

# AMBRIDGE YOUTH BASEBALL BYLAWS

(Rev. 12/21/22)



## Article I. Organization

### Section 1.01 Name

The name of this organization shall be Ambridge Youth Baseball (hereinafter referred to as AYB).

### Section 1.02 Objective

The objective of AYB shall be to implant firmly in the children of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect for authority, so that they may be well-adjusted, stronger, and happier children and will grow to be good, decent, healthy, and trustworthy citizens.

### Section 1.03 Authority

The actions of AYB shall be consistent with the provisions as set forth in these bylaws.

### Section 1.04 Geographic Area

- (a) AYB is located in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. The geographic boundaries of AYB used to determine player eligibility shall match those of the Ambridge Area School District.
- (b) Players who have played in AYB but who have moved out of the district remain eligible to participate in AYB until they age out of the program.
- (c) The AYB Board of Directors may, by majority vote, allow players outside of the geographic area to participate in AYB activities.

### Section 1.05 Basic Policies

The following are basic policies of the AYB:

- (a) The organization shall be noncommercial, nonsectarian, and nonpartisan.
- (b) The name of the organization or the names of any members in their official capacities shall not be used in connection with a commercial concern or with any partisan interest for purposes not appropriately related to promotion of the objectives of the organization.
- (c) The organization shall not – directly or indirectly – participate or intervene (in any way, including the publishing or distributing of statements) in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office: or devote more than an insubstantial part of its activities to attempting to influence legislation by propaganda or otherwise.
- (d) The organization may cooperate with other organizations agencies concerned with child welfare, but persons representing the organization in such matters shall make no commitments that bind the organization.
- (e) The organization will keep financial and meeting records for a period of 5 years from their initiated date.

## Article II. Membership

### Section 2.01 Eligibility

Any person sincerely interested in active participation to further the objective of this organization may apply to become a member.

### Section 2.02 Classes

The following are classes of members of the AYB:

- (a) General Members – Executive Officers, Division Commissioners, Appointed Committee Members, Coaches, Assistant Coaches, and Parents or Guardians of youth who have participated in AYB games in the present calendar year, January through December.
- (b) Player Members - All youth registered with AYB who have participated in AYB-sponsored athletic games in the current season.

### **Section 2.03 Other Affiliations**

- (a) Members, whether General or Player, shall not be required to be affiliated with another organization or group to qualify as members of the AYB.
- (b) General Members should not be actively engaged in the promotion and/or operation of any other baseball/softball program.

### **Section 2.04 Suspension or Termination**

Membership may be terminated by resignation or action of the Board of Directors as follows:

- (a) The Board of Directors, by a two-thirds vote of those present at any duly constituted Board meeting, shall have the authority to discipline or suspend or terminate the membership of any Member of any class, including managers and coaches, when the conduct of such person is considered detrimental to the best interests of the league. The Member involved shall be notified of such meeting, informed of the general nature of the charges, and given an opportunity to appear at the meeting to answer such charges.
- (b) The Board of Directors shall, in case of a Player Member, give notice to the coach of the team for which the player is a Player Member. Said manager shall appear, in the capacity of an adviser, with the player before the Board of Directors or a duly appointed committee of the Board. The player's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may also be present. The Board of Directors shall have full power to suspend or revoke such player's right to future participation by two-thirds vote of those present at any duly constituted meeting (quorum is required).

## **Article III. Board of Directors**

### **Section 3.01 Authority**

The management of the property and affairs of the organization shall be vested in a Board of Directors consisting of Executive Officers and Division Commissioners:

- (a) President
- (b) Vice President
- (c) Secretary
- (d) Treasurer
- (e) Coach/Player Development Coordinator
- (f) Colt League Commissioner
- (g) Pony League Commissioner
- (h) 12U Commissioner
- (i) 10U Commissioner
- (j) 8U Commissioner
- (k) Rookie/Tee-Ball Commissioner

### **Section 3.02 Duties and Powers**

- (a) Nominations for the Board of Directors will take place at the Annual Meeting in June.
- (b) The Board of Directors will fulfill their roles from August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current calendar year through July 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year.
- (c) The Board of Directors shall have the power to appoint such standing committees as it shall determine appropriate and to delegate such powers to them as the Board shall deem advisable and which it may properly delegate.

- (d) The Board of Directors may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its meetings and the management of the league as it may deem proper, provided such rules and regulations do not conflict with this Constitution.
- (e) Each member of the Board of Directors will have one vote for all league matters.
- (f) The Board of Directors shall have the power by a two-thirds vote of those present at any regular Board or Special Board Meeting to discipline, suspend or remove any Director or Officer or Committee Member of the league in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article II, Section 2.04 (a,b).
- (g) A board member may only hold one elected position on the Board.
- (h) A board member must attend all league board meetings. If a board member misses three (3) consecutive meetings or misses three (3) meetings within a 6-month period, they may be removed from office by a two-thirds majority vote of the remaining board members.

