

PLYMOUTH BABE RUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

Constitution

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CONSTITUTION

Article I: NAME

This body shall be known as Plymouth Babe Ruth.

Article II: OBJECTIVE

It shall be the objective of Plymouth Babe Ruth to develop and operate a baseball program in affiliation with Babe Ruth, Inc. In conjunction with said objective, Plymouth Babe Ruth further will seek, through a supervised, competitive baseball program that is guided and governed by Babe Ruth, Inc., to implant ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and reverence in the youth of the community. Plymouth Babe Ruth will include a Major League (that will be known locally as Div. I) and a Minor League (that will be known locally as Div. II) in accordance with Babe Ruth, Inc., "Farm" or "Minor" Team or League Policy. The combination of objectives and ideals of both leagues under Plymouth Babe Ruth is intended to assist in building stronger and happier youths to become good, clean, healthy adults. Further, Plymouth Babe Ruth will provide an opportunity to play for every eligible youngster expressing an interest to do so.

Article III: AFFILIATION

Plymouth Babe Ruth shall be affiliated with Babe Ruth Inc., a New Jersey corporation, in conformity with and pursuant to the principles, rules, and regulations enunciated and decreed by said Babe Ruth Inc.

Article IV: SITE OF PRINCIPAL OPERATIONS

The principal operation of Plymouth Babe Ruth shall be in and about the Town of Plymouth in the state of Massachusetts. It may extend into such areas as provided for by the National, Regional, and/or State Headquarters' rules and regulations.

Article V: POWERS

In addition to the powers expressly, or implicitly, conferred on it by law, Plymouth Babe Ruth shall have the following powers:

1. To make and enforce rules and regulations to govern itself on a local basis, but consistent with rules and regulations promulgated by Babe Ruth Inc., or its Regional or State affiliates to which Plymouth Babe Ruth is subject.
2. To solicit contributions.
3. To enter contracts.
4. To hold and own property

Article VI: MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership will include the Board of Directors and organizational appointments consistent with Article II above.
2. All volunteers must strive to promote the best interests of Plymouth Babe Ruth in accordance with Article II above.
3. There shall be no discrimination.

Article VII: OFFICERS

The elected officers of Plymouth Babe Ruth, which make up the Board of Directors, and their respective duties shall be:

President

1. Shall preside at all meetings of Plymouth Babe Ruth
2. Sign all documents authorized by Plymouth Babe Ruth
3. Fill all vacancies during his/her term
4. Appoint all committees unless sufficient volunteers are available. If the number of volunteers exceeds the number needed for a committee, the President shall have the final say as to the membership.
5. Responsible for overseeing the Senior program (appointing manager(s), attending meetings, etc.)
6. Responsible for securing playing field permits
7. Responsible for charter submission to Babe Ruth Headquarters
8. Responsible for settling local league protests and disputes
9. Insure that Plymouth Babe Ruth adheres to rules, regulations, and policies of Babe Ruth Baseball
10. Shall be an "ex officio" member of all committees
11. Perform such other duties as the regulations of this body shall require, or as may be necessary for the proper functioning of his/her office

Executive Vice President

1. Shall perform all functions of the President in his/her absence. In the event of the permanent absence of the President (e.g., death, retirement, removal, etc) the Vice President shall arrange for a

- special election to fill the vacancy
2. Perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper functioning of his/her office

Secretary

1. Record the minutes of all meetings
2. Send notices of all meetings
3. Maintain a record of the Plymouth Babe Ruth activities
4. Provide notification of election results
5. Prepare all documents for Headquarters
6. Perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper functioning of his/her office

Treasurer

1. Receive and safely keep all funds of Plymouth Babe Ruth
2. Maintain financial records
3. Responsible for league finances and budget preparation
4. Render a monthly written report of receipts and disbursements
5. Sign checks (Note: 2 signatures shall be required for any expenditure over \$200 and outside of normal operating expenses;
signatures will be those of the President and Treasurer)
6. Disburse all monies authorized by official action of Plymouth Babe Ruth
7. Perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper functioning of his/her office

Vice President of Division II Operations

1. Responsible for overseeing the entire Division II League (duties include calling meetings, holding draft, settling protests, etc.)
2. Perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper functioning of his/her office

Two Division I Managers / Two Division II Managers

1. Responsible for representing the best interests of their respective Divisions
2. Perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper functioning of his/her office
3. May carry a role on the board excluding President.

Additional Members

1. Webmaster and Safety Coordinator
2. Registrar
3. Rose Div Coordinator
4. Downie Div Coordinator
5. Umpire Coordinator
6. Equipment Coordinator
7. Field and Buildings Maintenance
8. Off Season Workout Coordinator
9. AAU/AllStar Coordinator
10. Fundraising Coordinator

Any member of the Board of Directors who miss two consecutive meetings without proper notice of absence will give up their seat on the Board.

