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# *Newcastle Baseball Association Inc.*

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## *By-Laws*

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## Preface

The Newcastle Baseball Association Incorporated (NBA) resides within the Baseball New South Wales (BaseballNSW) Association and Australian Baseball Federation (ABF). The NBA Board oversees the ABF-affiliated activities within the Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Port Stephens and Maitland regions.

The Bylaws are to be read in conjunction with, and are subject to, the requirements stated within the:

- (a) Newcastle Baseball Association Inc. Constitution, and
- (b) The Official Baseball Rules of the preceding calendar year, unless a contrary intention is specifically listed within this document.

The NBA Board shall have the responsibility and power to determine all matters for the due and proper administration of the league which are not otherwise covered under the Official Baseball Rules or this document.

## Contact Email Addresses

The following email addresses must be used when the By Laws direct the reader to contact the follow persons and / or entities:

NBA / NBA Board / NBA Secretary: [Secretary@newcastlebaseball.org.au](mailto:Secretary@newcastlebaseball.org.au)

NBA Registrar: [Registrar@newcastlebaseball.org.au](mailto:Registrar@newcastlebaseball.org.au)



## **Section 1 Affiliation and Registration**

### **1.1 Club / Team Details**

#### **1.1.1 General**

##### **1.1.1.1 Club Colours**

Each Club must register its colours with the NBA.

No Club shall be permitted to use an identical combination of colours to those already registered with another Club.

Any departure from or addition to the registered colours of a club must be approved by the NBA Board.

##### **1.1.1.2 Application for Competition Entry**

All Club Secretaries shall forward the name, mobile phone number and email address of their following Committee Members, to the NBA Secretary when applying for entry to the NBA Competition:

- (a) President
- (b) Secretary
- (c) Treasurer, and
- (d) Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO)

Additionally, the postal address of the appropriate Club Executive shall be provided to the NBA Secretary at the time of application.

##### **1.1.1.3 Playing and Training Facility**

Each Club must supply their own playing/training facility or have a written agreement to share an existing playing/training facility with another Club.

Any such agreement shall be finalised prior to a Club's submission of the entry to the NBA Board.

#### **1.1.2 Team Entry**

##### **1.1.2.1 Team Entry**

Team entries will be subject to NBA Board approval. Team entries will formally close three (3) weeks before the scheduled commencement date of the season, or as otherwise determined by the NBA Board.

Team entries after this date may be approved by the NBA Board at their discretion.

##### **1.1.2.2 Combined Clubs**

Where a Club does not fill all grades in each League, the NBA Board has the right to direct Clubs to combine for the purpose of fixtures.

- (a) Where Clubs are required to combine for the purpose of fixtures, 'home games' will be allocated as per a pro-rata basis, as far as reasonably practicable.
- (b) The Club with the team in the higher grade will be the primary home club.



### **1.1.3 Withdrawal From Competition**

If a Club wishes to withdraw a team from the competition, it must be the Club's lowest grade, unless otherwise agreed by the NBA Board.

The Club will be required to continue fielding teams in all of the remaining higher grades.

### **1.1.4 Participation in the Finals Series**

A team will be ineligible to participate in finals series if their club is unfinancial.

- (a) Teams will be declared ineligible under this rule if they are not financial by 8pm of 30 June of the playing season.
- (b) Any team declared ineligible under this rule will forfeit all points earned during the regular season and will not be eligible for any semi-final, finals or grand finals.

## **1.2 Player Registrations**

All Players must be registered prior to participating in each year of the competition.

### **1.2.1 Registration Portal**

All registrations shall be via the NBA Online Registration Portal in use at the time.

### **1.2.2 Player Registration**

A Player is considered registered when the following has been satisfied:

- (a) A Clearance, where deemed required in **By Law 1.2.3.1**, has been granted,
- (b) They have accepted and signed the ABF, BaseballNSW, NBA and Club Codes of Conduct forms. Digital acknowledgement via the Registration Portal are deemed acceptable,
- (c) Their details have been entered into the Registration Portal,
- (d) Payment for ABF, BaseballNSW, NBA fees has been paid via the Registration Portal. Although discouraged, Club Fees may be accepted outside of the Registration Portal at the Club's discretion, and
- (e) Their details have been entered into the NBA database by the nominated Club Official.

#### **1.2.2.1 Junior Registrations**

Junior Registrations are additionally subject to the following regulations:

- (a) The maximum number of register players in a single Junior team shall be fourteen (14).
- (b) The NBA Board, at their discretion, request a birth certificate (or similar proof of age) be provided.
- (c) The NBA Board reserves the right to refuse a Club Transfer of a junior player if it feels that such a Transfer is not in the best interests of junior baseball in Newcastle.

### **1.2.3 Clearances**

#### **1.2.3.1 Requirement for Clearance**

A Player intending to register with a Club within the NBA competition is required to obtain a Clearance, if:

- (a) The Player is transferring from another Club, regardless if the previous Club was affiliated with a 'Summer' or 'Winter' competition, or affiliated with the NBA Competition, or





- (b) The Player has not played in a sanctioned baseball competition for three (3) or more years, but, has been listed as a defaulter with BaseballNSW or ABF records.

Players are not required to obtain a clearance, if:

- (a) The Player's last registered Club was the Club which the Player is registering with for the current season, or
- (b) The Player has not played in a sanctioned baseball competition for three (3) or more years, and is not listed as a defaulter.

### **1.2.3.2      *Applying for a Clearance***

Upon notifying a Club of their intention to register, the Player shall notify the Club's responsible person if they require a Clearance in accordance with **By Law 1.2.3.1**.

Similarly, the Club's Responsible person shall take reasonable steps to verify if the Player requires a Clearance.

- (a) All Clearance Requests shall be managed through the Registration Portal utilised by the NBA at the time, unless otherwise noted by the NBA.
- (b) Upon approval of the Clearance request, the Club's Responsible person shall notify the NBA's Registrar, by email, of the Clearance.
- (c) If clearance has not been provided within 14 days of request, the registered player may lodge a notice of dispute with the NBA. The onus will be on the player to provide evidence as to when such clearance request was first made.
  - i. On receipt of a player's clearance dispute notice the NBA shall advise the player's current or prior registered club of the dispute and that if no response is received within seven (7) days the NBA will grant such clearance.
  - ii. Should the Club dispute the clearance request the NBA will refer the matter to the Disputes Committee for review.
- (d) The NBA will not sanction clearances for players wishing to transfer to another Club after the 1st of June of the current season. Any player wishing to transfer after this time will be permitted to coach but not play.

## **1.3      Player Gradings**

### **1.3.1      General**

Clubs will be required to:

- (a) Submit to the NBA Registrar their nominated player grading by 9.00am on the Friday one (1) week prior to the commencement of the season, or as otherwise required by the NBA.
- (b) Nominate seven (7) players in the team graded the highest within their Club and a minimum of nine (9) players in the lower graded teams, at the commencement of the season.
  - i. Where a Club is unable to nominate nine (9) players for a particular team, application may be made to the NBA for dispensation.
  - ii. Where only one (1) team is nominated in a League, then nine (9) players are required to be nominated.
  - iii. All nominated players must be registered prior to the start of the season. All unregistered players will be removed from the list after Week 1 of the competition, unless prior dispensation has been granted by the NBA Board.



Removed players are to be replaced on the grading list in accordance with this section.

- (c) Maintain the player grading lists throughout the season, conforming to (b) above.
  - i. The Club must notify the NBA Secretary and Registrar via email regarding changes to the grading list in accordance to the conditions listed in **By Law 1.3.3**.
  - ii. This grading list must be provided anytime upon request by NBA Secretary or Registrar

The NBA Board has the sole right to accept player gradings offered and may instruct Clubs to place a player into an appropriate grade applicable to that player's ability.

### **1.3.2 Grading Nomination**

Any player nominated for grading more than one (1) grade lower than their previous registered NBA grading shall not be eligible to play for any higher graded team during that season unless dispensation has been applied for and granted by the NBA Board.

- (a) Dispensation under this rule will be granted on a season basis only and not a round by round basis.
- (b) In general, such dispensation will only be granted where a Club can successfully demonstrate all players in all higher graded teams are of superior ability.
- (c) Any player nominated (and approved by the NBA) for grading more than two (2) grades lower than their previous registered NBA grading shall not pitch in any more than 6 defensive outs during any single game for that season.

#### **1.3.2.1 *Returning Players or Entering From Other Associations***

A player's grading shall lapse after an absence of three (3) calendar years from the NBA.

Any player returning to or entering competition within the NBA from another association will retain their grading from their last active association, unless such absence has been greater than three (3) calendar years.

This may be varied at the discretion of the Board on a case-by-case basis, where requested by the Club.

#### **1.3.2.2 *ABL Players***

Any Player who has been named on an Australian Baseball League (ABL) team in the last three (3) calendar years must be graded in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade.

- (a) Dispensation of this rule may be granted by the NBA Board on a case-by-case basis, where requested by the Club.

### **1.3.3 Re-Grades**

A Club may request a player be regraded to a lower grade. This request must be made in writing to the NBA by the Wednesday before the next round of fixtures. Noting:

- (a) The NBA Board will consider requested regrades on the grounds of players returning from serious injury, returning after a long illness or other such special circumstances.
- (b) The NBA Board reserves the right to place conditions on any regrading request and shall include a time limit on the application of those conditions.
- (c) Contravention of the conditional grading will result in the player being deemed "ineligible."



### **1.3.3.1 *Removal From the Grading list***

Any player not participating in five (5) games consecutively of those games played by their nominated grade team will be removed from the grading list.

- (a) The player will be added back to their prior graded team's list only after receiving a grading for playing a game in accordance with the grading rules described in **By Law 1.3.2**.
- (b) Dispensation of this rule may be granted by the NBA Board if satisfied absence is for injury or other satisfactory reason.
- (c) Additionally, all unregistered players will be removed from the list after Week 1 of the competition, unless prior dispensation has been granted by the NBA Board, as described in **By Law 1.3.1**

### **1.3.3.2 *Playing Outside of Established Grading***

Once a player's grading has been established, they will be able to play in their grade, and/or higher, without alteration to that grading. Additionally:

- (a) The players grading for the final series will be applied as per **By Law 1.3.4**
- (b) A player will be permitted to play one (1) grade lower than their registered grading, however they will not be allowed to play any other games in that round.
- (c) The player's grading determination may change subject to **By Laws 1.3.3.3** and **1.3.3.4**

### **1.3.3.3 *Re-Grades – Lower Gradings***

Once a player has received three (3) consecutive gradings in the grade lower than their registered grading, they will then be regraded to that grade.

- (a) In this instance the club would then be required to nominate a lower graded player to replace this player in the higher grade.
  - i. The replacement player shall be the player with the most amount of games played in the higher grading. The Club may request dispensation, with strong reason, as should the replacement be otherwise nominated.
  - ii. Notification to the recorder of such changes to grading must be received by the NBA Registrar (NBA Secretary cc'd) the Wednesday before the next round by email prior to the player taking part in any game.
  - iii. The club must receive acknowledgement from the NBA that this has been received and approved before the commencement time of the game the player wishes to play in.
- (b) No further lowering of grading for such player will be permitted in that season without the approval of the Board.
- (c) Clubs without teams in consecutive grades may re-grade players down by the above method, (e.g. 3rd to 5th) to a maximum of two (2) grades without NBA approval.

### **1.3.3.4 *Re-Grades – Higher Gradings***

If a player has played in two grades in the same round of fixtures they will receive a grading for the higher grade played.

A player will be considered as played in a higher grade if:

- (a) In 1st grade that player enters the game prior to the completion of five innings.
- (b) In 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades that player enters the game prior to the completion of three innings.



(c) In all other grades that player enters the game prior to the completion of two innings.

#### **1.3.3.5 *Byes and Washouts***

If the team in which a player is graded has a Bye, they will not be permitted to play a grade lower in that round without the written approval from the NBA.

(a) Application for dispensation relating to the above shall be in accordance with the requirements of **By Law 1.3.3.3(a)**

Any player who participates in a game that is washed out after at least one completed inning, shall be considered to have played on that day for the purpose of grading.

#### **1.3.3.6 *Clubs with Multiple Teams in a Grade***

Clubs with two (2) or more teams in one (1) grade may interchange players within that grade, provided:

(a) The player is listed on only one (1) team per round.

(b) In the final series, these players may only play in the team for which they played the majority of their games during the season.

- i. If a player has played equal number of games for each team, then the deciding factor will be the team the player was listed with at the beginning of the season

#### **1.3.3.7 *Junior Leagues***

Players participating in all NBA Junior competitions will be subject to the following grading rules:

(a) A player's "League Age" is defined based on their date of birth for TBall, Zooka, Little League, Junior League and Senior League in accordance with the NBA Age Matrix.

