



SPRING LAKE PARK BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

Policies Manual – 2026 Season

Board revised 10/13/25

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Introduction

On behalf of the Spring Lake Park Baseball Association (SLPBA) Board, welcome to the 2026 season! We strive to provide an environment of healthy competition in which players develop their baseball skills and self-confidence. We want our players, coaches, parents, fans, and volunteers to enjoy the experience of participating in traveling baseball.

Serving families bordered to attend Spring Lake Park HS, SLPBA is a volunteer-driven organization that offers competitive AAA, AA and A traveling baseball to age groups 9U-15U. We operate as the traveling baseball and compete in the MYAS Gopher State Baseball League.

This manual is a reference and provides important information that our membership needs to know about our program. Further information is located on the SLPBA website at www.slpba.org.

Mission Statement

SLPBA's mission is to help our athletes develop advanced baseball skills and provide them with the opportunity to compete against teams with players of similar abilities. Our Traveling Baseball Program promotes good sportsmanship, pride in community, and enjoyment of the game for all.

Board of Directors

Board Members are membership-elected volunteers charged with operating our traveling baseball program in a safe and responsible manner. They serve on internal committees and lead several key projects throughout the year. SLPBA Board Meetings are each month at a location in the Blaine Area. Dates and location are subject to change and will be posted on our website. All parents and/or participants are encouraged to attend. There will be an open forum at each meeting for member input.

Position	Name
President	Steve Resch
Vice President	Jeff Peterson
Treasurer	Jeff Enstad
Secretary	Ashley Miller
Communications	Erica Julkowski
Traveling Director	Ben Neiger
Training Director	Brock Norman
Field Scheduling Director	Mike Perry
Co-Field Scheduling Director	Travis Eichten
Tournament Director	Mark Nagle
Fundraising Director	Angie Olson
Volunteer Director	Beverly Dahl
Equipment Director	Mark Jewell
2025-2026 Intern	Sebastian Pandey / Nolan Roach

General Information

Calendar – Key Events

Event	Date	Location
9U-14U Tryouts Registration for 2026	July 2025	www.slpba.org
9U-14U Head Coach Selections	Aug & Sep 2025	Various locations
9U-14U Tryouts & Team Selections	Aug & Sep 2025	Various locations
9U-14U Registration	Oct 2025	www.slpba.org
Annual Meeting	Fall 2025	TBD
9U-14U Season Uniform Fitting / Volunteer Check	Jan 2026	Location TBD in Blaine
Spring Training	Feb-Apr 2026	Various Sites
Games Begin	Apr 2026	Various locations
Playoffs and State Tournaments	July 2026	Various locations
Field Improvements	Aug 2026	Various locations

Eligibility

A player is eligible to participate in SLPBA subject to the following:

1. Complete and paid-in-full registration.
2. Player is in good standing (no active Code of Conduct, Risk Management, or Disciplinary Policy issues) and participates in the tryout process.
3. Residency – Player's must reside within the borders of Spring Lake Park HS (Spring Lake Park District 16) or be Open Enrolled into a District 16 School. For purposes of clarification 9U-14U home-school and private-school players are eligible provided that their primary residence is within the boundaries stated above.
4. Petitions – Special circumstances may arise that require a family to petition the Board. Each petition is unique and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. To initiate a petition a Member must submit an email to the Board Secretary. The Board may consult with MYAS on any petition.

9U-15U Age Requirements

We must follow GSBL age requirements as described below; the birthday cutoff date is May 1st, 2026:

9U minimum age:	Must be at least 8 by May 1st, 2026
9U	Must be 9 (or younger) on May 1st, 2026
10U	Must be 10 (or younger) on May 1st, 2026
11U	Must be 11 (or younger) on May 1st, 2026
12U	Must be 12 (or younger) on May 1st, 2026
13U	Must be 13 (or younger) on May 1st, 2026
14U	Must be 14 (or younger) on May 1st, 2026
15U	Must be 15 (or younger) on May 1st, 2026

In the event that a player qualifies for two team age groups, they must pick one for tryouts. Each player is allowed to sign up for one tryout session.