### **Section 3.03 President**

The President shall:

- (a) Serve as Chairman of the Board.
- (b) Preside over all meetings.
- (c) Attend all external meetings or events representing AYB.
- (d) Review and approve all AYB press releases and announcements.
- (e) Perform any or all duties, on an interim basis, left vacant by an un-occupied Board position.
- (f) Coordinate the appointment of committee chairs and ensure accountability.
- (g) Conduct the affairs of the organization and execute the policies established by the Board.
- (h) Communicate to the Board such matters as deemed appropriate and make such suggestions as may tend to promote the welfare of the organization.
- (i) Investigate complaints, irregularities, and conditions detrimental to the organization and report thereon to the Board as circumstances warrant.
- (j) Be responsible for the conduct of the AYB in strict conformity to the policies and bylaws
- (a) Plan, prepare and oversee all aspects related to registration
- (k) Shall have the ability to assign duties not otherwise assigned within the bylaws.
- (l) Cooperatively work with the Board to achieve the best interest of the organization.

### **Section 3.04 Vice President**

The Vice President shall:

- (a) Report to the President of the organization
- (b) Perform the duties of the President in the absence or disability of the President, provided he or she is authorized by the President or Board so to act. When so acting, the Vice President shall have all the powers of that office.
- (c) Shall provide overall coordination of field scheduling.
- (d) Shall work with Economy Borough and Ambridge Area High School on the coordination of field scheduling and maintenance of the Economy Pony League Field.
- (e) Shall oversee all AYB power equipment with regard to purchase, maintenance, inventory, etc.
- (f) Cooperatively work with the Board to achieve the best interest of the organization.
- (g) Perform such duties as from time to time may be assigned by the Board or by the President.

### **Section 3.05 Secretary**

The Secretary shall:

- (a) Report to the President of the organization.
- (b) Secure monthly meeting location.
- (c) Shall be responsible for recording and publishing the minutes of all meetings and maintaining appropriate files, mailing lists, and necessary records.
- (d) Shall prepare agenda and keep meetings focused, productive and on-time.
- (e) Shall have custody of the bylaws and all other records of the league.

- (f) Shall be responsible for volunteer background checks.
- (g) Shall give notice of all meetings and conduct such correspondence as may be required.
- (h) Shall prepare and email meeting minutes prior to the next regular meeting of the Board.
- (i) Shall give and serve all notices to active members of the organization.
- (j) Shall maintain current contact list for the Board and Coordinators.
- (k) Shall develop organization press releases and announcements in coordination with the league President.
- (l) Shall interface with the local media on organization activities as required.
- (m) Shall manage the Ambridge Youth Baseball website.
- (n) Cooperatively work with the Board to achieve the best interest of the organization.
- (o) Perform such duties as from time to time may be assigned by the Board or by the President.

### **Section 3.06 Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall:

- (a) Reports to the President of the organization.
- (b) Receive and disburse all funds with the approval of the Board.
- (c) Keep an accurate account of all funds received and disbursed for the League.
- (d) Manage all deposits and expenses and provide timely payment of invoices.
- (e) Manage the organization mailbox on a regular basis.
- (f) Submit a financial report at all monthly meetings and at such other times as may be requested by the President
- (g) Compile an annual report of League finances
- (h) Shall work with President to establish a budget for the ensuing year.
- (i) Shall oversee all fundraising and grant applications.
- (j) Cooperatively work with the Board to achieve the best interest of the organization.
- (k) Shall also have such other duties as may be assigned by the President.

### **Section 3.07 Coach/Player Development Coordinator**

The Coach/Player Development Coordinator shall:

- (a) Create and maintain methodologies that will assist coaches with developing the characteristics of a complete baseball player so that our young athletes can continuously improve throughout their baseball journey.
- (b) Create and maintain age-specific player development guidelines for all divisions within AYB.
- (c) Maintain communication with coaches and commissioners to continually understand the “needs” of each division when it comes to player knowledge and skills and adjust goals of necessary divisions.
- (d) Develop evaluation forms, specific to each division, that will allow coaches to identify players’ skill levels that will be completed pre-season and post-season.
- (e) Develop pre-season (Winter Conditioning) guidelines, specific to each division, that coaches can use to ensure players are getting consistent, age-specific instruction.
- (f) Develop in-season practice plans, specific to each division, that coaches can use to optimize practice time.
- (g) Work with division commissioners and coaches of each division to ensure that the player development goals are being consistently applied.
- (h) Act as the final decisionmaker in all “play-up” and “play-down” requests.
- (i) Act as liaison between commissioners/coaches and Board to identify any areas of opportunity to grow/modify the player development program.
- (j) Develop and present the Player Development section of pre-season Coaches Clinics.
- (k) Assist coaches and commissioners throughout the season with resources and/or in person assistance at practice when needed.
- (l) Hold commissioners and coaches accountable to the goals and philosophies of the organization.
- (m) Cooperatively work with the Board to achieve the best interest of the organization.