(b) A Junior player may request to register outside of the allocate league. Such a request must be made to the NBA Secretary via email, complete with the "Junior Player Re-Grade Form" (available on the NBA website).

- i. A female player in the first year of a particular age group may apply on the above prescribed form to the NBA Board for consideration to play in another Junior "League"
- ii. A player with a disability and/or special needs may apply on the above prescribed form to the NBA Board for consideration to play in another League / Junior Grade.
- iii. Requests for Junior Re-Grade must be submitted by the Club Secretary to verify endorsement of the Club
- iv. Applications will be reviewed by the NBA Board and may be subject to BaseballNSW approval. The NBA Board will contact BaseballNSW where applicable.
- v. Re-Grade requests made directly to BaseballNSW by a party other than the NBA Board, will be subject to rejection by the NBA.
- vi. The Junior player may only participate in their defined "League Age" competition until such time as the Re-Grade request is approved (unless otherwise rejected).

(c) A player registered in one age group cannot play in any other younger age league at anytime during the season, without permission from the NBA Board.



### 1.3.4 Finals Series

Clubs must nominate a minimum number of nine (9) players in each grade for the participation in the Finals Series.

Eligibility and player gradings for Finals Series' shall be determined as per the below:

- (a) To be eligible to play in a final series a player must play in a minimum of five (5) games in five (5) different rounds during the regular season.
  - i. Junior players must participate in at least one-third of the games in the competition.
  - ii. In the events of significant weather or external events, the NBA Board may, but is not obligated to, adjust the minimum game requirement for eligibility.
- (b) During the Finals Series a player may only play in the grade (or team) for which they obtained the majority of grading during the regular season under **By Law 1.3.3**, or any higher graded team.
  - i. if a player has played equal number of games for each team, then the deciding factor will be the team the player was listed with at the beginning of the season.
- (c) Players graded under **By Law 1.3.3.6** are eligible to play for that graded team only, or any higher graded team.

### 1.3.5 Grading Dispensation

Dispensation may be granted by the NBA Board, on application by the Club, if:

- (a) The player is eligible to play in a single Major League game for their Club in any given round without that game being recorded as a graded game for that player.
  - i. The dispensation for this rule only applies if that player plays for their graded minor league team on that weekend.
  - ii. Once a player breaches the requirements of this dispensation on three (3) occasions (i.e. such player receives three (3) major league gradings), that player will no longer be entitled to this dispensation.

## 1.4 Ineligible Players

A Player may be considered ineligible due to the following reasons:

- (a) Player is not registered.
- (b) Any Club playing a player without a clearance from their previous club, unless sanctioned by the NBA, will be deemed to have played an ineligible player.
- (c) Player is under suspension.
  - i. Any player participating with another baseball association, as well as the NBA, in the same season who is subsequently suspended by the other association will have that suspension carried over to the NBA.
  - ii. The player must not participate in any fixtures within the NBA until the suspension has been correctly served within the other Association.
  - iii. The onus will be upon the player to immediately report the suspension to the participating Club in the NBA.
  - iv. The player's Club must then advise the NBA Secretary of the player's suspension details.



(d) Player is playing outside of grading requirements described in **Section 1.3**.

A Club playing an ineligible player are liable to a penalty imposed by the NBA Board in accordance with that detailed within **By Law 13.1**.



## Section 2 Competition

### 2.1 Competition Format

The Competition format and fixtures for all games shall be left to the discretion of the Board and set at the start of each season.

#### 2.1.1 Requesting a Schedule Change

Clubs wishing to make changes to fixtures must make application to the NBA Board for consideration and approval.

For a game to be transferred because of wet weather or any other reason – notification must be given to the NBA Secretary 24 hours prior to the game, with all participating Clubs to agree.

#### 2.1.2 Leagues

Playing leagues shall be assigned as per the following gradings:

- (a) Major League – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade,
- (b) AA League – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade
- (c) Minor League – 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade
- (d) Juniors
  - i. Senior League
  - ii. Junior League
  - iii. Little League
  - iv. Zooka Ball
  - v. T-Ball

#### 2.1.3 Game Times and Durations

The NBA competition adopts the following game times and durations.

The NBA Board reserves the right to alter the schedules on an as needs basis.

##### 2.1.3.1 Major League

Games will be played on Sundays.

- (a) 1<sup>st</sup> Grade
  - i. 2.05pm game start
  - ii. 9 innings duration
- (b) 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade
  - i. 11:30am game start
  - ii. 2hrs 15mins duration, or 9 innings

##### 2.1.3.2 AA League

Games will be played on Saturdays.

- (c) 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade



- i. 2.30pm game start
- ii. 2hrs duration, or 9 innings

(d) 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

- i. 12:10pm game start
- ii. 2hrs duration, or 9 innings

**2.1.3.3 Minor League**

Games will be played on Saturdays or Sundays, according to ground availability and Club preferences for home games.

(a) 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

- i. 2.30pm game start
- ii. 2hrs duration, or 9 innings

(b) 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

- i. 12:10pm game start
- ii. 2hrs duration, or 9 innings

**2.1.3.4 Junior Competition**

Games will be played on Saturdays or Sundays, according to ground availability and Club preferences for home games.

(a) TBall & Zooka Ball

- i. Sundays
- ii. 9:15 am game start
- iii. 1hr 30mins duration

(b) Little League

- i. Sundays
- ii. 9:00 am game start
- iii. 1hr 45mins duration

(c) Junior League

- i. Saturdays
- ii. 9:30 am game start
- iii. 2hrs duration

(d) Senior League

- i. Saturdays
- ii. 9:30 am game start
- iii. 2hrs duration

**2.1.4 Finals Series**

A Finals Series will be held in each grade Little League and above. The format for each Series will be determined as per the following:





- (a) Where there are less than six (6) teams participating in a grade, a three (3) team Final Format will be used.
- (b) Where six (6) or more teams are participating in a grade, a four (4) team Final Format will be used.
- (c) Game Days will be allocated as per:
  - i. Weeks 1 and 2 will be played on a Sunday for Major League.
  - ii. Week 3 for Major League will be played on a Saturday.
  - iii. Weeks 1, 2 and 3 will be played on a Saturday for AA and Minor Leagues.
  - iv. Finals for Juniors will be held on the same day's as normal competition
- (d) Game times and durations will be the same as those for the regular season described in **By Law 2.1.3**

The NBA Board reserves the right to adjust the Junior Finals format as necessary to suit the needs of the Newcastle Junior Competition.

#### **2.1.4.1 Three Team Finals Format**

The Three Team Finals Format shall be:

- (a) Week 1 (Qualifying Final):
  - i. Will be contested between the teams finishing 1st and 2nd in the preliminary rounds, with the team finishing 1st being the home team.
  - ii. Winner will advance to the Grand Final.
  - iii. Team finishing 3rd will have a bye.
  - iv. In the case of a tie or if the game is washed out, the team that finishes higher on the competition table will progress to the Grand Final.
- (b) Week 2 (Preliminary Final):
  - i. Loser of week 1 versus team finishing 3rd.
  - ii. Winner will advance to the Grand Final.
  - iii. In the case of a tie or if the game is washed out, the team that finishes higher on the competition table will progress to the Grand Final.
- (c) Week 3 (Grand Final):
  - i. Contested between the winner of week 1 and winner of week 2.
  - ii. Winner shall be declared the Major Premiers for the competition.

#### **2.1.4.2 Four Team Final Format**

The Four Team Finals Format shall be:

- (a) Week 1 (Major Semi Final):
  - i. Will be contested between the teams finishing 1st and 2nd in the preliminary rounds, with the team finishing 1st being the home team.
  - ii. Winner will advance to the Grand Final.
  - iii. Loser will contest the Preliminary Final.



- iv. In the case of a tie or if the game is washed out, the team that finished higher on the competition table will progress to the Grand Final and the lower team will contest the Preliminary Final.
- (b) Week 1 (Minor Semi Final):
- i. Will be contested between the teams finishing 3rd and 4th in the preliminary rounds, with the team finishing 3rd being the home team.
  - ii. Winner will contest the Preliminary Final.
  - iii. Loser will be eliminated from the competition.
  - iv. In the case of a tie or if the game is washed out, the team that finished higher on the competition table will progress to the Preliminary Final and the lower team will be eliminated from the competition.
- (c) Week 2 (Preliminary Final):
- i. Will be contested between the winner of the Minor Semi Final and the loser of the Major Semi Final.
  - ii. The winner will advance to play in the Grand Final.
  - iii. The loser will be eliminated from the competition.
  - iv. In the case of a tie or if the game is washed out, the team that finished higher on the competition table will progress to the Grand Final.
- (d) Week 3 (Grand Final):
- i. Will be contested by the winner of the Major Semi Final and the winner of the Preliminary Final.
  - ii. Winner shall be declared the Major Premiers for the competition.

#### **2.1.4.3 Grand Final Washouts or Ties**

- (a) In the case of a washout OR a tie in a AA or Minor League Grand Final the game may be re-scheduled or replayed at a suitably deemed time set down by the NBA Board.
- (b) In the case of a washout OR a tie in a Major League Grand Final (i.e. light affected) the game may be re-scheduled or replayed on the following days in order until a result is achieved:
- i. the following day (Sunday).
  - ii. the following Saturday.
  - iii. the following Sunday.
- (c) Tie Break Rule for 2nd Grade to 6th Grade Grand Finals, on the initial day of play, will be applied as follows to achieve a result, provided that the scheduled time for game completion has not been exceeded.

For purposes of this regulation, any “extra inning” is defined as the eighth inning or later in a seven-inning game, or the tenth inning or later in a nine (9) inning game.

- i. Where extra innings are required and any “extra inning” is about to commence, the Team at bat shall commence the Top of the inning with runners on first and second base.
- ii. The batter who leads off an inning shall continue to be the batter who would have normally led off the inning.



- iii. The runner on first base shall be the batter, (or substitute batter), immediately preceding the batter who leads off the inning.
- iv. The runner on second shall be the batter, (or substitute batter), immediately preceding the runner on first base.
- v. Any runner or batter previously removed from the game for a substitute shall be ineligible to return to the game, as would be the case with any substituted player pursuant to the Official Baseball Rules.

(d) Junior Tie Break Rules

- i. If a tie occurs in the Grand Final for Little League then joint Premiers shall be declared.
- ii. For Junior League and Senior League, should a tie occur at the end of the normal innings then one (1) extra innings shall be played (runners will be placed on 1st and 2nd to start the inning the last two batters in the order will fill those positions).

If this also results in a tie then Joint Premiers shall be declared

- (e) If a result cannot be achieved in a Grand Final, for any grade, using **By Laws 2.1.4.3 a)** to **2.1.4.3 d)** above, then joint premiers will be declared for that grade.

#### **2.1.4.4**      ***Finals Series Management***

- (a) A member of the Board shall be appointed as Game Day Referee for all Grand Finals. The duties of this office shall be:
- i. To attend with a current copy of the By Laws,
  - ii. Identify themselves to both managers & umpires prior to the commencement of each game, and
  - iii. Advise of any special rules applying to that Grand Final.

The decisions of a Game Day Referee as to interpretation of the By Laws and any competition rules other than the Official Baseball Rules shall be final.

- (b) For all post-season fixtures, a grounds committee shall be named consisting of a minimum of three (3) persons approved by the Board.
- i. The purpose of the Committee is to independently adjudicate on the fitness of a ground and whether play can commence for both senior and junior fixtures.
  - ii. Except in exceptional circumstances, if a ground is not declared unfit for play by 7pm the evening prior to a scheduled fixture, then games will not be cancelled more than 30 minutes prior to each scheduled game on that day.

## **2.2**      **Game Results**

### **2.2.1**      **Recording of Results, Participation and Statistics**

#### **2.2.1.1**      ***Home Team***

Results of all games must be entered in the NBA website by the **Home Team** by 10.00 pm on Sunday of that weekend.

- (a) Results shall include names of the players participating.
- (b) First Grade results must include box scores and game detail.



(c) All results shall include information relating to incidents, injuries, ejections, where such circumstances have occurred.

(d) All minor league games must include the nomination of MVP

### **2.2.1.2      *Away Team***

Results of all games must be verified on the NBA website by the **Away Team** by 7.00pm on the Friday following the game.

(a) If an **Away Team** does not agree with the **Home Team** data the non-verification will automatically trigger a dispute.

(b) Evidence shall be provided by the **Away Team** to support the non-verification.

### **2.2.1.3      *Statistics***

All statistics for Major and AA Leagues must be entered on the NBA website by midday on Wednesday following the completion of the game.