Exceptions/Clarifications:

Players will be evaluated for the age level for which they are registered. Players may play up to their grade level.

Rostering:

Players are not allowed to be rostered on any other team from May 1 through the last game of the travel season (except for players participating on Spring Lake Park high school teams).

Registration

If registration numbers indicate enough interest and Tryouts indicate enough talent to compete at traveling baseball, we will attempt to field one “AAA”, one “AA”, and one “A” team at each age (10U-14U). At 9U we will field as many “AA” teams as we have players to participate in. All 9U teams in SLPBA will start at “AA”.

Registration for 9U – 14U is a three-part process:

Note: Rates below for 9U-14U are effective August 1, 2025.

Fee	Amount	Timing	Note
Tryouts	\$50	August	Non-refundable
Registration Fees	\$450 (9U-14U)	September	Fixed program expenses
Uniform	Included in Registration fee	January/February	Uniform
Volunteering	\$200 / \$300	January/February	Volunteer Buyout / Volunteer Fee
Fundraiser	TBD	TBD	See note below

*if you choose to pay online with a credit card a processing fee will be added on, the Check/Cash option will not have that fee.

1. **Tryout Fee:** A **\$50** non-refundable tryout fee will be paid on-line in advance of the tryout in order for a player to participate in the Tryouts pool. After the posted tryout fee deadline, any late registrations or walk-ups will be assessed a **\$65** non-refundable late fee.
2. **Registration Fees:** After Tryouts, players selected to a team will be required to pay the registration fee as soon as possible. This payment is transacted on-line (www.slpba.org)
3. **Uniform Fees:** New uniforms will be purchased for the 2026 season. Uniform fees are part of your registration. Fitting for uniforms will occur in early 2026.

Registration for 15U is handled differently as this age group plays for their high school in the Spring. The fee is collected in the spring by the high school.

Fees

Registration fees cover a variety of expenses including but not limited to: GSBL league fees, facilities maintenance by the city, uniforms, umpires, and equipment. To help cover other program expenses like player development investments and field improvements, there are recoverable fees:

1. **Volunteer Fees:** SLPBA relies on volunteers to support our Traveling Baseball program. There are two volunteering fee options you will choose from at Registration/Uniform fitting night in early 2026:

- a. **Option 1:** You commit to volunteer at least **six family hours** at events such as a Tournament, field improvements, SLPBA sponsored events, etc.

When you make this choice, SLPBA will ask you to write a **\$300** check that **we will not deposit** and **will shred** upon completion of your volunteering duty. Thank you in advance for giving your time. If your commitment is not met by the end of Tryouts for the next year, we will deposit your check.

- b. **Option 2:** You may choose to pay a Volunteer Buyout fee of **\$200**. We will deposit this check immediately and hire workers on your behalf. Typically, these workers are HS baseball players.

Additional Costs: SLPBA does not register our teams in tournaments as we believe this is a team decision. The costs for these tournaments (approximately \$35 per player per tournament) are an additional expense. If a team earns a berth and registers in a state or national tournament, there will be additional costs. These costs, including gate fees, are paid for by our teams. Most teams register for 3-4 qualifier tournaments and 1-2 state tournaments.

SLPBA may offer optional developmental opportunities for our families. Additional expenses may be incurred in conjunction with these opportunities.

Uniforms

We strive to provide high-quality, reasonably priced uniforms that perform well in a variety of weather circumstances. The cost of the uniform is accounted for in your registration fees and the uniform may be kept by the player after the season. Only approved uniforms supplied by SLPBA may be used in 9U-14U games.

Sizing for uniforms takes place in in late January/early February when the Volunteer fee is collected as well.

Each player at each age group will have a unique uniform number. This eliminates issues as players may move back and forth between Team 1, Team 2 and Team 3 through the years. It also helps with possible roster adjustments.

If a team elects to purchase their own (Tournament) jerseys out of their team slush fund (not funded by SLPBA) they can do so and use these for tournaments only, once approved by the Board of Directors. These jerseys are not to be worn for league or State Tournament play.

