

GRANITE STATE BASEBALL LEAGUE

Organization By-Laws & League Rules

Version 11.7

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Table of Contents

Article I – Name	4
Article II – Purpose	4
Article III – Government	4
Article IV – Voting	4
Article V – Meetings	5
Article VI – Duties of Officers and Directors	5
Article VII – Standing Committees	6
Article VIII – Duties of Team Managers	6
Article IX – Duties of Other Appointed Officials	7
Article X – Duties and Responsibilities of Players	8
Article XI – Team Rosters and Player Eligibility	8
Article XII – Addition of New Teams	10
Article XIII – Special Rules of Play	10
Article XIV – Equipment	11
Article XV – Official Scoring	12
Article XVI – Official Games	12
Article XVII – Regular Season Scheduling Process	12
Article XVIII – Rescheduled Games and Forfeits	12
Article XIX – Playoffs	13
Article XX – All Stars	16
Article XXI – Game Protests	16
Article XXII – Infractions and Penalties	16
Article XXIII - Fall Ball	18
Article XXIV - Dissolution Clause	18
Article XXV – Amendments to By Laws and Rules	18
Article XXVI – Conflict of Interest	18

DATE	REV	DESCRIPTION
Unknown	–	Initial Release
2/10/2006	1.0	Format revision (Don Zizzi)
2/13/2006	3.0	Added Playoffs and New Team articles
2/4/2007	5.1	Added mandatory scoring on website
8/12/2008	6.4	Added secretary duties, moved time/date for reporting scores in Section 12, eliminated 9 players to start game, added Free Agents clause, added Section 8 to player playoff eligibility, updated Section 8 of Penalties to better describe ‘crashing into catcher’ rule, added Dissolution Clause and Conflict of Interest articles.
1/12/2013	8.0	Added: GP to be included when reporting scores, included free substitution rule, updated schedule changes to include managers must agree, updated playoff format for separate divisions, added GSBL21, GSBL28 and GSBL38 divisions
5/12/2014	9.0	Added 21+ specific wording to playoff structure. Clarified Courtesy Runner rule. Change the mercy rule for 7 and 9 inning games. Added specific play rules regarding an 8 player lineup when the open slot comes to bat.
1/12/2016	10.0	Added Article XI section 7 describing underage players in the 28+ division. Changed Article XI section 3 to clarify re-entry to the batting order.
4/12/2016	10.0	Changed language of Article XI section 7 to allow up to 5 25-27 year old players but only 3 per game.
12/5/2016	11.0	General review and updating of multiple rules.
2/21/2017	11.1	Finalized language on multiple rules.
12/5/2019	11.2	Removed all references to 38+ division. Changed language to Article IV, Section 2. Added “Missed Meeting” Rule under Article VIII, Section 10
3/17/2020	11.3	Revised GSBL28 playoff structure to include 6 teams; revised 28+ division playoff-eligibility rules
3/9/2021	11.4	Revised Penalty Rules and Player Playoff Game Eligibility Rule
2/4/2022	11.5	Reconcile 18+ & 28+ By-Laws into 25+ Merger
3/15/2023	11.6	General review and updating of multiple rules
2/27/2024	11.7	Thorough review of bylaws, reflect age to be 21+, new playoff structure, etc

Article I – Name

The official name of this organization shall be the “**Granite State Baseball League**”, hereinafter referred to as the “**GSBL**”.

Article II – Purpose

- Section 1: The GSBL is formed for the purpose of providing opportunities for the play and enjoyment of organized baseball for individuals who have reached a minimum age of 21 years within any given GSBL season.
- Section 2: The GSBL shall operate as a not-for-profit organization.

