



Bylaws

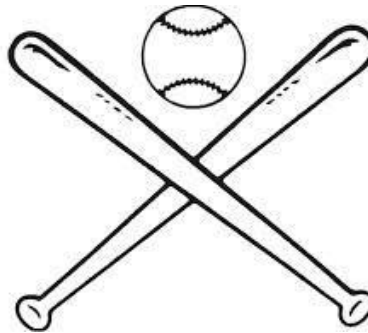


Table of Contents

Article I Name 3

Article II Purpose 3

Article III Membership 3

Article IV Government 7

Article V Admittance 11

Article VI Financial Policy 11

Article VII Registration/Drafting 11

Article VIII Games and Practices 12

Article IX Coaching guidelines/responsibilities 13

Article X Conduct 14

Article XI Umpire’s Authority 14

Article XII Disciplinary Committee 15

Article XIII Protest, Complaints, and Disciplinary Action 15

Article XIV Code of Ethics 18

Article XV Insurance 18

Article XVI Tournaments 18

Article XVII Awards
18

Article XVIII Southwest Classic 19

Article XIX Changes to bylaws 19

Article I – Name

1.1 This organization shall be known as the Red Oak Baseball & Softball Association (ROBSA).

1.2 Any use of the name for advertising, promotional activities, fundraisers, or any other reason without prior approval from the ROBSA Board of Directors is prohibited.

Article II – Purpose

2.1 The purposes for which the ROBSA is organized exclusively for charitable and education purposes to foster and promote the games of baseball and softball for boys and girls by developing fundamental baseball and softball skills, promoting good sportsmanship, and furnishing wholesome recreation for the youth of Red Oak and surrounding areas. To achieve this purpose, ROBSA shall provide a supervised program utilizing uniform rules, regulation, procedure and methods of playing.

Article III – Membership

3.1 All current Board Members, parents or legal guardians of registered players, coaches or managers are eligible for membership according to the spring player registration in any given year. The duration of the membership shall exist through the next spring player registration, typically ending the last weekend in February.

3.2 Board of Directors shall consist of:

- A. Officer members: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations, and Team Mom Coordinator. (elected position)

Duties of officers:

1. President:
 - Oversee the entire operation of ROBSA
 - Preside at all meetings of the Association
 - To appoint committees
 - Represent association at meetings of other organizations in which this association may participate
 - Be present and assist the draft
 - Only vote on matters before the Board on which there is a split vote
 - Schedule Coaches' meeting
 - Responsible for ordering/purchasing all equipment for the league
 - Responsible for ordering Association trophies/medals
 - Perform such other duties as are normally associated with the office of President

- Communicate all ROBSA league events with coaches to be passed on to team mom/parents
 - Act as a representative for the Southwest Classic Division
2. Vice President:
- Assist in overseeing the entire operation of ROBSA
 - Preside over all meetings in the absence of the President
 - Be present and assist the draft
 - Working with the scheduler to make up all practice scheduler for teams
 - Represent association at meetings of other organizations in which this association may participate
 - Be a liaison to the City of Red Oak
 - Assist with Coaches' meeting
 - Perform such other duties as are normally assigned by the President
 - Keep ROBSA insurance policy current
3. Secretary:
- Generate agenda with the input of other ROBSA members
 - Keep accurate minutes of all meetings and distribute to Board members
 - Responsible for all written correspondence on behalf of the league
 - Ensure accurate records of all background checks are kept
 - Maintain all league records including, but not limited to, registration forms, written files of complaints, permits, board disciplinary correspondence and decision as outlined in Article XIII (coaches/player dismissal).
 - Maintain online registration information and proper distribution to appropriate board members of registrants
 - Update rainout line as needed
 - Update web site and social media outlets as needed
4. Treasurer:
- Keep accurate account of all financial records of ROBSA
 - Prepare a financial statement for each monthly meeting as well as other times requested by the President
 - Assure all taxes are filed an up to date (sales taxes, federal tax, 501c3 classification)
 - Assure all monthly bills are paid in a timely manner
 - Keep accurate account of Sponsorship money
 - Prepare an annual budget and track annual income and expenses
 - Prepare an annual financial statement to be presented before the newly elected board members at the election board meeting
 - Timely retrieval of ROBSA mail from post office box
 - Transmit all financial records to any person that succeeds him or her in that office

