

# El Cerrito Youth Base ball

## Rules of E.C.Y.B

### **Effective for 2023 season**

Board-approved revisions, Jan. 2023

These rules have been adopted by the El Cerrito Youth Baseball (“ECYB”) Board of Directors to supplement the official rules of PONY Baseball. If there is a conflict between these rules and official PONY Baseball rules, ECYB will follow ECYB rules unless compliance with PONY rules is required to maintain our franchise or to permit participation by ECYB teams in PONY sanctioned tournaments. These rules are in effect for the 2018 and subsequent seasons until modified or changed by the board.

# **PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION**

## **SECTION ONE**

## **OVERVIEW**

### **1. CO-SPONSORSHIP RELATIONSHIP WITH EL CERRITO PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

#### **1.1. Public Service**

ECYB will be responsible for two (2) hours per participating player of community service to the city of El Cerrito or a total number of hours commensurate and proportional to the number of youths participating.

#### **1.2. Annual Report**

The president of ECYB, with assistance from the Registrar, will provide the El Cerrito Parks and Recreation Commission with a written status report listing the number of players who reside within the city of El Cerrito and the number of players who reside outside the city of El Cerrito as based on ECYB registration forms. The registrar will forward this status report on approximately April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### **2. ADMINISTRATION**

ECYB shall be administered by an elected board of directors (the board) which shall appoint the division presidents, head umpire, umpire coordinator, registrar, team managers, and all other officers who serve ECYB. All appointees serve annually at the pleasure of the board.

#### **2.1. Board of Directors**

2.1.1. The board of directors shall be elected in compliance with the bylaws of ECYB. The board shall annually elect a president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary to perform the customary functions of those offices.

2.1.2. The board shall meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month unless alternative meeting dates are determined. Board meetings are open for observation to the members of ECYB and the public.

2.1.3. Members of ECYB, with permission of the president, can schedule agenda items to be heard at a meeting provided notice is given to the president at least forty-eight (48)

hours in advance of the meeting at which the member desires to participate. Permission shall not be unreasonably withheld.

## 2.2. Registrar

The registrar shall be responsible for registration and maintenance of the official ECYB records for all players.

## 2.3. Division Presidents

The board will appoint a president for each division. The division presidents are *ex-officio* members of the board and represent each respective division at board meetings.

## 2.4. Head Umpire and Umpire Coordinator

The head umpire and umpire coordinator shall cooperate in the overall management of ECYB umpires in their respective duties as defined in Section Seven to include, but not limited to, selection, training, scheduling, and evaluation of umpires.

## SECTION TWO

## DIVISION STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION

### 1. DIVISIONS

ECYB is divided into seven (7) divisions. Each division is administered by a division president who is responsible for all aspects of players' safety and welfare and for all activities of each respective team in the division. Each team has a manager, coaches, a business manager, and a scorekeeper.

DIVISION	TYPICAL AGES	ALLOWABLE AGES
Shetland	5—6*	5—6
Pinto	7—8	6—8
Mustang	9—10	8—10
Bronco	11—12	10—12
Pony	13—14	12—14
[Colt]**	15—16	14—16
[Palomino]**	17—18	16—18

\*A 4-year-old may petition ECYB for early entry into Shetland.

\*\*Colt and Palomino Divisions will be organized when, in the board's judgment, sufficient players, coaches, managers, and fields are likely to be available.

### 2. TEAM FORMATION

- 2.1. The number of teams in each division and the number of players on each team will be set by the board after consulting with the registrar and board president. These numbers are based on the availability of players, managers, coaches and playing fields.
- 2.2. Each team shall have a manager and two (2) or more coaches appointed by the board. However, only two (2) coaches on a team shall receive volunteer hour credit for coaching in Mustang and above. In Shetland and Pinto one (1) manager and three (3) coaches may receive volunteer credit.
- 2.3. Teams members are selected by the draft procedure described in Part One, Appendix A or by any other procedure authorized by the board.

2.4. No team shall have fewer than eleven (11) or more than fifteen (15) players.

### **3. APPLICATION PROCESS FOR DIVISION PRESIDENTS, MANAGERS, AND COACHES**

3.1. All new or returning individuals interested in a position as division president, manager or coach must apply to the board. Applications for manager must be received no later than January 1<sup>st</sup> of each current season; those for coaching positions no later than January 15<sup>th</sup>.

3.2. Manager and coach candidates may not have any contact with new or returning players until the candidate has been approved by the board.

3.3. However, tentative coaches and managers can attend player evaluations at their option.

3.4. Individuals violating the no contact rule are subject to disciplinary action by the board.

#### **3.5. Board Approval**

3.5.1. Appointment of all division presidents, managers and coaches shall be determined by the board.

3.5.2. All managers and coaches who are new to EYCB shall be interviewed by the board.

3.5.3. Managers who apply to be managers in a higher division or coaches who apply to move up to managers must also apply and be interviewed by the board.

3.5.4. Managers or coaches returning to the same division for a second consecutive year need not be interviewed by the board unless the board deems such an interview to be necessary.

### **4. DIVISION PRESIDENTS**

4.1. The division president shall provide for the welfare of the players; is responsible for all activities of each respective team; and has the following responsibilities and authorities:

4.1.1. To convene a minimum of four (4) managers' meetings throughout the season as described under managers below,

4.1.2. Conduction of player evaluations, and

4.1.3. With the assistance of the ECYB fields coordinator, to establish official practice days, times, and places for each team in the division team practice, regular season, and postseason play.

- 4.1.3.1. The division president may schedule one or two practice games for each team for which ECYB will provide umpires.
- 4.1.3.2. The division president should distribute the schedule at least three (3) weeks prior to the start of division play and reschedule makeup games as soon as possible.
- 4.1.4. Maintenance of records for each player including the number of innings played including position, the number of complete games played, and if applicable the number of innings played including the aggregate pitch count,
- 4.1.5. To ascertain that all ECYB rules, PONY rules, and the current Rules of Baseball are followed by all managers, coaches, and players within each division as applicable, and
- 4.1.6. To make rulings and interpretations of rule conflicts, subject to appeal to the board as described in Grievances in Section Eight.
- 4.2. The division president does not have the authority to unilaterally change any prevailing rules contained herein.

## **5. MANAGERS**

- 5.1. Manager candidates may not have any contact with new or returning players until the candidate has been approved by the board.
- 5.2. Managers may manage only one team, but in addition may coach an additional team in another division.
- 5.3. No individual may coach more than two (2) ECYB teams.
- 5.4. Managers are prohibited from recruiting any current or returning ECYB player to play on a non-ECYB sanctioned team before that season's Select Teams are chosen.
- 5.5. Managers should not recruit players who are already part of a Select Team for other ECYB sanctioned team without first discussing scheduling and player pitching concerns with the player's parents and existing manager(s).
- 5.6. The manager is responsible to obtain and return all equipment issued to the team by the equipment manager.
- 5.7. The manager is responsible for all aspects of a team's operation and safety of all players including, but not limited to:
  - 5.7.1. Attending division player evaluations and draft; and