Equipment

At 9U-13U team equipment is comprised of equipment bags, catcher's gear, baseballs, training balls and first aid kits. Players must provide their own glove, athletic protector, batting helmet, cleats, and bat (or arrange to borrow one from a teammate). At 14U the team equipment includes all the same items as 9U-13U with the addition of a team bat, since players must use a -5 bat in weight and this is the only year that is required.

Bats: Please consult the MYAS website for the latest information regarding approved bats. Follow this link and go to the Documents section: www.myas.org.

Baseball Fields

SLPBA is fortunate to have access to several baseball fields. Every year we review the condition and playability of these fields with City Staff and may choose to jointly invest time and materials in them. As it concerns pride in our communities, we expect our players and families to keep the fields well-maintained and common areas free of trash.

Baseball Field	Address	Parking
Airport Fields	105 th and Radisson, Blaine	North side
Aquatore Park	9191 Lincoln Street, Blaine	North and East sides
Blaine Baseball Complex	1150 Paul Parkway, Blaine	North and East sides
Blaine High School	12555 University Ave, Blaine	North side of HS
Cloverleaf Park	650 99 th Ave, Blaine	North side
Lakeside Lions Park	79 th Ave and Pleasant View Dr, SLP	East side
Lexington Athletic Complex	4286 121 st Ave NE, Blaine	North side
Jim Peterson East	12302 Cloud Drive, Blaine	South side
Jim Peterson West	12302 Cloud Drive, Blaine	South side

Coaching

The task of selecting our 9U-14U Head Coaches is a critical job that sets up the entire season. Because of its importance, SLPBA may utilize a Selection Committee to interview candidates for the following attributes:

- Commitment
- Ability to teach
- Positive mindset
- Organization skills
- Communication skills
- Conflict management

Annual Evaluations:

At season-end, each current Head Coach discusses with their Traveling Director their season summary and confidential parent/guardian evaluations about themselves, their coaching staff and Team Managers. The Traveling Director does not share the source of the evaluations and will only summarize the feedback. If all went well, the Traveling Director may offer the current Head Coach a Provisional Head Coach position for the following year. **The Board believes coaching continuity is very important for player development and we actively seek to retain coaches that develop player abilities and have had success on the ballfield.**

9U-14U Head Coach Selection Process:

Coaching Candidates will be interviewed by a panel that is selected by the Traveling Director(s). The panel will consist of board members and members who do not have a child playing the same level of traveling baseball. Any previous surveys of the coach will also be used to identify strengths and/or concerns about the applicant. The panel will make recommendations to the Traveling Director(s) will then inform the board of the provisional coach selections. The Team 1 coach will be selected after the tryouts are completed. The coach will be the highest rated coach based on the panel's recommendations and his/her child falls within the criteria of Top 15 for being selected to the team. After the Team 1 coach has picked his/her team, the Team 2 coach will be selected using the same criteria and picking his/her team with the remaining players in the tryout pool. If enough players are registered, again the same criteria will be used to pick a Team 3 coach and team.

If there are two teams playing at the same level, we will create the concept of a Team 1a and Team 1b. Teams will not be created equally. Both teams must comply with the player selection criteria.

Coach Development:

Coaches are expected to develop their knowledge of the game and improve their player development skills. SLPBA recognizes the importance of having qualified and dedicated coaches; therefore, we invest in our coaches' development through mentoring and coaching workshops.

Coach Discipline/Suspension/Removal:

Discipline of a coach, especially a Head Coach, is a very serious matter and resides within the sole and absolute discretion of the SLPBA Board. In the event of a complaint and possible disciplinary action, please refer to our Discipline Policy on page 11 of this manual.

Policies

Commitment Policy

SLPBA requires a traveling baseball commitment from late February or early March through the end of July. For example: In 2022, most teams played until about July 24th, there is some variation by age group.

If you anticipate numerous potential conflicts or missed games and practices due to camps, trips, club teams, and/or other sports... traveling baseball is not a good fit for you.

We understand that some conflicts are inevitable but ask you to plan accordingly. It is unfair to the coaching staff and players to have a player miss a week of baseball for a camp in another sport like hockey or basketball. Do not schedule another sport's development program on the same night as a baseball game. If attendance becomes a problem your player could be removed from their team, with no refund of any registration fees. See Discipline Policy.