- (n) Shall also have such other duties as may be assigned by the President.

### **Section 3.08 Vacancies**

If any vacancy occurs in the Board, by death, resignation or otherwise, it may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining board members at any regular Board meeting or at any Special Board Meeting called for that purpose.

## **Article IV. Standing and Special Committees**

### **Section 4.01 Appointment**

The Board of Directors shall have the power to appoint such standing committees as it shall determine appropriate and to delegate such powers to them as the Board shall deem advisable and which it may properly delegate.

- (a) At a minimum, Standing Committees will include Fundraising, Concessions, Tournament, Umpires, Field Maintenance, and Website/Social Media.
- (b) Only regular members of the organization in good standing shall be eligible to serve in any standing or special committee.
- (c) The term of each committee chairman shall be one year or until the appointment of his successor.
- (d) The chairperson of each standing committee shall present a plan of work to the Board for approval. No committee work shall be undertaken without the consent of the Board.
- (e) The chairperson of a standing committee may draft other AYB members to assist with the responsibilities of the committee.

### **Section 4.02 Fundraising Coordinator**

The Fundraising Coordinator shall:

- (a) manage all fundraising needs for the organization.
- (b) handle all vendors selection as needed.
- (c) make recommendation to the Board of Directors about vendor proposal and ideas.
- (d) order the tickets for the yearly fundraiser and have ready to distribute at registrations.
- (e) communicate when tickets stubs and payment is due.
- (f) collect all tickets subs and money from commissioners and coaches.
- (g) coordinate with the Treasurer to ensure that all tickets have been collected and paid in full.
- (h) work with the Tournament Commissioner for obtaining fundraisers for the All-Star tournament.
- (i) be the point of contact for any fundraiser issues and work with the vender to resolve issues in a timely manner.
- (j) manage all sponsorship needs for the organization.
- (k) contact prior year sponsors to request sponsorship renewal for the upcoming season via mass mailing, emails or phone.
- (l) be the point of contact for all new sponsors, including unsolicited ones.
- (m) provide a sponsorship list to the Board of Directors with sponsors name, address, phone number.
- (n) coordinate with the treasurer to ensure that all sponsors have paid in full.
- (o) coordinate and communicate sponsors information to the uniform coordinator.
- (p) coordinate and communicate sponsors information with the trophy coordinator for obtaining sponsorship plaques.
- (q) coordinate and communicate sponsors information with the photography coordinator for obtaining photos for the sponsorship plaques.
- (r) Cooperatively work with the Board to achieve the best interest of the organization.

### Section 4.03 Concessions Coordinator

The Concessions Coordinator shall:

- (a) manage the concession stands at Economy and Baden field locations.
- (b) manage food and supply vendors as needed.
- (c) make recommendation to the Board of Directors on vendor proposal.
- (d) be the point of contact for working with Ambridge Youth Softball Association.
- (e) submit recommendation to the Board of Directors for capital purchase items for the ensuing year.
- (f) be the point of contact for any concession stand issues and work with the involved parties to resolve the issue in a timely manner.
- (g) be responsible for returning deposit fees to parents/guardians who have work the concession stand for the year.
- (h) create a master schedule for parents/Guardians working the concession stand.
- (i) submit monthly budget updates during the spring and fall baseball season.
- (j) Cooperatively work with the Board to achieve the best interest of the organization.

### Section 4.04 Tournament Coordinator

The Tournament Coordinator shall:

- (a) oversee the All-Star tournament held every July for the organization.
- (b) create the tournament flyer that can be mailed or email to the tournament contact list.
- (c) organizes the age groups that will participate in the tournament.
- (d) coordinate the number of teams and players per team, based on the registration responds for the All-star teams.
- (e) recruit managers and coaches for each All-Star Team.
- (f) share best practices with coaches in terms of team organization, coaching, and player development.
- (g) Communicate all necessary information that is applicable to all Managers/Coaches.
- (h) act as the liaison between the Board of Directors outside organizations participating in the tournament.
- (i) coordinate the Board of Directors approved Draft with Managers/Coaches.
- (j) work with the Vice – President on field scheduling requirements.
- (k) coordinate the schedule of all tournament games.
- (l) provide rules and regulations for the tournament.
- (m) work with Managers/Coaches on assigning sponsors and uniforms colors for each team.
- (n) work with each manager on assigning umpires for each game.
- (o) interpret, provide guidance, and enforce rules with coaches throughout the tournament.
- (p) have the final decisions on rules throughout the tournament.
- (q) be the point of contact for any issues that develop during the tournament and work with those involved to resolve in a timely manner.
- (r) provide a copy of the following to the Board of Directors
  - i) Completed roster for every team
  - ii) Completed Uniforms order form for each team
  - iii) Managers/Coaches Contact information
  - iv) Updated copy of the rules
  - v) Budget summary at the end of the tournament
- (s) Manage tournament-related emails within the email system on a regular basis (daily during peak periods and weekly during non-peak periods) and handle questions, and issue in a timely manner.
- (t) Cooperatively work with the Board to achieve the best interest of the organization.

## **Section 4.05 Field Maintenance Coordinator(s)**

The Field Maintenance Coordinator(s) shall:

- (a) order items needed for the season (e.g., baseballs, scorebooks, etc.)
- (b) prepare team equipment bags and distribute at beginning of season.
- (c) arrange for return of equipment at end of season to storage facility.
- (d) maintain the quality of the equipment and purchase new equipment as necessary/approved.
- (e) keep the storage facility organized.
- (f) purchase materials needed for season (e.g., chalk, Turface, mound clay, etc.)
- (g) prepare fields prior to season and ensure no safety issues.
- (h) provide field preparation equipment and materials to each field location per requests from division commissioners.
- (i) ensure backstops, fences and dugouts are in good condition.

## **Section 4.06 Website/Social Media Coordinator**

The Website/Social Media Coordinator shall:

- (a) be responsible for updating/maintaining the AYB Website and Social Media pages with current and relevant information. Social Media Content must pertain solely to the organization and its interests. Posts should not be political or controversial in any manner.
- (b) work in conjunction with Board of Directors to promote league matters, help with public relations, and facilitate player registrations.
- (c) work with division commissioners to help promote player and coach news and information about tournaments, game results, etc.
- (d) work with Fundraising Coordinator to help promote special events and fundraisers that support AYB.

# **Article V. Membership Meetings**

## **Section 5.01 Notice of Meeting**

Notice of any meeting shall be given by the Secretary personally, electronically or by mail to all organization members at least seven (7) days before the time appointed for the meeting.

## **Section 5.02 Quorum**

The presence of not less than one-half of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum and be necessary to conduct the business of the organization at any meeting.

## **Section 5.03 General Monthly Meetings**

- (a) General Monthly meetings of the Board shall be held on the second Sunday of the month during the months of March through August, and the second Wednesday of the month September through February at 7pm.
- (b) All General Monthly meetings are open to all members of the organization.
- (c) Only members of the Board of Directors may make motions and vote at General Monthly Meetings. However, the Board may invite, admit, and recognize guests for presentations or comments during General Monthly meetings.
- (d) The order of Business at General Monthly Meetings shall proceed in the following order:
  - i) Call to Order
  - ii) Roll Call
  - iii) Recognition of Guests
  - iv) Reading & Approval of Minutes

- v) Board of Director Reports
- vi) Committee Reports
- vii) Old Business
- viii) New Business
- ix) Announcements
- x) Adjournment

#### **Section 5.04 Annual Meeting**

- (a) The Annual Meeting will be held in June.
- (b) The Annual Meeting is open to all members of the organization.
- (c) President will present a report on the condition of the league.
- (d) Treasurer will present general financial summary of the league including funds received and expended for the previous year, the amount of funds currently in possession of the league, and the financial institution in which such funds are maintained.
- (e) Nominations will be accepted for the Board of Directors for term beginning July 31<sup>st</sup> of current calendar year.
  - i) Nominations for the Board of Directors can be made and seconded by any active member of the league.
  - ii) A nominee can only run for one office.

#### **Section 5.05 Election of Board of Directors**

- (a) Will be conducted at a special election meeting 1 week after the All-Star tournament.
- (b) No absentee ballots will be accepted.
- (c) Any active member in good standing with the organization may vote in the election.
- (d) Board positions will be elected by a majority vote of all members in attendance.
- (e) In the event of a tie, a re-vote by Executive Officers will determine the winner.
- (f) The election results shall be tabulated and announced at the same meeting.

#### **Section 5.06 Transition Meeting**

- (a) Will be held within 14 days of new Board being elected.
- (b) Will be a private meeting for all outgoing board members and newly elected board members.
- (c) All reports and records shall be handed over to newly elected board members.
- (d) No official league business will be conducted at the Transition Meeting.