5. Public Relation:
 - Generate and submit articles to the local newspaper and media outlets regarding all ROBSA news and events deemed necessary for communication to the public (including, but not limited to, registration, opening day ceremonies, closing day ceremonies, tournament winners, fundraisers, other ROBSA special events)
 - Assist with updating rainout line as needed
 - Assist with updating website and social media outlets as needed
 - Assist in soliciting sponsors for ROBSA
 6. Team Mom Coordinator:
 - Schedule teams for concession stand duty
 - Schedule opening and closing day team booths
 - Coordinate league fundraiser with teams
 - Schedule team mom meeting at the beginning of season to provide league team mom information
 - Communicate all ROBSA league events with team mom to be passed on to team parents
 - Assure all teams have a copy of the following for distribution and collection:
 - Medical release
 - Parent Code of Conduct
 - Player Code of Conduct
 - Copy of rules and regulations for their age division
- B. Board Committee members: Equipment Manager, Scheduler, Concession Manager, and League Commissioners. (appointed positions that an officer may be appointed)

Duties of committee members:

1. Equipment Manager:
 - Coordinate with each league commissioner all equipment needs for age division
 - Responsible for communicating with President and the Board items needed to be ordered and purchased as well as associated costs to fulfill team equipment needs for each season
 - Maintain inventory and storage of equipment
 - Responsible for distribution of equipment and maintaining accurate distribution records
 - Responsible for collection of equipment and maintaining accurate collection records as well as records of any damaged or lost equipment
 - Notify Board of Directors of any coach who has not returned equipment
 - Prepare an annual inventory statement to be presented before the newly elected board members at the election board meeting

- Additional duties as assigned by the Board
2. Field Maintenance Manager:
 - Coordinate with each league commissioner all field maintenance needs for age division
 - Responsible for the general preparation operated by ROBSA during league play and shall make recommendations to the Board for suggested or needed expenditures and repairs to present to the City of Red Oak.
 - Maintain inventory of needed maintenance for general preparation of facilities for league play.
 - Additional duties as assigned by the Board
 3. Scheduler:
 - Coordinate regular and end of season tournament league games.
 - Coordinate rain-out games for maximum field usage
 - Assist with Coordinating team practice schedule
 - Coordinate off season practice for select teams including collection of required forms and fees to turn into the Board.
 - Additional duties as assigned by the Board
 4. Concession Manager:
 - Purchase in the most cost-effective manner, supplies and inventory to maintain concession stands throughout spring and fall seasons.
 - Responsible for collection of all proceeds from concession stand sales and turn over to the treasurer.
 - Assure all concession stand equipment is working properly
 - ROBSA may elect at any time to enter into a contract with another organization to facilitate and operate the concession stand for any given period of time so long as ROBSA receives not less than 20% of the net proceeds
 - 20% of net profits from outside tournaments are paid to the City of Red Oak per contract.
 - Additional duties as assigned by the Board
 5. League Commissioners:
 - Assist in recruitment of Head and Assistant Coaches as needed
 - Directly responsible for their division and answer directly to the board including reporting all Board actions as required to coaches in their division
 - Responsible for coordinating their division draft proceedings
 - Reports and facilitates improvements needing to be made to the playing fields
 - Reports and facilitates equipment needed for their division
 - Insure all Head Coaches have league rules, for the appropriate division and resolve issues, disputes, or other matters within their division
 - Additional duties as assigned by the Board

3.3 All Board members are responsible for attending all called meetings.

3.4 Each board member may be asked to be on a rotating schedule to be a Board Member on Duty at the fields when there are games scheduled. The designated Board Member on Duty will have this duty regardless of the age division playing. The Board Member on Duty will also have the responsibility to oversee the operation of field lighting and game umpires. The Board Member on Duty is there to resolve any situation that may arise. Each Board member will also be responsible for assisting on a rotating schedule to operate field lights during the pre-season practice times and when no games are scheduled.

3.4 In the event an office is incapacitated, unable or unwilling to perform his or her duty, or misses 4 or more consecutive meetings without giving reasonable notification and after having been given reasonable notification of the meetings, he or she may be removed from office by two-thirds vote of the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting or a called special meeting if needed. A successor may be appointed immediately by the Board.