Guidelines for absences

Excused absences: Illness or injury; family emergency; family vacation communicated two weeks in advance; community service; school/religious activity.

Unexcused absences: Forgot; out-of-season sports activity; couldn't get a ride; two or more family vacations. The consequences for unexcused absences is that the player will see reduced playing time in games and this authority resides with the Head Coach and is supported by the Board. See Discipline Policy for the process.

Code of Conduct Policy SLPBA has adopted the GSBL Code of Conduct Policy. The ideals of good sportsmanship, respect, and an environment free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol are fully supported by SLPBA. Players, coaches, and parents are required to abide by the GSBL Code of Conduct and sign it prior to league play. Any violation may result in temporary or permanent banishment from any MYAS sponsored event. The GSBL Code of Conduct Policy may be found at www.myas.org and will be distributed by your Head Coach.

Fair Play Policy SLPBA's Fair Play Policy encourages a balance between development of player abilities and competitive results. Stronger emphasis is placed on development in the younger levels, but it should always be considered. Players and parents should understand that there are circumstances that will prevent perfect execution of the policy such as a 10-run rule being imposed, weather-shortened games, absences from games or practices, and discipline factors. Coaches are instructed to take these circumstances into consideration and make every effort to execute the spirit of the policy by the end of the season. No player should sit for two innings until all players have sat at least one, unless for disciplinary action or injury.

- **League Play:** 9U-14U players should expect to play at least 3 defensive innings in every league game and at least 50% of all innings played in a season. 9-man baseball should not be played at any level unless it has been discussed with your Travel Director.
- **Tournament Play:** 9U-14U players should expect to play in at least 50% of all tournament innings.

Volunteer Policy SLPBA depends on our membership being involved in various activities throughout the year. Board Members volunteer hundreds of hours throughout the year to manage our successful traveling baseball association. For each team we field, the Head Coach, two Assistant Coaches and a Team Manager will all volunteer significant time for their team and therefore receive volunteer credit for their efforts.

For the balance of our membership, we require each family to either:

- a. Volunteer at least **six** hours of their time at a tournament or some other opportunity; or
- b. Write a **\$200** Volunteer Buyout check so that we can hire workers in their place.

We prefer our families to volunteer and actively enjoy this part of the baseball experience, but we understand that every family situation is different. Thank you, volunteers!

Financial Policy SLPBA's Financial Policy exists to provide clarity on financial practices and transparency to our membership in how the Board manages the membership's funds.

Budget: The Treasurer of SLPBA creates an operating budget at the beginning of our baseball year in August. This budget is reviewed and approved by the Board. Income sources are player registration, fundraising events such as our Annual Fundraiser, donations and sponsorships. Expenses are many with the major ones being league fees, uniforms, developmental investments, and overhead costs like insurance, website fees, etc.

Financial Updates: Budget and Cash Flow updates are provided by our Treasurer at least every three months and ideally monthly at Board Meetings. The Annual Financial Summary is reviewed at our Annual Meeting in October.

Improvements: In order to support our mission of developing baseball players that can successfully compete at the highest levels, we have to plan for investments in our facilities, fields, and equipment. We have an ongoing 3-year plan that identifies facilities and fields in need of improvement and equipment that supports improvement in player abilities. These investments vary in magnitude so we look to fundraising activities, donations, sponsorships, and grants to provide the needed resources.

9U- 14U Fees: The basic breakdown of fees is **\$50** for Tryouts, **\$450** for player registration, **\$300** for volunteer requirements that can be earned back (or **\$200** buyout), families incur expenses related to tournament play (about **\$35** per player per qualifier tournament) and **\$50** per player per state tournament. Out- of-town tournament expenses can vary quite a bit. **\$700-800** is a good estimate for a traveling baseball season.

Refunds:

- Tryouts: This fee is non-refundable. It is not a part of a player's registration fee.
- Registration fees refunds will be considered on a case-by-basis. Generally speaking, only families moving out of our school districts and season-ending injuries will be considered. Traveling baseball requires a strong commitment and this must be considered prior to Tryouts.