#### **Section 5.07 Special Meetings**

- (a) Special General Membership Meetings may be called by the Board or by the Secretary or President at their discretion.
- (b) Upon the written request of 10 General Members in good standing, the President or Secretary shall call a Special General Membership Meeting to consider the subject specified in the request. No business other than that specified in the notice of the meeting shall be transacted at any Special General Membership Meeting. Such Special General Membership Meeting shall be scheduled to take place not less than 10 days after the request is received by the President or Secretary.

#### **Section 5.08 Rules of Order**

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings.

### **Article VI. Financial Policy**

#### **Section 6.01 Authority**

- (a) The Board of Directors shall institute policy relative to the preparation and acceptance of an annual budget, and periodic and annual presentation of financial reports, and an annual audit of the books of the organization.



- (b) The Board of Directors shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of organization, bearing the responsibility to conduct the financial affairs of AYB in a sound, business-like manner.

## **Section 6.02 Contributions**

- (a) The league will contribute a donation of an equal dollar amount to each division for All-Star tournament participation. The amount of this donation will be determined each year by a majority vote of the Board at the Annual Meeting.
- (b) The Board shall permit the contribution of funds or property to individual tournament teams provided the sponsor meet the two following conditions:
  - i) Is an active sponsor for the current season.
  - ii) If not an active sponsor, they must meet current sponsorship requirements prior to any funds or properties will be allocated to a tournament team.

## **Section 6.03 Solicitations**

- (a) To equalize the benefits of the organization for all participating teams, solicitation of funds shall be for the treasury of organization as a whole and contributions to individuals or teams shall be discouraged.

## **Section 6.04 Disbursement of Funds**

- (a) The Board of Directors shall not permit disbursement of organization funds for purposes other than to conduct the normal operations of organization activities.
- (b) AYB shall maintain a checking account for the organization general fund at a local financial institution from which all league transactions should be made.
- (c) Debit cards connected to the checking account may be obtained by the organization President and Treasurer and are to be used for league related purchases only.

## **Section 6.05 Compensation**

- (a) No Officer, Director or Member of the league shall receive, directly or indirectly any salary, compensation, or emolument from the league for services rendered as Officer, Director, or Member.

## **Section 6.06 Fiscal Year**

- (a) The fiscal year of the league shall begin on August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current calendar year and end on July 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year.

# **Article VII. Registration Fees**

The following are the registration fee guidelines of AYB:

- (a) All players will pay a registration fee for the regular season that is assessed annually by the Board of Directors and varies by division.
- (b) A late fee may be assessed for any player registering after the registration close date.
- (c) Multi-player discounts are available to families who register more than one player.
- (d) A Fundraiser Fee, as determined by the Board, may be added to the total cost of a player's registration. The Fundraiser Fee is refundable when player meets the fundraiser requirements.
- (e) A Concession Stand Fee, as determined by the Board, may be added to the total cost of a player's registration. The Concession Stand Fee serves as a deposit and will be refunded after parent/guardian has worked their scheduled concession stand shift(s). Any unclaimed Concession Stand Fee monies shall become part of the AYB general fund and can be used to pay for concession stand workers.
- (f) Failure to pay registration fees before the due date will forfeit the player's eligibility to participate in the league.
- (g) No child will be turned away because of inability to pay a registration fee.
- (h) All registration and volunteer fees are waived for board members and committee chairpersons.

## Article VIII. Volunteers

### Section 8.01 Volunteer Types

Any general member of AYB in good standing may serve as a volunteer in one of the following capacities:

- (a) Board Member
- (b) Committee Chairperson or Committee Member
- (c) Head Coach
- (d) Assistant Coach
- (e) Dugout Helper

### Section 8.02 Background Checks

All AYB volunteers serving in any capacity must complete a background check process prior to the start of the season, and current copies of each must be turned in to the Board of Directors prior to having any contact with players. Any person refusing to complete the background check process will not be permitted to serve as a volunteer. The Board of Directors reserves the right to refuse volunteer service based on results of any of the following required background checks:

- (a) Pennsylvania Criminal History Background Check
- (b) Pennsylvania Child Abuse Clearances

## Article IX. Regular & Fall Season Divisions and Teams

### Section 9.01 Player Eligibility

All boys and girls ages 4-18 who live within the boundaries of the Ambridge Area School District map or who attend school within the Ambridge Area School District (including local pre-schools) are eligible to register for and play during the regular season or fall season.

### Section 9.02 Player Age

A player's division will be based on their division age using a birthday cut-off date of April 30<sup>th</sup> of the current season.