- 5.7.2. Attending all managers' meetings and training sessions during the season to include but not limited to the following:
    - 5.7.2.1. Pre-season: review of baseball and ECYB rules, playoff procedures, selection of all-star players and coaches, practice and game schedules, any other topic of interest;
    - 5.7.2.2. Mid-season: to include issues of division play, clarification of rules; umpires, review of process for selection of all star players and coaches, practice schedule adjustments, any other topics of interest;
    - 5.7.2.3. All-Star selection: Selection of all-star managers, coaches, and players for sanctioned and non-sanctioned all-star teams; and
    - 5.7.2.4. End of season: Usually held after last-regular season game and before the playoffs for review of team standings and playoff system, and to establish playoff game and practice schedules.
  - 5.7.3. Ensuring that emergency treatment forms and releases are received from each player and are available at all practices and games;
  - 5.7.4. Maintaining discipline and teaching good sportsmanship;
  - 5.7.5. Conducting practices in an efficient and organized manner consistent with ECYB goals of teaching the fundamentals of baseball and good sportsmanship;
  - 5.7.6. Ensuring that the playing field is correctly marked and in a safe condition for play;
  - 5.7.7. Preparing game lineups and ensuring that ECYB rules for player participation are followed;
  - 5.7.8. Ensuring during games and practices that coaches, players, parents, and spectators follow ECYB rules and guidelines according to PONY Rules and augmented by the board through Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) and other regulations;
  - 5.7.9. Ensuring during games that coaches, players, parents, and spectators do not question calls made by umpires; and
  - 5.7.10. During games, acting as the sole representative of their team in any disputes or discussions with the umpire or opposing manager about a rule interpretation or game ruling.
- 5.8. A manager shall not argue an umpire's judgment call.

- 5.9. The home team manager is required to note if all umpires arrived on time, and if not, what time each umpire arrived.

## **6. COACHES**

- 6.1. Candidates may not have any contact with new or returning players until the candidate has been approved by the board.
- 6.2. Are prohibited from recruiting any current or returning ECYB player to play on a non-ECYB sanctioned team before that season's Select Teams are chosen;
- 6.3. Should not recruit players who are already part of a Select Team or other ECYB sanctioned team without first discussing scheduling and player pitching concerns with the player's parents and existing manager(s).
- 6.4. Coaches are responsible for assisting the manager in all aspects of a team's operations and helping ensure the safety of the players.
- 6.5. Coaches are not permitted to address umpires during a game except to inquire as to the count (balls and strikes) or to call a time out, and shall not directly participate in disputes or discussions involving the umpires and managers about an in-game ruling or interpretation.  
However,
- 6.6. Coaches may exercise all authorities of the manager when substituting as manager during a game.

## **7. TEAM BUSINESS MANAGER**

- 7.1. The team business manager is recruited by the team manager and reports to the league business manager coordinator;
- 7.2. Is required to attend business manager meetings as scheduled;
- 7.3. Assists the manager with administrative duties;
- 7.4. Acts as liaison between the manager and parents through e-mails and other modes of communication;
- 7.5. Coordinates parents of players to volunteer for team activities, e.g., field prep, snack schedules, uniforms, photographs, fund raising, etc.;
- 7.6. Keeps an accurate accounting of family participation hours and submits an accounting to the business manager coordinator within two (2) weeks of the end of the season to facilitate return of parent deposits.



## **8. EQUIPMENT**

### **8.1. Equipment Manager**

The equipment manager shall be responsible for the purchase, maintenance and tracking of all equipment. In addition, the equipment manager is responsible for distributing equipment to teams and disposal of equipment that is outdated or unserviceable. The board shall be provided with an inventory no later than one (1) month prior to the date on which teams are scheduled to begin practicing during each season and no later than one (1) month after the conclusion of All-Star play for that season.

8.2. Equipment shall be distributed to approved managers only and must be returned by the date set by the ECYB equipment manager.

8.3. Managers shall be responsible for returning equipment or reimbursing ECYB for missing items.

8.4. If equipment is not returned or reimbursed the responsible manager will not be allowed to manage, coach, or participate in any ECYB activities.

## **SECTION THREE**

## **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION**

### **1. DATES**

Dates for registration will be established annually by the board. Later deadlines may be set for Colt and Palomino Divisions.

### **2. FEES**

2.1. Fees will be set annually. The board may set discounted fees for early registration, adjust fees for families with more than one player registering, and grant financial aid. There will be a returned check fee of \$50 for all returned checks.

2.2. Non-residents of El Cerrito who participate in the ECYB program may be assessed additional fees to offset additional costs, if any, that occur by ECYB to facilitate their participation.

2.3. For all divisions above Pinto, the board will set a uniform deposit annually before October 15<sup>th</sup> of the year preceding the applicable season. The deposit will be returned at the end of the season upon proof that the player has returned the jersey in good condition at the end of the season.

2.4. The registration fee shall include a parent participation fee to be set annually by the board by October 15<sup>th</sup> of the year preceding the applicable season.

This amount will be refunded at the end of the season upon proof that a player's family has performed the requisite number of volunteer hours, and fulfilled all other mandatory requirements tied to the deposit as defined by the board.

#### **2.5. Scholarship Awards**

If paying the full registration fee would be a financial hardship for a family, the family may make written application to the board for financial assistance.

2.5.1. Such application shall include a detailed explanation of the need for financial aid, and must also include evidence reasonably satisfactory to enable the board to verify the financial hardship and determine relative eligibility for scholarship awards.

2.5.2. Based on the information provided, the current financial circumstances of ECYB, and the past contribution the family has made to ECYB, the board may approve a reduced registration fee or arrange for the family to pay the registration fee in installments.

2.5.3. The board may, at its discretion, discuss with the family alternative ways in which the family can contribute to ECYB's operation, such as increased volunteer hours, in exchange for financial aid.

### **3. AGE**

3.1. For ECYB purposes a player's eligibility is determined by the player's age on April 30<sup>th</sup> of the season for which the player is registering as cited in the preceding table.

3.2. Players who wish to play up or down one year (per “allowable age”) must follow the procedure described below in Section 4, Paragraph 4.

#### **4. REGISTRATION MATERIALS**

Players are not eligible to participate in any ECYB activities including evaluations, draft, or practice until fees are paid and all requirements of registration outlined below are met. The executed Emergency Information/Treatment Form and ECYB Waiver must be in the manager’s possession. Additional requirements may be determined by the board from time to time.

- 4.1. A completed and signed player registration form;
- 4.2. The prevailing registration fee or a completed application for a scholarship award;
- 4.3. Proof of residence evidenced by a copy of a utility bill with the service address and mailing address or a rental agreement;
- 4.4. Proof of age evidenced by a birth, baptismal or hospital certificate, a driver’s license, or passport;
- 4.5. An emergency treatment authorization form;
- 4.6. A signed medical release form; and
- 4.7. A volunteer preference form.

#### **5. VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION PROGRAM**

- 5.1. Each family must volunteer for the mandatory number of league and team hours established by the Board.
- 5.2. Volunteer positions are available as manager, coach, business manager, field crew member, or participation on one or more of numerous committees.
- 5.3. Each team’s business manager will record volunteer hours. Families who complete the required volunteer hours will have their parent participation fee refunded to them at the end of the season.
- 5.4. Failure to complete the required volunteer hours will result in the forfeiture of the volunteer participation fee.
- 5.5. In the event a family claims a discrepancy in the number of volunteer hours, the family must submit a request for refund to the league by July 31<sup>st</sup> of the given year or their participation fee will be forfeited.

## **SECTION FOUR**

## **PLAYER EVALUATION AND TEAM SELECTION**

### **EVALUATIONS**

The board will determine the dates, times, and places for player evaluations.

#### **1. PROCESS**

1.1. The ECYB registrar shall provide each division president a list of players to be evaluated. This list shall include the player's residency status, playing age, birthdate, and evaluation identification number.

1.2. All new and returning players including preempts must participate in evaluation.

#### **2. RETURNING PLAYERS**

2.1. All returning players must attend evaluation.

2.2. For the avoidance of doubt, all preempts, shall participate in player evaluation regardless of whether they are returning players.