Financial Assistance: SLPBA extends financial aid to families in need of registration fees assistance. Additionally, SLPBA may organize efforts for families to earn registration fee assistance in the form of volunteer work. Families seeking financial assistance are required to submit a **Fee Reduction Form** to a SLPBA Director for a confidential Board review. This form may be found on our website in the Forms tab.

Donations: SLPBA is very thankful for donations made to our program. Please contact our Treasurer to ensure donations are properly handled.

Sponsorships: SLPBA may seek out sponsorships for our entire membership's financial benefit. This activity must be approved by the Board and properly handled by the Treasurer.

Grants: SLPBA may apply for grants in order to fund significant investments in our facilities or program.

Team Fundraising: With Board approval, teams are allowed to raise funds for regional or national tournaments. Fundraising monies must be deposited with SLPBA and then dispersed accordingly. Please contact our Treasurer for proper handling of funds.

Tryouts Policy

The 2026 Tryout Process is being completed by Complete Game. Independent evaluators will be conducting the tryout process and will use criteria that was approved by the SLPBA Board of directors. All players must participate in the Tryouts Process. Complete teams are not allowed in Traveling Baseball.

Players must not wear hats/shirts/Jerseys from previous traveling/all-star teams/Club Teams/etc. Plain colored shirts with no screen printing on them is required as a number decal will be placed on the shirt.

Tryouts for the 2025 season will take place in a closed field environment. Only players, evaluators, and volunteers from the SLPBA Board will be allowed to be present at the field during evaluations. Upon arrival at the field parents/guardians will assist their player in getting checked in, drop them off and will be asked to pick them up when the tryout is complete.

In the event that a player qualifies for two tryout age groups, they must pick one to register for. Each player is allowed to sign up for one tryout session.

Tryout Procedures (9U-14U):

Players wanting to play traveling baseball for SLPBA will be required to take part in the tryout process.

Players may not wear any traveling attire from previous seasons to tryouts.

Each player will be evaluated by a panel of evaluators. These evaluators will be from outside of SLPBA in order to get a fair and impartial evaluation of the players' abilities. The players will be evaluated on hitting, fielding, and pitching. Prospective coaches should be observing the tryouts and doing their own evaluation of the players.

Only Players who have a tryout score will be eligible to play for SLPBA. An exception to this rule can be made for 9U only on a case-by-case basis. Approvals must be given by both the President and Travel Director of the association. In the event of an injury or unusual circumstance, a petition must be presented to the board by emailing communications@slpba.org no later than 14 days before tryouts occur. In the event that you cannot meet the 14-day requirement, due to injury or illness, we will require official proof from a doctor. If approved the player will receive 80% of the previous year's tryout score. Registration and payment of the tryout fee is still required.

Team Selection is performed by Provisional Head Coaches who may consult with their Traveling Director. Tryouts scores are only made available to Provisional Head Coaches (as applicable), Traveling Directors, President, Vice President (as applicable).

Callback Procedures (9U – 14U):

The callback portion of the tryouts will be run by the Head Coach, SLPBA Board members and/or coaches/parents from outside teams. Players will be given the opportunity to pitch, catch, and hit in live game situations. Coaches will use the callback to evaluate baseball instincts and skills in conjunction with the professional evaluators' scores in order to determine selection of teams.

Player Selection Criteria (9U – 14U):

The most important outcome of our Tryouts Process is to place players at the proper level of play. All teams must have 12 players on their roster at “A” and “AA”. Teams at “AAA” may be allowed to roster 11 players upon unanimous approval by the President and Traveling Director.

Players will be selected by the head coach. The players that score in the Top 15 are automatic adds to the Team 1 callback according to outside evaluations. Coaches may call back up to the top 18 players to participate in the Callback. Four of the top six scores must be selected to the team. Remaining players will be re-ranked and selected using the same process for subsequent teams. Coaches must justify their selections with a subcommittee that includes the Traveling Director(s) and other board members. Attitude, baseball IQ, and coachability can affect player selection.