### Section 9.03 Player Evaluations

A time, date and location will be agreed upon by the Board of Directors for the player evaluation session. Any player requesting to play up or play down in any division must attend the player evaluation session.

### Section 9.04 Division Guidelines

Divisions will be based on the following age guidelines:

- (a) Tee-Ball (Instructional): 4 or 5 years old on or before the birthday cut-off date of the current season's calendar year
- (b) Rookie Baseball (Instructional): 5 or 6 years old on or before the birthday cut-off date of the current season's calendar year
- (c) 8U (Coach Pitch): 7 or 8 years old on or before the birthday cut-off date of the current season's calendar year. A 6-year-old player may "play up" to the 8U (Coach Pitch) division only after they attend a player evaluation session and are deemed eligible by the Coach/Player Development Coordinator based on skill level. A 9-year-old player may "play down" to the 8U (Coach Pitch) division only after they attend a player evaluation session and are deemed eligible by Coach/Player Development Coordinator based on skill level.
- (d) 10U (Player Pitch): 9 or 10 years old on or before the birthday cut-off date of the current season's calendar year. An 8-year-old player may "play up" to the 10U (Player Pitch) division only after they attend a player evaluation session and are deemed eligible by the Coach/Player Development Coordinator based on skill level. An 11-year-old player may "play down" to the 10U (Player Pitch) division only after they attend a player evaluation session and are deemed eligible by the Coach/Player Development Coordinator based on skill level.

- (e) 12U (Player Pitch): 11 or 12 years old on or before the birthday cut-off date of the current season's calendar year. A 10-year-old player may "play up" to the 12U (Player Pitch) only if they have at least 1 year experience playing in 12U (Player Pitch) or equivalent and only after they attend a player evaluation session and are deemed eligible by the Coach/Player Development Coordinator based on skill level.
- (f) Pony League – tryouts will be held for 13–14-year-old players to fill roster of no more than 15 players.
- (g) Colt League - tryouts will be held for 15-18 year old players to fill roster of no more than 15 players.

### **Section 9.05 Team Assignments**

- (a) Roster assignments will begin only after team sponsors have been identified and after player evaluation session.
- (a) The number of players assigned to each team shall not exceed 7 players on Tee-Ball teams and shall not exceed 13 players on teams in any other division.
- (b) Children of Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches will be assigned to the team their parent is coaching.
- (c) Siblings will be placed on the same team if playing in the same division.

### **Section 9.06 Player Draft Meeting**

- (a) Drafts will be overseen by the President, Vice President, and division commissioner.
- (b) Player drafts will be held for Regular Season and Fall Season teams in 8U, 10U and 12U.
- (c) Each team will start with 1 head coach and 1 assistant coach.
- (d) If a team head coach is unable to attend the draft, an assistant coach should attend in place of the head coach.
- (e) Prior to the player draft meeting, the division commissioner will share with each head coach a list of registered players including player age (birthdate) and a proposed ranking for each player (A/B/C – based on skill level).
- (f) Division commissioners should collaborate with Coach/Player Development Coordinator and team head coaches to ensure a fair and accurate ranking is assigned to each player prior to the draft meeting.
- (g) Player ranking and draft meetings are not necessary for Tee-Ball and Rookie division. Instead, the division commissioner should work with coaches to balance teams based on number of players and number of volunteers.

### **Section 9.07 Player Draft Method**

A serpentine method will be used in drafting players for all teams. The draft process will proceed as follows:

- (a) Children of coaches are assigned to the team their parent is coaching.
  - (i) When a child of a coach is assigned to team, that coach will not select in the round that his/her child was available in (e.g., if a 12U coach has a 12-year-old A-ranked player on the team, the coach would not pick in the first round of the draft when 12U A-ranked players are being selected.)
- (b) The President, Vice President or commissioner who does not have a child playing in the division being drafted will select the order of the draft by flipping a coin.
- (c) The first round of the draft will start with the oldest division age and highest ranking (e.g., in the first round of the 12U draft, coaches will select 12-year-old players with rank A).
- (d) In order of the coin toss, coaches will select a player until all players from that age/rank are selected.
  - (i) If a player with a sibling in the same division is selected, the sibling is assigned to the same team and the coach of that team loses his pick in the round the sibling would have been drafted based on age/rank.
- (e) The draft order is reversed in the in the second round, with the coach who picked last in the first round now picking first in the second round.
- (f) The second round of the draft proceeds in the same manner as the first with players of the next highest age/rank being selected (e.g., in the second round of the 12U draft, coaches will select 12-year-old players with rank B).
- (g) Players who are playing down or playing up in a division will be grouped with the oldest or youngest player ages respectively and will be drafted at the same time as other players in that age/rank (e.g., an 8-year-old player with Rank B playing up to the 10U division will be grouped with the 9-year-old, B-ranked players).