2.3. Players on the roster of a disbanded team shall re-enter the draft and participate in player evaluations.

2.4. Players returning to a division for a second year automatically return to the team they played for in their first year without exception, unless:

2.4.1. The board decides that all returning players in each division will be placed in the draft;

2.4.2. The board decides to move a player from a team to facilitate the player's parent to manage or coach another team. This will take place only in cases where a shortage of available managers or coaches exists and the manager from which the player is being moved approves; or

2.4.3. The team is disbanded.

2.4.3.1. The board will authorize the disbanding of a team only for the most extenuating circumstances such as insufficient players or insufficient playing and/or practice fields. It will not authorize the disbanding of a team for reasons related to past performance or name.

2.4.3.2. When a team is disbanded, players on the roster of that team shall re-enter the draft and participate in player evaluations.

2.4.3.3. If it appears that a team may have to be disbanded, the division president shall notify all returning members of that team no later than five (5) day prior to division player evaluations.

2.4.4. Teams shall not be merged.

### **3. NEW PLAYERS**

All new players to a division, including managers' preempts, coaches' preempts, and sibling preempts shall participate in player evaluations.

### **4. PLAYER'S REQUESTING TO PLAY UP OR DOWN**

4.1. If a player would like to play up (per "allowable ages") that player shall attend both evaluations (their "typical age" division and the one they want to be considered for), just in case the player is ineligible for the higher division based on their level assessment and/or any other reasons. Play downs are solely with approval from the executive board and must be extraordinary circumstances beyond consideration of skill level.

4.2. Example: A ten (10) year old wanting to be considered for the Bronco division should attend both the Bronco and the Mustang evaluations.

4.3. Attending a division evaluation other than the typical age range does not guarantee a spot in that division. The division presidents, in consultation with division managers and the board, have sole discretion as to placement of the player.

4.4. The player may be placed in a division based on "typical age" for any circumstance including, but not limited to past performance, emotional maturity, safety, hardship, tryout evaluation, and current enrollment of typical age players registered for either division.

### **5. EACH DIVISION PRESIDENT SHALL:**

5.1. Organize and conduct player evaluations for their respective divisions;

5.2. Ensure that all registered players receive adequate time and opportunity for their evaluation;

5.3. Ensure that each player shall be allotted the same approximate time to field, throw, and bat;

5.4. Compile a master list for the division after receiving the ranking list from each manager;

5.5. Submit the list to the registrar for final confirmation of player eligibility before being distributed to the managers; and

5.6. Distribute the confirmed list to be used during the draft to managers at least twenty-four (24) hours before the player's draft.

### **6. THE MANAGER FROM EACH TEAM SHALL:**

6.1. Rank the players who participate in player evaluations in order from most to least skilled based on their appraisal of the player's ability and potential; and

6.2. Turn in a list of ranked players to the division president within forty-eight (48) hours after player evaluations.

## **TEAM SELECTION**

## **7. ELIGIBILITY**

Only player candidates who have participated in the player evaluation process for the current season shall be eligible for the player draft unless granted an exemption by the division president in advance.

## **8. PREEMPTS**

8.1. Any player, other than a returning player, assigned to a team without being selected in the draft because their parent intends to manage or coach that team is considered a preempted player.

8.2. Once a player is preempted, s/he remains a preempted player for the duration of the player's time on that team even if the parent of the player does not manage or coach that player's team during the second year at any division level.

8.3. All manager and coach preempted players must be approved by the division president in advance of the draft. All manager and coach preempted players must attend evaluations even if returning to the same team for their second year.

### **8.4. Managers' and Coaches' Preempts**

8.4.1. If a manager's child is eligible for the draft, the child will automatically be placed on the manager's team as a "manager's preempt".

8.4.2. One coach preempt may be requested by the manager of a team to have that player's parent as a coach on the team. A player who is assigned to a team for this purpose is a "coach's preempt".

8.4.3. All preemptive selections by the managers must be received by the division president no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the draft.

8.4.4. The division president will review submitted preempt selections and ensure that:

8.4.4.1. The parent of the preempted player has been approved by the board to coach in ECYB, is available and committed to be a team coach.

8.4.4.2. Placing the preempted player on the team will not preclude the drafting of a timely registered in district resident player, and

8.4.4.3. Placing the preempted player on the team will not cause the selecting team to be further out of the desired age balance of players.

8.4.5. Should a preemptive selection be unacceptable because of Paragraph 8.4.4 above, the division president will notify the team's manager no later than twenty-four hours prior to the scheduled draft.

8.4.6. Should the parent of a preempted player not manage or coach his or her child's team during the second year at any division level, the child will still count as a preempted player for that second season.

## 8.5. Preempt Penalties

- 8.5.1. The purpose of the preempt rules is to ensure that every team has a manager and coaches who are comfortable working together and who are committed to providing the players with a positive experience.
- 8.5.2. To avoid abuse of the preempt rules, managers and coaches whose children are preempted onto teams must attend at least seventy-five (75%) percent of the team's practices and seventy-five (75%) percent of the team's games.
- 8.5.3. If the president determines that a manager or coach has violated the preempt rules during a current season the following rules shall apply:
  - 8.5.3.1. The team associated with the manager or coach will be eliminated from the playoffs, tournaments, or post season play,
  - 8.5.3.2. The preempted player will re-enter the draft the following season, and
  - 8.5.3.3. The manager or coaches of the team involved will be barred from any official position in the ECYB program for the season following the infraction.
- 8.5.4. Anyone found by the division president to have violated the rules on preemptory placement may appeal that finding to a grievance committee whose decision shall be final.

## 9. SIBLINGS

Unless the board specifically rules otherwise, siblings, including those of returning players, are automatically placed on the same team without the use of a preempt unless the player is the son or daughter of a manager or coach. In that event the player is subject to the manager or coach preempt rule.

## 10. PLAYER DRAFTS

To facilitate and ensure the uniformity of drafting by all divisions within ECYB and to maximize the equality of teams within each division, the ECYB division presidents shall:

- 10.1. Evaluate the number and relative talent of returning players to each team as well as the number of new players moving up,
- 10.2. Determine the most appropriate draft procedures and draft order to be utilized each season and make a recommendation subject to approval by the board.
- 10.3. Draft procedures to be utilized include:
  - 10.3.1. Full re-drafts of the entire division including re-evaluation and re-draft of all returning players;
  - 10.3.2. A normal draft grid;
  - 10.3.3. An expansion draft grid; or

#### 10.3.4. A parity draft process

### **10.4. DRAFTING ORDER PROCEDURE IS ATTACHED AS PART ONE, APPENDIX A.**

## **11. PRIOR TO THE DRAFT THE DIVISION PRESIDENT WILL DISTRIBUTE THE FOLLOWING:**

- 11.1. A draft grid which contains the names of all returning players and preempted players for a given division and
- 11.2. A listing of all players eligible to be drafted and the master ranking list compiled from the entire managers' player evaluation rankings.
- 11.3. The draft grid and the list of players in the draft should indicate players' ages and residency status so managers can plan their selections to ensure that all El Cerrito residents are placed on teams and that the age groups on each team are appropriately balanced.
  - 11.3.1. At the start of the draft meeting, the division president will ensure that the manager or an authorized representative is present for each team. Each manager may have no more two (2) additional individuals present during the player draft.
  - 11.3.2. Throughout the drafting procedure, the division president will call the name of the team in precedence order and upon receiving a selection from the team's manager, enter the name in the appropriate space.
  - 11.3.3. Each manager will be allowed no more than five (5) minutes per selection, noncumulative.
  - 11.3.4. The division president will review each draft selection to ensure that:
    - 11.3.4.1. All registered youths who reside within the El Cerrito city limits are drafted, if they participated in the player evaluations or are returning to the same team on which they were a member during the preceding season.
    - 11.3.4.2. To the extent possible, considering available players, no more than onehalf of any age group will be on any given team. Exceptions may occur because of the drafting process of this or a previous year when an unusual number of one age group returns to a team from a previous season. Neither a team nor a player will be penalized as a result thereof and no player will be required to leave a team for redistribution.
    - 11.3.4.3.