Article VIII COMMITTEES

Not applicable.

Article IX MEETINGS AND QUORUMS

Regular meetings

Regular meetings shall be held once a month except during Dec. and Jan. on a date that is most convenient for most members. They should be attended by the Board of Directors and Managers if able.

Special meetings

Special meetings may be called by any member of the Board of Directors who is in good standing. Notice of said meeting will be provided at least

48 hours in advance. The notice shall provide the reason the special meeting is called. No other business will be discussed at the meeting.

Quorum

A quorum shall be a majority of the total number of the Board of Directors to conduct a regular meeting and act upon business.

Substitute

Any Board of Directors member shall have the right to have a person approved by the President to represent him/her at any meeting. The substitute will assume all the rights and responsibilities during the members' absence. A manager shall have the same right to have a substitute vote for All-Star selections.

Article X ELECTIONS

1. If possible, neither the Office of President or Executive Vice-President is to be held by a current manager, coach, or umpire in Plymouth Babe Ruth.
2. Candidates must have been in good standing with Plymouth Babe Ruth for 1 year.
3. Elected term shall be 2 years beginning immediately following the election.
4. Elections shall be held at the Nov. meeting of even numbered years.
5. Nominations will be held at the Oct. meeting. Nominations will come from the floor of the meeting.

Article XI AMENDMENTS

The Constitution and By-laws shall be reviewed each year by the Board of Directors. They may be amended at any time by a 2/3 majority vote of members in good standing at any regular monthly meeting. Some amendments will go into effect immediately, some one year later, depending on the circumstances.

BY-LAWS

Article I

ADMINISTRATION

No member of Plymouth Babe Ruth shall have the right to make a decision purporting to give Plymouth Babe Ruth's position on matters concerning policy or rules, etc., without first submitting the issue to the Board of Directors and abiding by its decision(s).

Article II

MEMBERSHIP

Player Eligibility/Requirements

1. There shall be no discrimination
2. Age limits:

All players who are 13, 14, 15, or 16 years of age as determined by May 1st in any year shall be eligible for Babe Ruth League competition. For example, any player born prior to May 1, 2001 and on or after May 1, 1998, will be eligible for Plymouth Babe Ruth League competition in the 2014 season.

3. Players must be residents of the Town of Plymouth
4. Players participating from out of the charter's district must have a waiver approved in writing by the league president, state commissioner and sending league president.
5. Any player who begins play in any Plymouth Babe Ruth League and changes residence, will have the option to complete his/her Babe Ruth competition in Plymouth.
6. Provide a valid birth certificate if required
7. There shall be no hazing
8. Must notify Plymouth Babe Ruth League of medication needed
9. Must notify Plymouth Babe Ruth League of any physical ailments or hindrances

Article III

SPONSOR FEE DUES

New team sponsor fees will be \$750. After the first year, team sponsor fees will be \$400. New sign sponsor fees will be \$400. After the first year, sign sponsor fees will be \$200.

Article IV

BABE RUTH RULES AND REGULATIONS

Babe Ruth Baseball rules and regulations, and those rules and regulations duly established by the respective State and Provincial organizations, will be considered binding on Plymouth Babe Ruth.

Article V**LOCAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. Any player(s) fighting will be given an automatic two game suspension. A second offense, or any incident which is deemed to have been an intent to injure, will require a meeting with the player and their parent(s) and/or guardian(s) before the board.
2. Any player(s) or coach(es) ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended from the next scheduled game.

3. All players must play at least 2 innings in the field and bat once in a 7 inning game. The "at bat" rule may be waived if a player plays for 9 outs in the field and the home team is winning. However, if the bottom of the 7thinning is played, the "at bat" rule shall not be waived
4. If a Div. II player is called up to Div. I, that player must come up. The only exception to this rule is a Div. II manager's son or daughter.
5. Slide rule: If a defensive player is in possession of the ball, the runner must slide or avoid making contact with the defensive player. If the slide rule is violated and determined to be flagrant in the umpire's judgment, the player will receive an automatic ejection.
6. Draft: Every year Div. I will draft 4 rounds, with the manager having the option of drafting a 5thround pick. Option Rule- Any draft-eligible player who is the sibling of a Plymouth Babe Ruth registered player may be declared taken in the 3rdround as an "option player". When a manager elects to exercise an option for his/her son/daughter or a chartered coaches' son/daughter, it will be declared a first round option. Any and all options must be declared before the draft begins. If the option rule is not exercised, the "option player" reverts to a draft-eligible status. In the case where 2 or more siblings are draft-eligible in the same draft, but do not qualify as a pre-existing option, an "option" shall be created when the first sibling is drafted. In this case, the "option" must be exercised in the next round if the manager wants to exercise it. If the option rule is not exercised, the "option" will revert to a draft-eligible status.
7. Expansion Draft: In the case of expansion, the manager of an expansion team shall have the first pick in every round for the 13 year olds. For 14 and 15 year olds, the expansion team manager shall have the first 5 consecutive picks of each age group.
8. Any manager shall have the authority to remove any player from his/her team for just cause.
9. Extra Hitter: Each team with 10 or more players at the start of a game will submit a 10 player lineup. The "extra hitter" will bat in his/her turn throughout the game. The "extra hitter" may enter the game defensively. A player may not be an "extra player" more than once every 4thgame.
10. All managers must fill their roster according to the team composition rule by their 1stgame.
11. Any team that knows in advance that it will be unable to field a team must notify the league President within one hour of the

