CENTENNIAL BASEBALL LEAGUE HANDBOOK

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1. INTRODUCTION

The mission of the Centennial Baseball League (CBL) program is to be a quality volunteer community organization with the purpose and goal to develop players with quality baseball and people skills that are capable of participating at the high school level. We will produce players of sound character and principles that are proud representatives of our Centennial community. We will insist on good sportsmanship and proper behavior both on and off the field. We will grow athletes with baseball skills and knowledge, grounded in the spirit of teamwork. Our desire is for everyone to have fun and enjoy the season – from the players to the coaches to the parents and the fans. We want our opponents, their fans, and the umpires to enjoy the experiences of participating in baseball. It is our goal to produce a community program that will be recognized as a standard of excellence by other communities. And we want you to be part of that experience!

This handbook will assist you in gaining a better understanding of our program and hopefully answer any questions you may have. Please take the time to read it in its entirety.

Thank you for being part of the Centennial Baseball League!

Joe Cyzewski
President, Centennial Baseball League

2. MISSION PHILOSOPHY

Our mission is to assist athletes in developing advanced baseball skills and provide the opportunity to compete with other players of similar abilities.

Our objectives are to provide a quality volunteer community program for the youth of the Centennial community that will:

- Promote physical fitness, stamina, and agility.

- Develop self-confidence.
- Develop respect for others, teamwork, pride in team and community.
- Teach the fundamentals of baseball.
- Incorporate the spirit of good sportsmanship in victory or defeat.
- Allow every player to have an opportunity to participate and develop.
- Play in a safe and healthy environment.
- Build character and set priorities in our lives.
- Allow everyone to have fun and enjoy life.

3. GENERAL INFORMATION

3.1 Commitment

Traveling baseball requires a significant time commitment from both players and parents from April through July and possibly into early August. Every player's presence is important, and he/she is expected to attend all practices, league games, and tournament games. Unexcused absences may result in a reduction of playing time.

3.2 Tryout Fees

This fee is used to cover facilities, hire outside evaluators, and provide the necessary equipment and supplies, and for any other miscellaneous costs specifically relating to the tryout and evaluations process.

This fee is nonrefundable and has nothing to do with the actual participation fees relating to the regular season, whether a player is selected for a particular team or not.

3.3 Additional Fees

The costs for entering board-selected tournaments will be paid for by CBL using participation fees. Gate fees and any other incidental fees will be shared by the players on the team. Total participation fee costs for a typical traveling baseball season are estimated for upcoming seasons by the board based on yearly team audits. The tryout fee is not included in the participation fees (which also include uniform costs).

Any additional tournaments beyond what is scheduled for a team by CBL are decided on a team-by-team basis and the associated fees would be collected and paid by team coaches, managers, or team parents. Additional tournament participation is decided by each team's participants and CBL approval.

Once a player has been placed on a team, there will be no refunds except for players who suffer a long-term injury or illness. Any refund request of this nature will be taken under consideration by the CBL Board, and if approved, will be pro-rated based on costs incurred up to that point in time.

3.4 Parent Meetings

Mandatory meetings are expected to be held by team coaches, managers or team parents before the season starts. These meetings will explain the upcoming season and also the commitment from all players and parents to participate at the level the coach, manager or team parent specifies.

3.5 Games and Practices

Weather permitting practices will begin as soon as possible after teams are formed and fields are deemed open for use. League play begins in May and continues through July, with approximately 14-16 weekday league games in addition to 2-4 regular season tournament to be played on weekends. Post-season tournament play (state and national events) is by invitation and depends upon a team's success in qualifying tournaments throughout the season.

3.6 Coach Evaluations

Parents and players are asked to complete an evaluation at the end of each season on their experience with the traveling baseball program and their coaches. This is your most significant opportunity to express your opinions and to help us make improvements. The contents of these evaluations are confidential and are only viewed by the select members of the CBL Board. Please take advantage of this opportunity.

3.7 General Suggestions

The CBL board and all our volunteers value your opinions. If you have suggestions for improving the program, the best way to communicate them is to contact a CBL board member and put your suggestion in writing. Please include as much detail as necessary for us to understand what you would like to see discussed or possibly implemented. Putting these suggestions in writing will ensure they will receive the attention they deserve. Use of the website, www.centennialbaseballleague.org is encouraged. Email addresses for each CBL Board member is available on the site.