## **12. PRIORITY OF ASSIGNMENT TO TEAMS**

If there are not enough roster spaces to accommodate all interested players who register by the deadline, players will be assigned in the following order of priority.



- 12.1. El Cerrito resident who either attended player evaluations (or are excused from attending player evaluations because of illness or other unusual circumstances) or who are returning to the same team for a second year;
- 12.2. Returning non-residents who live within the boundaries for ECYB established PONY Baseball sanctioned tournament play as indicated by a boundary map to be adopted and approved by the board from time to time;
- 12.3. Siblings of returning, non-residents who live within ECYB boundaries;
- 12.4. Returning non-residents who live outside ECYB boundaries;
- 12.5. Siblings of returning non-residents who live outside ECYB boundaries;
- 12.6. Non- resident players who are new to ECYB and who attend player evaluations; and
- 12.7. All other players, regardless of residency, who did not attend player evaluations, unless the failure to do so is the result of illness or extraordinary circumstances.

### **13. PLAYER POOL**

- 13.1. Players who have properly registered before the draft, but do not attend player evaluations will be placed in a player pool rather than the draft.
- 13.2. Players returning to the same division cannot be pool players.
- 13.3. Players who register by the registration deadline, but do not attend player evaluations have priority in the player pool over players who did not register by the registration deadline and did not attend player evaluations.
- 13.4. If the division president or the board determines that a player did not attend player evaluations so that the manager could attempt to have that player placed on the manager's team:
  - 13.4.1. The player shall be barred from playing in ECYB for that season, and
  - 13.4.2. That manager shall be barred from managing or coaching any team in ECYB during the season for which such player evaluations were held.
- 13.5. If there are still openings on teams after the draft of evaluated players concludes, pool players will immediately be randomly assigned to teams by the division president.
- 13.6. If the number of openings for team placement is less than the number of players in the pool, priority will be given in the order that the players registered.
- 13.7. Absent extenuating circumstances, as determined by the division president, players who register after the registration deadline will not be placed on a team.

**NO PARENTAL REQUESTS ARE ACCEPTED FOR ANY ECYB DIVISION EXCEPT SHETLAND.**

## **SECTION FIVE**

## **SCHEDULING**

### **1. PRACTICE SCHEDULE**

The division president, with the assistance of the ECYB field coordinator, will establish official practice days, times, and places for each team in the division.

### **2. PRE-SEASON GAMES**

The division president may schedule one or two practice games for each team, for which ECYB will provide umpires.

### **3. REGULAR SEASON GAME SCHEDULE**

3.1. The division president will coordinate the division game schedule with the ECYB fields coordinator.

3.2. The division president should distribute the schedule at least three (3) weeks prior to start of season play.

3.3. The division president should reschedule make-up games as soon as possible.

### **4. PLAYOFF GAMES**

4.1. Unless otherwise determined by the board, all teams in each ECYB division shall participate in playoffs regardless of regular season records.

4.2. The format for the playoffs shall be determined by the division president no later than the third week of the regular season.

4.3. The division president, and/or the division president's designated replacement will preside over all playoff games and matters associated with the conduct of these games.

4.4. The division president or designee will keep the official score books and will settle all disputes and protests as called for by baseball and division rules and regulations.

4.5. Seeding for playoffs will be determined by regular season record.

4.6. Ties will be resolved by:

4.6.1. Awarding one point for each win over a division team, 1/2 point for each contest ending in a tie, and zero points for a loss.

4.6.2. In the event of a tie, additional points will be awarded for games during the scheduled interlocking system with non ECYB teams.

4.6.3. For the resolution of a continuing tie, the win/loss records of the tying teams against each other will prevail.

4.6.4. Should a tie persist, the tie will be broken by best total run differential for the entire season (runs scored minus runs allowed).

4.7. Format

4.7.1. The division president will decide on the format and scheduling to be used after consultation with the division's managers.

4.7.2. Home team for play-off games may be determined by best record or coin toss depending on the type of playoff format.

4.8. Game Rules (See Part 2, Section Three for Rules Governing Play in all Divisions).

## **SECTION SIX**

## **SELECT TEAM/ALL STAR PLAY**

### **1. STRUCTURE**

- 1.1. Typically, each season ECYB will field one select team per age group, i.e., 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, and 14U.
- 1.2. This is dependent upon having enough players for each age group and an approved manager for the team.
- 1.3. There may or may not be additional ECYB-sanctioned (all-star) teams formed in each division or age group depending again on number of eligible and interested players as well as approved managers.

### **2. ELIGIBILITY**

- 2.1. Players meeting the age and residency requirements of ECYB as specified under PONY Baseball regulations will be eligible for sanctioned PONY World Series play.
- 2.2. Players not meeting residency requirements will be eligible for all other all-star play.
- 2.3. Managers of “sanctioned” PONY World Series All-Star teams will strictly adhere to the residency rules set forth by PONY Baseball.
- 2.4. For a PONY sanctioned tournament, a player can only play on an all-star team that is from the division in which the player played during the regular season.
- 2.5. Pony division players who participated in their high school baseball teams during the regular season are eligible to participate on Pony all-star teams provided they do not play anywhere else between their last high school game their first ECYB regular or post season game.

### **3. SELECTION OF MANAGERS**

- 3.1. One to three weeks prior to select team tryouts, the division president shall survey the managers and coaches for their interest in managing the select team.
- 3.2. The division president will then interview the interested candidates and choose one to submit to the board for consideration.
- 3.3. The board will consider the eligible candidates and approve or disapprove them to manage the select teams.
- 3.4. If the candidate is rejected, the division president will submit another candidate.
- 3.5. If no manager is approved, there will not be a select team for that division.

#### **4. APPLICATION FOR PLAY**

- 4.1. Select team evaluation session(s) for each division will be administered by the division president and/or select team manager and an independent evaluator.
- 4.2. To be eligible to participate on a select team, an interested player must attend the scheduled select team evaluation (tryout) or let the division president know reasonably in advance of any schedule conflicts.
- 4.3. Typically, there will also be a second evaluation at the end of the recreation season, for any new player additions or changes needed by a select team.
- 4.4. A player who is selected for the in-season select team is not guaranteed a spot on the postseason select team. If the select team manager does not feel a second evaluation is necessary, he/she can ask the division president to forego a second evaluation.

#### **5. EVALUATION PROCESS**

- 5.1. The goal of the selection process is to field the most competitive teams possible.
- 5.2. Placement on a select team will be based on a player's skills and performance in the select team tryout as evaluated by the division president and/or the select team manager, at least one outside consultant approved by the select team committee (if one is standing), and other managers or their respective proxies in that division.
- 5.3. Performance up to that point in the season and positional needs of the select team will also be considered.
- 5.4. The pool of eligible select team players will be determined after the select team tryouts by considering scores of the outside consultant, the select team manager, and a manager or manager proxy for each of the division's remaining teams.
- 5.5. If too few players are available to field a competitive select team at the time of an evaluation, the process may be varied, subject to board approval.