Risk Management Policy SLPBA’s Risk Management Policy exists to support player, coach, and spectator safety and welfare. The policy addresses specific topics regarding personal safety and welfare:

Trusted Coaches Program: Board Members, Head Coaches, and two Assistant Coaches (bench coaches) per team will participate in this program. National background checks, concussion training, first aid and positive coaching techniques are all aspects to this program. Mandatory concussion training is good for three years.

Physical Abuse: Physical abuse is physical contact that intentionally causes or creates a threat of bodily harm or personal injury. Physical abuse does not include physical contact that is reasonably designed to coach or demonstrate a baseball skill; examples are teaching a hitting stance, demonstrating fielding positions, and communicating with players by touching in a non-threatening manner.

Any person who believes they have been a victim of physical abuse, or has any knowledge or belief of conduct that could be considered physical abuse, must report the alleged act(s) immediately to a Board Member. The Board will take immediate steps, at its discretion, to protect members of SLPBA and will conduct an investigation immediately. The Board may choose to contact local authorities if necessary.

Upon proof of violation of this policy, the violator(s) will be either suspended or permanently banned from SLPBA. The Board has the final authority on this decision.

Emotional Abuse: Emotional abuse can take many forms like, but not limited to, bullying, harassment, exclusion and intimidation. These destructive behaviors, either received directly or indirectly (for example, by email, texting, or social media), will not be tolerated by any member of SLPBA. See Discipline Policy below.

Substance Abuse: Regardless of quantity, a player shall not: 1) use a beverage containing alcohol; 2) use tobacco in any form; 3) use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell, or give away any other controlled substance (including steroids). The rule applies to any portion of the baseball season. It is not a violation for a player to be in possession of a controlled substance specifically prescribed for a player’s own use by their doctor. If a player is found breaking this policy, the following penalties will be assessed:

First Violation: The player shall lose eligibility for the next two consecutive games or two weeks of a season, whichever is greater. No exception is made for a player entering a chemical dependency treatment program.

Subsequent Violations: The player shall lose eligibility for the remainder of the traveling season. If a player enters a chemical dependency treatment program, the player must be certified for eligibility in SLPBA only by the director or counselor of the treatment program.

Penalties shall be cumulative throughout the player's participation in SLPBA.

Severe Weather: SLPBA follows MSHSL guidelines regarding Lighting/Threatening Weather:

"Prior to the start of a contest, the Head Coach is responsible for determining whether or not the conditions present a threat to the safety of participants and spectators and will determine whether or not the contest will begin. Once a contest has begun either the umpire(s) or the Head Coach may postpone or suspend a contest and cannot be overruled by the other party. When in doubt, err on the side of safety.

When considering resumption of an athletic activity, the MSHSL recommends that everyone should wait at least 30 minutes after the last flash of lighting or sound of thunder before returning to the field."

Discipline Policy

Player Discipline: Players will be disciplined, suspended, or removed from a team following violations of the GSBL Code of Conduct (www.myas.org). Players read and sign this document prior to the start of each season.

A player will be corrected immediately by their coach for unsportsmanlike conduct. Examples could be, but not limited to:

- Throwing a bat, glove, or helmet
- Swearing, yelling, or screaming in frustration over a missed play (e.g. at the plate or in the field)
- Selfish behavior, including but not limited to:
 - A. Prioritizing individual success over team goals
 - B. Showing poor body language/attitude or lack of commitment when playing a non-preferred position
 - C. Regularly with and/or complaining to a member of the coaching staff
- Verbally abusing an umpire, coach, or another player

In addition to unsportsmanlike conduct, corrective actions will be taken with any player who has poor attendance at practices and/or games. Any absence should be discussed with your coach beforehand. Remember that you have signed a commitment policy during the registration process for your team. Coaches are empowered to use their own discretion when evaluating and determining the appropriate response(s) relative to behavior and/or attendance not immediately defined in this document.