Article III – Government

- Section 1: The GSBL shall be directed by the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Director-at-Large, hereinafter referred to as the “**Board of Directors**” or “**BOD**”; and a representative of each team, hereinafter be referred to as “**Members**”, which shall together constitute the League, hereinafter be referred to as the “**Board**”.
- Section 2: If any league director or team representative proves to be unable to adequately perform the duties of his office, behaves irresponsibly or dishonestly in the performance of those duties, or exhibits behavior detrimental to the GSBL, he may be removed from his position by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board.
- Section 3: The Executive Committee shall consist of the Board of Directors.
- Section 4: (A) The Board of Directors are elected by the Members. Once elected, the Board of Directors shall vote amongst themselves to appoint specific offices/roles. The results of the decision should be reported immediately to the voting members of the league.
- (B) Each BOD member shall serve a three-year term unless a BOD member resigns prior to completion of their term.
- (C) The BOD members’ terms should be staggered such that no more than 2 seats are up for reelection at any time, unless a third BOD member resigns or is removed from office.
- (D) A BOD member does not have to be a player, coach, or manager in the GSBL to be eligible to serve on the BOD.

Article IV – Voting

- Section 1: On matters brought before the Board for deliberation during regularly scheduled or special meetings, The President, the Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director-at-Large and each team representative shall be entitled to one vote.

- Section 2: The Board shall only vote if representing their respective teams.
- Section 3: All matters brought before the Board for deliberation shall be decided by a simple majority of a quorum of the Board unless otherwise expressed herein.
- Section 4: Two-thirds of the registered GSBL teams shall be in attendance to constitute a quorum of the Board unless otherwise expressed herein.
- Section 5: In the absence of a Director or Representative, an officially designated alternate representative may vote on matters brought before the Board for deliberation.

Article V – Meetings

- Section 1: The GSBL Board shall meet nine times per calendar year at a minimum.
- Section 2: The President shall announce the schedule for all GSBL Board meetings, set the meeting agenda, call all Board meetings to order and preside over all deliberations.
- Section 3: Special meetings of the Board may be scheduled by the President upon written request of any Director or Representative. A minimum of one week notice shall be required to schedule any special meeting. Notice of any special meeting may be in the form of an email message or text transmission.
- Section 4: At the October GSBL Board meeting of each year, nominations shall be received, and votes cast for the election of the Board of Directors.
- Section 5: At the first GSBL Board meeting of each calendar year, the annual registration fee, payment schedule and date for official roster submission for all teams shall be assessed and set.

Article VI – Duties of Officers and Directors

- Section 1: The **President**
- (A) Shall be responsible for the conduct of all meetings of the Board and the Executive Committee and shall oversee the work of all other committees.
 - (B) Shall establish such committees, standing and ad hoc, as determined to be necessary for the proper conduct and management of the GSBL.
 - (C) Shall represent the GSBL and be its sole spokesperson in matters outside the activities of the GSBL.
- Section 2: The **Vice-President** shall preside at all GSBL meetings in the absence of the President and assist in duties of President as assigned.
- Section 3: The **Secretary** shall give notice of all Board meetings and keep and make available minutes of such meetings. The Secretary also shall assume responsibility for completing all forms required to maintain the GSBL's non-profit status.

GSBL Organization By Laws and League Rules

Section 4: **The Treasurer**

(A) Shall prepare an annual budget for adoption by the Board.

(B) Shall be responsible for the collection, dispersal, and proper accounting of all GSBL funds.

(C) Shall keep proper financial records, file all necessary tax and insurance forms, and make available to the Executive Committee monthly and annual financial statements as requested.

Article VII – Standing Committees (Abolished 2023)

Article VIII – Duties of Team Managers

Section 1: Shall be responsible for submitting a complete team roster and player registration forms to the GSBL President along with a photocopy of each player's motor vehicle operators license or other official government issued identification. Veteran players are exempt if an accepted copy is on file. Submitting falsified player's identification or doctored photocopies shall subject that coach's continued participation in the GSBL to review by the Board.

Section 2: Shall be supportive and cooperate fully with all GSBL sponsored activities and shall attend, or send an alternate, to all required GSBL meetings and functions.

Section 3: Shall be responsible for the sportsmanship of his players as well as promoting respect and goodwill toward spectators, umpires, coaches, and other players.

Section 4: Shall be responsible for the orderly conduct of his players on the bench and field, and for adhering to and enforcing the GSBL rules of play.

Section 5: Shall obtain and keep a copy of "**The Official Rules of Major League Baseball**", and shall know the GSBL rules of play.

Section 6: During games, a manager shall wear his team numbered shirt, team replica baseball cap and full-length baseball pants.