Those clubs that avail themselves of the facility for their Minor League teams must enter their statistics as soon as possible after the game.

Both the Home and Away Junior Team must complete a Junior score sheets and forward to [registrar@newcastlebaseball.org.au](mailto:registrar@newcastlebaseball.org.au) no later than 7.00pm on the Tuesday following the game.

If a Junior team comprises of mixed clubs, then the Club mentioned first in the Draw for said mixed team must submit a Junior Score sheet, noting which players are affiliated with each club, and additionally forward to the other club(s) for their records.

### **2.2.1.4      *Failure to Record***

Failure to comply with **By Law 2.2.1** are liable to a penalty imposed by the NBA Board in accordance with that detailed within **By Law 13.1**.

## **2.2.2      *Forfeits***

A Club unable to fulfill its game commitments shall notify the NBA Secretary by the Thursday prior to the date of the game.

(a) Failure to comply with the above will result in the Club being liable for the umpiring fees for both their opponent and own team and shall be paid to NBUA irrespective of whether or not official umpires had been assigned to that game.

A Club wishing to forfeit must forfeit its lowest grade on a game day.

### **2.2.2.1      *Constitution of a Forfeit***

A 9-0 forfeit will be awarded to an opposing team if:

(a) A club unable to fulfill its game commitments shall notify the NBA Secretary by the Thursday prior to the date of the game.

(b) Appear on the ground or being on the ground and failing to start the game within five (5) minutes after the time appointed, or refusing to proceed where directed to do so by the umpire.

(c) Provide nine (9) registered players in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade and seven (7) registered players in 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grades inclusive that are eligible to play by grading.

Note: Where a player has been injured and **By Law 9.4** has been enacted, the following minimum number of defensive players must be present on the field:



- i. Major League – Nine (9) players at all times
- ii. AA League – Eight (8) players during the period **By Law 9.4** is enacted, otherwise nine (9) players at all times.
- iii. Minor League – Seven (7) players at all times

#### **2.2.2.2 Recording a Forfeit**

Website entry will be required for games forfeited in accordance with **By Law 2.2.1**.

- (a) The **Home** team must submit to the NBA website the result as a 9-0 forfeit win to the side receiving the forfeit.
- (b) The recipient of the forfeit must include the line-up to the website. Players listed will be assumed to have played the game and be graded accordingly.
- (c) This forfeit must be verified by the **Away** team.
- (d) If the **Away** team is the recipient of the forfeit they must provide their line-up for grading to the NBA Registrar by 7pm on the Monday immediately after the round.
  - i. Failure to meet this timing will exclude the players from receiving a grading for the game.

#### **2.2.3 Byes**

- (a) Any team with a bye does not have to complete and submit a result sheet.

#### **2.2.4 Washouts and Other Weather Conditions**

Notification to cancel a ground due to wet weather must be received by the designated NBA wet weather contact by 7.30 a.m. on the day of the game.

- (a) Should weather conditions deteriorate after 7.30am then a further decision by the Home Club can be made up to 2 hours before commencement time of the first game being played.
- (b) Unless noted otherwise, the NBA wet weather contact will be the NBA Secretary who will organise for the notification on the NBA website and Facebook page.
- (c) After this deadline teams must appear at the grounds at the allocated times where any decision to abandon play will be made by (in order):
  - i. Official Grounds person or their official representative; or
  - ii. Home team manager for games played on a home and away basis or otherwise by agreement of both Managers on a game-by-game basis; or
  - iii. In the event the managers disagreeing, by the Umpire-in-Chief.

The Umpire-in-Chief shall not make such decision until he is in charge of the game. i.e. All umpiring fees have been paid and the home plate umpire has received both the home and visiting teams lineups.

- (d) Washouts shall be recorded via the NBA website result portal by noting a “washout” in the comments section.

Lightning and Heat Policies are available on the NBA Website.



## **2.2.5 Point Score**

### **2.2.5.1 Team Standings**

A team's position in a Grade will be determined by the number of games won as a percentage of games played.

The team leading on percentages at the end of the preliminary rounds shall be the Minor Premiers.

In the event of two or more teams securing equal percentages, the positions will be decided by:

- (a) Head to Head clashes in all games between the two teams involved.
- (b) If still tied, the ratio of runs scored for divided by runs scored against in the games between the two teams involved.
- (c) If still tied, the ratio of runs scored for divided by runs scored against in the games against the highest ranked team not involved in the tie.

### **2.2.5.2 Club Championship**

Club Championship points will be allocated on the basis of competition percentages multiplied by

- (a) four (4) times for 1<sup>st</sup> grade,
- (b) three (3) times 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade,
- (c) two (2) times 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade,
- (d) one (1) times all lower grades, and
- (e) half (1/2) times all teams fielded in Junior competition.

## **2.3 NBA Awards and Trophies**

### **2.3.1 MVP Award**

The NBA will award a Most Valuable Player (MVP) Award for each grade at the conclusion of the season. The MVP Award will be on the following basis:

- (a) Grades 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> shall submit game statistics to the NBA website each week.
- (b) 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grades will nominate a Most Valuable Player on the opposing side for the game played.
  - i. Failure of a team to nominate a player will negate their team player nomination for that game.

### **2.3.2 Batting Trophy**

The NBA will award a Batting Trophy for all Major League grades.

- (a) This will be awarded to the player who records the highest batting average.
- (b) Minimum qualification will be 60% of the maximum Plate Appearances by any one player in that grade.

### **2.3.3 Team and Individual Trophies**

- (a) All team and individual trophies must be returned to the NBA Secretary (or nominated representative) by the last regular season game to be engraved.



- (b) Any prospective recipient of an Association award will be ineligible to receive said award if they have been suspended, or received a suspended sentence for any infringement referred to the NBA Board or the Tribunal.

## **2.4 Uniforms**

Any registered player taking part in any competition or representative game must wear their club/team approved baseball attire.

- (a) Numbers on the uniform top are not mandatory, although preferred.
- (b) Only club team hats are to be worn. No MLB hats, etc, are to be worn.
- (c) A uniform warm up jacket may be worn by any player at any time during the game.
- (d) The wearing of baseball shoes is not mandatory.
- (e) Any player out of uniform may be reported by the opposing team manager or an official of the NBA Board. This report shall be emailed to the NBA Board. and must be tabled at the next NBA Board meeting. The penalty for any breach of the uniform provisions shall be discretionary per offence. This fine to be levied against the player's own Club.
- (f) Application, with reasons, may be made to the Board for any departure from uniform dress.



## Section 3 Grounds

### 3.1 General

All grounds must be properly prepared and clearly marked out in accordance with the Official Baseball Rules. The home team shall occupy the third base dugout.

- (a) Where no permanent dugout exists at the field, markings shall be placed on the ground using the fence as the back wall to indicate where the dugout is located.
- (b) If any club wishes to erect a false fence within an enclosed ground then this fence must comply with the minimum recommended measurements as per the Official Baseball Rules.

### 3.2 Canteen

The team responsible for the ground will be allowed full canteen rights and fundraising for that ground.

### 3.3 Final Series

#### 3.3.1 Field Allocation

The following method shall be used for determining Major League Finals Games:

- (a) Yearly rotation of Grand Final games between Major League Clubs on an alphabetical basis
- (b) Yearly rotation of Preliminary Final games between Major League Clubs on an alphabetical basis, starting with the team scheduled to host the Grand Final the following year.
- (c) Note: The NBA reserves the right to alter the rotation should:
  - i. The facility not be of the standard required to host the games, or
  - ii. The Club has committed misdemeanours through the season.

#### 3.3.2 Host Facility Criteria

The following criteria will be used when assessing a Club's nomination to host a finals game.

- (a) Grounds to be fully enclosed (*mandatory for all Grand Finals*).
- (b) Adequate change room facilities for both Officials and Players.
- (c) Adequate toilet facilities for Officials, Players and Spectators.
- (d) Dugouts with fixed barriers to ensure division between players and spectators.
- (e) Grounds to have clearly defined and correct line marking.
- (f) Batters boxes to be clearly marked for each and every fixture hosted.
- (g) Screens and fencing to be in good repair.
- (h) Suitable provision of an area for players, of both teams, to warm up prior to playing.
- (i) A visible scoreboard correctly monitored (*mandatory for all Grand Finals*).
- (j) Adequate canteen facilities to meet the needs of all persons present.
- (k) Certified First Aid people to be in attendance for the entire time fixtures are scheduled for. The name(s) of said individuals to be displayed at the canteen.
- (l) A fully stocked First Aid Kit to allow for any minor medical requirement.





- (m) Clear and readily available CPR instructions and clear directions of where the nearest defibrillator is located.
- (n) Adequate supplies of ice, in small satchels, for minor sprains or medicinal purposes
- (o) For those grounds with Liquor Licenses; a RSA Marshall to be present for the time any alcohol is being sold to ensure that the responsible service of alcohol is being observed (*mandatory for all Grand Finals*)
- (p) Adequate facilities for scorers, either for inclement weather or for easy access and contact with Officials.
- (q) A suitable PA system to be utilised for presentation purposes at the end of all Grand Finals.
- (r) Any successful hosting Club will need to have their grounds person liaise constantly with the appointed NBA Officials on any issues either before or during fixtures scheduled.
- (s) For hosting 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Grand Finals; provision to host 2 junior fixtures simultaneously beforehand – must have 2 diamonds available for play.



## Section 4 Playing Rules

### 4.1 General

Where not otherwise stated in this document, the playing rules shall be in accordance with the previous calendar year's edition of the Official Baseball Rules.

#### 4.1.1 Minimum Players

In Juniors, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade fixtures, teams may start game play and continue game play with not less than seven (7) registered players.

- (a) The hole(s) in the batting line-up will be treated as an automatic out(s), except in the cases of Junior Competitions, where no automatic outs are to be recorded.

#### 4.1.2 Constitution of a Game

The following playing conditions constitute a game in regular season and finals series fixtures:

##### (b) 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

- i. five (5) completed innings;
- ii. If the home team has scored more runs in four or four and a fraction half-innings than the visiting team has scored in five completed half-innings;
- iii. If the home team scores one or more runs in its half of the fifth inning to tie the score.

(c) 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Three (3) completed innings or 1 hour

(d) Minor Leagues – Two (2) completed innings or 1 hour

#### 4.1.3 Recognition of Results

Results are recognised only on completed even innings unless the team batting last has scored the winning run and then time is called, without three outs being recorded.

If the team batting last has tied the game at the time at which **By Law 4.2** is applied, then the result shall be a “tied-game.”

#### 4.1.4 Specific Official Baseball Rule Exclusions

The following rules listed in OBR 2023 that will NOT apply to the NBA 2024 Winter Season:

- (a) Rule 2.03 reflecting the new measurements of first, second and third bases.
- (b) Changes to Appendix 2 with respect to the new dimensions referenced in Rule 2.03
- (c) Rule 4.03(c) items (1), (2), (3) & (4) relating to two-way players.
- (d) Rule 5.02(c) relating to defensive infield shift.
- (e) Rule 5.10 (g) relating to the pitcher facing 3-batter minimum rule.
- (f) Rule 7.01 (b) (2) relating to runners on 1st and 2nd bases at the start of extra innings.
- (g) Rule 7.01 (d), (e) & (f) relating to suspended games.
- (h) Rule 7.02 relating to suspended, postponed and tied games.
- (i) Rule 7.03 (b) relating to minimum number of players.
- (j) Rule 7.04 relating to prohibition of Protesting Games.



## 4.2 Time-Limit Games

All time limit games shall be called at the end of the scheduled game completion time and the score reverted to the last equal innings.

- (a) If an at-bat has commenced prior to the scheduled game completion time the game shall be called at the completion of all continuous play of the said at-bat.

‡ The Umpire will not announce “Last Batter.”

- (b) The umpire in chief will assign an umpire as the official timekeeper.

The official timekeeper’s time shall be agreed upon at the plate meeting by the coaches.

No other devices shall be used or referenced in relation to the game time.

- (c) A time-limit game may not finish prior to the scheduled game completion time, unless both coaches agree, or **By Law 4.3.2** applies (Mercy Rule)

## 4.3 Declaration and Mercy Rule

### 4.3.1 Declarations

A team may declare its batting innings closed at any stage during the game.

There is no restriction on the number of times a team may declare their batting inning closed during a game.

### 4.3.2 Mercy Rule

The mercy rule is to be used in all games:

More than 20 runs after five (5) completed innings.

More than 15 runs after six (6) completed innings.

More than 10 runs after seven (7) completed innings.

- (a) In all 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade games, the mercy rule need not be applied should the coaches of both teams agree to continue.
- (b) In the event of agreement not being reached the mercy rule will be applied.