No person who is a member of or who is in any way connected with ROBSA shall receive any personal financial benefit beyond the reasonable value of the services in carrying out the purpose for which ROBSA has been organized and approved by the Board.

Article IV - Government

4.1 In accordance with section 501 C (3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, the ROBSA shall operate exclusively as a non-profit educational organization providing a supervised program of youth baseball. No part of the net earnings shall ensue to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual, except as provided in Article XVIII (Tournaments) herein. ROBSA will not be involved or associated with any group or person(s) who is carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and will not participate in or attempt to intervene in any political campaign of any candidate for public office.

A. Each year it shall be the responsibility of the acting ROBSA Board of Directors to fill out and submit all proper tax forms for this association to the IRS.

4.2 The affairs and the property of this association shall be governed and managed under the direct supervision of the ROBSA Board of Directors.

4.3 Board Officer Elections and Terms:

A. The election of the new Board Officers, (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Team Mom Coordinator), shall be held before August 1, during

the same year, at an official board meeting which is a publicly called meeting held for the purpose of electing a Board.

- B. Notification of this meeting shall be posted on the league's official website at least ten days prior to the meeting. The public at large, adults of at least 18 years of age will cast votes to elect new board members. This includes current and potential board members.
- C. The term of each Board member seat shall be two years or as needed with unlimited term reelection.
- D. The official duties will begin on August 1st and end on August 31st the following year. All outgoing officers will close out any ending matters by August 31st and tune over any records or documents pertaining to their successor.
- E. All nominations will be submitted to the ROBSA Board of Directors before the election meeting by anyone who is currently participating with the ROBSA.
 - i. Only adults of at least 18 years of age who are actively involved in the operations of ROBSA during the preceding season or who have a vested interest in a child that is currently participating in the ROBSA program may be elected to the Board of Directors.
 - ii. Only those persons who signify their consent to serve if elected shall be nominated for or elected to such office.
 - iii. All candidates must be a member in good standing with ROBSA and must not be in arrears or indebted to the Association.
- F. After accepting all the nominations the Board of Directors and any member (see III.1 for membership eligibility) of the ROBSA in good standing will elect new Board Members.
 - i. Nominees will be elected by a majority vote.
 - ii. The election committee shall distribute, collect and count all the ballots and report the results to the Secretary.
- G. All Board Officers will be elected by a majority vote of the members present at the Annual Meeting.
- H. Any term that is vacated will be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Board members for approval. Said term will be fulfilled and not start over. (I.e. if a term is vacated with 18 months left on the term, then the elected person will fulfill the 18 months, vs. a new two year term.)
- I. At the conclusion of the annual meeting to elect the Board of Directors, the new Board of Directors shall meet to appoint commissioners and committees for one-year terms. Such positions may be eligible for re-appointment. The past president shall serve a one-year term.
- J. A "YEAR" will constitute the time from the election meeting of the current year to the election meeting of the following year.

- K. Removal: Any board member may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the Board. Unsportsmanlike behavior, jeopardizing the well-being of a child, failure to fulfill his/her responsibility as a Board member, or circumvention of the by-laws or rules of the Association is grounds for removal.
- L. It is the responsibility of the Board members to uphold the ROBSA by-laws.

4.4 Meetings:

- A. All Board meetings shall be “Open” to all ROBSA members unless the Board has called a “Closed” meeting as deemed necessary.
- B. Only meetings called by the President or two-thirds of the ROBSA Board of Directors will be deemed an “Official Board Meeting”.
- C. The President, Vice President and/or Secretary must be present at each official meeting.
- D. A minimum Quorum of one more than 50% of the existing Board members must be present at a meeting in order to transact business.
- E. The Board of Directors will hold regular monthly meetings or as often as needed. All Board meetings will be scheduled with the minimum of forty-eight (48) hours advance notice to each Board Member.
- F. SPECIAL MEETINGS:
 - i. Only a Board member through notification of the President/Vice President can request special meetings.
 - ii. Special meetings will address only those subjects for which it was called and no other business (i.e. any disciplinary meetings to acquire information or administer disciplinary action, any meetings to discuss the results of a finding in the background check process.) All discussions will be deemed confidential unless determined otherwise by two-thirds majority vote at the time of the meeting. ROBSA Board Members shall maintain confidentiality in regard to these meetings and possible consequences except for that communication that is necessary among cognizant persons to administer the disciplinary action program and the necessary communication that is required in these by-laws.
- G. Only Board members shall have a vote on matters brought before the Board.
- H. Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting through unanimous written consent (e-mail communication included) from board members setting forth action so taken. Such consent shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote.
- I. Order of business of meetings:
 1. Approve minutes
 2. Reports from officers

3. Reports from committees
4. Unfinished business
5. New business
6. Adjourn

4.8 All matters concerning the policies and interpretations of the rules of ROBSA shall be decided by a majority vote of the ROBSA Board of Directors.