Section 7: During games, only the manager, or his designated representative in his absence, may confer with the umpires regarding any game related issue. The employment of base coaches is optional.

Section 8: Missed Meetings

(A) A manager shall be assessed a fine of fifty dollars (\$50) for the first unapproved absence.

(B) The second unapproved absence is subject to further penalty as deemed appropriate by action of the Board.

- (C) A third unapproved absence is grounds for mandatory removal of the individual from his position of manager.
- (D) All fines must be paid in full prior to the next league meeting or subsequent games shall be forfeited. All subsequent games shall be forfeited until the payment of fines is made in full.
- (E) If notice given to the GSBL President, a manager is granted a one-time, per season, excused absence for a missed meeting and will not therefore be assessed a fine.

Section 12: Reporting

- (A) Shall be responsible for reporting any protests or ejections arising from the games to the GSBL President, or his designee.
- (B) His team shall be assessed a fine of ten dollars (\$10) if the results are not reported by 7:00 PM on the Monday following the game. GP (Games Played) shall be included when scores are submitted.
- (C) All GSBL teams shall input their legitimate individual game statistics on the league website for all games and all players who appeared in said games. Statistics can be input weekly, but there are two deadlines that statistics must be input by: 10 games by July 15 and all by the Wednesday prior to the weekend the playoffs commence.

Minimum statistical measures to be input for offense are: GP, AB R, H, 2B, 3B, HR, RBI, BB, K, SB and for pitching are: GP, GS, IP, R, ER, H, BB, HBP, K, CG, W, L, S.

Failure to meet either deadline will result in a \$100 fine. Statistics may be entered by anyone designated by each individual team.

- (D) Managers are encouraged to input the full box scores of all games on the GSBL website.
- (E) Game Changer: Teams are required to use Game Changer app for statistical and playoff eligibility purposes.

The home team is responsible for scoring games on the Game Changer app unless they ask the away team to.

- (F) Managers are required to keep all lineups cards, including opponents. Lineup cards should be submitted to the Executive Committee to determine playoff eligibility.

Section 13: Home Team Managers

- (A) Shall be responsible for securing the field of play for his team's games.
- (B) His team shall suffer a forfeit if a scheduled game is unplayable due to the unavailability of a suitable field.

Article IX – Duties of Other Appointed Officials

- Section 1: There shall be a **Schedule Master** appointed by the President who shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining all regular season and playoff schedules. The Schedule Master shall also be responsible for coordinating with

GSBL Organization By Laws and League Rules

GSBL teams on fields, times and dates for make-up games as needed.

- Section 2: There shall be an **Umpire Liaison** appointed by the President who shall be responsible for coordinating with the Umpire in Chief to assure that all games, including make-up and playoff games, have umpires scheduled.
- Section 3: There shall be an **All-Star Supervisor** appointed by the President who shall be responsible for securing the date, time, and field for the GSBL annual all star game. The All-Star Supervisor shall also oversee and assist in the establishment of the roster for both all-star teams.
- Section 3: There shall be a **Special Event Supervisor** appointed by the President who shall be responsible for coordinating all planning related to GSBL events including but not limited to scheduling, announcements, entertainment, decorations, food, speakers, trophies and plaques.

Article X – Duties and Responsibilities of Players

- Section 1: Shall, at all times, conduct themselves in a manner embodying sportsmanship, respect and goodwill toward league officials, umpires, managers, coaches, teammates, spectators and opposing players.
- Section 2: During games, all players shall wear similar team numbered shirts, team replica baseball caps and full-length baseball pants.
- Section 3: All players, including returning veterans, shall complete and sign the GSBL **“Returning Player Registration Form”** each season prior to participating in any practice or game. Players transferred or traded between playing seasons also must submit a new form.
- Section 4: For proof of age, a new player shall provide his team manager with a photocopy of his motor vehicle operator’s license or other official government issued identification. Veteran players are exempt if an accepted copy is on file. Falsified identification or doctored photocopies shall result in an immediate suspension.
- Section 5: Shall complete the season on the team for which he originally registered unless, after completing and submitting to the President the GSBL **“Player Changing Team Form”** attesting to the mutual consent among him, his current team manager and the receiving team manager, he is moved or traded to another team. A player may freely move to a new team between seasons however it is suggested he notify his prior team of move. A grievance by any party in a player transfer or trade may be filed with the Executive Committee.