#### **6. SELECT TEAM FORMATION**

- 6.1. For each division, following select team tryouts, the division president will hold a select team election meeting for each team to be formed.
- 6.2. The division president will oversee the meeting with the select team manager as well as any other ECYB sanctioned all-star teams formed for that division.
- 6.3. His role is to make sure all top-ranked players are fairly considered before another player is chosen.

- 6.4. There may be reasons to choose players other than the top eleven (11) or twelve (12) ranked players, e.g., team positional needs, outlier evaluation performances not in line with typical play observed for that player, etc. The division president must understand these reasons.
- 6.5. The select team formation process will be closed as soon as eleven (11) or twelve (12) players have been selected, and have accepted.
- 6.6. The select team manager will add the manager's player to the roster for a final total of twelve (12) or thirteen (13) players.
- 6.7. Once a roster is completed for a select team, a maximum of five (5) pool players will be selected by the select team manager and division president from the remaining pool of eligible players who are available to fill roster openings.
- 6.8. The manager will allow interested pool players to participate in select team practices.

## **7. PLAYER PARTICIPATION RULE**

- 7.1. Each select team player, to the extent allowed by tournament rules, shall play a minimum of two (2) defensive innings and have at least one at bat per game.
- 7.2. Any player who withdraws their name from consideration in the select team selection process or who is selected for a select team and declines to play on the select team shall be ineligible to play on any other select team for that season.

## **8. ECYB SUPPORT**

- 8.1. ECYB is not responsible for any financial or administrative duties for the select/all-star teams, except providing copies of birth certificates if needed to qualify players for tournaments.
- 8.2. ECYB will allocate a certain amount of money each year, depending on financial ability, for paid professional trainers to assist with workshop and special needs at practices.
- 8.3. Each select/all-star team will have a budget for these resources that will represent a fair share of the allocated funds.
- 8.4. Additional fees may be collected by a select/all-star team from its participant families to pay for additional trainer services.

## **9. ADDITIONAL ALL-STAR TEAMS**

- 9.1. Selection of players for any additional ECYB sanctioned (all-star) team, other than the select teams, is not required to follow the select team selection rules and will proceed in a fair manner at the discretion of the division president in consultation with the manager of that all-star team.
- 9.2. In order to be an ECYB-sanctioned team and enjoy the benefits of using ECYB fields, insurance, umpires, and other resources, the would-be manager must request board approval in advance of forming the team.
- 9.3. The formation of these additional teams should not interfere with the success of the select teams.

## **10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 10.1. It is recommended that each select and all-star team designate a team business manager or treasurer within one week of team formation, who will work with the manager to estimate the per-player team fees.
- 10.2. It is recommended that each participant be required to pay a deposit to cover the costs of uniforms, hats, field rentals if necessary, and at least one tournament fee in advance of being allowed to play in any tournaments.
- 10.3. Each team manager is ultimately responsible for identifying tournaments the team intends to play in, registering that team for tournaments on time, filling out roster paperwork, and paying all team fees.
- 10.4. Players should not be allowed to participate in tournaments unless they have paid team fees.
- 10.5. It is recommended that alternates/pool players not be charged the full share of the tournament fees unless the manager guarantees those players an “adequate” amount of play time. The detail of what adequate means shall be discussed with and agreed to by the parent and player in advance of the tournament.
- 10.6. ECYB may provide players with a jersey, if requested, to be returned at the end of all-star season. Op5 Each family will be required to pay the league a uniform deposit of \$30, as a condition of joining the team, which will be returned at the end of the season upon proof that the jersey is returned in good condition.

## **SECTION SEVEN**

## **UMPIRES**

### **1. HEAD UMPIRE**

- 1.1. The board shall appoint a head umpire to be chosen from a professional umpire organization, if possible, and who shall serve as a liaison between the umpires and the board.
- 1.2. The head umpire shall be an ex-officio member of the board.
- 1.3. The head umpire shall be responsible for selection, training, discipline, and termination of umpires.
- 1.4. The head umpire can delegate the umpire coordinator to act in his stead when necessary.

### **2. UMPIRE COORDINATOR**

- 2.1. The board shall appoint an umpire coordinator to cooperate with the head umpire in the selection, training, evaluation, discipline, and termination of umpires in addition to assignment of umpires to games and conducting meetings as indicated.
- 2.2. The umpire coordinator is responsible for assignment of umpires to games and conducting meetings as indicated.
- 2.3. The umpire coordinator can act in the stead of the head umpire as necessary.

### **3. UMPIRE SCHEDULER**

An umpire scheduler may be appointed by the board at its discretion in the absence of a qualified umpire coordinator or as indicated in other situations.

### **4. UMPIRE PAYROLL RECORDER**

The board shall appoint an umpire payroll recorder to receive duly executed umpire assignment sheets and to forward them to the board treasurer for payment.

### **5. ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION OF UMPIRES**

- 5.1. Umpires must be twelve (12) years old as of April 30th of the year assigned.
- 5.2. Registration of umpires will open in January of the current season and shall remain open until the required quota is satisfied.



- 5.3. Factors for selection shall include, but are not limited to, knowledge and understanding of baseball rules and umpiring procedures; attitude, performance in training sessions, experience, and dependability.
- 5.4. By agreement of the head umpire and each division president, there will be an approved list of adult umpires to be used when no youth member is available.

## **6. RULES OF CONDUCT**

- 6.1. All rules involving conduct of players under ECYB Rules of Conduct are applicable to umpires.
- 6.2. Umpires must arrive at assigned fields at least fifteen (15) minutes before game time. If an umpire is late to the game, the umpire may be replaced by a substitute.
- 6.3. The home team manager is required to note if all umpires arrived on time, and if not, what time each umpire arrived.
- 6.4. Umpires with an unexcused absence may be suspended, the length of which may be determined by the head umpire.
- 6.5. Manager's complaints regarding umpire conduct shall be directed to the head umpire in writing. The head umpire shall notify the division president in writing.
- 6.6. Umpires shall be terminated after receiving two (2) written letters of reprimand from the head umpire. Umpires so terminated may not reapply until the next season. The umpire in question may appear for a hearing before the grievance committee.
- 6.7. In the event of a serious infraction by an umpire, the umpire shall be given an opportunity to be heard verbally and/or in writing at a hearing set by the grievance committee.
- 6.8. Following the hearing the grievance committee may decide by the vote of a majority of a quorum whether or not the umpire shall be terminated, suspended, or terminated.
- 6.9. The decision of the grievance committee is final.

## **7. DRESS CODE**

- 7.1. Plate Umpires shall wear a protective cup, chest protector, helmet with mask and throat guard.
- 7.2. All new umpires will be supplied one time with a shirt, cap, and clicker.
- 7.3. An umpire jacket is issued at the beginning of the season and returned at the end. Umpires shall be charged for any jackets that are damaged or not returned.
- 7.4. Umpires shall wear the umpire shirt and cap with a pair of long pants. Shirts must be tucked in at all times. Shorts will not be allowed.

## **8. TRAINING OF UMPIRES**

- 8.1. Umpires are required to read the ECYB Rules of play in preparation for umpiring each season and must review and be familiar with the division-specific rules that apply to the games they are scheduled to umpire.
- 8.2. The head umpire shall schedule a minimum of two (2) half-day training and testing clinics for umpire applicants prior to the final selection of umpires.
- 8.3. Attendance at training sessions shall be mandatory for umpire applicants unless excused by the head umpire or umpire coordinator. Improperly dressed umpires may not be allowed to umpire games.

