long as the previously retired batter/runner is be the courtesy runner.

## **Section 11: STEALING OF BASES**

- A. Base Stealing is allowed in the Mustang league; however, the base runner may not leave the base until the pitched ball has reached the plate.
- B. Runners are allowed to steal second base and third base whether it be a straight steal or on a wild pitch/passed ball. After the runner has been stopped at third base, he is to stay there until he is "batted in". Runner cannot score from third base on a wild pitch or passed ball. EXAMPLES:
- Runner on second base attempts to steal third base; catcher's throw is wild and into left field; runner is not allowed to score on this play.
  - Runner is on second base; base hit to left field; runner at second stops at third; pitcher has ball and calls time; runner must be hit in to score from third base.
  - Runner on third base and first base; runner on first base steals second base; catcher's throw goes into center field; runner on third cannot score - he must be hit in so runners are now on second and third bases.
- C. There is no delayed stealing of home or any other base. A delayed steal is considered to be a steal where the runner does not begin stealing until after the catcher has thrown the ball back to the pitcher.

## **Section 12: THIRD STRIKE**

A dropped third strike is considered to be an out in Mustang.

## **Section 13: WALKS**

- A. No intentional walks are allowed in the Mustang League.

## **Section 14: BALKS**

Balks are not called in the Mustang League.

## **ARTICLE 22: Bronco League Rules**

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### **Section 1: BUNTING**

Bunting is allowed in the Bronco league

### **Section 2: FIELD DIMENSIONS**

- A. Bases - 70 feet
- B. Pitching rubber to home plate – 48 feet
- C. Home plate to second base – 99 feet

### **Section 3: INFIELD FLY RULE**

- A. The infield fly rule is in effect when there are less than two outs and at least first and second bases are occupied.
- B. Runners may advance at their own risk.

### **Section 4: LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY**

The purpose of Bronco league is to teach the players proper baseball fundamentals, proper player conduct, and for the players to have FUN.

### **Section 5: LENGTH OF GAMES**

- A. Regulation games shall be seven (7) innings in duration.
- B. All games have a 1 hour and 45 minute time limit. No new inning may begin after the time limit has been reached. If a game does not begin on time (due to the extended length of a previous game, etc. ) the game times will be adjusted accordingly.
- C. No game shall exceed nine (9) innings. When the game is tied at the end of 9 complete innings, the game shall be declared a tie game.
- D. If a team falls behind by 10 or more runs and as batted 5 times the game will be over
- E. If the game is interrupted by weather the game is suspended and will be rescheduled at a later date if less than 5 innings have been play. If more than 5 innings the game is over and the score at that time will determine the winner.

### **Section 6: PARTICIPATION RULES**

- A. 9 players shall play in the field. One (1) catcher, 1 pitcher, 3 outfielders, and 4 infielders will constitute a team. All players present shall be placed in the score book lineup before the start of the game.
- B. The batting order does not change when field substitutions occur.
- C. A player cannot sit out more than two innings in a row.
- D. When a player arrives late, the player will be added to the bottom of the batting rotation. This player cannot sit out more than two innings in a row after his arrival.

- E. For every inning a player is late to the game, they forfeit an inning of their guaranteed playing time.

### **Section 7: PITCHING RULES**

Coaches are encouraged to exercise good judgment, and track pitch count, in addition to the following:

- A. A Pitcher may not pitch more than five (5) innings in any single game, even if the game is suspended, or protested, and completed at a later date.
- B. If more than one game is played on a calendar day, a pitcher may pitch any combination of innings in those games totaling a maximum of five (5) innings.
- C. Pitchers shall not pitch in more than ten (10) innings per calendar week. (A calendar week is from 12:01 am Monday to 12:00 midnight the following Sunday. )
- D. The maximum number of innings that a player can pitch in a 36 hour period is five (5) innings.
- E. Pitchers, after pitching in 5 innings on the same calendar day, must have 36 hours rest, before pitching again.
- F. The 36 hours rest rule is computed by the scheduled starting time of the game in which the pitching occurred.
- G. No pitcher, starter or reliever, once removed from the pitching position, will be eligible to return to the mound during that same game, regardless of the games length or pitcher's innings of eligibility.
- H. As soon as a pitcher delivers one pitch to a batter, that pitcher shall be considered as having pitched one inning.
- I. A pitcher is charged with the number of innings pitched in the specific calendar day and week, in which they are pitched, regardless of whether they are local league games, All-star games or the resumption of postponed, suspended, or tie games.
- J. If a relief pitcher comes in "cold" the umpire shall allow the pitcher to warm up properly with at least 8 warm-up pitches.

### **Section 8: SAFETY BASES**

Safety bases are not used in the Bronco league.

### **Section 9: BASERUNNING**

- A. Any bad throw which goes past the fielder and rolls or bounces out of bounds (out of play) allows the batter runner and any other runner(s) to advance one base from the base they were originally advancing to when the throw was made by the fielder.

### **Section 10: SPEED UP RULES**

A courtesy runner may be used for catchers as long as the previously retired batter/runner is be the courtesy runner.

### **Section 11: STEALING OF BASES**

- A. Runners are allowed to lead off the base.
- B. Base stealing is allowed in the Bronco league

### **Section 12: THIRD STRIKE**

Dropped third strike will apply.

**Section 13: WALKS**

IHSA rules governed by the NFH apply. Intentional walks are not allowed in the Bronco League.

**Section 14: BALKS**

Balks are called according to IHSA rules governed by the NFHS.

## **ARTICLE 23: Pony League Rules**

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### **Section 1: BUNTING**

Bunting is allowed in Pony League.

### **Section 2: FIELD DIMENSIONS**

- A. Bases - 80 feet
- B. Pitching rubber to home plate - 54'
- C. Home plate to second base - 113' 2"

### **Section 3: INFIELD FLY RULE**

- A. The infield fly rule is in effect when there are less than two outs and at least first and second bases are occupied.
- B. Runners may advance at their own risk.

### **Section 4: LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY**

The purpose of Pony league is to teach the players proper baseball fundamentals, proper player conduct, and for the players to have FUN.

### **Section 5: LENGTH OF GAMES**

- A. Regulation games shall be seven (7) innings in duration.
- B. No game shall exceed ten (10) innings. When the game is tied at the end of ten (10) complete innings, the game shall be declared a tie game.
- C. A ten (10) run rule will be in effect after five (5) innings.
- D. All games have a 1 hour and 50 minute time limit. No new inning may begin after the time limit has been reached.
- E. A new inning starts when the last out of the preceding inning occurs.

### **Section 6: PARTICIPATION RULES**

- A. All players present shall be placed in the score book lineup before the start of the game.
- B. The batting order does not change when field substitutions occur.
- C. A player cannot sit out more than two innings in a row.
- D. When a player arrives late, the player will be added to the bottom of the batting rotation. This player cannot sit out more than two innings in a row after his arrival.
- E. For every inning a player is late to the game, they forfeit an inning of their guaranteed playing time.

### **Section 7: PITCHING RULES**

Coaches are encouraged to exercise good judgment, and track pitch count, in addition to the following:

- A. Pitcher may not pitch more than seven (7) innings in anyone game, even if the game is suspended, or protested, and completed at a later date.
- B. No pitcher, starter or reliever, once removed from the pitching position, will be eligible to return to the mound during that same game, regardless of the games length or pitcher's innings of eligibility.
- C. If more than one game is played on a calendar day, a pitcher may pitch any combination of innings in those games totaling a maximum of seven (7) innings.
- D. The maximum number of innings a player can pitch in a 36 hour period is seven (7) innings.
- E. Pitchers shall not pitch in more than ten (10) innings per calendar week. (A calendar week is from 12:01 am Monday to 12:00 midnight the following Sunday,) *in line with IESA rules.*
- F. Pitchers after pitching in 4, 5, 6 or 7 innings on the same calendar day, must have 36 hours rest before pitching again.
- G. The 36 hours rest rule is computed from the scheduled starting time of the game in which the pitching occurred. As soon as a pitcher delivers one pitch to a batter, that pitcher shall be considered as having pitched one inning.
- H. A pitcher is charged with the number of innings pitched in the specific calendar day and week in which they are pitched, regardless of whether they are local league games, All-star games or the resumption of postponed, suspended, or tie games.
- I. If a relief pitcher comes in "cold" the umpire shall allow the pitcher to warm up properly with at least 10 warm-up pitches.