### 4.3.3 Six (6) Runs Rule

The Six Runs Rules shall apply for Minor League Games.

- (a) After six (6) runs cross the plate in an innings, that team will declare their innings closed.

- (b) If five (5) runs or less have already crossed the plate and the next batter’s hit:

- i. Entitles the batter to advance to either home or 3<sup>rd</sup> base without liability to be put out; or
- ii. Is ruled a ground rule double.

All runs that score from such hit shall count in that innings even though this may result in more than 6 runs being scored in the innings.

In all other dead or live ball situations, no more than 6 runs in total can be scored in an innings.

- (c) This rule will not apply for Semi-finals, Finals and Grand Finals



## 4.4 Pitching

### 4.4.1 Pitching Limits

Unless noted otherwise in **By Law 5.3.1**, all pitchers shall be limited to a maximum 120 pitches for the weekend.

- (a) Excluding the situation described in **(b)**, should a player’s pitch limit be reached, the player must leave the game and not play again during the weekend.
- (b) If at the time the pitcher reaches their maximum allowable and the batter being faced has not completed a legal time at bat, then they may finish the batter before being removed from the game.
- (c) The Team’s Game Day Manager is solely responsible for managing the player pitch count and verifying against the official scorebook.

### 4.4.2 Intentional Walk, Balks and No Balls

- (a) A pitcher performing an intentional walk:
  - i. Must signal to the umpire that an intentional walk is intended.
  - ii. Does not need to pitch the remaining pitches to facilitate the “base on balls”
  - iii. Shall have the remaining pitches required to facilitate a “base on balls” added to their pitch count.
- (b) If a no pitch is declared by an umpire it is not counted towards the pitcher’s pitch count
- (c) A “balk” called by an umpire where the ball is pitched to the batter is counted towards the pitcher’s pitch count **but not the ball/strike count on the batter.**

### 4.4.3 Mound Visits

Mound visits, without a pitching change, shall be limited to 5 per team **per nine innings.**

**For any extra-innings played, each team shall be entitled to one additional non-pitching change mound visit per inning.**

- (a) For the purposes of the above, a manager or coach trip to the mound to meet with a pitcher shall constitute a visit.
- (b) A player leaving their position to confer with the pitcher, including the pitcher leaving the mound to confer with another player, shall also constitute a visit regardless of where the visit occurs or the length of the visit. Visits by a manager, coach or player to join a mound visit already in progress shall not constitute an independent visit.
- (c) On the second visit to the pitcher by the coach /manager in the same inning the pitcher shall be removed from pitching but may take a position in the field.
  - i. The pitcher may not return to pitch in that game and does not need to leave the game completely.
- (d) A manager or coach who crosses the foul line on his way to the mound after their team has exhausted its mound visits must make a pitching change.
  - i. If a manager or coach believes an exception to the mound visit rule applies, they must confer with the umpire prior to crossing the foul line.
- (e) If a position player makes a visit after their team has exhausted its allotted number of mound visits they may be subject to ejection for failing to return to their position when instructed by



the umpire; however, an impermissible visit by a position player shall not require the removal of the pitcher.

#### **4.4.3.1 Occasions Not Constituting as a Visit**

The following shall not constitute visits:

- (a) Discussions between pitchers and position player(s) that occur between batters in the normal course of play and do not require either the position player(s) or the pitcher to relocate
- (b) Visits by position players to the mound solely to clean spikes, provided the player does not confer with the pitcher
- (c) Visits to the mound due to an injury or potential injury of the pitcher
- (d) Visits by position players to the mound after the announcement of an offensive substitution but prior to a subsequent pitch or play
- (e) Visits to the mound by position players that occur during a suspension of play pursuant to an umpire's call of "Time" (e.g., following an injury to an umpire or player; the presence of a spectator, object, or a member of the grounds crew on the field; a manager's initiation of Replay Review, etc.), provided that the mound visit does not otherwise delay a return to game action
- (f) Visits to the mound by position players after a home run, provided that the player returns to his position before the runner crosses home plate; and
- (g) Visits to the mound by position players during an inning break or pitching change, provided that the mound visit does not prevent the pitcher from complying with any applicable inning break or pitching change time limits.

#### **4.4.3.2 Cross Up in Signs**

In the event a team has exhausted its allotment of mound visits in a game, and the home plate umpire determines that the catcher and pitcher did not have a shared understanding of the location or type of pitch that had been signalled by the catcher, the home plate umpire may, upon request of the catcher, allow the catcher to make a brief mound visit.

However, any mound visit resulting from a "cross up" prior to a team exhausting its allotted number of visits shall count against a team's total number of allotted mound visits.

#### **4.4.4 "Designated Pitcher"**

The designated pitcher rule is as follows:

- (a) Each week a club can nominate 1 (one) player as a "designated pitcher" in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade.
- (b) This player must participate in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade (field and bat) but not pitch.
- (c) The player must only be used as a pitcher in the subsequent 1<sup>st</sup> grade game.
  - i. If this occurs the player will not be credited with a 1<sup>st</sup> grade grading for that week and will retain their 2<sup>nd</sup> grade participation grading.
  - ii. If for any reason the nominated player fields and/or bats in 1<sup>st</sup> grade they will receive a 1<sup>st</sup> grade participation grading for that week.
  - iii. A "designated pitcher" can only pitch in 1<sup>st</sup> grade.
- (d) Each club must notify the NBA Secretary and NBA Registrar the name of the 'designated pitcher' before 8pm on the Thursday night before the weekend of play.



- (e) Clubs will be limited to a maximum of 5 (five) occasions for any one player that this By Law can be utilized: after which a 1<sup>st</sup> grade grading will be applied for all future participation in that grade.

#### 4.4.5 Pitching Breaches

Clubs guilty of breaching these pitching restrictions are liable to a penalty imposed by the NBA Board in accordance with that detailed within **By Law 13.1**.

### 4.5 Designated Hitter Rule

The use of a Designated Hitter as per the previous calendar year's edition of the Official Baseball Rules will be acceptable in all grades of play within the NBA competition.

- (a) The Designated Hitter may sit in the bull pen.
- (b) No Designated Hitters shall be used in Junior Games.
- (c) A pitcher who is in the starting line-up as a Hitter, may remain in the game as a DH after completing their pitching assignment. Hence, relieving pitchers are not obligated to bat, provided that:
- i. The replacement pitcher(s) comes from the bench.
  - ii. The DH has not been forfeit due to:
    - (A) A replacement pitcher coming from the field at any time.
    - (B) **The game pitcher switching to a defensive position other than pitcher.**
  - iii. The umpire is notified of the DH intent at the time of the change.

### 4.6 Loan Players

Loan players from a AA or Minor League Club, who are playing with a Major League Club, must

- (a) Be playing the highest grade possible in their AA or Minor League Club
- (b) Must only pitch one assignment per weekend.

Note that this provision is intended to be a temporary measure to encourage development of AA League clubs to achieve Major League status.

### 4.7 Equipment

#### 4.7.1 Baseballs

The following baseball shall be used for the NBA competition:

- 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Wilson A1010 HS / HS1
- 6<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Wilson A1010S (Blem) **or** A1010HS / HS1

- (a) **If the above balls cannot be sourced, the NBA will nominate an alternatively approved ball (after discussion with the Clubs)**

Additionally:

- (b) The Home team for each game shall supply:
- i. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 2 new and 2 good backup balls,
  - ii. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: 2 new and 2 good backup balls.
  - iii. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: 1 new and 2 good used balls.



- (c) All balls are to be good quality and will be subject to rejection by the umpires should they consider they are not of an acceptable standard.
- (d) In all semi-finals and finals, in all grades, each participating club must provide 2 new balls at the commencement of the game and new balls for any subsequent replacements.
- (e) The NBA will supply baseballs for all grand finals and participating clubs will be invoiced for balls issued.
- (f) Junior baseballs shall clean and of good quality, and in accordance with the specific league requirements detailed in **By Law 5.5**.

#### **4.7.1.1 Light Policy**

At the commencement of the seventh inning of a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade game, the umpire may determine that new baseballs shall be put into play.

- (a) This decision shall be made at the discretion of the umpire with consideration to ball condition, colour and available light.

#### **4.7.2 Bats**

- (a) Bat rules for the NBA competition are as follows:

- i. Major league – Wood or Wood composite bats
- ii. AA League – Wood or Wood composite bats
- iii. Minor League – Wood, Wood composite or BBCOR

- (b) A female player may only use a bat appropriate to the League in which they participate.
- (c) Juniors participating in Senior grades may only use a bat appropriate to the League in which they participate.
- (d) Bat regulations for Junior Competitions shall comply with the current edition of the BaseballNSW “Bat Regulation Policy”, accessible by the “Resources” portal on the Newcastle Baseball Website, and the BaseballNSW website.

#### **4.8 Runner for Catcher**

No “Runners for Catcher” shall be used Senior Baseball (i.e. Grades 1 to 6)

A runner for catcher is Mandatory for Junior Baseball games. [See By-Law 5.5](#)



## Section 5 Junior Playing Rules

### 5.1 Eligibility for Senior Competition

Players must be a minimum 15 years old by the start of the season, to participate in the Senior Competition.

- (a) Exemptions may be requested, in writing, to the BaseballNSW Technical Committee prior to the commencement of the season. Such exemptions must be requested by the Club Secretary, via email to the NBA Secretary.

#### 5.1.1 Grade Restrictions

Junior players in the “League Age 16” bracket will be eligible for the following grades only:

- (a) September to December Birthday – Can play any Grade
- (b) January to “Season Start Date” birthday – up to and including 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Exemptions may be requested in accordance with **By Law 5.1(a)**

#### 5.1.2 Junior Commitments

Junior players must fulfill junior commitments prior to playing in the senior competition within the same round of fixtures.

### 5.2 Breach of Requirements

The penalty for any breach of the **Section 5** rules will be in accordance to **By Law 13.1**.

Additionally, the offending coach or manager cited may be asked to appear before the NBA Board and show cause as to why they should not be suspended.

### 5.3 Playing Restrictions

#### 5.3.1 Pitching Limits

Junior players will be subjected to the following pitch count limits, totalled for the weekend (inclusive of junior and senior games), in accordance with the “NBA Junior Player Protection Requirements- Pitching” document.”

*Table 5-1 –Junior Player Pitching Limits*

	Little League	Junior League	Senior League	Under 18’s
<b>Minor</b>	1-24	1-24	1-29	1-39
<b>Substantial</b>	25-44	25-54	30-64	40-74
<b>Major</b>	45-55	55-65	65-75	75-80
<b>Innings Limit</b>	3	3	3	-
Note: A Player younger than 10 yrs old shall not pitch more than 40 pitches				

- (a) A pitcher’s pitch count shall be calculated at the end of the batter.
  - i. If a pitcher begins the batter with the pitch count in “Minor” or “Substantial” category, but pitches enough to extend into the next category, then they shall be





adjudicated for the greater category and are subject to the restrictions described in **By Law 5.3.2**.

- (b) While not advised, a pitcher may extend past the maximum “Major” pitch limit for the sole purpose of completing the batter,
  - i. The player must leave the game immediately at the completion of the batter
  - ii. The Club will be required to provide evidence that the pitcher was removed from the game after exceeding the pitch limit to complete the batter, where requested
- (c) The Team’s Game Day Manager is solely responsible for managing the player pitch count and verifying against the official scorebook.
- (d) Junior players may not pitch and catch, in any order, in the same weekend.
- (e) Junior players pitching in the senior competition are not subject to innings limits but must abide by the pitch limits and rest periods.
- (f) In finals competition, Junior players will be subject to Pitch Counts limitations only. Innings Limits will not be applicable.

### **5.3.2 Completion of Pitching Assignment**

Upon the completion of the pitching assignment, the following restrictions shall be placed upon the player, subject to the pitch category their final pitch count falls in.

#### **5.3.2.1 *Minor***

- (a) No restrictions, other than **By Law 5.3.1(d)**

#### **5.3.2.2 *Substantial***

- (a) The player must only play the following identified positions for the remainder of the game, in order of preference:
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Base,
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Base, or
  - iii. Left Field

#### **5.3.2.3 *Major***

The player must leave the game at the completion of the assignment and shall not play again for the weekend.

## **5.4 Etiquette and Participation**

Coaches are encouraged to ensure all players are given equal opportunity to learn and develop in multiple playing positions and achieve equal game time.

Similarly, this extends to encouraging a healthy, competitive and encouraging environment for the opposing team.

### **5.4.1 Re-Entering a Game**

Any of the nine starting Junior players may withdraw and re-enter the game once, provided that such player occupies the same place in the batting order.

- (a) The player who substitutes, must play at least six outs in defence, and bat at least once.