Additionally, if you have concerns or constructive criticisms concerning the team or coach, feel free to discuss your comments and concerns with that team's coach but please be sure discretion is utilized to handle these in a proper manner. Sometimes a location other than the field or parking lot at a mutually agreeable time is the best alternative. He/she will greatly appreciate your avoiding discussions prior to or after games and practices and will be better able to focus on your request or concern away from the kids and event. And always be respectful while keeping in mind that coaches are volunteering their time, energy, and knowledge for our kids.

3.8 Uniforms and Equipment

The CBL baseball program will supply a uniform depending on which league program the player participates. Traveling baseball players receive a hat, jersey, and pants.

The CBL baseball program also supplies:

- New league-approved game baseballs.
- Practice baseballs.
- Catcher's gear as needed (including helmet, mask, chest protector, glove, and shin guards).
- First aid kits.
- Batting helmets, bats and other items may be supplied on an as-needed basis, if available.

Any damage caused by negligence or intentional abuse will be reimbursed by the player and/or parents. Failure to do so may result in denial from any further sport participation in any CBL program by the player or any other member of his/her family.

3.9 Personal Equipment

Each player must provide his/her own glove(s), proper shoes, bat, and personal protective equipment. Parents are responsible for providing any additional safety equipment that they choose to use. Properly fitted, correctly sized equipment is very important to a player's safety and success, especially in terms of gloves and shoes. Most leagues require the wearing of athletic supports with a hard protective cup as this may be a stipulation of our insurance and a mandatory requirement in most or all games (especially tournaments), not merely a strong recommendation. Players are encouraged to use cleated baseball shoes with hard rubber or metal cleats, according to the rules of the league in which they participate.

3.10 Bats

Bats are an item of equipment which, like gloves, need to be fitted to the individual player and also comply with league-sanctioned rules. Parents should consult coaches and/or the specific league rules before purchasing bats.

3.11 Umpires

All umpires are sanctioned by the State of Minnesota and provided to us by certified umpiring associations. While our expectations regarding the quality of umpiring may be high, we must always exercise patience, understanding, and respect for their efforts. The character of our players, coaches, fans, and community will be gauged by the message the umpires carry out into the baseball community statewide.

4. TRYOUT POLICIES

Players that are not selected for one of the traveling teams will be placed in either a CBL in-house team program or given assistance to find a playing opportunity with one of the surrounding community programs.

4.1 Eligibility

A player that is eligible to participate in CBL traveling baseball team tryouts is subject to the following criteria:

- In accordance with CBL board policy, players must attend school or live within the Centennial ISD 12 boundary area. Any exceptions to this must be presented to the board before tryouts.
- Players must meet age guidelines specified by MYAS.
- If a selected player does not reside in the Centennial ISD 12 boundary area, a waiver must be obtained from the athletic association that serves his/her school attendance area. Without this waiver, the player will not be eligible to play in sanctioned tournaments.

4.2 Birth Date Cutoff

The birth date cutoff is May 1. The team (age level) for which a player is eligible is the same as the player's age on that date. A player cannot "play up" (i.e., play on a team older than his/her age level) unless he/she has the permission of the CBL Board. A player cannot "play down" (i.e., play on a team younger than his/her age level) for any reason, per AAU, USSSA, MSF, MBT and MYAS rules. A copy of the child's birth certificate should be supplied to the league at registration or shortly thereafter.

4.3 Participation
A player must participate in all scheduled tryout sessions unless an excused absence is granted prior to the start of that session by the CBL Board. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of the tryout session. Any player who is absent without being excused may be disqualified. Extenuating and unusual circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

4.4 Bats
All bats used by participants in the tryouts must adhere to the regulations for equipment to be used at the level for which the participant is trying out.

4.5 Absence Due to Injury or Illness
A player who has registered for tryouts and cannot participate due to injury or illness may be excused prior to the start of the tryout session upon delivery of a doctor's note describing the player's limitations. A player excused due to injury or illness must present a signed doctor's release indicating that the player is medically unable to participate in the tryout process due to the nature of the injury or illness.