4.9 Any motion carried by a majority vote at a Board Meeting cannot be remanded, unless by a majority vote of the ROBSA Board of Directors.

4.10 A majority vote of the Board of Directors present in accordance with the quorum requirements set forth in Article III, Section 3.4B at any official meeting of ROBSA shall govern any and all decisions, and or transactions of that meeting.

4.11 “Robert’s Rules of Order” shall govern the proceedings of all Official Board Meetings, except where the constitution of the ROBSA By-Laws conflict with “Robert’s Rules of Order”.

4.12 In regards to the USSSA rulebook and the amended rules of ROBSA, the Board of Directors will have full authority to impose whatever penalty or penalties if any at all, they deem appropriate for any violation of all said rules.

4.13 ROBSA will be governed under USSSA, Inc. rules until otherwise noted and the bylaws are amended.

- A. Only the “amended rules” set forth by the ROBSA Board of Directors will have precedence over USSSA, Inc. rules. These are typically agreed upon by all participating cities in what is now the Best Southwest Baseball Group or Best South West Inter-City Softball League Group.
- B. This may also apply to Southwest Classic Baseball and Best South West Inter-City Softball League, which is an extension of the Red Oak Baseball & Softball Association.

Article V – Admittance

5.1 Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, tem moms, and Practice Facilitators

- A. Admittance to participate in ROBSA as a Board Member, Head Coach, Assistant Coach, team mom, or Practice Facilitator must have an approved Application for position as a ROBSA Volunteer on file. The form is to be filled out completely. The ROBSA Board Members will process all applications. No one will be allowed to participate in any way or be allowed on the playing field or in the dugout **during league game or tournament play** without the proper

application to ROBSA. (Unless otherwise approved by ROBSA). **Practice Facilitator** (Any person that will be helping with practice or that may be one on one with the players.)

- B. Any person wishing to participate as a Head Coach, Assistant Coach, team mom, or Practice Facilitator will be subject to a background check at the discretion of ROBSA. Any person who has ever been convicted or indicted of any felony or convicted or indicted of a misdemeanor relating to an offense of murder, sexual assault, kidnapping, indecency with a child, child abuse, rape, domestic violence, etc., will not be allowed to participate in ROBSA. Any person wishing to apply for a position of Head Coach, Assistant Coach, team mom, or Practice Facilitator may petition the Board to request special circumstance consideration. Each special consideration made by the ROBSA Board will be carefully considered as to the interest of the children, who will participate in this organization.
- C. The Board must approve all new teams.

Article VI – Financial Policy

6.1 The ROBSA Board shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of ROBSA, bearing the responsibility to conduct the financial affairs of the league in a business-like manner.

6.2 Team money shall NOT be deposited in the ROBSA Account.

6.3 Non-budgeted items whose sum is in excess of \$100 require Board approval before expenditure.

6.4 The Board shall institute policy regarding the preparation and acceptance of an annual budget, presentation of financial reports, and an annual audit of the books of the association.

6.5 Each year the ROBSA WILL provide some method for the teams to raise money. ALL teams must participate. The name of the ROBSA may not be used in any fundraising effort that is not specifically approved by the board.

6.6 The ROBSA fiscal year shall be the calendar year, January through December.

Article VII – Registration/Drafting

7.1 Valid registration shall be defined as a properly executed signed registration application including proper registration fees. All questions on the prescribed registration form must be answered before it is submitted, accompanied by the seasonal registration fee set by the board.

7.2 Any registration application or age discrepancy deemed non-valid or fraudulent shall cause the applicant to be ineligible for the duration of the season and all games said applicant participated in shall be forfeited.