### **Section 8: SAFETY BASES**

Safety bases are not used in the Pony league.

### **Section 9: SPEED UP RULES**

A courtesy runner may be used for catchers only under the following conditions:

Two (2) outs only. The previous retired batter/runner must be the courtesy runner.

### **Section 10: STEALING OF BASES**

IHSA rules governed by the NFHS apply.

### **Section 11: THIRD STRIKE**

IHSA rules governed by the NFHS apply.

### **Section 12: WALKS**

IHSA rules governed by the NFHS apply.

### **Section 13: EQUIPMENT**

Aluminum baseball bat length to weight ratio must follow Illinois Elementary School Association (I.E.S.A.) rules, for travel teams and all-star teams. All bats greater than 30" are required to meet BBCOR Requirements, bat not exceed 30" in length are not subject to BBCOR standards.



## **Section 14: BALKS**

Balks are called according to NFHS Rules.

## **Article 24: Colt League Rules**

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### **Section 1: BUNTING**

IHSA rules governed by the NFHS apply.

### **Section 2: FIELD DIMENSIONS**

- A. Bases - 90 feet
- B. Pitching rubber to home plate - 60' 6"
- C. Home plate to second base - 127' 3"

### **Section 3: Infield Fly Rule**

- A. The infield fly rule is in effect when there are less than two outs and at least first and second bases are occupied.
- B. Runners may advance at their own risk.

### **Section 4: LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY**

Play baseball and have fun.

### **Section 5: LENGTH OF GAMES**

- A. Regulation games shall be seven (7) innings in duration.
- B. There is no inning limit in the Colt league.
- C. A ten (10) run rule will be in effect after five (5) innings.
- D. Colt games have no time limit.

### **Section 6: PARTICIPATION RULES**

IHSA rules governed by the NFHS apply. Exception to this rule is if both coaches agree free substitution can be used.

### **Section 7: PITCHING RULES**

- A. A Pitcher may not pitch more than seven (7) innings in anyone game, even if the game is suspended, or protested, and completed at a later date.
- B. No pitcher, starter or reliever, once removed from the pitching position, will be eligible to return to the mound during that same game, regardless of the games length or pitcher's innings of eligibility.
- C. If more than one game is played on a calendar day, a pitcher may pitch any combination of innings in those games totaling a maximum of seven (7) innings.
- D. The maximum number of innings that a player can pitch in a 36 hour period is seven (7) innings.
- E. The 36 hours rest rule is computed from the scheduled starting time of the game in which the pitching occurred. As soon as a pitcher delivers one pitch to a batter, that pitcher shall be considered as having pitched one inning.

- F. A pitcher is charged with the number of innings pitched in the specific calendar day and week in which they are pitched, regardless of whether they are local league games, or the resumption of postponed, suspended, or tie games.
- G. If a relief pitcher comes in "cold" the umpire shall allow the pitcher to warm up properly with at least 10 warm-up pitches
- H. Players pulled up from the league below may not pitch when called up.

### **Section 8: SAFETY BASES**

No safety base will be used for Colt league.

### **Section 9: SPEED UP RULES**

- A. Courtesy runner May be used for Catchers Only under the following conditions:
  - Two (2) outs only.
  - The previous retired batter/runner must be the courtesy runner.
- B. See batting infraction rule - New rules section.

### **Section 10: STEALING OF BASES**

IHSA rules governed by the NFHS apply.