The CBL Board will review these unique situations and a decision may be rendered based on a variety of factors and input relating to previous experience or precedence, past or present coach input, or many other potential factors relating to past participation in the CBL program. These situations should be avoided whenever possible and ultimately will be assessed as a CBL Board decision on a case-by-case situation as needed.

4.6 Player Identification
Each player will be identified by a number assigned at the tryout sessions. A player must not wear clothing from a prior year's traveling team, use any paraphernalia identifying him/her as a previous traveling player, or wear any article of clothing with his/her name imprinted on it.

4.7 Player Evaluation
Every player's baseball skills will be evaluated by a team of impartial evaluators provided by the CBL Board. The evaluators will be people who have proven knowledge necessary to evaluate a player's skill at a particular level. Evaluators will not be related to any of the participants involved in their assigned age level.

The evaluation scores will be the primary basis used to select the players for each traveling team. A Provisional Coach for each age level may observe but not participate in the tryout process.

4.8 Player Selection
The number of teams organized at each level may vary depending on the number of players trying out. The number of players per team will consist of 10-13 players, depending on needs and player evaluations. Example: If 39 players try out for a particular level, 3 traveling teams would be formed with 36 players being selected based off of tryout scores and coach selection. The remaining 3 players would be placed on an in-house team or referred to a program from a neighboring community. If there were 35 players, then 2 teams of 12 players and 1 team of 11 would be formed with the level of

participants per team being based on a number of factors including where the scoring breaks between rankings and potentially the Provisional Coach's input, if needed.

Players will be placed on a team based upon their own merits (skills, athletic ability, hustle, enthusiasm, and coachability). If players have played on a previous year's team, their prior commitment, character, and parent issues may also be considered. No player will be placed on a team over a more deserving candidate because he/she had previously played on a traveling team.

If the Provisional Coach's child does not qualify to make the team, the coach must either relinquish his/her job or else continue to coach that team without his/her child.

Note that the following criteria are in addition to residence requirements detailed in the "Eligibility" section. Each team will consist of 10-13 players. The highest ranking 12 players based on evaluator scores and their own merit will qualify for the AAA-level team. The next 6-highest ranking players, ranked 13-18, will be presented to the AAA coach. The coach may exchange players out of the top-12 players from this total pool of players by presenting those players to the CBL Board for approval based on baseball logic, reasoning and team needs. If approved, the team is then formed. The remaining players from this initial pool of 18 players are then considered "locks" for the AA-level team and are presented to the selected AA-level coach who may then select the remaining AA-level roster spots from the 12 players that are ranked 19-30. Once that coach submits that proposed roster to the CBL board and it is approved, the remaining players ranked in the top-30 are then considered "locks" for the A-level team and are presented to the selected A-level coach who may then select the remaining A-level roster spots from the remaining pool of players. This process may be modified or varied by the CBL Board depending on the number of participants and talent level presented at a certain age group to ensure all participants are provided the opportunity to play at the appropriate level within the CBL program and that all teams are as nearly balanced as possible.

5. GENERAL POLICIES

5.1 Attendance

Every player's presence is important and expected. Unless otherwise exempted by the coach, all players are expected to attend all practices, league games, and tournament games. Excused absences will be granted for school and religious events. However, it is expected that the coach will be notified in advance of such events. Unexcused absences may result in a reduction of playing time.

5.2 Suspensions

The CBL Board reserves the right to suspend any coach, parent or player who violates the MYAS Code of Conduct or ethics provided by the CBL Board. Suspensions will be documented and distributed to the CBL Board.

A coach or umpire may eject or suspend any player, parent, or assistant coach who acts in an unsportsmanlike manner. Subsequent violations may result in the player, parent or assistant coach being removed from the program. All violations and ejections must be reported to the CBL Board.

5.3 Player Removal

Once a team is selected, a coach cannot replace a team member solely due to lack of skill. A player may be released or removed from a team for the following specific reasons:

- Frequent, flagrant disregard of player responsibilities.
- Continued behavior or play that is in such a manner as to endanger others and/or self.
- Displaying an uncaring attitude, thus resulting in not applying oneself and hurting the team's competitive potential.
- Failure to work within a team environment (placing self-interest before the team).
- Repeated unsportsmanlike behavior.