- (h) Each round will progress sequentially downward based on player age/rank.
- (i) For each round the order of selection reverses from the previous.
- (j) The draft is complete when all players have been selected to a team.
- (k) The commissioner of each division is responsible for submitting a list of player/team assignments to the Secretary at the end of the draft.
- (l) Player-for-player trades may be made between teams in the same division at the draft meeting for reasons deemed justifiable by the head coaches of both teams and must be approved by the division commissioner.

## **Section 9.08 Coaches**

- (a) The AYB President appoints all Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches. All appointments are subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.
- (b) All Head Coaches shall attend one Coaches Clinic session prior to the start of the season. No coach is permitted to interact with their team in any way until they attend a Coaches Clinic. Assistant Coaches are not required to attend a Coaches Clinic, but their attendance is encouraged.
- (c) Prior to having any contact with their team, all coaches are required to complete and pass the Pennsylvania Criminal Background Check and the Pennsylvania Child Abuse Clearance. Copies of each document must be turned in to the Board of Directors prior to the start of the season.
- (d) Head coaches are required to contact their team players via an introductory email to parents, an outline of which is provided by AYB at the Coaches Clinic.
- (e) All coaches shall review and have a working knowledge of the division rules, the Coaches Code of Conduct, and the AYB bylaws and must support and abide by these rules.
- (f) No team shall have more than 1 Head Coach, 2 Assistant Coaches and 1 Dugout Helper on the field of play during games or practices.
- (g) A coach must present prior to the start of any practice or game and never leave a practice or game unless all players have suitable transportation home. No child shall be left unattended. A coach shall remain at the practice field until every player has been picked up by his or her guardian.
- (h) Coaches are to check field conditions and equipment prior to each game and report any unsafe conditions or equipment in need of replacement or repair to a Board Member immediately.
- (i) Alcohol consumption prior to or during AYB events or team practices is prohibited. No smoking, tobacco usage or e-cigs are allowed on or around AYB fields.

## **Article X. Tournament Teams**

### **Section 10.01 Player Selection**

- (a) Tournament teams may be selected for the 8U, 10U and 12U divisions
- (b) To be eligible for selection, a player must participate in 50% of the teams' regular season games in their division. Playoff games count toward participation. Any special consideration must be approved by the board.
- (c) Any player who "played down" in any division during the regular season will not be eligible for tournament team consideration due to tournament age requirements.
- (d) Potential tournament participants will be voted on by the head coaches in each division. Division commissioners will coordinate a meeting in which head coaches will present a list of their team's potential participants and give personal recommendations. The group will then openly discuss recommendations and conduct a vote that will include all potential participants. Tournament participants will be filled by the appropriate number of applicants with the highest number of votes.

- (i) For example, the head coaches of three teams in the 12U division may identify 16 potential tournament participants. It has been agreed that 11 players will be selected to the tournament team. Each coach will submit one vote for each of the 11 players they feel should be selected to the tournament team. The 11 players with the highest vote totals will be assigned to the team. Players who don't have enough votes to make the rostered team can be used as alternates (in the order of their vote total) in the event a selected player can't participate.
- (e) Players can only be rostered on one (1) tournament team. They can be used as an alternate to fill in on another team in the same division if necessary.
- (f) The roster size of a tournament team shall be 2 greater than the number of position players. If sufficient talent is not available, fewer players can be chosen.

## **Section 10.02 Coach Selection**

- (a) Tournament coaches will be recommended by the division commissioner.
- (b) To be eligible, a tournament coach must have been a coach during the regular season prior to the tournament.
- (c) All tournament coaches must be approved by the Board of Directors.

## **Article XI. Equipment and Uniforms**

### **Section 11.01 Inventory**

An inventory of all AYB-owned equipment will always be kept.

### **Section 11.02 Budget**

The Board of Directors will determine a budget for equipment purchases at the beginning of the fiscal year and vote to approve the expenditure.

### **Section 11.03 Coaches Equipment**

Division commissioners in coordination with Field Maintenance coordinators will be responsible for inspecting and distributing coaches equipment prior to the start of the season. Any/all AYB-owned equipment that is provided to a coach at the beginning of the season should be turned in to division commissioners at the conclusion of the season.

### **Section 11.04 Uniforms**

Players in all divisions are provided with regular season uniforms that include a jersey and hat. At the discretion of the board, some divisions may also be provided with pants and socks.