(b) This rule does not override the requirements of a player pitching a “Major.”

#### **5.4.2 7 Runs Rule**

Once a team has a lead in excess of seven (7) runs coaches for the side in front must stop stealing.

- (a) The team behind in runs may continue to steal until equal innings, for both teams, has been completed.
- (b) If a player steals the umpire will send the runner back to the base occupied before the pitch, explain why and issue a warning to the coach.
- (c) If the runner steals again they will be called out
- (d) Coaches shall utilise the declaration rule (**By Law 4.3.1**) in situations where one team is appreciably stronger than their opponent.

#### **5.4.3 Ninth-Batter Rule**

The Coach shall notify the Umpire when the ninth batter is at the plate.

- (a) The results of the ninth batter’s at bat shall count. i.e. for loaded bases, walk awarded to 9<sup>th</sup> batter, run counts at home
- (b) If a passed ball (that goes dead) occurs on the 4<sup>th</sup> ball (walk), one (1) base is awarded to the batter and all occupied bases then play shall cease
- (c) The defending team can end the innings by making a third out or by making a play to a base
- (d) Where more than nine (9) players are on a line-up, and if both Coaches agree, the rule may be waived to “bat-through” each line-up.

### **5.5 Runner for Catcher**

A runner for catcher is Mandatory for Junior Baseball games.

A catcher may participate offensively until there are two outs and they have reached first base.

- (a) If on base, they must be replaced by a designated runner immediately the second out is achieved.
- (b) If at bat, then they may be replaced once the play by which they get on base is complete, provided that the courtesy runner can immediately replace the catcher.
- (c) The courtesy runner can be any bench player including a player who has been substituted out of the game.
- (d) The courtesy runner can be a player that is currently in the game except that they must not be one of the five batters following the catcher in the line-up.
- (e) Catchers replaced by a courtesy runner are to immediately put their leggings and breast plate back on in preparation for the innings changeover.

### **5.6 Sliding Safety**

All junior players conducting a slide with intent to advance a base must slide FEET FIRST.

A player breaching this rule shall be called out by the umpire. Time will not be called. i.e. The ball is still live.

Players are permitted to “dive” head first back to the base, i.e. on a pick-off attempt.



## 5.7 League-Specific Playing Rules

### 5.7.1 Rules Specific to T-Ball & Zooka

#### 5.7.1.1 *Field Dimensions*

(a) Base Paths

- i. Tball – 13.72m (45ft)
- ii. Zooka – Base Paths – 18.29m (60ft)

(Optional depending on skill level)

(b) Pitching Distance –

Safe Distance from the Batter

#### 5.7.1.2 *Participation*

- (a) The objective of tee ball is the learning of basic skills in a fun and friendly team environment. All coaches and parents should support all children’s endeavours.
- (b) All players field and hit; Bunting is not permitted
- (c) Players should change fielding positions each innings
- (d) Fielders must be encouraged to throw the ball to make an out.
- (e) We do not keep score in these age groups

#### 5.7.1.3 *Pitching Restrictions*

- (a) No Player Pitching
- (b) In Tball the pitcher must stand with both feet on the pitching plate until the ball is hit
- (c) In Zooka the pitcher can stand next to the Zooka machine

#### 5.7.1.4 *Catching Restrictions*

- (a) In Tball the pitcher and catcher **must** wear a double-ear helmet
- (b) In Zooka the catcher must wear the appropriate catcher’s gear and pitcher a double ear helmet.

#### 5.7.1.5 *Specific Rules*

- (a) The batter shall take a set stance with their both feet parallel to the inside edge of home plate. Their back foot will not be permitted to be repositioned after “Play Ball” is called
- (b) A runner must wait until the ball is hit before leaving the base
- (c) When the last batter comes to the plate the coach shall notify both sides by loudly calling and signalling “last batter”

#### 5.7.1.6 *Equipment*

- (a) Only shoes with flexible or moulded soles permitted. Metal cleats not allowed
- (b) All batters and base runners must wear 2 eared helmets
- (c) Ball Size / Type – 8.5” Safety Ball
- (d) The base of the tee stand does not substitute as a home plate.



A standard home plate must be placed the correct position on the diamond.

The stem of the tee is then positioned in front of the home plate

(e) Zooka machine to be set at a speed that is appropriate for all players

## **5.7.2 Rules Specific to Little League**

### **5.7.2.1 Field Dimensions**

(a) Base Paths

i. 18.29m (60ft)

(b) Pitching Distance

i. 14.02m (46ft)

(c) Foul line Distance

i. 60.96m (200ft)

(d) Centre Field Distance

i. 75m (246ft)

### **5.7.2.2 Participation**

(a) Minimum Game Participation

i. 6-11 Players – 6 outs and 1 at bat

ii. 12-14 Players – 3 outs and 1 at bat

(b) Minimum Players for game

i. 6

(c) Maximum Players in a team

i. 14

(d) All players in the team shall be placed on the score sheet in batting order including reserves and allowed to bat in that order, normal rules shall apply.

i. Pitch counts and innings caught by the catchers must be recorded.

(e) During Gala Day games, all players except the pitcher / catcher must change positions every 2 innings of a game.

It is encouraged that all players experience different positions throughout the season

(f) During all games one Coach is encouraged to stand on the field, outside the diamond, to advise their defensive team during play.

That Coach must not take part in, or interfere with, any plays made by their side.

Deliberate interference or participation by the Coach for their defensive team or against an offensive team will result in the coach being removed from the field

### **5.7.2.3 Pitching Restrictions**

(a) Refer Table 5-1 and By Law 5.3.1 for Pitching Restrictions

(b) Any breaking ball thrown by any pitcher in any situation shall be called a “ball” unless the ball is hit.



- i. The result of the hit shall be played out
- ii. Breaking balls include curve balls and sliders

#### **5.7.2.4      *Catching Restrictions***

##### **(a) Catching Limits**

- i. 3 innings per game
- ii. 6 per weekend
- iii. No limit for finals series

(b) Junior players may not pitch and catch, in any order, in the same weekend.

#### **5.7.2.5      *Specific Rules***

##### **(a) Base runners cannot leave the base until the ball reaches the batter**

- i. If the ball is hit and as a result of the play the runner(s) are put out the play will stand

(b) The batter is out after the call of “strike three” whether the ball is caught

(c) Until announced by the NBA Runners cannot advance bases by stealing or pass balls

(d) Until announced by the NBA, any batter who earns a walk (four balls) will have a free hit from a tee.

- i. If there are runners on base they must remain where they are and play out the hit. The hitter and runners may only advance one (1) base in this situation

(e) Until announced the by NBA the **One Throw Rule** will be implemented in this age group. This means when a throw is made to any base and the play has been attempted the ball becomes dead.

- i. For example; a play is made at first and the ball goes passed the first baseman the runners cannot advance to second.
- ii. The same will apply for plays at second, third and home.

#### **5.7.2.6      *Equipment***

(a) Only shoes with flexible or moulded soles permitted. Metal cleats not allowed

(b) All batters and base runners must wear 2 eared helmets

(c) Ball Size / Type – 9” baseball

### **5.7.3      *Rules Specific to Junior League***

#### **5.7.3.1      *Field Dimensions***

##### **(a) Base Paths**

- i. 24.38m (80ft)

##### **(b) Pitching Distance**

- i. 16.46m (54ft)

##### **(c) Foul line Distance**



- i. 76.2m (250ft)

(d) Centre Field Distance

- i. 92.66m (304ft)

**5.7.3.2 Participation**

(a) Minimum Game Participation

- i. 6-11 Players – 6 outs and 1 at bat
- ii. 12-14 Players – 3 outs and 1 at bat

(b) Minimum Players for game

- i. 7

(c) Maximum Players in a team

- i. 14

(d) All players in the team shall be placed on the score sheet in batting order including reserves and allowed to bat in that order, normal rules shall apply.

- i. Pitch counts and innings caught by the catchers must be recorded.
- ii. During the finals series only 9 batters are required to bat

**5.7.3.3 Pitching Restrictions**

(a) Refer Table 5-1 and By Law 5.3.1 for Pitching Restrictions

**5.7.3.4 Catching Restrictions**

(a) Catching Limits

- i. 4 innings per game
- ii. 8 per weekend
- iii. No limit for finals series

(b) Junior players may not pitch and catch, in any order, in the same weekend.

**5.7.3.5 Specific Rules**

(a) After six (6) runs cross the plate in an innings, that team will declare their innings closed. If five (5) runs have crossed the plate and the next batter hits a home run over the homerun fence then all runs will score from that hit.

- i. This rule will not apply for Semi-finals, Finals and Grand Finals

(b) No stealing on your opponent when you are 7 or more runs in front.

- i. The team behind in score may continue stealing until both teams have played equal innings.

**5.7.4 Rules Specific to Senior League**

**5.7.4.1 Field Dimensions**

(a) Base Paths

- i. 27.43m (90ft)



- (b) Pitching Distance
  - i. 18.44m (60ft 6inches)

- (c) Foul line Distance
  - i. Senior Dimensions

- (d) Centre Field Distance
  - i. Senior Dimensions

#### **5.7.4.2 Participation**

- (a) Minimum Game Participation
  - i. 6-11 Players – 6 outs and 1 at bat
  - ii. 12-14 Players – 3 outs and 1 at bat

- (b) Minimum Players for game
  - i. 7

- (c) Maximum Players in a team
  - i. 14

- (d) All players in the team shall be placed on the score sheet in batting order including reserves and allowed to bat in that order, normal rules shall apply.
  - i. Pitch counts and innings caught by the catchers must be recorded.
  - ii. During the finals series only 9 batters are required to bat

#### **5.7.4.3 Pitching Restrictions**

- (a) Refer Table 5-1 and By Law 5.3.1 for Pitching Restrictions

#### **5.7.4.4 Catching Restrictions**

- (a) Catching Limits
  - i. No innings limit finals series
- (b) Junior players may not pitch and catch, in any order, in the same weekend.

#### **5.7.4.5 Specific Rules**

- (a) After six (6) runs cross the plate in an innings, that team will declare their innings closed. If five (5) runs have crossed the plate and the next batter hits a home run over the homerun fence then all runs will score from that hit.
  - i. This rule will not apply for Semi-finals, Finals and Grand Finals
- (b) No stealing on your opponent when you are 7 or more runs in front.
  - i. The team behind in score may continue stealing until both teams have played equal innings.



## Section 6 Coaches, Officials and Supporting Staff

### 6.1 Coaches

All Coaches within the NBA competition are required to hold:

- (a) A valid Working With Children Check, and
- (b) At least a:

- i. Level A USA Baseball Coaches Certification

Applicable for Entry level baseball, all non-player pitch baseball only (T-ball, machine, or coach pitch baseball)

, or

- ii. Level B USA Baseball Coaches Certification

Required for all player pitch baseball from Little League minors to senior (adult) baseball, including assistant coaches.

, or

- iii. Level 3 BaseballNSW Coaching Accreditation

It is recommended all Major League Clubs have a Level C USA Baseball Certified Coach (or equivalent BaseballNSW Coaching Accreditation) as their First Grade coach and / or Club Head Coach (when available).

#### 6.1.1 Assistant and Base Coaches

An “Assistant Coach” is a person who regularly acts in an official “Assistant Coach” role, or a non-playing person who acts as a Base Coach.

- (a) These persons must be listed on the team list provided to the umpires.
- (b) All Assistant Coaches shall hold Coaching Accreditation and WWCC as per **By Law 6.1**.
- (c) A playing person, or bench player who assists as a “Base Coach” on an infrequent basis may do so unaccredited, on the basis that they are deemed competent by the Club and Team Coach / Manager.
- (d) It is recommended that players who regularly act as a Base Coach for their team complete the Level B USA Baseball Coaches Certification.

### 6.2 Scorers

- (a) **Each Major and AA League** team shall supply a scorer for games.
  - i. Failure to supply a scorer with result in the Club being liable to a penalty in accordance with that detailed within **By Law 13.1**.
- (b) All other teams should provide a scorer for their games.
  - i. Where this is not possible, it shall be mandatory that the game score, injuries, ejections and player names are recorded by the team and uploaded to the NBA website in accordance with **By Law 2.2.1**
- (c) It shall be mandatory that all home teams supply a scorer to ensure games data is uploaded to the NBA website in accordance with **By Law 2.2.1**
- (d) Scorers shall be seated together in a designated area behind home plate where possible.





- (e) The home team is required to provide a table, chairs and shelter that provide adequate cover from all forms of weather.
- (f) Club scorebooks maybe requested by the NBA Board to ensure player participation requirements are being adhered to.
- (g) Scorers may utilise electronic means, such as Gamechanger for game recording. The output of the game must be made available to the NBA Board upon request.