Article XI – Team Rosters and Player Eligibility

- Section 1: There shall be a minimum of fifteen (15) players and a maximum of 25 players on each GSBL team roster. The official roster for each team shall be submitted to the President each season, with all required fees and forms, by a date set each year by the Board.

- Section 2: (A) Any number of batters may be identified by each team manager prior to the start of each game but must have a minimum of 9 positions identified with at least 8 positions filled (an out would be recorded in the vacant position)
- (B) Free defensive substitution is also permitted; however, players do not earn a game played towards playoff eligibility by only playing defensively without at-bat(s) (pitching excluded).
- (C) Any player in the batting order who is removed and not replaced with a substitute shall constitute an out when his vacated spot comes up. A substitute is any offensive player not in the starting batting order.
- Section 3: Players who leave a game may re-enter only in the same position in the batting order. Any player, regardless of whether they started the game or not is allowed to re-enter the batting order one time.
- The starting pitcher may leave his position and return as a pitcher, one time only, if he remains in the game in another fielding position.
- The starting pitcher may not return as a pitcher if he is taken out of the batting order or becomes an extra hitter. Team managers may substitute freely for the other defensive position players with the extra hitters in the original batting order.
- Section 4: As of 2024 season, there is no allowance for courtesy runners or “**CR**” unless the runner is at least 50 years of age. At the start of a game, the courtesy runner(s) shall be the last player(s) in the batting order. Subsequently, the player who last batted out for the team at bat is the courtesy runner unless a) is at bat himself or b) is on deck. In these instances, the player making the next previous out is the courtesy runner.
- A team with multiple 50 players is entitled to one courtesy runner and is required to identify that batter on the lineup card with * and hand that card to the opposing manager before the game starts.
- Section 5: A player injured during his at-bat shall not be eligible for a courtesy runner unless he is designated as an eligible player at the start of that game. If no courtesy runner is available, an injured player can only be replaced by a substitute roster player. If no substitute roster player is available, a **Special Courtesy Runner** for that at-bat only may be used if mutually agreed upon by both team managers. The last batted out would be that runner pursuant to section 4.
- Note: The courtesy runner is intended to allow players to participate in a game in the event they have an injury or to speed up the game for the catcher, It is not intended to serve as a competitive advantage by replacing slower runners.
- Section 6: Teams may add players registered with the league and on the free agent list as of the roster closing deadline at will for a maximum of 3 games per player per team. This may occur at any point during the season. Players added to teams in this manner are not eligible for playoffs nor are they considered part of a team's permanent roster. Free agent players are not restricted to playing for a single team.

Teams may still acquire players for their permanent roster from the free agent list prior to the roster closing deadline. In this event, the player is no longer considered a free agent and is subject to any and all rules applicable to players in the league.

Article XII – Addition of New Teams

- Section 1: For a new team to enter the GSBL, a formal application must be submitted in writing to the GSBL President on or before January 10th of the year that the team would like to compete. The written submission shall include the following information:
- (A) Team Name
 - (B) Team manager and contact Information
 - (C) Proposed home field
 - (D) Initial roster of 15 players. Additional players can be recruited before the season.
 - (E) Team background (i.e., played in another league, newly formed team, etc.)
- Section 2: The GSBL Board shall vote on the acceptance of the new team at its regularly scheduled February meeting.
- Section 3: A deposit of one hundred dollars (\$100) must be submitted with the application. Following a vote by the GSBL Board, this deposit will be refunded if the team is not accepted into the league.
- Section 4: The annual assessment for a new team is estimated to be \$900, subject to change. This figure shall include team insurance and such league related administrative costs as website maintenance and umpire assignment fees, etc. This figure does not include the following:
- (A) Per game umpire fees for regular season games
 - (B) Team uniforms
 - (C) Team equipment
 - (D) Additional team baseballs
- Section 5: All new team managers and players shall become familiar with the GSBL By-Laws and Rules of Play.