Before requesting the removal of a player, the coach must discuss the situation with the CBL League Representative and the player's parents to attempt to correct the situation. The discussion should include an objective description of the behavior and of the intended discipline. If this fails to correct the situation, the coach must then notify the CBL League Representative who must approve any additional action. The CBL League Representative must notify the CBL Board of the action taken within 48 hours of its occurrence and written documentation must be given to the CBL Board.

5.4 Playing Time

13-year-old level: Minimum playing time is a minimum of 3 defensive innings per game. The starting lineup at this level provides every player to have a place in the batting order.

14- and 15-year-old levels: Minimum playing time is a minimum of 2 defensive innings per game.

16- to 19-year-old levels: The appropriate game rules will apply (NFHS, MYAS, league and tournament rules).

Some game situations, such as the 10 or 15-run rule or games shortened by weather or darkness, may prevent minimum playing time requirements to be met in a specific game.

State and qualifying tournaments may limit the batting order (such as at the 13- and 14-year-old levels) or substitution rules, in which case, a minimum of 2 defensive innings per game would be expected.

NOTE: If a player is in the line-up as a designated hitter, he/she may not receive any defensive playing time for that game, and the player who is being hit-for may not receive an at-bat for that game. This same principal applies to a designated "extra hitter."

5.5 Coach Selection

Anyone who desires to be a head coach must complete and submit an application at registration time or contact the CBL Board before the selection process is completed. Interviews and selection of Provisional Coaches will be made by the CBL Board prior to tryouts and this process is typically held in February. Selection as a Provisional Coach in no way guarantees that the coach's child will be selected for a given team. All candidates are informed during their interview that their status as coach (if selected) will be provisional upon their child qualifying for that team via the tryout process. If the player qualifies for a different team, or no team, the Provisional Coach will be excused and a new coach will be selected from the parent/coach applicants of the players that qualified for that team.

Primary selection criteria includes past baseball coaching experience, personal coaching and human development philosophies, organizational skills, strong moral and ethical characteristics, support of traveling baseball and CBL policies and procedures, and the applicant's commitment to devote several hundred hours to the program during the season, which ends in July or August with equipment check-in, season reviews, recommendations/feedback, and evaluations.

While it is important that a traveling team coach has expertise in the sport, it is just as important for the coach to have the players' welfare, character, and confidence development foremost in mind. The coach must not only have integrity, sincerity, and high idealism, but must also be able to remain even-tempered under pressure, be able to effectively share knowledge to players, and to understand and relate to children while being sensitive to their developmental requirements.

5.6 Coach Removal

Removal of a team coach is a very serious situation and must be dealt with in a fair and open manner. Coaches may be removed for the following reasons:

- Failure to perform coaching duties (such as game, meeting, or practice absences).
- Conduct detrimental to players, the team, CBL or parents (such as unsportsmanlike conduct or actions that lack integrity or general moral and ethical standards).
- Abusive behavior, whether physical or psychological, towards players, parents, opposing players, coaches, spectators, umpires, volunteers, or league officials.

To remove a coach, a written complaint must be submitted to the CBL Board detailing the allegations. If there is sufficient justification, a hearing before the CBL Board will be held. A simple majority vote by the CBL Board will be sufficient to dismiss the coach. Written documentation must be given to the CBL Board.

5.7 Behavior

The highest stands of sportsmanship will be expected from the players, parents, coaches, umpires, and spectators. Conduct that will not be tolerated includes verbal abuse, tantrum-like acts, profanity, physical aggression on or off the field, and acts intended to cheat the spirit of the rules or to intimidate the umpires. Umpires may use their discretion whether to issue a warning or to eject the violator from the game (coach, player, or spectator). The umpires and/or coaches are responsible for reporting all such incidents to the CBL Board. Subsequent violations may result in suspension from play and/or attendance.

If a parent or player has a problem or concern with the performance of an umpire, he/she should direct his/her concerns to the team's coach. The coach represents the CBL program and should be the only person communicating with the umpires. One of the objectives of the program is to teach respect for the officials and the proper procedure for dealing with any problems with the umpires. Players will treat their coaches, parents, teammates, umpires, and the opposition with respect. After each game, participants will line-up and shake hands.