7.3 Registration fees will not be refunded after the recreational raft for any reason unless approved by the board.

7.4 Players registering in ROBSA shall be required to furnish a birth certificate upon request from the Bureau of Vital Statistics at any point during the season

7.5 The age limits of each division shall be as described under the USSSA Rules. An “illegal Player” is one who is not legally a member of ROBSA because player does not meet requirements as to age or registration rules. The board’s decision about age eligibility is final.

7.6 Each coach will be issued player information after registration and the draft.

7.7 Registration form, medical release form, parent and player code of ethics must be signed by a legal guardian and submitted to ROBSA/Coach prior to the first game in league play.

7.8 No registration form will be taken without payment.

7.9 Players who register after the registration deadlines will be subject to late registration fee and placed on a list for teams that may still need to be filled. Teams will be filled as needed from this list with no guarantee to the player they will be placed on a team.

7.10 No player will be allowed to “ply up” without a signed medical release waiver releasing ROBSA from any and all insurance claims and liabilities as a result of the injury.

7.11 All new players to the league and all old players who abandoned their old team will be placed in a draft.

7.12 Drafting sequence

A. The sequence of each team will be determined by a draw for each age pool.

B. Teams will draft from player registration pool in a sequence that will have each team meeting the same number of players before the next round until all players are drafted.

7.13 One representative from each team will be required to be at the draft.

7.14 Teams participating in the ROBSA fall league will have the opportunity to bring their teams forward from the previous spring season to play in the fall. Due to consideration that needs be given going forward into the next Spring Season, the following rules have been established as Fall Ball Draft Rules and cannot be changed without consent of the ROBSA Board.

7.15 Players may register to play ROBSA fall ball and returning players will be placed on the same team they played for in the previous spring season.

7.16 Returning Spring teams must take all players from the previous spring before taking any players who were new in the fall.

Returning teams: A returning team is made up of 6 or more players from the previous Spring Season. This is based on USSSA classification guidelines.

If 5 or less players return to the league and wish to play, accommodations will be made to keep these players together. This may be done by adding them to an existing team that has rooms to add them to the roster or a new team can be formed.

Article VIII - Games and Practices

8.1 All games will be played at scheduled time and date, unless rained out. The Board must approve all exceptions.

8.2 The TTA will set the starting date and number of games.

8.3 Vice-President and/or Scheduler will make up all practice schedules until practice schedules are drafted the fields are on a first come first serve basis. Once season play begins, practice times may be eliminated due to games schedules.

8.4 No team involved with ROBSA will be allowed to practice/play anyone who is not properly registered with ROBSA.

Article IX-Coaching guidelines and responsibilities

9.1 The Board must approve all Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches.

9.2 The determination on who gets a team when there are more coaches than available teams will be determined as follows (in order):

- A. Returning head coach from last season
- B. Returning head coach from last year
- C. New Coaches

9.3 Each team may only have 1 Head Coach on Roster. All Head Coaches and Assistant coaches must be active in the team practices and perform coaching duties in league games. Failure to follow the intent of this rule will result in suspension of the coach.

9.4 All coaches must attend required, Board Scheduled Coaches' meeting and participate in a background check and sign a Coaches' code of conduct to be considered for a coaching position or send a representative.

9.5 Head coaches or their assistants may neither solicit nor cause to be solicited, any players from another team. Those found guilty shall be suspended under the discretion of the ROBS board.

9.6 Any Head Coach or Assistant coach who acts in an unsportsmanlike manner, uses profane language does not act responsible toward the wellbeing of any player or respectful to umpires shall be held accountable by the ROBSA Board.

- A. If found guilty but the Board, shall be disciplined as deemed necessary by the Board.
- B. There shall be absolutely no appeals for any and all punishments handed down from the ROBSA Board.

9.7 All Head coaches and Assistant Coaches must be 18 years of age or older unless special approval by the board.

9.8 Home team Coaches are responsible for obtaining the bases and chalking the field prior to their game.

9.9 The Home team coaches, in the last game, are responsible for returning any bases and field equipment to the equipment box directly after the game. This included rain-shortened games. Failure to do so will result in a fine of \$20 if deemed appropriate by ROBSA unless provisions have been made otherwise prior to the game.