Article XIII – Special Rules of Play

- Section 1: Notwithstanding the Special Rules of Play of the GSBL enumerated herein, **“The Official Rules of Major League Baseball”** shall apply.
- Section 2: A base runner must slide or otherwise make every effort to avoid contact with a defensive player attempting to tag that runner or the base to which he is advancing. Failure to avoid contact, in the judgment of the ruling umpire, shall result in an automatic out and may result in the immediate ejection of the base runner from the game.
- Section 3: If, with or without possession of the baseball, a defensive player attempts to block or obstruct any base to which a runner is attempting to advance, that runner shall be

awarded that base.

- Section 4: If, in the judgment of the ruling umpire, a defensive player attempts to decoy a runner into sliding into a base by convincing the runner that a play is being made at that base, the defensive player shall be ejected from the game.
- Section 5: There is no mercy run rule. Both managers may decide to employ a run rule during home plate meeting. All games, weather permitting, must complete at least 7-innings before any agreed-upon mercy rule is enforced. However, if no agreement is reached, there will be no run rule.
- Section 6: At least 9 positions must be entered in the batting order. If only 8 players are present, the 9th position shall be left empty with an out recorded for each plate appearance. The empty 9th spot may be filled any time during the game by an eligible player.
- In the event that a team is competing with 8 players, should the second out be recorded before the open lineup spot is to appear at the plate, the third out has the opportunity to be recorded before the empty at bat takes place.
Example: A player could still tag at third and score after the second out is recorded.
- Section 7: A manager may add batters to the bottom of the lineup at any time during the game. Players added to the bottom of the lineup must remain in that spot in the lineup for the remainder of the game. All other league rules regarding courtesy runners, minimum number of players and substitution remain in effect.

Article XIV – Equipment

- Section 1: Baseballs shall be regulation size weighing not less than five (5) nor more than five and one-quarter (5¼) ounces and measuring not less than nine (9) nor more than five and one-quarter (9¼) inches in circumference. All baseballs used in GSBL games shall be from the same source of supply.
- Section 2: Wood bats are to be used. Metal bats of any type are not allowed.
- Section 3: All batters and base runners must wear batting helmets. Full double-earflap batting helmets are encouraged, but not mandatory. Cracked or damaged helmets shall be removed from play and discarded.
- Section 4: All catchers shall wear a protective helmet and face mask with a built-in or attachable throat guard when fielding their position, warming up a pitcher between innings or catching in the bullpen.
- Section 5: Standard baseball shoes with metal spikes are allowed.
- Section 6: Players may use footballs, whiffle balls, tennis balls, hockey pucks, Frisbees or horse shoes while warming up before and during games.
- Section 7: Children under the age of 13 who are not in a fully enclosed dugout, or any

spectator area must wear a helmet. If in a non-fully enclosed dugout, children under the age of 13 must wear a helmet.

Article XV – Official Scoring

- Section 1: Each team shall collect and maintain a current game summary at the time of each game in the Game Changer app on a phone or tablet. In the absence of app, a standardized baseball/softball scorebook book must be used.
- Section 2: For all GSBL games, the official record of results shall be kept in the home team scorebook. Both the visitor and home scorebooks must be verified at the time of any change in the line-up or the batting order.

Article XVI – Official Games

- Section 1: All regular season games shall be scheduled for nine innings in length. All doubleheaders shall consist of two seven-inning games.
- Section 2: In the event of rain or darkness prohibiting play, a scheduled nine-inning game is official after four and one-half (4½) innings and a scheduled seven-inning doubleheader game is official after three and one-half (3½) innings.
- Section 3: With the mutual consent of both teams, weekday games starting after 6:00 pm may be complete after seven innings if the field does not have lights.

Article XVII – Regular Season Scheduling Process

- Section 1: The official schedule for all GSBL regular season games may be computer or randomly generated, and only the schedule prepared by the Schedule Master in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet shall constitute the official schedule. The process shall be as follows:
- (A) In January of each year, the Schedule Master shall transmit an initial draft schedule to each team manager who then shall be responsible for reviewing the schedule for conflicts and reporting back to the Schedule Master prior to the February Board meeting.
 - (B) In February, the Schedule Master shall distribute the revised schedule, and the Board shall, after review and comment, vote to adopt a final official schedule.
 - (C) In March, each team manager shall provide times and locations for their home games. The official schedule shall be transmitted to the Umpire Liaison. The final official schedule shall be posted on the GSBL website.