Unless playing in the field, at bat, on base, on deck, or coaching a base, all players shall remain on the bench. It is mandatory that each batter, on deck batter, runner, player in a coach's box, or non-adult

bat/ball shagger on the field wear a batting helmet that meets NOCSAE standards. Spectators are restricted to the areas that are "out of play" and away from team benches.

5.8 Inclement Weather

In case of inclement weather, the coach will determine if there will be a practice. At games, the home team's coach is responsible for determining whether the game will be played or not. Once play begins, the umpire is responsible for determining whether play should be halted. In all cases, unless you receive notification from your team's coach, you should appear at the site of the game or practice as scheduled.

Weather conditions can vary widely, even over short distances, so our policy is to make the decision at the field site. Games and practices will be suspended when lightning is visible. If you (parent/guardian) are not able to be present during an event, be sure that your child knows another parent who will be present and with whom he/she can take shelter if bad weather suddenly threatens.

5.9 Blood Policy

A player or coach who is bleeding or who has an open wound shall be prohibited from participating in the game or practice until appropriate treatment has been administered. If medical care or treatment cannot be administered in a reasonable amount of time, the individual will have to leave the game or practice. The length of time considered reasonable shall be in the umpire's judgment when at a game. Once the bleeding has been stopped, the player or coach may re-enter the game. If there is a substantial about of blood on the uniform, it must be changed before that individual may participate.

5.10 Concussion Policy

All CBL-approved coaches have, by law, completed a concussion awareness course. If a player is suspected of having sustained a concussion, that player shall be removed from the game or practice and the player's parent/guardian shall be informed of the suspected injury. If a concussion has been diagnosed by a medical professional, it is incumbent on the parent to promptly inform the coach of this fact and, if the player is not cleared to participate due to the injury, the parent must notify the CBL Board and provide the confirming medical documentation, such as a doctor's note. The player will be prohibited from participating in CBL team activity until such time as the coach and CBL board is provided with the medical release which allows the player to resume participation in CBL team activity.

5.11 Drug and Alcohol Policy

CBL mandates that all players and coaches participating in a CBL youth activity will refrain from the use of alcohol and/or a controlled substance. It shall be a violation of this policy for a player or coach, while participating in a CBL activity, to consume a beverage containing alcohol or use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell, or give away any controlled substance. Alleged violations must be reported to the CBL Board during the season in which the alleged infraction occurred. Once a violation has been brought to the attention of the CBL Board and a decision has been made, the player or coach will be informed of his/her ineligibility by a written letter from the CBL Board President.

- <u>First Violation:</u> Upon notification by the Board, the player or coach shall lose eligibility for the next two consecutive games or two weeks of a sport season in which the player or coach is participating, whichever is greater. No exception is permitted.

- Second Violation: The player or coach shall lose eligibility in traveling baseball for that sport season. No exception is permitted.
- Accumulative Penalties: Penalties shall be accumulative beginning with and continuing throughout the player or coach's participation in any and all CBL activities.

5.12 Tobacco Policy

CBL programs do not condone the use of tobacco by players under the legal tobacco age. It shall be a violation of this policy for a player participating in CBL activities to use tobacco during such activities. Alleged violations must be reported to the CBL Board during the season in which the alleged infraction occurred. Once a violation has been brought to the attention of the CBL Board, the player will be informed of his/her ineligibility. Ineligibility determination will be the same as for the Drug and Alcohol Policy.

CBL recommends that coaches and parents refrain from the use of tobacco in any form during a youth sport activity. Fields on school property may be a "tobacco-free zone." If a coach or parent must use tobacco during a CBL activity, they must remove themselves at least 100 feet from the activity area, which includes the bench or dugout area.

5.13 Equipment Abuse

Under NO circumstances will the abuse of equipment be tolerated. Umpires and coaches are instructed that each instance of equipment abuse will result in that player being restricted to the bench for the remainder of the game, if not ejected or otherwise removed from the game. At the umpire or coach's discretion, a warning may be given. If the abuse of the equipment results in any damage to the CBL-issued equipment, that player and/or his/her parents/guardian will be held responsible for reimbursing CBL for the cost of replacement or repair. Players maybe suspended from participation in future CBL activities or programs until reimbursement is made.