- game to request a re-schedule instead of a forfeit.
12. Any team which fails to field a 9 player team within 15 minutes of the scheduled start of that game shall lose by forfeit.

13. If a team starts with 9 players and loses a player for any reason, it will result in a forfeit.
14. Ejection of a player from a game when all substitutes have been entered already requires that an eligible player on the bench re-enter the game. This player is selected by the opposing manager.
15. Playoff rounds will be best 2 of 3 series in the semi-finals and finals, with the #1 seed playing the #4 seed. #2 plays #3.
16. Playoff Positions and Draft Order for seeding is based on overall record including playoffs. In case of a tie, head to head record between the teams involved will be the 1st step. Then, the highest number of runs scored in the head to head games will be the next step. If a tie still results, a 1 game playoff will determine the spot for a playoff spot. If a tie still results, a coin flip will determine the spot for non playoff teams.
17. The league will award trophies to the Championship and Runner-up teams. Championship teams will approach their sponsors first for money towards jackets, then the league will contribute a maximum of \$400 towards the jackets.

Article VI PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

1. A majority vote will govern all questions unless otherwise stated.
2. A vote of unanimous consent may suspend the rules for the day only.
3. Roberts Rules of Order Revised shall be the authority to decide all questions of order not herein provided for.

Article VII AMENDMENTS

The By-laws may not be altered or amended except as provided for in Amendments to the Constitution.

Article VIII RE-ENTRY RULES

Any of the 9 starting positional players may withdraw and re-enter once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever he/she is in the line-up. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter. The starting pitcher is governed by the provisions of Official Baseball Rule 3.05. NOTE: If a player re-enters illegally as a pitcher, fielder, or runner, there is no penalty except that he/she must be removed from the game immediately when discovered if he/she re-enters illegally as a batter, such illegal re-entry is penalized according to Official Baseball Rule 6.07. Plymouth Babe Ruth Baseball will allow re-entry of already used players if all substitutes have

been used and an injury occurs. Selection of this substitute will be made by the opposing manager. This type of re-entry can only take place when an injury prevents a player from continuing in the game. The injured player, once removed from the game, cannot re-enter.

Article IX PITCHING RULES

1. Monday through Sunday is a calendar week.
2. Any pitcher may pitch 7 innings per calendar week. Exception: See #4
3. Pitching eligibility in effect for re-scheduled and make-up games goes in accordance to the calendar week in which games are played
4. If a team plays 3 games during a calendar week, a pitcher may pitch 7 innings in the 1st game and then pitch 7 innings in the 3rd game, as long as they meet the required rest needed between games.
5. A pitcher must have 2 days rest between all pitching assignments in which the pitcher pitches in more than 3 innings.
6. If a pitcher delivers 1 pitch in an inning, he/she will be charged for 1 inning pitched
7. If a game is called before it has become an official game, the pitching eligibility is the same as it was prior to that game.
8. Pitchers are held to a maximum of 4 innings the first two weeks of the season.
9. Coaches are to communicate with the High School coaches in order to have the option of pitching a HS player.

Article X CANCELLATION OF GAMES

In the case of inclement weather, it is the responsibility of the home team to notify the Umpire-in-Chief President, and opposing manager at least one hour prior to scheduled game time of the need for cancellation. Re-

scheduling of all postponed games will be handled by the League Scheduler and will be done within 2 weeks of the original scheduled game, if possible.

Article XI PROTEST PROCEDURES

1. Notice that the game is being played under protest must be filed with the home plate umpire by the manager immediately at the time of the disputed decision and before the next pitched ball to the batter or next play. Have the umpire sign your scorebook when the protest is announced.
2. Written report setting forth all the facts of the protest must be filed with the League President within 24 hours of the date of protest.
3. The League President shall appoint 3 members of the League not connected with any of the teams to serve on a Protest Committee.
4. The final decision of the Protest Committee shall not be subject to appeal to any higher authority.