Article XVIII – Rescheduled Games and Forfeits

- Section 1: After the official GSBL regular season master schedule is posted, no team manager, Director or other GSBL official shall change the date, time or location of any game with the only exceptions limited to the following circumstances:

- (A) Inclement weather
- (B) Unplayable or hazardous field conditions
- (C) Conflict with another team
- (D) Field permits invalid that day
- (E) No umpires available
- (F) Both Managers agree

Section 2: In the event of one or more of these circumstances noted in *Section 1* above, the home team for that game shall be responsible for rescheduling that game. For all rescheduled games, both teams must approve the new date and time.

Section 3: Rained out games must be rescheduled within two weeks of the originally scheduled date. If both teams cannot mutually agree on a make-up game date, the Executive Committee will choose the date and time for the game.

Section 4: (A) If a team is unable to field the required minimum of eight (8) roster players or is otherwise unable to begin play within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled starting time of a game, that team shall forfeit that game. The forfeiting team shall be solely responsible to pay all associated game charges including, but not limited to umpire fees, field fees, lights, security, etc.

(B) In the case of a double header, if a team is unable to field the required minimum of eight (8) roster players and has forfeited the first game of a doubleheader, the forfeiting team shall have until fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled starting time of the second game to field the required eight (8) players before the second game is forfeited. However, if it becomes unlikely that the team that has forfeited the first game will be able to field a team, that manager may, after conferring with the opposing manager, waive this right at any time prior to the scheduled starting time of the second game.

Section 5: Provided it doesn't occur on the same day (i.e. a doubleheader) a second forfeit by a team within the same season shall make that team ineligible to participate in the any GSBL playoff games. That team shall also be subject to the review of the Board. The third forfeit by a team in the same season may result in expulsion from the league pending a confirming vote by the Board.

Article XIX – Playoffs

Section 1: The top 8 teams in the standings make the playoffs.

Playoff determination and seeding are determined as follows:

- Regular Season Record
- Head-to-Head Record
- Division Record (if 2 divisions)
- Run Differential between the two (or more) teams
- Runs Allowed
- Coin Flip

Section 2: The following playoff seeding structure and playoff matchups will be followed:

#1 & #2 Seeds: Division Champions determined by cumulative standings and tiebreakers.

#3 through #6 Seeds: Next two teams in each division determined by cumulative standings and tiebreakers.

#7 and #8 Seeds (Wild Cards): The next two best records, regardless of division, determined by cumulative standings and tiebreakers.

- Round 1: #4 v #5, #3 v #6, #2 v #7 (WC1), #1 vs #8 (WC2)
- Round 2: #4/#5 winner vs #1/#8 winner and #3/#6 winner vs #2/#7 winner (no reseeding)
- Championship Series: Lowest advancing seed plays Away, Home, Home

**The schedule above is a default unless a change in consistency and/or schedule is agreed upon prior to the end of the season.*

Section 3: All rounds of the playoffs are best-of-3 games series. Games 1 is a home game for the lower seed with games 2 & 3, if necessary, are home game(s) for the higher seed. Each round will start on a Saturday according to the playoff schedule set forth before the season. Two of the three games may be played on either Saturday or Sunday as scheduling and fields permit.

Section 4: Exceptions to the playoff series scheduling may be permitted if both managers can agree to an alternate scheduling of games. Both managers must notify the league President and Vice-President in writing five days prior to the proposed start of their series, or the originally scheduled start, whichever is the earlier date.

Section 5: The home team for each game sets the time and field location. If the home team is unable to secure a field, the away team has the option to do so, and the game will be played according to the schedule set by the away team. This change shall not affect a team's status as home or away, only the location and time of the game. If neither team is able to secure a time and field for the game, the Executive Committee shall set the schedule and location.

Section 6: If play must be suspended due to darkness, inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances that prevents a game's completion, play shall resume at the point in the game at which it was suspended notwithstanding the inning or number of outs at that time.