### **Section 11: THIRD STRIKE**

IHSA rules governed by the NFHS apply.

### **Section 12: WALKS**

IHSA rules governed by the NFHS apply.

### **Section 13: EQUIPMENT**

- A. Metal cleats are allowed.
- B. Aluminum baseball bat length to weight ratio must follow Illinois High School Association (I. H. S. A. ) rules.

### **Section 14: SPECIAL COLT RULES**

There will be assigned umpires in the Colt League. The Colt league will use a Major League regulation size baseball. Balks are called according to IHSA rules governed by the NFHS.

## **ARTICLE 25: All-Star Teams**

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### **Section 1: TEAM SELECTION PROCESS**

The League Commissioner for Mustang and Bronco Leagues will provide a plan to the Executive Officers at the June meeting, for their prospective league All-Star games.

### **Section 2: NUMBER OF GAMES FOR ALL-STAR TEAMS**

- A. The All-Star Teams will play no more than 12 games. No more than 3 home games.
- B. EPCB will fund umpires for home games.
- C. Should a conflict arise between an In-House game and a Mustang, Bronco or Pony All-Star game (or practice), the In-House game always takes priority.

## **ARTICLE 26: Travel Teams**

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### **Section 1: TRAVEL TEAM AGE GROUPS**

The priority of EPCB will be to field an 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, 14U, and 16U travel teams.

- A. A league will revert to a single travel team per league (8U, 10U, 12U, or 14U respectively) if any one of the following conditions exist:
- Only one head coach steps forward to volunteer to coach a travel team for a given league.
  - Less than 9 players try out for a given age group.
    - a. For example, in Mustang league, if twenty 9 year olds try out but only eight 10 year olds try out you must have a single 10U team made up of both 9 and 10 year olds. In this scenario, the 9U and 10U coaches initially selected will be re-evaluated by the Board and appoint one coach as the head coach and the other as the assistant coach.
    - b. A second "B" 10U team (or 9U if only nine year olds remain) may be formed if there are enough players left and a head coach steps forward to coach the team.
- B. All players of a given age must play with their respective age group as per Article 26 Section 2. There will be no "playing up" outside of the rules outlined in Article 26 Section 2 regardless of any players' skill level.
- C. Travel players must reside within the geographic boundaries as defined in Article 2, Section 1, prior to being added to the travel team roster. No out of area players are allowed to play travel. If a travel player moves out of the geographic boundary after the travel teams are selected the player may remain on the team for the duration of that season.

### **Section 2: AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH TRAVEL LEAGUE**

- A. 8U
- Minimum age 6 years as of April 30th at 11:59pm.
  - Maximum age 8 years as of April 30th at 11:59pm
  - 6 year olds as of April 30th at 12:59pm are eligible to play 8U as long as they've completed at least 1 year of T-Ball
  - Player is currently in 1st Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play 8U regardless as long as the maximum age requirement is met.
- B. 9U
- Player exceeds 8U age maximum
  - Maximum age 9 years as of April 30th at 11:59pm
  - Player is in 3rd Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play 9U as long as the maximum age criteria is met.
- C. 10U
- Player exceeds 9U age maximum
  - Maximum age 10 years as of April 30th at 11:59pm
  - Player is in 4th Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play 10U as long as the maximum age criteria is met.
- D. 11U
- Player exceeds 10U age maximum
  - Maximum age 11 years as of April 30th at 11:59pm.
  - Player is in 5th Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play 11U as long as the maximum age criteria is met.
- E. 12U
- Player exceeds 11U age maximum
  - Maximum age 12 years as of April 30th at 11:59pm
  - Player is in 6th Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play 12U as long as the maximum age criteria is met.