## **9. EVALUATION OF UMPIRES**

- 9.1. The head umpire may choose an assistant head umpire for each division to help in the training and evaluation of division umpires during games.
- 9.2. No individual will provide advice to umpires between innings unless scheduled as an official umpire.
- 9.3. The head umpire, the umpire coordinator, the head umpire's assistants, managers, coaches, and selected parents shall periodically rate umpires based on all aspects of field performance. These ratings shall be used to obtain priority lists for scheduling of umpires.

## **10. UMPIRE SCHEDULING**

- 10.1. Games shall be scheduled in advance by the umpire coordinator or scheduler.
- 10.2. Scheduling of umpires will be according to ability and overall performance. The highest grade umpire shall be the designated head umpire for the game.
- 10.3. Trading of assignments is prohibited without prior approval of the head umpire or the umpire coordinator.
- 10.4. A maximum of three (3) games per day and six (6) games per week may be scheduled for an umpire during the regular season. There shall be no limit on the number of games an umpire may participate in during playoffs or tournaments.
- 10.5. An umpire must notify the umpire scheduler at least forty-eight (48) hours before game time if the umpire cannot meet a game assignment.
- 10.6. Relatives or friends may not replace umpires.
- 10.7. An umpire may not accept a game assignment that conflicts with any part of a game in which the umpire is a player.
- 10.8. Umpires must not be scheduled to umpire any game that has relatives either playing or coaching on the team.

11. If an umpire has not arrived by game time and no other umpire is available, the umpire may be replaced by a manager, coach, division official or an approved adult substitute.

## 12. UMPIRE GRADES

Umpires shall be assigned to divisions determined by the head umpire with the umpire coordinator and other assistants based on the following rating:

Grade 1 Pinto Plate & Base

Grade 2 Mustang base, Pinto plate and base

Grade 3 Mustang Plate & base, Pinto Plate & base

Grade 4 Bronco base, Mustang Plate & Base, Pinto Plate & Base

Grade 5 Bronco Plate & Base, Mustang Plate & Base, Pinto Plate & base

Grade 6 Pony Base, Bronco Plate & Base, Mustang Plate & Base, Pinto Plate & Base

Grade 7 Pony Plate & Base, Bronco Plate & Base, Mustang Plate & Base, Pinto Plate & Base

## 13. COMPENSATION

- 13.1. Compensation for umpires shall be set each year by the board.
- 13.2. All assignment sheets shall be filled in and signed by both managers before presented for payment.
- 13.3. Payments shall be made only upon the receipt of a legible and signed Umpire Assignment Sheet – no exceptions.
- 13.3.1. Duly executed assignment sheets shall be collected by the umpire coordinator during umpire meetings and presented to the payroll recorder for payment. The payroll recorder shall:
- 13.3.2. Verify each assignment sheet and calculate total payment due,
- 13.3.3. Transfer the umpire's name and net amount to be paid to a payment distribution form, and
- 13.3.4. Forward payment records to the ECYB treasurer.
- 13.4. The umpire coordinator shall distribute payment checks.
- 13.5. Only ECYB youth members may receive compensation.
- 13.6. Adult members of ECYB are considered volunteers and may not be paid for umpiring.

## SECTION EIGHT

## GRIEVANCES AND PROTESTS

### **Grievances**

#### **1. DEFINED**

- 1.1. A grievance is a formal, written complaint by a manager, coach, player, parent, or spectator alleging a violation of the ECYB Rules, and or
- 1.2. Or a written appeal of disciplinary action levied against a player, coach, manager, parent, or spectator.
- 1.3. *Grievances do not include game protests which are handled by the Protest Committee.*

#### **2. APPEAL OF DISCIPLINE**

- 2.1. Any person subject to discipline shall have the right to request a hearing before the Grievance Committee.
- 2.2. A request for hearing must be filed within five (5) business days of the imposition of discipline.
- 2.3. Such request for a hearing will stay the disciplinary action unless, in the opinion of the board, the disciplinary action relates to a concern for the safety and well-being of the players and other members of ECYB.
- 2.4. If no request for a hearing is filed within this period, the person waives the right to a hearing and the discipline shall be imposed as final.

#### **3. PROCEDURE**

##### **3.1. Informal Conflict Resolution:**

- 3.1.1. The division president is responsible for mediating, resolving, and ruling on disputes and conflicts concerning their division's players, managers, coaches, parents, and spectators.
- 3.1.2. Before filing a grievance, any of the individuals in 3.1.1 above should contact the relevant division president to discuss any matter of concern involving application or interpretation of ECYB Rules.
- 3.1.3. If the division president is unable to resolve the issue, then a person may follow the Grievance Committee procedure described below.

##### **3.2. Manager Complaints**

- 3.2.1. The manager shall first discuss the problem with the division president in an attempt to reach an amicable solution.
- 3.2.2. If the issue is unresolved a formal grievance in writing shall be submitted to the board president who shall then request the formation of a grievance committee.

### 3.3. Coach Complaints

- 3.3.1. The coach shall first discuss the problem with the team manager in an attempt to reach an amicable solution.
- 3.3.2. If the issue is unresolved the coach, team manager, and division president shall discuss the problem.
- 3.3.3. If the issue remains unresolved a formal grievance in writing shall be submitted to the board president who will then request formation of a grievance committee.

### 3.4. Player Complaints

- 3.4.1. The player(s) shall first discuss the problem with the team manager in an attempt to reach an amicable solution.
- 3.4.1. If the issue is unresolved, the player(s), team manager and the division president shall meet to discuss the problem in an attempt to reach an amicable solution.
- 3.4.2. If the issue remains unresolved a formal grievance in writing shall be submitted to the board president who will then request formation of a grievance committee.

### 3.5. Parental Complaints

- 3.5.1. The Parent(s) shall first discuss the problem with the team manager in an attempt to reach an amicable resolution to the dispute.
- 3.5.2. If the issue is unresolved, the parent(s), the team manager and the division president shall discuss the problem in an attempt to reach an amicable solution.
- 3.5.3. If the issue remains unresolved, a formal grievance in writing shall be submitted to the board president who shall then request the formation of a grievance committee.

### 3.6. Umpire Complaints

- 3.6.1. The umpire shall first discuss the problem with the head umpire in an attempt to reach an amicable resolution.
- 3.6.2. If the issue is unresolved a formal grievance in writing shall be submitted to the board president who shall then request the formation of a grievance committee.

### 3.7. **GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE**

- 3.7.1. Upon receipt of a grievance, the board shall constitute a grievance committee at the next scheduled board meeting.
- 3.7.2. The committee shall consist of no less than three (3) nor more than five (5) members of the board.
- 3.7.3. No committee member may have a conflict of interest. These include but are not limited to board members with children on a team in the division from which the grievance emanates. Included are:

3.7.3.1. Board members that are managers or coaches or the spouse of a manager or coach in the division from which the grievance emanates,

3.7.3.2. Board members who have a family member directly interested in the outcome of the grievance, or

3.7.3.3. The division president, if he is a party to the grievance.

3.7.4. The committee must follow any investigative protocol established by the board, but at a minimum must receive written statements from all parties of the dispute before rendering a final decision.

3.7.5. All grievance committee decisions are final.

### **3.8. THE PROCESS**

3.8.1. The committee shall set the date for the meeting.

3.8.2. The meeting shall be open to the public to observe.

3.8.3. The committee may request the division president to investigate the complaint and prepare a report to the committee.

3.8.4. The aggrieved shall present in writing their position(s) and may also orally present their position(s) to the grievance committee.

3.8.5. The committee may, in its discretion, interview any witnesses.

3.8.6. The committee shall have authority over all rules and regulations of ECYB, PONY Baseball, and the Rules by the Sporting News.