## **Article XII. Codes of Conduct**

Parents, Coaches and Players agree that failure to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines may result in disciplinary action by the Board of Directors that could include, but is not limited to:

- Verbal Warning
- Written Warning
- Game(s) Suspension
- Season Suspension
- Expulsion

### **Section 12.01 Parents**

A parent/legal guardian must accept the following AYB Code of Conduct when registering a player with the league:

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care and encouragement for all players, coaches, other parents, and umpires in Ambridge Youth Baseball:

- a) I agree to cheer, let the coaches coach, let the umpires ump, and let the players play.
- b) I agree to respect the schedules of the coaches and teammates by having my ballplayer arrive on time for practices and games and will notify my coach if my child will arrive late or not able to attend.
- c) I agree to be a positive role model and will not engage in public displays of anger.
- d) I will promote good sportsmanship by respecting opposing fans, coaches, participants, and umpires.
- e) I agree to respect coaching decisions regarding playing time, position and placement and will refrain from coaching any player while a game is in session.
- f) I will not approach players or coaches before, during or immediately after games with anything other than support. All questions/concerns regarding players or coaches will be addressed the day after the game in an atmosphere conducive to problem solving.
- g) I agree to file, in writing to the AYB Board of Directors, complaints regarding violation of rules, questionable conduct such as abusive behavior by a player, coach or fan and irreconcilable personality conflicts.

### **Section 12.02 Coaches**

Coaches will abide by the rules of the league. Those who violate these rules will face disciplinary actions. It is possible for a coach to be removed after the first offense. Each Coach will be responsible for the following:

- a) Instruction of the fundamentals of baseball according to the guidelines set forth by the AYB Coach/Player Development Coordinator.
- b) Do not allow winning to be more important than the development of each player.
- c) Be responsible for your own behavior at all league activities.
- d) Making baseball an enjoyable experience for all team players.
- e) Sportsmanship of players, coaches, and parents.
- f) Ensure the safety of team members.
- g) Ensure that all players meet minimum playing requirements.
- h) Supply help to prepare the field at all games.
- i) Clean up fields, dugouts, and bleacher areas after games.
- j) Become familiar with the rulebook and its intent.
- k) Take care of equipment and uniforms.
- l) Have a parent meeting prior to start of season.
- m) Participate in all league functions, including fundraising and work details.
- n) Abide by all AYB Rules and Regulations.
- o) Have fun.

### **Section 12.03 Players**

Players will abide by the rules of the league and the division they are playing in. Those who violate these rules may face disciplinary actions. It is possible for a player to be removed after the first offense. Each player will be responsible for the following:

- (a) Encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials, and parents.
- (b) Be a team player and support my teammates.
- (c) Be on time and attend every practice and game that I can and will notify my coaches if I cannot.
- (d) Work hard to improve my skills.
- (e) Do my best to listen and learn from my coaches.
- (f) Encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity.
- (g) Congratulate the other team after each game as a demonstration of sportsmanship.
- (h) Refrain from using violence, unfriendly language, or insults to others.
- (i) Be generous when I win and gracious when I lose.
- (j) Obey the rules of the game and always work for the good of the team.
- (k) Accept the decisions of the officials with grace and never challenge or question calls. Refrain from challenging or questioning on-field calls by officials and/or managers and coaches.
- (l) Conduct myself with honor and dignity.
- (m) Applaud the efforts of my teammates and opponents.

## **Article XIII. Website**

AYB shall maintain a website to be updated on a regular basis. At a minimum, information to be posted on the website should include:

- (a) League address
- (b) List of board members and contact information
- (c) Player registration information
- (d) Instructions on how to volunteer
- (e) Copy of the AYB Bylaws
- (f) Calendar of league events
- (g) Game schedules
- (h) Field locations
- (i) Recognition of sponsors

## **Article XIV. Dissolution**

Dissolution of the organization must be voted by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Upon reaching an agreement to dissolve the organization and after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the organization, any remaining assets shall be distributed to the Ambridge Area School District.

## **Article XV. Indemnification**

Each present and future member of the AYB organization shall be indemnified by the organization for and against reasonable expenses and any liabilities (other than any amount paid to the organization) paid or incurred by him or her in connection with or resulting from any threatened or actual claim, action, suit or proceeding in which he or she may be involved, as a party or otherwise, by reason of his or her being or having been a member of the Board or general member of the organization, if:

- a) he or she is successful in the defense of such action on the merits, totally or proportionately, or
- b) otherwise, totally or proportionally, if it is determined that he or she acted in whole or in part, in good faith, in what he or she reasonably believed to be the best interest of the organization, which determination shall be made by the Board by a majority vote of a quorum of disinterested members of the Board, or if no such quorum is obtainable with due diligence, or if the Board so directs, by independent counsel in a written finding that indemnification is proper under the standard of this clause.

## **Article XVI. Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the organization by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided that notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is voted upon.