Section 7: Playoff Eligibility:

In order to be eligible to participate in the Playoffs, each and every player on the roster must appear during a minimum of 40% of the team's regular season games. This minimum number of games is calculated by multiplying the number of games played by a team by .40 and **rounding up** to the next whole number.

A player can also become playoff eligible if they pitch in 5 games AND 25 innings.

Exceptions: In the event of a team receiving a forfeit win where the game was never started, each player on the roster at the time of the scheduled game receives one game toward eligibility. If a game is forfeited after starting (example: less than 8 players to finish), only the players present at the field and on the lineup card at that time receive a game toward eligibility regardless of team. The lineup cards, initialed by each manager, must be turned in to the league president by each manager before the next scheduled league meeting in order to receive credit toward games played.

If a player sustains an injury that prevents him from playing, he must:

- a) appear in 40% of the games in which he was not injured and
- b) provide the league president with medical evidence from a licensed physician that indicates he should not play.

If said player is not able to participate in 3 games or fewer during the season due to the injury, he will be deemed eligible for the playoffs.

If a player is called to military service, he must appear in 40% of the games scheduled during the period of time in which he was not in service. If said player is not able to participate in 3 games or fewer during the season due to service, he will be deemed eligible for the playoffs.

For a game to count towards a player's playoff eligibility, one of the following must occur:

- 1) A player must have an official plate appearance, or
- 2) A player must pitch to a minimum of three (3) hitters, or

Defense-only and Pinch-running no longer constitutes a game played towards a player's playoff eligibility.

Section 8: The championship managers of the previous season's championship series shall be the respective managers of the GSBL intra-league all-star game the following year.

Section 9: If the GSBL conducts a tryout and draft prior to the start of each season. The draft pool consists of all new players who have initially contacted the league through www.granitestatebaseball.com, have no affiliation with an existing team, or have less than two years' experience in the GSBL and whose previous team no longer exists. The tryout will not exclude any player who does not meet the criteria and also wishes to tryout. All players who tryout are subject and bound to the results of the draft and may not play for another team in the league except for the one that drafts them. Any players not drafted become free agents and may play for any team in the GSBL as needed through the completion of the season. Any free agents who do not play for any GSBL team during the season are again subject to the tryout and draft the following year if no other team affiliation exists.

The Draft Order for all rounds will be the reverse order of the overall standings, except for the most recent champion always receiving the final pick of all of the previous season's teams. Any new team(s) will receive the final pick(s) of the first round and the first pick(s) of all subsequent rounds. A single coin flip will determine the order of new teams when more than one new team joins the GSBL.

GSBL Organization By Laws and League Rules

Article XX – All Stars

- Section 1: There shall be an annual league all-star game.
- Section 2: Each team manager shall submit the names of three (3) candidate players to the All-Star Supervisor who, along with the all-star team managers and the President, shall establish the all-star game rosters. Managers should submit at least one pitcher and/or catcher.
- Section 3: In the event that the GSBL accepts an invitation to play an all-star team from another league, this all-star game roster shall be comprised of players from the GSBL intra-league all-star game at the discretion of the All-Star Supervisor, the all-star team managers and the President.
- Section 4: At the end of each season, deserving players shall be recognized as follows. Candidates shall be nominated by the managers and confirmed by the Board.
- (A) Rookie of the Year
 - (B) Offensive Player of the Year
 - (C) Pitcher of the Year
 - (D) Sportsman of the Year (Matty P Award)
 - (E) Manager of the Year (Robert H Gould Award)
- Section 5: An “All GSBL Team” shall be selected at the end of each season. Candidates shall be nominated by the managers and confirmed by the Board.

Article XXI – Game Protests

- Section 1: The intent to protest the outcome of a game shall be made known to the head umpire before the completion of that game.
- Section 2: A statement of protest, on the GSBL online “**Game Protest Form**”, containing sufficient description of the events shall be transmitted to the President within seventy-two (72) hours of the game in question, or the matter shall be deemed moot.
- Section 3: All protests shall be reviewed by the Rules Committee, and a written recommendation of the outcome shall be made to the President. In the event that a Rules Committee member’s team is involved in the protest, a temporary alternate committee member may be appointed by the President. In the event that the President’s team is involved in the protest, deliberations on the matter shall transfer to the Vice President.