9.10 All coaches are required to have a Coaches' Book at all games. The Coaches book will contain the following updated information for his/her team:

- A. Copy of each player's Birth Certificate
- B. Copy of each players registration form
- C. Copy of each player's medical release
- D. Signed parent & player code of conduct for each player
- E. Up-to-date pitching log (10u, 12u, 14u, 16u – baseball)
- F. Up-to-date ROBSA bylaws, General Rules, Inter-City Rules, USSSA rules, or other league play rules as applicable.

If a coach is asked to present his/her coaches' book at game time, during the game, or upon completion of a game and does not have it, his/her team will automatically forfeit the game.

Article X-Conduct

10.1 All coaches and assistants will conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen and be morally fit to coach boys and girls. The Head Coach will be held responsible for the proper conduct of assistant coaches, team players, and parents.

10.2 The Board shall have the discretion to call before it any coach, player, umpire, or parent for discussion of ROBSA matters. Failure to appear could result in suspension.

10.3 Any coach, player, or parent found to be under the influence of alcoholic beverages or using dangerous drugs, using profane language, unfair tactics, or bribery, will be subject to suspension after a "Closed" disciplinary meeting held by the Board. (See article XIII)

10.4 Any coach having ROBSA related bills or equipment outstanding from the previous year's operation of a team in ROBSA shall not be allowed to coach a team. If such person should show to the satisfaction of the Board the payments of said bill or bills have been or will be paid, he or she shall then be allowed to coach a team.

10.5 Players or coaches found guilty of throwing equipment, using profane or abusive language, or any other act detrimental to the game shall be removed from the game and subject to discipline.

10.6 The right of the offender to participate in any future games shall be decided by the discipline committee after responsible parties have presented all the facts.

10.7 The umpire must give the name of any player or coach who is removed from the game to a Board member immediately following the game; this will be followed by a written report, attached to the score sheet from the official who made the removal.

10.8 Any player or coach who is removed from a game could be required to come before the discipline committee within forty-eight hours. The Committee shall reserve the right to suspend said person and, until the Board makes the ruling, the party in question may return to his/her team.

10.9 Any party suspended by the Board will be ineligible to participate in any way for any ROBSA team during the period of suspension.

10.10 Penalties for violating a code of conduct article will be directed to the Discipline Committee for appropriate action.

Article XI-Umpire's Authority

11.1 The umpires of a game will have complete and absolute control of the game. The site director/tournament director may be called upon at the umpires request or in the event that an umpire may become biased toward rulings.

11.2 Each umpire has the authority to eject any Coach or player during a game for any reason they deem necessary.

11.3 Any Coach or player that has been ejected from a game will automatically be suspended from their next scheduled game.

11.4 An umpire's ejection/suspension cannot be appealed.

11.5 In the event a parent/spectator is deemed uncontrollable by an umpire of the game, the Head Coach of said person(s) team shall be warned of such problems. After such warning has been issued and the problem continues to occur, the Umpire shall have the authority to eject, (the parent(s), and the Head Coach of the said team), from the playing field, dugout, and or bleachers.

- A. If a parent, Head Coach or spectator who has been ejected refuses to leave, the Umpire shall have the authority to stop and forfeit the game to the opposing team.
- B. Any Head Coach or Player, spectator or parent that has been ejected from the game will not be allowed to direct his or her team in any manner during the entire game.
- C. Any Coach, Player, spectator or parent who is ejected from a game must leave the ballpark for the remainder of the game.

Article XII-Disciplinary Committee

12.1 The Disciplinary Committee will consist of the President of ROBSA, the commissioner of the division, and at least one appointed board member. ROBSA secretary should be present to record the events of a Protest, Complaint, or Disciplinary Action or a Board member may be appointed as secretary. If any of the Disciplinary members are parties to the Protest, Complaint, or Disciplinary Action, another board member must be appointed to fill the position for that hearing.

12.2 It is the responsibility of the Disciplinary Committee members to make themselves available to meet

the time requirements for hearings as referred to in Article XIII of these bylaws.

12.3 It is the responsibility of the Disciplinary Committee to be fair and subjective to all Hearings in which they are a part.