Article XII ALL-STAR PLAYERS AND MANAGERS

Players:

1. All players, regardless of age, must have played in at least 60% of their team's scheduled games on nomination night to be eligible for nomination. Note: The only exception would be not enough games due to injury or High school baseball.
2. Players must play with their own age groups.
3. Managers nominate players from their teams.
4. The league may have an All Star tryout at the Board's discretion.
4. Each manager then picks 10 players from the nominated list. Managers can't vote for their own players.
5. Top 10 vote getters make the team. Max roster is 15 players of which up to 5 may be selected by the All Star manger. The District roster must include a minimum of 12 players.
6. A player may not be rostered on two or more District Rosters.
7. Changes may be made to the District roster as determined by Babe Ruth National rules prior to the State tournament if advancing.
8. In case of tie(s), for the last spot(s), re-vote is taken for those spots. Managers can vote for their own players.
9. If any age group hosts the EMASS State Tournament, two teams

may be entered into District tournament play. The “A” team will be the top 10 vote getters with the addition of players selected by the “A” manager. The “B” team will consist of any nominated player that was represented at the vote or the All Star tryout (if applicable).

Managers:

1. Must be able to make a total commitment to their teams.
2. Are determined by the Board of Directors, through an interview process, if more than one person applies for the position.
3. Current league managers have the first options on teams (This is a reward for managers who stay with the program), however the final determination/approval of each All-Star manager resides with the Board of Directors.
4. All Star managers from the previous year have the option to remain the following year unless the board votes otherwise.
5. Have the final say on the last 5 spots on their team.
6. May choose players who were not nominated.
7. Do not have to fill the last 3 spots of their teams.
8. Coaches must be chartered with National Babe Ruth to be eligible.

Article XIII CODE OF ETHICAL CONDUCT

A. *Purpose and Applicability*

The Code of Ethical Conduct is designed to be a guide for all members of Plymouth Babe Ruth, and to remind all members of the conduct expected and required of them in performance of their duties, and in their general conduct. Each member is expected to read and become familiar with this Code. A violation of this Code may be cause for remedial or disciplinary action, including discharge.

B. *Standards of Conduct*

Members must avoid any action, whether or not specifically prohibited in this Code, which might result in, or create the appearance of:

1. Making a decision purporting policy of Babe Ruth Inc., and/or Plymouth Babe Ruth outside official channels.
2. Abusing the privilege and trust inherent with involvement with youngsters.
3. Conduct that is unfavorable, and/or unacceptable to the welfare of youth. Such conduct will include, but not be limited to, criminal, dishonest, notoriously disgraceful or immoral conduct prejudicial to Plymouth Babe Ruth. Conviction of a violation of any criminal statute may be grounds for disciplinary action by Plymouth Babe Ruth in addition to any other penalty by or pursuant to statute.
4. Adversely affecting the confidence of the public in the integrity of

Babe Ruth Inc, and/or Plymouth Babe Ruth.

C. ***Remedial Procedures***

1. Remedial action may include, but is not limited to, disqualification for a particular position, and/or disciplinary action in accordance with Rules and Policies of Babe Ruth Inc, and/or Plymouth Babe Ruth.

2. Any complaint(s) of allegedly unacceptable or inappropriate conduct will be presented to the President of Plymouth Babe Ruth, who will determine the appropriate course of handling the issue(s).
3. Where deemed warranted, a fact-finding committee will be appointed to investigate and make its recommendation(s) to the Board of Directors for authoritative interpretation and decision.
4. The Board of Directors will be responsible for the administration of and any remedial action deemed necessary, this Code of Ethical Conduct.

Amended 5/6/15:

1. The Downie Division will have a minimum play rule of 3 innings defensively and 1 AB unless 7 innings were not completed.
2. The Downie Division will have free defensive substitution. However, the batting lineup remains unchanged unless a sub is announced in that hitting spot. Only the starter may re-enter offensively into his original spot in the lineup. This may happen once and the sub will be done for the game offensively.
3. No team shall be forced to forfeit based on the high school schedule. Coaches may request a change in the schedule through league coordinators.

Amended 8/7/16:

1. 16 year olds are eligible to play in the Downie Division.
2. 16 year olds may pitch in the Downie Division.
3. Players must appear for the minimum required time in 60% of the scheduled games in order to be eligible for the District All Star team.

Article XIV ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Attendance sheet
2. Meeting called to order
3. Secretary Report
4. Treasurer Report
5. Committees Report
6. Correspondence
7. Old Business
8. New Business
9. Adjournment