Article XXII – Infractions and Penalties

- Section 1: Any player or coach who is ejected from a game shall leave the playing field area immediately and shall be subject to a one (1) game suspension without opportunity for appeal. Failure to leave the playing field and its vicinity in a timely manner after being ejected from a game shall result in a multiple game suspension as determined by the Executive Committee, and that player’s or coach’s continued participation in the GSBL may be subject to review by the Board.

GSBL Organization By Laws and League Rules

- Section 2: Any team manager who is ejected from a game shall leave the playing field area immediately and may be subject to review and further penalty by the Board. Failure to leave the playing field and its vicinity in a timely manner after being ejected from a game shall result in a multiple game suspension as determined by the Executive Committee, and that manager's continued participation in the GSBL may be subject to review by the Board.
- Section 3: Any manager, coach or player who is ejected from a game for the second time within the same season shall have his continued participation in the GSBL subject to review by the Board.
- Section 4: Any manager, coach or player who attempts to intimidate, physically abuses, uses abusive language or threatens to bring harm upon any umpire, another player, manager, coach or spectator before, during, or after any game shall be immediately ejected from that game and may be suspended indefinitely depending on the severity of the incident as determined by the Executive Committee.
- Section 5: The consumption of alcoholic beverages, intoxicants and/or illegal substances anywhere within the vicinity of the playing field is prohibited before, during or after any GSBL game or practice. Failure to comply shall result in a multiple game suspension as determined by the Executive Committee and the offender's continued participation in the GSBL may be subject to review by the Board.
- Section 6: If, in the judgment of the ruling umpire, a base runner intentionally collides with a fielder in an attempt to dislodge the baseball or cause injury to the fielder, that base runner shall be automatically out and immediately ejected from the game.
- Section 7: If, with or without possession of the baseball, a defensive player attempts to block or obstruct any base to which a runner is attempting to advance, that player may be ejected from the game.
- Section 8: Any manager, coach or player intentionally or recklessly causing damage to the facilities and/or property used by the GSBL or belonging to an umpire, manager, another player, or spectator shall be immediately suspended from further GSBL play. Application to the President for reinstatement in the GSBL may be made during the next off-season, and the continued participation of that manager, coach, or player in the GSBL shall be subject to review by the Board.
- Section 9: A multiple game suspension may be appealed to the Appeals Committee. All appeals shall be transmitted in writing to the President within seven days of the offending incident.
- Section 10: The Executive Committee may recommend to the Board the discipline, suspension or expulsion from future participation in the GSBL of any player, manager or coach for misconduct or violation of these GSBL Rules of Play.

Article XXIII – Fall Ball

The GSBL has organized Fall Ball Season to be held for 4-6 weeks in early Fall each year. Rules will remain the same as the Summer season. Although, potential new rules may be tested during the Fall.

Article XXIV - Dissolution Clause

The GSBL is organized exclusively for non-profit purposes under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. Upon the voluntary dissolution of the GSBL, all assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

Article XXV – Amendments to By Laws and Rules

These **By Laws and League Rules** may be amended by a majority vote of the Board at any regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

Article XXVI – Conflict of Interest

Any possible conflict of interest on the part of any member of the Board, officer or employee of the GSBL, shall be disclosed in writing to the Board and made matter of record through an annual procedure and also when the interest involves a specific issue before the board. Where the transaction involving a board member, trustee or officer exceeds five hundred dollars (\$500) but less than five thousand (\$5000) in a fiscal year, a two-thirds vote of the disinterested directors is required. Where the transaction involved exceeds five thousand dollars (\$5000) in a fiscal year, then a two-thirds vote of the disinterested directors and publication in a local newspaper is required.

The minutes of the meeting shall reflect that a disclosure was made, the abstention from voting, and the actual vote itself. Every new member of the Board will be advised of this policy upon entering the duties of his office and shall sign a statement acknowledging, understanding of, and agreement to this policy. The board will comply with all requirements of New Hampshire law in this area and the New Hampshire requirements are incorporated into and made part of this policy.