Article XIII- Protest, Complaints, & Disciplinary Action

13.1 Protest

- A. All protest must be submitted in writing to any board member within 48 hours after said game has ended.
- B. Each protest must include a protest fee of \$50.
- C. Protest fee will be refunded if protest is ruled favored.
- D. Each protest will be carefully examined and will be accepted or denied by a majority vote from the Disciplinary Committee within 3 days from the time a committee member has been notified of such protest.
- E. A final decision on protest may be appealed to the ROBBA Board within 24 hours and must be submitted to the Chair of Discipline Committee along with an Appeal fee of \$100 for consideration.
- F. When protest has been made in a game, the Head umpire and the opposing coach must be notified that the remainder of the game is being played under protest.
- G. "Judgment Calls" in a game cannot be protested, only rules of the game.
- H. "Judgment Call" protest fees of \$50 will not be refunded.

13.2 Complaints

- A. the Board of Directors shall have the authority to suspend, discharge, or otherwise discipline any player, manager, coach, umpire; league commissioner or other person whose conduct is in violation of the ROBBA bylaws and General Rules under the USSSA Baseball and/or is detrimental to the best interest of the league. Said persons are not limited to residents or participation of ROBBA.
 - 1. Persons subject to such discipline shall have the right to a hearing before the league officers before such discipline is imposed.
 - 2. In the event of discipline procedure involving a player, or other person under the age of 18, that person's parents shall be invited to attend.
 - 3. The hearing shall be before the Disciplinary Committee as referred to in Article XII of these bylaws.
 - 4. Other cognizant parties may be invited when deemed necessary or appropriate, such as officials, umpires' representatives, witnesses, etc...
 - 5. ROBBA Board members shall maintain confidentiality in regard to these hearings and possible consequences except for that which is necessary among cognizant persons to administer the disciplinary action program.
- B. Procedure for reporting a conduct/discipline complaint: Any parent or guardian of a player, board member, coach, or manager, umpire, or commissioner may report a complaint under this heading. The complaint must be reported in writing and handed in to ROBBA and must be received within 72 hours of the occurrence. The complaint must include, as a minimum, name(s), or positive identification of the person(s) accused, names of the teams involved, division in which occurrence took place, date and approximate time of the occurrence, status of the accused, witnesses, if any, and name address and phone number and/or email address of the

person(s) making the complaint. Complaints under this heading must be confined to conduct/discipline issues. The Board will then respond to the complaint within 72 hours.

C. All parties listed in the complaint will be contacted.

D. The ROBSA Disciplinary Committee will hear all formal complaints. Once the Hearing is completed, disciplinary action, if any, will be assessed and carried out by the Board of Directors.

13.3 Disciplinary Action

A. Persons, youth or adults, who refuse to comply with the rules of USSSA or the league may be considered for disciplinary action. The Disciplinary Committee will have full authority to impose whatever penalty or penalties, if any, they deem appropriate for any violation of all said rules.

B. The ROBSA Board reserves the right to immediately ban any individual it deems may impose a risk to the safety and wellbeing of a player, coach, umpire, or board member.

C. The ROBSA Disciplinary Committee will review and investigate all reported incidents to the best of its ability.

D. Recognizing the difficulty of establishing specific penalties for a variety of violations of acceptable conduct, the following penalties are suggested. The Disciplinary Committee may impose one or more which, in their opinion, appears to match the severity of the offense.

1. Warning: the offending person is to be advised, in writing, of the offense, and further advised that repetition of the offense shall result in a more severe penalty.
2. Forfeitures: THE offending person is to be advised, in writing, that his/her offense has resulted in the forfeiture by the team he/she is affiliated with, of a specific game or games for the purpose of team record and league standings. The game(s) will be played as usual except that the offender's affiliated team will suffer a loss by the score of 9 to 0 for each game forfeited regardless of the actual game score. If the Head Coach/Manager of the offender's affiliated team is not the offender, the Head Coach/Manager shall also be notified as above.
3. Suspension: The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been suspended from all league activity for a specific number of games or days.
4. Dismissal: The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been dismissed from the league for the remainder of the current season.
5. Barred: The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been barred from present and future participation in the league, permanently, or for a specific number of years.

13.4 The following guidelines will be followed when disciplinary actions are taken.

A. Warnings are issued only one time; any further infractions will carry a minimum of suspension.

B. Suspension will be the minimum awarded penalty for any physical confrontation occurring.

C. Dismissal or Barring requires a two-thirds majority vote of the entire Board. If the Disciplinary Committee makes the recommendation to the Board for Dismissal or Barring, a Special meeting of the Board should be called.