### 6.3 Umpires

#### 6.3.1 Appointment of Umpires

- (a) The appointment of NSW-accredited umpires will be under the sole control of the Newcastle Baseball Umpires Association Inc (NBUA).
- (b) In the event that no, or limited, umpires have been allocated by the NBUA, Clubs shall be responsible for sourcing umpires as per the below

	Home Plate	Field Umpire
<b>1 NBUA Umpire allocated</b>	1,3,5 NBUA Umpire 2,4,6 Home Team	1, 3,5 Home Team 2,4,6 NBUA Umpire
<b>No NBUA Umpires allocated</b>	Home Team	Away Team

- (c) Clubs may liaise with the other Club, or NBUA, regarding allocation of Home Plate / Field Umpire. Both parties must agree on the reallocation, else the above table applies.
- (d) Teams that regularly eschew their responsibility to supply an umpire may have competition points removed.
- (e) It should be assumed that umpires are unavailable for Juniors, and Grades 3-6, unless noted otherwise by the NBUA
- (f) Host facilities for Junior games will be responsible for sourcing umpires for all games Junior games hosted.

For all junior grades, Sixth Grade and Fifth Grade, it is acceptable for one person to act as an umpire and officiate from behind the pitching mound area.

#### 6.3.2 Umpire Payment

All umpire’s fees shall be determined by the NBA Board, after consultation with the Board of the NBUA Inc, at the commencement of each season.

- (a) Such fees are to be paid by the teams to the umpire(s) prior to the start of each game.
  - i. In the case of Major League teams, if the money has not been paid to the umpire(s) prior to the start of the 1<sup>st</sup> grade game, the umpire(s) shall not officiate the 1<sup>st</sup> Grade game.
- (b) All non-official umpires are required to be paid as per official umpires.
- (c) Payment for umpires shall be via the Scorers. No transfer of money shall occur on the baseball diamond.



(d) When a team responsible for supplying an umpire cannot fulfill their obligations, as per **By-Law 6.3.1**, they will be solely responsible for the entire payment of the umpire(s) officiating the game.

i.e. if only one umpire is present, then the offending team is responsible for paying the umpire.

i. This payment shall be the standard amount applicable for an umpire in the Grade (Not double the payment).

(e) Official and non-official umpires are required to be paid in full on the day in cash or by direct bank transfer.

i. Clubs found to be deliberately in breach of this payment requirement will be subject to sanction by the NBA Board.

### **6.3.3 Umpire Accreditation**

Newcastle Baseball Umpires Association (NBUA) is a member of the NSW Baseball Umpires Association which, in turn, is a member of the Association of Australian Baseball Umpires (AABU). There are several levels of umpiring accreditation starting from Community level right through to International Umpire level.

Newcastle Baseball Association in conjunction with NBUA has adopted the following Umpiring classifications:

(a) Volunteer –

Players, coaches, officials or members of the community with no formal umpire training or assessment. These volunteers are to wear a hi-viz yellow vest or shirt whilst officiating.

(b) NBA Community –

Volunteers who have undertaken NBUA Level 0 training. These umpires are also to wear a hi-viz yellow vest or shirt whilst officiating.

(c) NBA Association Umpire –

An NBA Community umpire that has been assessed over a number of games while umpiring in the Newcastle baseball competition and deemed competent. Assessments will be undertaken by NBUA umpire assessors. NBA Association Umpires are to wear a hi-viz orange vest or shirt whilst officiating.

(d) Association (Previously Level 1) –

Umpire that has undertaken and passed the Level 1 exam and been assessed at a Level 1 accreditation seminar. These umpires will wear the standard accredited umpire shirt.

(e) State (Previously Level 2) –

Umpire that has undertaken and passed the Level 2 exam and been assessed at a Level 2 accreditation seminar. These umpires also wear the standard accredited umpire shirt.

(f) National & International (Previously Levels 3-5).

### **6.3.4 Umpiring Decisions & Judgment**

#### **6.3.4.1 Code of Conduct**

Whilst it would be ideal for all umpires officiating in NBA games to hold Association (Level 1) or above accreditation, it is accepted that this is not always possible. It is also understood that umpires are an integral and important part of the game.



- (a) For this reason, the following code of conduct is to be adhered to by players, coaches, club officials & spectators.
- i. An umpire wearing a hi-viz yellow vest or shirt is not to be approached, questioned, abused or remonstrated at for any reason.
  - ii. An umpire wearing a hi-viz orange vest or shirt is not to be approached, questioned, abused or remonstrated at for any reason, except that they may be approached by a coach or manager to query a ruling only.
  - iii. No umpire, of any level, is to be approached, questioned, abused or remonstrated at regarding a judgment decision.
  - iv. Only the team coach or manager is allowed to approach an umpire and only when entitled to do so.

#### **6.3.4.2 Code of Conduct Breaches**

- (a) The penalty for breaching item 6.3.4.1 (a)(i) or (a)(ii) above is **immediate ejection**.
- (b) Persons breaching item 6.3.4.1 (a)(iii) above will be warned by the umpire to stop, if they continue or repeat the offence, they will be **ejected**.
- (c) The Team Manager will be held accountable for the actions of their spectators.
- (d) Additional penalties for a breach of the above code of conduct are set out in **Table 13-2 - Player Prescribed Penalties List**
- (e) Where a player is found guilty of an offence relating to their conduct towards an umpire and is suspended from playing, they will be required to umpire games of baseball within the NBA competition for the duration of their suspension, as per the following:
- i. One game of umpiring per game of suspension.
  - ii. The suspension will continue until this obligation is fulfilled.
  - iii. This By-Law will not apply for Semi-finals, Finals and Grand Finals. However, the requirement to umpire may be carried over to the following season at the discretion of NBA.
  - iv. Suspended adult players who are umpiring as a penalty under this By-Law shall wear a yellow hi-viz vest whilst umpiring.
  - v. Suspended players will still be paid for their umpiring duties.

#### **6.3.4.3 Yellow Shirt Exceptions (to approach)**

There may often be situations where only “yellow shirt” umpires are officiating a game. In those circumstances, where a ruling may have been made incorrectly, the following exceptions shall apply to the “no approach” rule in By-Law **6.3.4.1** above.

- (a) If a coach / manager believes a ruling made by a “yellow shirt” umpire is incorrect, they are to ask for time and then consult with the opposition coach. If both coaches agree the ruling was incorrect, they should then (together) ask the “yellow shirt” umpires for a conference to discuss the ruling with them.
- i. Both coaches must be in attendance for such conference.
  - ii. The umpires are to respect the views of the two coaches and (provided the coaches are in agreeance) change the ruling accordingly; even if the umpires still believe the change to be incorrect.
  - iii. Any such changed ruling shall not be grounds for a protest.



- (b) If on the other hand , both coaches do not agree that the ruling was incorrect, the disputing coach may then (politely) advise the plate umpire and scorers that they are protesting the game from that point.
- (c) Neither case (a) or (b) above should unduly delay the game.
  - i. There is to be no consulting the OBR or these By-Laws.
  - ii. NBA Board members or accredited umpires (Level 1 and above) in attendance at the ground and readily available, may be consulted.
- (d) Vexatious claims by a coach as a mechanism to delay the game will attract a penalty imposed by the NBA Board in accordance with that detailed within **By Law 13.1**.

### **6.3.5 Umpire Authority**

- (a) The authority of the umpire is outlined in OBR Rule 8.00.
- (b) All umpires umpiring a game of baseball regardless of accreditation or qualification level, and including “yellow shirt” umpires, have the authority to officiate the game as per the Official Baseball Rules and these By-Laws. This authority includes, but is not limited to, ejecting any player, coach, manager, substitute or official for:
  - i. Objecting to an umpire’s decision which involves judgment. For example, whether a batted ball is fair or foul, whether a pitch is a strike or a ball, or whether a runner is safe or out.
  - ii. Unsportsmanlike conduct or language.
  - iii. Dangerous play.
  - iv. Approaching a “yellow shirt” umpire (unless the Exception **By-Law 6.3.4.3** above applies).

### **6.3.6 Umpiring Encouragement**

- (a) Clubs are required to be proactive in recruiting, developing, and encouraging people to become umpires. Examples of people who would make good umpires:
  - i. Ex-players, especially players who have played a high level of baseball. Eg. 2nd grade and above.
  - ii. Current players. Preferably players are, or have, played 2nd grade baseball or higher.
- (b) It is recommended that clubs with Major League teams who have the bye supply umpires to the other games that are on the weekend of their bye. This act alone will immeasurably increase the pool of umpires available on any given weekend and improve the rules knowledge of the players themselves.
  - i. It is highly recommended that clubs invest in quality umpiring equipment to protect their players while they are undertaking such duties. At the very least, this should be an umpires’ chest protector, ball bag, brush and indicator. Catchers’ leggings and mask are ostensibly the same as umpires’ equipment. A throat guard is essential and steel capped boots or similar are recommended.
- (c) Clubs must proactively self-police poor attitudes and comments towards umpires by their players, officials and spectators.



## **Section 7 Representative Teams**

### **7.1 Selection Committee**

Each Selection Committee for representative teams shall consist of the:

- (a) Team Field Manager,
- (b) Assistant Coaches, and
- (c) the NBA President as Chairman of Selectors.

The NBA Chairman may delegate his role as Chairman of Selectors to another Board member at their discretion.

#### **7.1.1 Selection Committee Duties**

The duties of the NBA Inc. Selectors are:

- (a) To select representative teams from those players eligible and currently participating in any competition under the NBA Inc. jurisdiction, in accordance with the approved Selection Guidelines as approved by the NBA Board from time to time.
- (b) To select teams at least six (6) weeks prior to any major series e.g. Country Week, and for other representative fixtures a minimum of 3 weeks prior.
- (c) To report their selections to the NBA Board for subsequent ratification, and to satisfy the Board concerning their reasons for any particular selection, if required to do so.
- (d) To ensure that all players selected will be available, except in unforeseen circumstances, for all representative fixtures laid down for the current representative season.
- (e) To preserve the good reputation of the NBA by selecting only those players who are likely to represent the NBA in a sportsmanlike manner acceptable under the provisions of the NBA By Laws and Player Code of Conduct.

### **7.2 Officials**

Coaches, Managers and Scorers shall be appointed by the NBA Board.

- (a) Managers of all Senior Representative teams shall conduct at least four team training sessions prior to the team leaving for any major series.
- (b) Assistant coaches, Pitching coaches, Assistant Managers, etc., are required to assist Managers in conducting these training sessions with due regard to the responsibilities of their particular role.
- (c) Managers, Coaches or Selectors are empowered to drop players from Representative squads whose poor attendance and attitude is deemed not to be acceptable.

### **7.3 Unavailability**

Any player selected in an NBA representative side, who fails to inform the NBA Secretary of their unavailability within one week of being notified of their selection, shall be suspended for the next three competition games, unless the NBA Board considers there are special or extenuating circumstances involved.

### **7.4 Representative Uniforms**

All players selected in a representative side shall be given and sign for a playing top (returnable at tournament end) and hat (free of charge on first selection).



All uniform cleaning shall be undertaken by the Team Managers with monetary reimbursement from the NBA at the ruling rate.

## **7.5 Junior Selection Criteria**

In addition to the criteria described in **By Law 7.1.1**, Junior player selections will be carried out by the selected coaching staff for each representative team, using the following guidelines:

- (a) To be eligible for a representative team, a player must be registered and participating in NBA Junior Competition games.
- (b) Participation in a minimum of 60% of the games their team has played is required.
- (c) Proof of age may be requested
- (d) The NBA Board has the right to refuse a player selection at their discretion.
- (e) All representative players selected must nominate a responsible adult(s) to accompany them to all representative commitments including training sessions.
- (f) All players who are selected in a representative team shall complete their representative commitments or they may be subject to penalty at the discretion of the NBA Board. The ABF Member Protection Policy procedures should be followed.
- (g) Any player (or parent or guardian of a player) who, whilst at any representative training or event, acts in a manner contradictory to the Code of Conduct or who brings discredit to the team or the NBA, may result in the removal of the player from the team or squad.



## Section 8 Safety

- (a) All catchers shall use protective skull caps and throat guards on their masks.
- (b) All batters and base runners must wear two-eared helmets.
- (c) Bat boys/girls must wear a batting helmet and uniform while undertaking their duties on the field. All coaching staff on the field of play must wear a helmet.
- (d) Any player warming up a pitcher before or during a game, whether on the playing field in the bull pen or elsewhere, must wear an approved face mask and throat guard.
- (e) Only players in the line-up card and reserves are allowed in the dugout during a game. All players and officials within a dugout must be in full Club uniform.
- (f) Any registered player or official taking and consuming alcohol in a glass container and/or glass bottles on any ground on which baseball is being played should be warned. If they persist then they will be suspended in accordance with **By Law 13.2**
- (g) No Alcohol will be permitted on the field of play.