6. COACHES RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The coach is a teacher of baseball skills, a manager and coordinator of the functions of a team, and is responsible for the social, psychological, and physical development of all players in his/her care. CBL coaches are volunteers and are appreciated for volunteering their time, effort, and expertise to the benefit of our community and organization. Coaches are accountable to the players, parents and the CBL Board.

6.1 Coaches Rights

- To be treated with respect by players, parents, volunteers, umpires, league officials and the CBL Board.
- To be made fully aware of the rules and policies under which they must function.
- To have access to necessary safety equipment and practice fields.
- To expect full support and cooperation from parents.

6.2 Coaches Responsibilities

- Obey and enforce all league, tournament and other applicable rules regarding team play, conduct, and administration.

- Adhere to the CBL drug, alcohol, and tobacco policies.
- Treat all players in a respectful, equitable and fair manner.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship, self-control, and proper behavior.
- Ensure the good sportsmanship and proper behavior of team players, assistant coaches, parents, and spectators.
- Attend all league and CBL meeting, functions, and activities, as required or arrange to have an alternate representative attend any required functions or meetings (i.e., coaches' meetings, etc.).
- Assure that all players receive playing time that is mandated by CBL.
- Teach the players to have fun and enjoy competition.
- Help the players develop a healthy, competitive attitude towards winning and losing.
- Assess individual player strength and weaknesses to help each player improve.
- Encourage and compliment players using only constructive criticism.
- Attend a minimum of 90% of team practices and games.
- Care for the equipment that is issued to them. If any equipment is lost or damaged, coaches should report the problem to the Field and Equipment Coordinator.
- Conduct a pre-season team meeting with parents. At this meeting, the coach should outline the expectations for the season, distribute the team schedule, roster, rules and collect any additional fees due from players.
- Schedule field time for practices and any make-up (home) games with other coaches and Field Scheduler.
- Report any problems or issues with the fields to the Field and Equipment Coordinator.
- Recruit parent volunteers as necessary.
- Return equipment and meet with CBL Board member at the end of the season. At this this meeting, they should review the season and will have the opportunity to provide suggestions for improving the program in future years.

7. PARENT/GUARDIAN RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Your child's participation in the CBL program will require a significant contribution of your time and effort. Parents can contribute many things to support their child, team, coaches, and the CBL program.

7.1 Parent/Guardian Rights

- Have your child treated fairly and with respect.
- Have your child practice and play in a safe and healthy environment.
- Have your child coached by effective and qualified adult leadership.
- Have your child engage in practice and playing activities that increase his/her skills and enjoyment of the sport.
- To be fully informed by the coaches with respect to schedules, team philosophies, rules, and your child's strengths and weaknesses.

7.2 Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

- Support your child's coaches and remember that they are responsible for many children in addition to yours.

- Keep negative comments to yourself. Express concerns only to the coach and in a straightforward, fair, objective, and respectful manner.
- Coordinate your efforts to help with your child's development with the recommendations of the coaches.
- Let your child know you love him/her, win, or lose, whether he/she plays well or not.
- Compliment and encourage your child. Let coaches handle coaching and criticism.
- Don't compare your child to other players and be honest with yourself and your child about his/her abilities.
- Regard each player on the team as your own.
- Teach your child to have fun and enjoy competition. Help him/her develop a healthy competitive attitude toward winning and losing.
- Follow the "Parents Code of Conduct" as outlined by CBL and MYAS.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship and proper behavior. Don't criticize officials, coaches or other parents or players.
- Ensure the good sportsmanship and proper behavior of your child and your guests.
- Get your child to and from practices and games on time.
- Inform the coach in advance whenever your child will miss or be late for a practice or game.
- Provide a copy of your child's birth certificate to CBL.
- Volunteer to assist the coach whenever possible.
- Volunteer your time and talent to make your team's season a success.
- Cheer! Cheer! Cheer!