D. Any person found at fault in a disciplinary action will automatically be placed on a probationary status for the remainder of the current season and the year immediately following.

E. Any person found at fault in a disciplinary action while on probation period will not be considered for application of coaching in the year immediately following

13.5. Any person to have committed one of the following offenses will automatically be reviewed by the disciplinary committee for disciplinary action. The following in no way represents the complete list of reviewable offenses and the Board reserves the right to add to this list without prior notice.

A. Any Head Coach, Asst. Coach, Player, parent, spectator, or Board member who acts in an unsportsmanlike manner, uses profane language, or does not act responsible toward the well being of any player.

B. Any Head Coach, Asst. Coach, Player, parent, spectator, or Board member who is found to be intoxicated by an intoxicating substance while on the playing field or on the ball park grounds.

C. Any Head Coach, Asst. Coach, Player, parent not spectator ejected from a game. (Also see umpires authority Article XI)

D. Physical or verbal abuse of a player, coach, umpire spectator, or Board member.

E. Repeated confrontations with Coaches, Umpires, or Board members.

F. Malicious damage or misuse of ROBSA property of equipment'

13.6 Any person named in an incident that is reviewed by the Disciplinary Committee, whether deemed worthy of disciplinary action or not, will be notified of the Committee's final decision.

13.7 Any Disciplinary Action handed down by the Disciplinary Committee is in immediate effect and shall remain in effect regardless of any pending appeal.

13.8 The decision of the Disciplinary Committee may be appealed to the ROBSA Board.

13.9 The Board will resolve major conflicts between a parent and a coach.

Article XIV-Code of Ethics

14.1 Coaches are expected to comply whole heartedly with the intent and spirit of the rules. The deliberate teaching of players to violate the rules is indefensible Coaches should teach their player's to respect the dignity of the game, the officials, opponents, and the institutions they represent.

14.2 Coaches should confine their discussions with game officials to the interpretation of the rules and not challenge umpire decisions involving judgment Coaches should refrain from any personal action that might arouse players or spectators to unsportsmanlike behavior.

14.3 Coaches should expect from the umpires a courteous and dignified attitude toward players and Themselves. The chief umpire has full authority to stop play if the team or coaches do not follow the Code of Ethics. Game forfeiture will result if warnings are not adhered to.

Article XV-Insurance

15.1 ROBSA shall provide insurance for everyone involved in this association. This includes players, Coaches, umpires, and Board members.

15.2 Insurance coverage is secondary coverage after personal insurance claims have been made.

15.3 Insurance coverage shall be in place no later than March of each year.

15.4 The minimum insurance coverage shall be as follows:

General liability \$
Accidental Medical Limit \$
Dental \$

15.5 League insurance will cover league parties through the league approved games and season tournament. Any use of league insurance for tournaments or games beyond the regularly scheduled league season will have to be approved by the board along with dates of the said games and tournaments presented to the board in writing.

Article XVI – Tournaments

16.1 ROBSA any time throughout the year may have tournaments open to outside recreational and select leagues to be used for association fundraisers. All events must go through the Board for approval as per the facility usage agreement.

16.2 The President will have the duty of staffing all open tournaments with the appropriate number of facilitators.

16.3 The Board may approve compensation to those individuals who assist in the facilitation of tournament open to outside the recreational league.

Article XVII – Awards

The ROBSA board will determine awards for each season as deemed appropriate.

Article XVIII-Southwest Classic Baseball

18.1 If a team chooses to participate in the Southwest Classic Baseball division through ROBSA, they are required to pay registration with ROBSA in addition to any applicable fees, (umpires, insurance, game balls, etc...) as required as part of the division.

18.2 All Coaches guidelines, conduct, umpire's authority, registration, code of ethics, Protest, Complaints, & Disciplinary Action as outlined in the ROBSA bylaws are applicable for any Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Player, Parent or spectator .

Article XIX Changes to bylaws

The bylaws of this association may be amended upon formal written request of a bylaws change presented to the Board in writing. There will be a 15 day consideration period before the Board can act. After the

15 days, the President will call a meeting at which time, a two-thirds vote of the full Board will be needed for the bylaws to be changed.