## Section 9 Medical and Injuries

### 9.1 Provision of First Aid

All host facilities shall have ice and a basic First Aid kit available for use. It is encouraged that all host facilities have a First Aid officer present.

### 9.2 Medical Conditions Disclosure

Before registering to play, all people should notify their club officials of any condition that may affect their performance or participation in the sport of baseball.

- (a) Such conditions may include, for example, pregnancy, epilepsy and diabetes.
- (b) Players or officials with such a condition shall seek medical advice in relation to their continuing participation in the sport.
- (c) Information relating to an individual's medical condition shall be held confidentially (unless this is not required) but may be used by the organisation for administrative, insurance, legal or related purposes.
- (d) All people who register within the NBA competition agree that they shall not contravene any medical advice in relation to their continued participation and when required, to provide a medical certificate approving their continued participation in the sport.
- (e) The NBA will not be held responsible for the players or individual's failure to seek, and follow appropriate medical advice.

### 9.3 Infection Policy

Any players who, having any visible signs of any body fluids, must stem the flow of these fluids and remove or clean or cover any visible sign of these fluids from clothing and equipment.

- (a) While the player receives such treatment, the game may continue in accordance with **By Law 9.4**.
- (b) Where the nature of the incident is obviously serious enough to prevent the player from returning to the game, a substitution should be made.

### 9.4 Injury Rule

If a player is injured and, in the opinion of the umpire, such injury will hinder the progress of the game, the player can be replaced by a courtesy fielder or runner and leave the field for medical attention.

- (a) The time of approval will be recorded by the official scorers.
- (b) The replaced player must return to the game within 15 minutes from the time the umpire grants approval for the replacement under this provision.
  - i. The replaced player must inform the umpire when they are ready to return to the game and the time to be recorded by the official scorers.
- (c) The replacement player (courtesy fielder or runner) may not bat for the injured player.
  - i. If the player is due to bat in the line-up they will have to re-enter the game, be replaced for the remainder of the game, or an automatic out will be declared at that position in the batting order.
- (d) The courtesy fielder or runner will not obtain a grading solely from participation under this rule.





- (e) The courtesy player may not pitch.
- (f) In Minor League, this courtesy player may be someone already substituted out of the game, or a player graded one grade above the grade in which the injury occurs, provided that this player complies with the participation limitations of this clause.

## **9.5 Returning From Injury**

It shall be the responsibility of the Club and Player to confirm the Player's capacity to return to baseball activities after an injury.

- (a) A Medical Certificate is to be provided to the Club to confirm the Player's capacity to return to activities after an injury forces a player to leave a game and/or miss multiple games.
- (b) This Medical Certificate must be provided to the NBA, upon request.



## Section 10 Disputes, Ejections and Tribunal

### 10.1 Protesting a Game

#### 10.1.1 Protesting the result of a game due to:

##### 10.1.1.1 *A perceived misapplication of the OBR or these By-Laws by the umpire.*

(a) If a manager believes an umpire has incorrectly applied a rule of baseball or By-Law, they are entitled to ask the umpire to review the ruling in accordance with OBR Rule 8.02 (b).

If the umpires do not change the ruling, or in the managers opinion, change it erroneously, the manager may not argue such decision but does however have the right to protest the decision.

(b) If the manager wishes to protest such ruling or decision, the intention to protest must be indicated verbally to the Umpire in Chief at the time and:

- i. Prior to the next pitch (of either team) or before any play or attempted play; or
- ii. In the case of a game ending play, indicated verbally to the Umpire in Chief within fifteen (15) minutes of the game's completion.

(c) There is no requirement for the manager, at the time of the protest, to:

- iii. Document the protest in writing.
- iv. Nominate the By-Law or Official Baseball Rule that is being protested.

(d) The club protesting the game must, within 48 hrs of the game's completion:

- v. Provide a clear statement in writing, to the NBA Secretary, on the matter in dispute.
- vi. Pay the \$100 protest lodgement fee. The \$100 fee shall be forfeited should the protest be denied.

(e) A judgement decision by an Umpire will NOT be accepted as grounds for a protest.

##### 10.1.1.2 *A perceived breach of these By-Laws by the opposing team.*

(a) If a manager believes the opposing team has breached these By-Laws during the course of a game, the manager (or club) may protest the result of the game.

(b) The club protesting the game must, within 48 hrs of the game's completion:

- i. Provide a clear statement in writing to the NBA on the matter in dispute.
- ii. Pay the \$100 protest lodgement fee. The \$100 fee shall be forfeited should the protest be denied.

#### 10.1.2 Dealing with Protests

(a) Protests or disputes shall be heard by the NBA Board.

(b) The decision of the NBA Board is final.

### 10.2 Ejections

During a competition game any officiating umpire may eject any player, coach, manager, substitute or team official participating in that game for any breach of the Rules of Baseball, the NBA Code of Conduct, these By-Laws, or any other matter deemed by the umpire to be serious enough to justify ejection.

There are no restrictions of umpire accreditation level, as per **By Law 6.3.5**.



### **10.2.1 Responsibility of the Umpire**

- (a) The officiating umpire shall notify the NBA Secretary by email or text message by 9pm on the night of the game of the ejection.

The following information must be provided:

- Name of person ejected
- Clubs involved
- Grade of the game concerned.

- (b) The officiating umpire shall submit a written report, by email, to the NBA Secretary by 9pm on the Monday following the game concerned.

- (c) Preference is for the incident to be reported using the NBUA's pro-forma document. Should this not be available, the following information is to be provided:

- Name of the reporting umpire
- Name of partnering umpire(s), if applicable
- Name of ejected person
- Date of incident
- Time of incident
- Teams and Grade involved.
- Description of situation that led to the event / incident
- Reason for the Ejection (i.e. arguing judgment, dissent, swearing etc.)
- Description of events after the ejection / incident
- Were warnings issued?

- (d) The officiating umpire is to be available to attend any Tribunal hearings, if required.

- (e) It is acceptable for the Club Secretary associated with a volunteer or community level ~~coach~~ umpire to provide the information required in (a) and (b) above on behalf of the umpire, provided that the accounts are the original statements provided by the umpire.

### **10.2.2 Review by the NBA Board**

All ejections by an umpire will be reviewed by the Board member assigned as the NBA Disciplinary Delegate.

- (a) All ejections will be reviewed against the Prescribed Penalties list in By Law 13.2

- (b) The determination of disciplinary action, if required, will be provided to the NBA Secretary for communication to the Club and member involved, cc'd to the NAB Chairman for information.

- (c) The determination will to be provided within 24hours of umpire report receipt.

- If this is not achievable for any reason, the Club will be notified.

### **10.2.3 Notice to the Club**

Once notified by the NBA Disciplinary Delegate, the NBA Secretary will notify the Secretary of the Club involved via email, and:

- (a) Advise the offence or charge laid upon the ejected person.

- (b) Advise the penalty associated with the offence or charge.

- (c) Request the Club notify the affected member immediately.



- (d) Request the affected member provide a report in reply within 24 hours.
- (e) Request any supporting statements to be provided within 24 hours.

#### **10.2.4 Responsibility of the Ejected Person**

The ejected person is to:

- (a) Provide the information as requested by the NBA Secretary, via their Club Secretary.
- (b) Advise if they accept the charges and penalties to be applied, or
- (c) Request that a hearing be convened by the Tribunal within the allocated time period.

Communication back to the NBA Secretary must be via email. The Club Secretary shall either forward the information on behalf of the member or be cc'd in the email from the member.

#### **10.2.5 Right of Appeal**

A member disciplined by a decision of the NBA Board has the right to appeal through an Appeals Tribunal hearing. To do so they must inform the NBA Secretary within 24 hours of receiving the charge report and before submitting their responses.

#### **10.2.6 Permission to Participate**

- (a) Any member facing charges that are referred directly to the Tribunal will not be permitted to participate in any games until the matter has been resolved by the Tribunal.
- (b) Unless informed in writing by the NBA, any member facing charges not listed within the prescribed penalties will not be permitted to participate in any games until the matter has been resolved by the NBA Board, or Tribunal if referred.
- (c) Any player or team official ejected, for whatever reason, is not permitted to participate in any other game for that day.
  - i. The NBA reserves the right to stand down the member facing charges for the rest of the round depending on the severity of the charges in the report.
- (d) Should a member be appealing a ruling, then they are permitted to participate in games, unless
  - i. The member is in contravention of (a) or (b) above
  - ii. The member has requested a Tribunal hearing but made themselves unavailable to attend at the times provided to them by the NBA.
- (e) The NBA Secretary will inform the Club Secretary whether the member has permission to participate.
- (f) Any games where the member has not been granted permission to participate will be counted towards serving their suspension.
  - i. **By Law 6.3.4.2** regarding participation as a volunteer umpire will remain applicable.
- (g) The NBA reserves the right to preclude the member from NBA affiliated activities (i.e. representative games or training) during the members suspension period.

### **10.3 Code of Conduct Breaches and /or Complaints**

#### **10.3.1 Member Protection Policies**

The Newcastle Baseball Association adopts the Member Protection and Integrity Policies



(a) Newcastle Baseball

[www.newcastlebaseball.org.au/index.php/resources](http://www.newcastlebaseball.org.au/index.php/resources)

(b) BaseballNSW

[www.baseballnsw.com.au/member-protection/](http://www.baseballnsw.com.au/member-protection/)

### **10.3.2 Reports by Officials**

Any officiating umpire, NBA Board Member, Club President or Club Secretary, whilst representing the NBA or NBA affiliated Club, may report any incident breaching the NBA Code of Conduct whether occurring on or off the field of play.

### **10.3.3 Reports or Complaints from Local Community Members**

In the original instance, it is encouraged that clubs aim to resolve complaints from their members and associates either formally or informally themselves.

However, it is recognised that all situations are different and that there are many factors that make this difficult or unachievable.

In these instances, the complaint (or disclosure) may be provided to the NBA Secretary by manner of:

- The “Contact Us” section in the NBA website [www.newcastlebaseball.org.au](http://www.newcastlebaseball.org.au), or
- Email to [secretary@newcastlebaseball.org.au](mailto:secretary@newcastlebaseball.org.au)

The following information should be included in the report:

- Name of Complainant
- Complainant Contact Details
- Role of Complainant in the Community
- Name of person / group complained about (Respondent)
- If Under 18 year olds are involved (either Complainant or Respondent)
- Respondents role (if known)
- Date and Location of Incident
- Description of Incident
- Who was involved
- What occurred and when
- How did you find about the issue
- Witness (and contact details if known)

Complainants have the right to submit anonymously. All information is treated confidential in nature as per the Member Protection Policy

### **10.3.4 Response by NBA Board**

(a) The NBA Secretary will provide acknowledgment of the report within 24 hours of receipt.

(b) The Complaint Manager may, upon receipt of a Complaint or information that may lead to Disciplinary Action, seek to refer it to a more appropriate level of the Sport.

- i. The Complaints Manager will review the complaint with respect to the Member Protection Policy.
- ii. By default, the NBA Chairman will act as the Complaint Handler

(c) Within 48 hours of receiving the NBA secretary receiving the report, the Complaints Manager will allocate an appropriate Complaints Handler.



At this time, the Respondent will be notified that a report has been received and that the investigation process has been initiated.

### **10.3.5 Responsibility of Complaints Handler**

Once assigned the Complaints Handler shall be responsible for reviewing the complaint information, commence investigation as necessary and provide a decision regarding the resolution of the Alleged Breach under the Member protection policies and NBA By-Laws.

- (a) The Complaints Handler shall endeavour to complete this process within 7 days of initial notification, as far as reasonably practicable.
- (b) Where this is not achievable, the Complainant / Discloser will be notified.

### **10.3.6 Investigation Process**

An investigation may be conducted in such manner as determined by the investigator in their absolute discretion (provided it is consistent with any BaseballNSW Standard Operating Protocol for the conduct of investigations) and may or may not make findings as to whether the allegations are proven to a satisfactory standard of proof.