- F. 13U
  - Player exceeds 12U age maximum
  - Maximum age 13 years as of April 30th at 11:59pm
  - Players in 7th Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play 12U as long as the maximum age criteria is met.
- G. 14U
  - Player exceeds 13U age maximum
  - Maximum age 14 years as of April 30th at 11:59pm
  - Player is in 9th Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play 14U as long as the maximum age criteria is met.
- H. 16U
  - Player exceeds 14U age maximum
  - Maximum age 16 years as of April 30th at 11:59pm
  - Player is currently in 11th Grade at the time of registration (February) are eligible to play 16U as long as the maximum age criteria is met.

### **Section 3: BIRTH CERTIFICATES**

Copies of birth certificates are kept on record for all travel team players for verification of birth dates. These documents may be certified birth records or equivalent legal documents. Duplicate copies are acceptable. Documents must be legible and with an authorized signature from the issuing agency. Notarized statements from parents are unacceptable.

### **Section 4: SELECTION OF TRAVEL TEAM COACHES**

Solicitation of travel coaches must be communicated to the public at least 30 days prior to any vote to select coaches. The method of communicating to the public should at a minimum include the following methods:

- Notification posted to the EPCBB website
- Notification posted to the EPCBB Facebook page
- Notification posted in East Peoria Times Courier and Peoria Journal Star
- Notification sent via e-mail to all current Members

Coaching candidates need not be "Members". Anyone interested in serving as a head coach should contact an Executive Officer to be placed on the ballot at least (7) seven days prior to the voting session.

A special Board Meeting to select coaches will be scheduled immediately after the public communication timeframe and candidate filing deadlines have passed. All who are seeking a head coaching position must state to the Board why they want said position and be willing to answer questions by other members.

After all of the questions have been answered by the candidates (even if they are not opposed by another candidate) they will leave the room. The Board can openly discuss the candidates and those voting members will cast their vote by ballot. The Treasurer will count the votes and to insure there is not a tie. If a tie occurs the Treasurer will notify the President, and the President will cast the final vote. The candidates will be called back to the room and the announcement will be made by the President. The Board will only approve one head coach prior to the travel team tryouts. After the travel team has been selected the head coach can pick his assistants with Board approval.

Travel Team coaches who are not a Board member must attend all Board meetings from February-July of the year they are a Travel Team Coach.

### **Section 5: SELECTION OF PLAYERS**

The Board will select two tryout dates for evaluations. The head coach is responsible for assembling a Selection Committee for the evaluations.

The Selection Committee will consist of at least two (2) EPCB board members and one (1) other person not on the EPCB board. Every attempt will be made to assure that the members of the committee do not have a player that is trying-out. The Board recommends that the Coach use the same evaluators at each tryout.

16U and above travel teams are by invitation only. The invitees will be selected by a delegate appointed by the EPCB Board of Directors.

## **Section 6: FINANCIALS**

Each travel team will be responsible for 100% of the cost to run the team. No financial support will be provided by EPCB. This includes but it not limited to uniforms, equipment, umpire fees, field fees, tournament entry fees, etc.

Fundraising by travel teams will be allowed to offset additional costs incurred. Funds from these fundraising activities must be used for legitimate team expenses. All fundraising proposals must be presented to the EPCB Fund Raising Director in writing for approval prior to commencing. It is recommended that all travel teams coordinate their fundraising activities into a single fundraising effort. Solicitation of existing EPCB corporate sponsors will be prohibited as part of any fundraising effort.

## **Section 7: NUMBER OF TRAVEL TEAM GAMES**

- A. Travel teams, excluding 8U, will be limited to a maximum of 35 travel games and (6) six tournament(s) (including East Peoria Tournaments). The number of games for 8U is at the discretion of the head coach.
- B. Games cannot be schedule later than 6pm during weeknights when school is in session (no double headers).
- C. 14U and above, will be run as a joint effort between the EPCB and the High School Baseball Program.
- D. All reasonable efforts should be made to adhere to a 50/50 home vs. away schedule.

*\*\*\* The travel team rules described above are intended to govern the processes and procedures under which the travel teams operate to ensure conformity and consistency across any scenario that might arise. In rare and unique circumstances the Board may intervene and apply exceptions when deemed appropriate.*