8. CBL PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

As a parent/guardian of a child involved in a CBL program, I/we agree to abide by and follow the rules and guidelines listed below by affirming that I/we:

- Will respect the property and equipment used at any sports facility, both home and away.
- Will encourage good sportsmanship through my/our actions by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game and practice. '
- Will promote the emotional well-being of the athletes ahead of my personal desire to win.
- Will provide support for coaches and officials working with the athletes to provide a positive experience for all.
- Will demand a drug, alcohol and tobacco-free environment for my child and agree to assist by refraining for their use at all team events.
- Will remember the game is for the athletes and not for the parents and that winning and losing are part of all players' experience.
- Will demand that my/our child treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex, or ability.
- Will treat all players, coaches, and officials with dignity and respect in language, attitude, behavior, and mannerisms.
- Will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
- Will inform the coach within a reasonable period of time of any anticipated absence from a game or practice my child might incur due to sickness, injury, vacation, or any other reason.

- Will remember that coaches are volunteers that are doing their best to give players and families the best experience possible.
- Also agree that if I/we fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I/we may be subject to disciplinary action by the CBL Board. This action could include, but is not limited to the following:
  A. Verbal Warning
  B. Written Warning
  C. Parental Game Suspension
  D. Parental Season Suspension
  E. Parental Banishment

  These actions may not be necessarily taken in an escalated manner and CBL reserves the right to select and apply any penalty depending on the situation and circumstances presented.
- Agree to support and promote the philosophy of CBL.

9. PLAYERS RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS

9.1 Player Responsibilities

- Have pride and confidence in yourself, your teammate, and your coaches.
- Be attentive and work hard in practice and games. Make your best effort to perform the tasks as directed by the coaches.
- Be a competitor, perform up to your full ability, and contribute to team unity. Compliment teammates and let the coaches handle criticism.
- Show respect toward your coaches, teammates, opponents, umpires, spectators, and parents.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship and proper behavior.
- Keep your equipment clean and in good repair (personal and team).
- Maintain a responsible attitude toward your health. Be aware of, and adhere to, the CBL policies on drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.
- Remember that baseball is a game and keep it in perspective with family, school, and/or church activities and responsibilities.
- Remind your parents that you need to be at practices and games on time.
- Inform the coach whenever you will miss or be late for a practice or game.

9.2 Player Rights

- To participate at a level that matches your maturity and ability.
- To play as a child, not as an adult.
- To participate in a safe and healthy environment.
- To be treated fairly and with dignity and respect.
- To have fun in sports.
- To have an equal opportunity to develop your abilities and strive for success.
- To have good coaches where you are taught the fundamentals and strong character development.

10. PROBLEM RESOLUTION GUDELINES

When a player or parent/guardian has a question or concern regarding the general policies or procedures of CBL travel baseball, the team, or their child, they should address the issue to the coach of the team. Choose a time and place that is convenient for both parties (not prior to or during a game or practice). The player or parent/guardian should present the issue in a respectful, appropriate manner. If the issues are not addressed satisfactorily and the player/parent/guardian feels the need to pursue the matter further, they may contact a CBL Board member but only do so after exhausting ALL efforts with the coach and his/her assistants. When approaching the CBL Board member, the player/parent/guardian should follow the same guidelines as those stated above.

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

- Adhere to the "24-Hour Rule" which requires a player/parent to wait at least 24 hours before approaching a coach on the matter.
- 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 a respectful and appropriate manner.
- Keep emotions under control and discussion polite and to the point.
- Ensure a private setting, out of earshot of other players and parents.
- Work towards a resolution or improvement.

If the problem persists or cannot be resolved between the player/parent/guardian and the coach within 72 hours, it should be brought to the attention of the CBL League Representative. Again, all parties involved will meet to discuss the situation and strive for a solution. The CBL League Representative shall communicate in writing with the CBL Board any necessary mediation and outcome of that mediation.

If mediation is unable to resolve the issue and all the above steps have been followed, the CBL League Representative shall inform both parties in writing within 5 days that the complaint has been referred to the CBL Board of Directors. The decisions of the CBL Board of Directors will be final. If the CBL League Director is the subject of the grievance, a written complaint should be submitted directly to the CBL Board of Directors.