3.8.7. The grievance committee does not have the authority to unilaterally change any ECYB rules.

3.8.8. The committee will prepare a written report of the final decision which will be filed with the secretary of the board.

3.8.9. DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE FINAL, unless a majority of the board members presently sitting vote to review the committee's decision.

3.8.10. In that case, the board may review the decision and take further action that the board determines is in the best interest of ECYB.

## **4. PROTESTS DEFINED**

4.1. A protest is a complaint by a team arising in a game setting and filed by the manager concerning an alleged violation or the interpretation of the rules.

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

4.3. The umpire's judgment and rule interpretations are final.

4.4. There are no official protests in the Pinto Division, with the exception of pitching rules violations.

## **5. PROCEDURE**

### **Procedure for protests based on interpretation or application of rules by umpires**

- 5.1. At the time the play occurs, the objecting manager must immediately notify the chief umpire, the opposing manager, and the official scorekeeper that the game is being played under protest.
- 5.2. The umpire must make a public announcement to the observers when a game is being continued under protest.
- 5.3. Any manager or coach who withdraws a team from the playing field under any circumstances prior to the official completion of the game shall forfeit all rights to protest.
- 5.4. The manager must submit the protest in writing to the division president within forty-eight (48) hours of the completion of the game citing the exact section of the rules on which the protest is based.
- 5.5. If a resolution is not reached the manager must submit the written protest to the board president who shall at the next scheduled board meeting request the formation of a grievance committee.
- 5.6. When a protest based on interpretation of a rule is upheld by the protest committee, the game shall be replayed from the point of protest. The official scorekeeper must mark the point in the score book in which the protest is made.

### **Procedure for protests based on substitutions or pitching rules**

- 5.7. Protests by managers on substitution or pitching rules must be made in writing to the division president within forty-eight (48) hours after completion of the game and must be accompanied by a copy of the score book.
- 5.8. The division president shall immediately retrieve the opposing team's score book.
- 5.9. If a resolution is not reached the protesting manager must immediately file a formal grievance in writing to the board president who shall at the next scheduled board meeting request the formation of a protest committee.

## **6. PROTEST COMMITTEE**

- 6.1. After receipt of a protest the board shall constitute a Protest Committee at the next meeting.
- 6.1 The committee shall consist of no less than three (3) and no more than five (5) members of the board. No committee member may have a conflict of interest as defined above in Paragraph 3.7.3 above.
- 6.2. The committee must follow any investigative protocol established by the board, but at a minimum must receive written statements from all parties of the dispute before rendering a final decision.

**6.1.4. *All protest committee decisions are final.***

## **Part One Appendix A**

### **Drafting Procedure**

#### **1. Drafting Order for Non-Expansion Drafts**

Unless otherwise determined by the board, the normal drafting order” for non-expansion teams shall be the reverse order of the teams’ regular season standings.

- 1.1. Ties in determining the final Division standings from the previous year will be resolved by a point system as follows:
- 1.2. (1) Awarding one point for each win over a Division team, ½ point for each tie between Division teams, and zero points for a loss; (2) In the event of a continuing tie, similar points will be awarded for games played in an interlocking system with non-ECYB teams but only for games played as part of the regular schedule; (3) For a continuing tie, the results of win/loss record of the tying teams playing each other; (4) If teams are still tied, the run differential in head to head games between the tying teams. After the drafting order has been determined, the teams should be listed in drafting order, from left to right, across the top of the draft matrix.
- 1.3. If approved by the board, the drafting order of a division may be the reverse order of the strength of the team’s returning players as determined by the Managers during player evaluations. Whatever drafting order is established in each year will be considered the “normal drafting order” for the purposes of these draft rules, and the teams will be placed in that order on the draft grid from left to right. The team on the far left of the grid will received first pick in each draft round that follows the “normal draft order”:

#### **2. Preempt Equalization Round (Rows 1A and 1B)**

- 2.1. New and returning players will be placed on the draft matrix by the division president after attending evaluation in an appropriate position, considering the average of the Managers’ evaluation rankings, the player’s all-star status from prior seasons, the competitive balance of the division, and other relevant factors. If the player has not participated in evaluations they are placed in the preempt position by default. If the preempted players’ ranking received through the evaluation process is high enough, they will be placed in those positions anyway according to that ranking. The actual draft position preempted players are placed in will be the position as close to their final ranking warrants, with emphasis on placement in the next higher spot, rather than the next lower. For example, if the preempt player is ranked number 20 in the final evaluations of all the players in that Division, and the team only has a draft spot open for a 17 ranking or a 25 ranking on their grid, the preempted player will be placed in the higher ranked location.
- 2.2. The first round of the draft will be the Preempt Equalization round. Teams with vacancies in the coach preempt, or manager preempt draft grid positions (number 1B and 1A respectively) because the preempted players were not placed in those positions by the Division President as described above, will draft players in the normal draft order to fill those preempt draft positions.



- 2.3. For each preempt equalizations-round, the teams will draft in normal drafting order, except that the team or teams with preempts in those positions already bypassed. Drafting will take place in the order 1B, then 1A.

### **3. First Regular Draft Round (Row 2)**

- 3.1. Each team will have one selection in this round. Drafting in the first round will be in the normal drafting order.

### **4. Second Regular Draft Round, Player Equalization Round (Rows 3A through 3G).**

The second round shall be the player equalization round. Each team will have one selection in this round. Drafting in the player equalization round will be in the normal drafting order.

- 4.1. The names of all returning non-preempted players and sibling preempts (except for sibling preempts who are subject to the manager or coach preempt rules) and manager or coach preempt players whose final evaluation ranking warrants placement in this position, are placed in rows beginning with the highest letter. For example, if the team with the most returning players has seven players returning, the players would be placed beginning in row 3G.

- 4.2. Each equalization sub-round shall use normal drafting order, beginning with sub-round 3A, except that the team or teams tied with returning or preempted players already placed in these grid positions are bypassed until the teams with fewer returning players have filled those spots on their grid (3A through 3G).

- 4.3. At the end of the equalization round, each team shall have the same number of players, filling rows 3A and 3G.

### **5. Third and Subsequent Rounds (Rows 4 through 7)**

After the player equalization round, regular drafting resumes. In Round #4, teams draft in the normal draft order. However, in Round #5, the drafting order is the reverse of the normal order. Round #6 is the same as Round #4; Round #7 is the same as Round #5. This sequence shall continue until rosters are filled or player candidates exhausted.

### **6. Expansion Drafts**

In years when one or more expansion teams is to be added, the following procedures shall be followed:

- 6.1. A team with less than three (3) players shall be considered an expansion team and have the commensurate drafting profiles.
- 6.2. If the expansion is to include one new team, the team shall be awarded the first draft selection precedence, as though it finished last the previous season.
- 6.3. If the expansion is to include two (2) new teams, a coin toss will determine first and second drafting position between these teams.
- 6.4. If the division expansion is to include three (3) or more teams, the drafting precedence will be determined by selecting team names from a hat.
- 6.5. The first draft round is the expansion round

- 6.5.1. In this round each expansion team will, in the established precedence, select a player until each expansion team has chosen two players. One of the two players selected in this round must be from the older group of players for each division, i.e., age 10, Mustang; age 12, Bronco; age 14, Pony; age 16, Colt; provided, however, the older player must be ranked at a talent level commensurate with the draft spot needing to be filled.
- 6.5.2. In any year when there are not enough players in the draft from an age group, upon request of the expansion team Manager(s), the Division President shall place players on the expansion team(s) in a draft order commensurate with the evaluation of such players.
- 6.5.3. The purpose of this rule is so that expansion teams are not forced to select lower rated players of an age group with a high draft pick, solely to satisfy the requirement to balance the age groups.
- 6.6. The remaining draft rounds will proceed in the same manner as the non-expansion draft process with the expansion team(s) assuming the position in drafting as though they had finished last after the previous season, excepting that the expansion teams will have first selection in every round or sub-round, regardless of the designated order of precedence.