The player discipline process is cumulative and escalates from Head Coach to Traveling Director to President:

1. **First Offense** - Verbal warning from Head Coach. The coach addresses the behavior and documents the incident with the Traveling Director.
 2. **Second Offense** - Players will be removed from game or practice. Parents will be notified, and a mandatory meeting with the player, parent(s), Head Coach, and Traveling Director must occur prior to the player returning to functions with the team.
 3. **Third Offense** - Continued behavioral issues require a meeting with the player, parent(s), Coaching Staff, Traveling Director, and President, and may result in the dismissal of the player from the team for the remainder of the season.
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Parent / Spectator Discipline: will be disciplined, suspended, or removed from a team following violations of the GSBL Code of Conduct (www.myas.org). Parents read and sign this document prior to the start of each season and acknowledge responsibility for the spectators they invite to the fields.

All parents and spectators attending games or practices are expected to demonstrate respectful and supportive behavior towards coaches, players, umpires, and fellow spectators. This includes following the 24-hour rule before addressing concerns with a coach. Examples could be but not limited to: yelling or arguing with coaches, umpires, or players during or after a game, negative comments about coaches or players, creating a hostile or divisive environment, and ignoring the 24-hour rule.

Any threat of violence from a parent / spectator will result in a permanent ban for them and their player from all SLPBA team activities for the remainder of the season.

The parent / spectator discipline process is cumulative and escalates from the Head Coach to Traveling Director to President:

1. **First Offense** – A mandatory meeting with the parent / spectator, head coach, Traveling Director, and President will be scheduled. The player of the offender will not be able to join the team until the meeting occurs.
2. **Second Offense** – Mandatory removal of parent / spectator from all team events (practices or games) for the remainder of the season. If the offender refuses to comply to this guideline, the player will be removed from the team for the remainder of the season.

Coach Discipline: Coaches are expected to adhere to the GSBL Code of Conduct and model these values to their players. Violations may result in suspension or removal as a coach by the Grievance Committee. Parents, other coaches, or spectators may file a grievance against a coach if they have witnessed or are aware of Code of Conduct violations. **Any coach ejected from a game must notify their Traveling Director within 24 hours.** The coach discipline process is cumulative and involves the Grievance Committee and President:

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. First Offense | Investigation within 24 hours of incident. 2-game suspension if verified. |
| 2. Second Offense | Investigation within 24 hours of incident. Removal from team if verified. |

Grievance Policy

When a player or parent has a question regarding the Policies or Procedures of SLPBA, they should address their questions to the Head Coach of their team. If a question is not answered satisfactorily and a player/parent feels the need to pursue the matter further, they may contact the Grievance Committee via an email to the Board Secretary, but should do so only after exhausting all reasonable efforts with the coach and his/her assistants.

When a player or parent has a concern about the handling of the team or an individual player, they should:

1. Adhere to the "24 Hour Rule" which requires a player/parent to wait at least 24 hours before approaching a coach on the matter. Or vice versa if a coach has an issue with a player/parent.
-

2. Choose a time and place that is convenient for all parties involved (not prior to or during a game or practice) and approach the situation in an appropriate manner (keep the emotions under control; keep the discussions private, polite and to the point).
3. If the problem persists or cannot be resolved between the player/parent and the coach within 72 hours, it should be brought to the attention of the Grievance Committee. At this time, the Grievance Committee will act as a mediator between the player/parent and the coach. All parties involved will meet to discuss the situation and strive for a solution. The Grievance Committee shall communicate in writing with the Board any mediation steps and the outcome of that mediation. Any emails submitted to the Grievance process shall include a brief background of the situation, an overview of the issue at hand and a perspective as to what the grieving party would consider as an acceptable solution.
4. If mediation still is unable to resolve the issues and all of the above steps have been followed, the Grievance Committee shall inform both parties in writing within 5 days that the complaint has been referred to the SLPBA Board of Directors for a Special Meeting. Best efforts will be made to have a meeting with the parties within 10 days following the receipt of any complaint. The decision(s) of the SLPBA Board of Directors will be prompt and final.

If a Board Member is the subject of the grievance, a written complaint should be submitted directly to the President of SLPBA.

Equal Opportunity

SLPBA seeks to provide an equal competitive opportunity taking into account ability, physical size and other athletic criteria, to amateur athletes, coaches, administrators and officials consistent with the requirements of the Amateur Sports Act of 1978. SLPBA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age or national origin