### **10.3.7 Sanctions**

If determined Sanctions are warranted, the Complaint Handler:

- (a) has the absolute discretion to determine the sanction imposed on a Respondent, if they find that the Respondent has committed a breach of an Eligible Policy, excluding any financial penalty or award of monetary damages.
- (b) Without limiting the discretion afforded in (a), the Sanctions that may be imposed on a Respondent include, but are not limited to
  - i. A reprimand or warning;
  - ii. Verbal or written apology;
  - iii. Direction to attend counselling or training to address their behaviour;
  - iv. Suspended sentence and/or good behaviour period;
  - v. Removal of accreditation;
  - vi. Removal of awards (such as life membership);
  - vii. Exclusion from a particular event or events, competition or activity;
  - viii. Suspension, from such activities or events held by or under the auspices of NBA, on such terms and for such period as the person imposing the sanction thinks fit;
  - ix. Suspension for a specified period and/or termination of any rights, privileges and benefits provided by NBA;
  - x. Expulsion from NBA; and / or
  - xi. Any other such sanction as the person imposing the sanction considers appropriate.
- (c) Without limiting the discretion afforded in (a), the person imposing the sanction may, but is not required to, consider the following factors:
  - i. The nature and seriousness of the behaviour or incidents;
  - ii. The wishes of the Complainant;



- iii. The contrition of the Respondent; the effect of the proposed Sanction on the Respondent including any personal, professional or financial consequences;
  - iv. Role within the Association
  - v. If there have been relevant prior warnings or disciplinary action against the Respondent; and/or
  - vi. If there are any mitigating circumstances.
- (d) A Sanction handed down under this process shall commence from the date of the decision, unless otherwise expressly directed by the person imposing the sanction, or otherwise provided for by the Appeal process.
- (e) Where the person imposing the sanction finds that more than one breach has been proven, it will hand down a single Sanction in respect of all breaches. The Sanction will be determined having regard to the seriousness of the overall conduct in question, rather than by adding Sanctions that would otherwise be applicable to each individual breach.

### **10.3.8 Right of Appeal**

The NBA Secretary (or assigned Complaints Manager) must notify the Respondent of the Alleged Breach, in writing.

- (a) The respondent is entitled to either accept the alleged breach and proposed Sanction, or dispute the breach and/or Sanction.
  - i. The respondent must notify the NBA Secretary within 14 days from the date of notice whether they accept or dispute the alleged breach.
  - ii. The appeal shall follow the process outlined in the Member Protection Policies, inclusive if Notice periods and associated fees.

### **10.3.9 Recording**

Unless otherwise provided for under the Process, the Complaints Manager must notify the Complainant (if any) and Respondent of the outcome of an Alleged Breach, in writing, once the Process has concluded.

- (a) The BaseballNSW MPIO will also be notified.
- (b) Records of the process shall be kept for a minimum of seven (7) years in accordance with the Member Protection Policy.

## **10.4 Tribunal**

### **10.4.1 Formation of the Tribunal Committee**

On receipt of report referral to the Tribunal, the NBA Secretary will call for a Committee to form.

- (a) The Committee members shall be appointed from time to time by the NBA Board and shall meet as required to deal with dispute appeals and other matters directly referred.
- (b) Such committee will comprise a minimum of three (3) members who:
  - i. Are not executive members of the NBA Board.
  - ii. Have no actual or perceived conflict of interest or bias regarding the Alleged Breach.



- iii. Have demonstrated experience in Baseball Administration and Management, Umpiring, NBA By-Laws, Member Protection Policies and / or other suitable skills applicable to the matter.
- iv. If possible, the Tribunal panel should include at least one person with knowledge or experience of the relevant laws/rules (e.g. anti-discrimination).

#### **10.4.2 Duties of the Tribunal Committee**

- (a) The Committee shall endeavour to hear all dispute matters prior to the following round of competition.
- (b) Should the hearing not be able to be heard in this time, because of the inability of the Committee members to convene, then any member cited to appear may not participate in any game until the report is heard by the Committee, unless determined otherwise by the Board.
- (c) This clause does not apply to an appeal Tribunal, unless described otherwise in **By-Law 10.5**

#### **10.4.3 Tribunal Committee Authority**

- (a) The Committee has the power, once convened, to adjourn to a later date or to allow for further investigation or evidence to be tabled.
- (b) The Tribunal may:
  - i. Consider any evidence, and in any form, that it deems relevant;
  - ii. Question any person giving evidence;
  - iii. Limit the number of witnesses presented to those who provide new evidence;
  - iv. Reject any written, photographic, pictorial or other evidence submitted by either the complainant or the charged Member without having to state reasons for so doing;
  - v. Require (to the extent it has power to do so) the attendance of any witness it deems relevant;
  - vi. Act in an inquisitorial manner in order to establish the truth of the issue/complaint before it.
- (c) All Tribunal decisions, whether as to guilt or penalty, will be by majority vote.

#### **10.4.4 Tribunal Attendance**

The Committee may request an umpire not connected with the dispute to attend any disputes hearing for interpretations only and provide guidance to the Committee on matters pertaining to rules and interpretations.

Any umpire, player or club, responsible for a citation being heard before the Committee, plus the player cited and a representative of the cited players club, must attend the Tribunal hearing if requested by the Committee.

- (a) The cited player and representative of that players club are entitled to sit in on the hearing of evidence, but may not interrupt, question or otherwise influence a witness.
- (b) If the cited player or their representative interrupts or otherwise influences the witness the Committee Chairman will issue a warning.
- (c) If such actions continue the Committee Chairman may direct the cited player and their representative to leave the room.





(d) All parties will be requested to leave the room whilst the Committee deliberates on the evidence.

#### **10.4.5 Communication**

The Tribunal panel members will be provided with a copy of all the relevant correspondence, reports or information received and sent by or on behalf of the League to the charged Member.

A copy of the Committee minutes shall be forwarded to the NBA Secretary within 48 hours of the meeting; who shall, in turn, advise the cited player's club in writing of any decisions made.

#### **10.5 Escalation**

(a) The decisions determined by Tribunal are considered final.

(b) If a complainant or a charged member is not satisfied with the outcome of a decision, they can lodge an appeal to BaseballNSW (MPIO@baseballnsw.com.au) in accordance with the BaseballNSW Member Protection Policy on one or more of the following grounds:

- i. That a denial of natural justice has occurred;
- ii. That the disciplinary measure/s imposed is unjust and / or unreasonable;
- iii. That the decision was not supported by the evidence provided.

The appeal notice must follow the BaseballNSW Member Protection Policy, including the provision of statements and associated fees within the allocated notice period.



## Section 11 Legal

### 11.1 Legal Advice

When any member or officer of the NBA Inc. requests legal advice be given on any matter concerning the business of the NBA, a copy of that request shall be submitted to the NBA Secretary in writing, setting out the date, information required, and any background information associated with the request.

- (a) Two NBA Board members must sign and approve the application before submission.
- (b) The legal advice supplied in response to such a request shall also be submitted to the NBA in writing and signed by the legally qualified person giving such advice and information.
- (c) Both requests for advice and subsequent legal advice shall be filed as a permanent record in the NBA records by the Secretary

### 11.2 Members Protection Policy

The Members Protection Policy of BaseballNSW will be adopted for the NBA

### 11.3 Player Recording

The participation of all players shall be recorded by the Club.

- (a) Such information is to be uploaded to the NBA Website in accordance with **By Law 2.2.1**



## Section 12 Communication

All official communications from the NBA Board to registered Clubs will be by email to the email address registered with the NBA of each Club's Secretary.

- (a) Notwithstanding the requirements of the above, should the NBA Board deem communication on a certain issue by email to be inappropriate or ineffective then the NBA Board may communicate with Clubs by whichever means they deem appropriate.
- (b) Delivery of any email to the registered email address of a Club's Secretary will be deemed receipt of such communication by that Club.

### 12.1 Social Media

The NBA will use the official NBA Facebook page when required to distribute information to the general public and association members (for example: Wet Weather notifications).

- (a) Where deemed necessary for official communications, the Club Secretaries will be emailed of the information at the same time.
- (b) It is encouraged that Clubs "share" the NBA Facebook posts on their Club's Facebook page to increase the exposure of the posts to the community.
- (c) The NBA can, where appropriate, share Club posts on the NBA page for certain events such as Come and Try days.
- (d) All Social Media activities by the Clubs and NBA shall be in accordance the NBA Social Media Policy.
- (e) All Clubs shall maintain a register of photo permissions for all Junior members.
- (f) No Club shall post a photo of a Junior members on social media or websites without confirmation of photography permission status.

### 12.2 Streaming

Clubs are not permitted to film or live stream any games in the final series without prior written consent from the NBA.

Applications are to be made via the "Live Streaming Request" form available on the NBA Website.

In addition:

- (a) The NBA reserves the right to stream any Final series game.
- (b) No Clubs shall stream at another Club's facility, without prior written consent from the host Club.
- (c) The streaming Party must be engaged by, or a registered member of, the home team club.
  - i. The streaming Party shall abide by the BaseballNSW Broadcast Policy.
  - ii. The streaming Party shall abide by the Codes of Conduct for the associated Club and NBA.
- (d) Permission must be granted by the opposing Club for all Grades, as minors may be present.
  - i. Should a legal guardian of a minor, in either team, not permit video or photography of the member, streaming of the game will be prohibited.
  - ii. No Junior games shall be streamed by Clubs.



- (e) Signage must be placed at the field (near the camera or microphone location) notifying spectators that the game is being filmed, and if relevant, sound being recorded.
- (f) The umpire(s) and opposing team shall be notified prior to the game that the game will be recorded.
- (g) The location of the stream (i.e Youtube channel, Facebook Page etc.) that footage will be available on must be provided to the NBA.
- (h) The Club is responsible for ensuring the public product complies with the appropriate BaseballNSW, NBA & Club Polices, and shall remove the footage from the public domain if found in contravention to the policies.
  - i. If a non-compliance is identified, the NBA Board reserves the right to demand the footage be removed from the public domain.
- (i) Unless in serious breach of the Code of Conduct (i.e. Violence) as determined by the NBA Board, the footage will not be considered in player sanctions or appeals.
- (j) The NBA Board may request footage for advertising purposes.



## Section 13 Prescribed Penalties

The maximum financial penalty, determination of a forfeit and suspension durations relevant to a breach of requirements listed within this document, NBA Codes of Conduct and other referenced policies, shall be as detailed within this Section.

### 13.1 Prescribed Club Penalties

Table 13-1 Club Penalty Table

By Law	Description	Minimum Fine (per occurrence)	Game result	Comments
1.4	Playing an Ineligible Player	\$50	Forfeit 9-0	If both teams play an ineligible player, then both teams shall forfeit 9-0
2.2.1.4	Failure to record player data	\$50	-	-
4.4.5 & 5.3	Pitching Breach	\$200	Forfeit 9-0	Additionally, the offending coach or manager cited may be asked to appear before the NBA Board.
6.2 (a)	Lack of Scorer in Major League	\$100	-	-
6.2 (a)	Lack of Scorer in AA League	\$50	-	-
Other	All other breaches, as determined by the NBA Board	As determined by the NBA Board		

### 13.2 Prescribed Player Penalties

For the offences that are listed below, immediate ejection from the game will result, followed by an additional penalty if any as listed, unless an appeal is made against the imposition of that additional penalty.

Table 13-2 - Player Prescribed Penalties List

Offence / Charge	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence
Audible Offensive Language/Swearing	1 game suspended for remainder of season	2 game suspension + 2 game suspended sentence	4 games suspension + 4 game suspended sentence
Arguing Judgement with an umpire	1 game suspended for remainder of season	2 game suspension + 2 game suspended sentence	4 games suspension + 4 game suspended sentence
Abuse Directed at an Umpire	1 game suspension + 1 game suspended sentence	2 game suspension + 2 game suspended sentence	4 games suspension + 4 game suspended sentence



Offence / Charge	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence
Dissent	1 game suspension + 1 game suspended sentence	2 game suspension + 2 game suspended sentence	4 games suspension + 4 game suspended sentence
Equipment Abuse	1 game suspension + 1 game suspended sentence	2 game suspension + 2 game suspended sentence	4 games suspension + 4 game suspended sentence
Disobeying an Umpires Direction	1 game suspension + 1 game suspended sentence	2 game suspension + 2 game suspended sentence	4 games suspension + 4 game suspended sentence
Failing to Leave the Field of Play	1 game suspension + 1 game suspended sentence	2 game suspension + 2 game suspended sentence	4 games suspension + 4 game suspended sentence
Tobacco / Alcohol use	1 game suspension + 1 game suspended sentence	2 game suspension + 2 game suspended sentence	4 games suspension + 4 game suspended sentence
Racial or Religious Vilification	Tribunal	Tribunal	Tribunal
Striking/fighting	Tribunal	Tribunal	Tribunal
Dangerous Play	Tribunal	Tribunal	Tribunal

Sanctions associated with behaviour towards an umpire will require the member to umpire games in accordance with **By Law 6.3.4.2**

Second and Third Offence relate to charges within the preceding 12 month calendar period.

Any charged not listed above will be referred direct to the Tribunal.

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