## **7. Alternative “Parity” Draft Procedures**

- 7.1. If a division president desires to use the “parity” draft procedure in Pinto or Mustang, the division president shall submit a written request to the Board no later than six (6) weeks prior to the date on which player evaluations are to be held, and shall discuss the request with the Board at a Board meeting no later than four weeks prior to the date on which player evaluations are to be held.
- 7.2. If the “parity” the board approves draft procedure, all must participate in player evaluations, including returning players. Players are evaluated on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the best players.
- 7.3. All new Bronco players are evaluated for their skills as pitchers and catchers. Players with these skills will be identified for all the Managers. All Managers submit their rankings for each player to the Division President. The Division President averages all the Managers’ scores for an individual player and assigns the player a ranking. The extreme high and low value for each player, if any, is discarded. For example, if player Jim Smith gets all 5s and 6s and a 2 and 9. The 2 and 9 are not included in calculating his average. Jim’s ranking is a 5.5.
- 7.4. After all players are assigned a ranking, including returning players, all players’ rankings are added together, to obtain the total possible points for all Bronco players. The number of Bronco teams then divides the total possible points. This number establishes the point budget (salary cap) each team gets. The existing strength of each time is determined by adding together the rankings of all returning players to the team.
- 7.5. New 12-year olds in the draft are set aside for the teams with the lowest number of 12-yearolds, provided, however, that the older player is ranked at a talent level commensurate with the draft spot needing to be filled.

- 7.6. In any year when there are not enough players in the draft from an age group, upon request of the expansion team Manager(s), the Division President shall place players on the expansion team(s) in a draft order commensurate with the evaluation of such players. The purpose of this rule is so that expansion teams are not forced to select lower-rated players of an age group with a high draft pick, solely to satisfy the requirement to balance the age groups.
- 7.7. If there is an expansion team, subject to the foregoing, these players go to the expansion team, based on need and fair distribution system, to be determined based on seasonal considerations.
- 7.8. New 12-year-olds go to the teams with the lowest number of 12-year-olds. This helps establish rookie/returning player parity for the coming year. Distribution of catchers and pitchers will also be controlled in the draft to ensure parity across the Division.
- 7.9. The team with the lowest point total (based on returning players) picks first in the draft. This pick can be for any player across the range of levels. If the first pick does not bring the team to parity with the next lowest team, that Manager can pick again.
- 7.10. As soon as a Manager selects a player whose rank then makes the team's point value pass another team, the team that now has the lowest point total gets a draft pick. The draft continues in this method until all players are selected.
- 7.11. Managers must budget their points to fill in their rosters. Managers may not pick all high-end players, since they have a limit to their total number of points they can spend to fill the twelve roster spots. 4.5.9 Managers will track and alert other Managers of imbalances and potential conflicts. After each pick the average value of the remaining players will be calculated.
- 7.12. Final team totals may not vary by more than 5% off the team allotment. 4.5.10 Trading is allowed after the drafting procedure.
- 7.13. Trades will only be allowed if both Managers are interested and if the trade does not push the team value higher or lower than 5% of the team total. 4.5.11 Example Parity Draft. Assume 10 teams and 10 players per team. This would be a total of 100 players in Bronco. The players are each ranked 1-10, including returning players. 4.5.12 Adding the rankings of all 100 players in this example results 650 points. Dividing the total points available by the number of teams' results 65 points per team. This is the team budget. Totals for each team are then analyzed.

Team A has 5 returning players ranked as follows:

Player	1	10
Player	2	8
Player	3	7
Player	4	5
Player	5	5

Therefore, Team A is worth 35 points and can spend another 30 points to get five (5) more players.

## **8. Roster Vacancies/Player Pool**

If vacancies remain on team rosters after all eligible players are drafted, they will be filled, if possible, from the Player Pool (see Page 16, Paragraph 13).

- 8.1. Players will be randomly drawn from the Player Pool to fill vacancies on existing teams following the priorities of assignment described under “Player Eligibility” (See Page 13, Paragraph 7). Managers will select from the Player Pool in the same order as they drafted.
- 8.2. Wherever possible, players chosen to fill existing vacancies will keep the teams balanced for age (half of a team’s players from the older Division age group, half of the team’s players from the younger Division age group).
- 8.3. Where a selection is to be made from two (2) or more players of the same age group it shall be by a blind drawing. A Manager may not “pass” on selecting a player from the pool if pool players are available and it is the Manager’s turn to select a pool player.

## **9. Trading**

- 9.1. After the Rosters are complete, the Division President will announce a fifteen (15) minute trading period. Players can only be traded for players of the same age group. When the trading period ends, the Division President will require that all trades be reported for approval or correction and announce the closing of the draft.
- 9.2. Subsequently, no changes may be made to a team’s roster except when a player is placed on a team from the Post Draft Night Player Pool by the Division President.

## **10. Documentation of Draft**

- 10.1. After the draft has been completed, the Division President shall deposit a list with the Registrar of peremptory placements, sibling peremptory placements, returning players, players drafted, and players placed on teams through the Player Pool.
- 10.2. The player evaluation list and the draft grid shall correspond with the player candidate's age and number. Complete rosters and emergency medical forms will be distributed to team Managers by the Division President approximately one week following the draft.

## **11. Post Draft Night Player Pool**

- 11.1. After the draft is complete and all teams are filled, remaining players and any players signing up after the draft will be placed in the Post Draft Night Player Pool and assigned to teams as vacancies become available as provided in Part One, Section Four of these rules.
- 11.2. Players who have registered before the draft will have priority over players who signed up after the draft. Roster Vacancies If a team has roster openings after the draft, the Division President will be responsible for seeing that they are filled.
- 11.3. The Manager must notify the League and Division Presidents within 24 hours when a player on the team’s roster will no longer be playing on the team, for whatever reason at any time

during the season. The Division President shall make every effort to ensure that vacancies are filled promptly. Upon determining who is to fill the vacancy, the Division President will contact the player to determine if the player is still interested in playing. If the player is interested, the Division President will inform the appropriate Manager of the player assignment. The Manager will then contact the player and provide welcoming remarks. The newly assigned player will not be required to participate in scheduled Division games until five (5) days have elapsed since assignment.

11.4. Acceptance or rejection of the assigned player is not at the discretion of the team manager.

## **12. Board Discretion.**

The Board may alter the above “regular” draft rules if it is deemed necessary to facilitate better competitive balance in each Division. Among the drafting options available to the Board are (singularly or in conjunction):

12.1. A draft where all potential Division players - even returning players - are evaluated and drafted.

12.2. A draft where all Managers help to pick all the teams. At the end of such draft the Managers may be randomly assigned to a team.

12.3. A draft where at the beginning of every round the strength of the teams is determined and the draft order for that round is set according to that team’s strength at that point in the draft.

12.4. If one of these options is adopted, the Board will determine which players will participate in player evaluations.

EL CERRITO YOUTH BASEBALL, INC. MUSTANG SAMPLE DRAFT GRID INSERT GRID HERE

GRID SET UP FOR MAXIMUM OF 15 PLAYERS PER TEAM AS AN EXAMPLE ONLY. ONE TEAM HAS 7 RETURNING PLAYERS. (THIS VARIES FROM YEAR TO YEAR.)

