

ROCK RIVER BASEBALL LEAGUE, INC

LEAGUE BY-LAWS

(Updated on 4/25/2024)

ARTICLE 1

SECTION 1: NAME OF LEAGUE

- A. The league shall be called the Rock River Baseball League, Incorporated.

SECTION 2: OBJECTIVE OF THE LEAGUE

- A. To unite all Rock River League divisions under one league with a standard constitution.
B. To establish and regulate the Grand Championship Playoffs of the Rock River League. C.
To encourage and improve the standard of baseball in the Rock River League.
D. To promote the growth and stability of the league and its franchises.

ARTICLE 2

SECTION 1: GENERAL OFFICERS

- A. The officers of the Rock River League shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and a Treasurer. Said officers to hold office for the term of one year or until their successors are elected and qualify. The new officers will assume office following their election. An officer may hold more than one office if elected (example; vice-President and secretary).

SECTION 2: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the general officers and two members from the league, one from each division. These two members are to hold office for the term of one year or until their successors is elected and qualify. In the event of even membership of the Executive Committee another officer will be elected at the fall meeting.
B. The findings of the Executive Committee shall be final. Under no circumstances shall it be reconsidered, reopened or inquired into, either by the league or a subsequent board.

SECTION 3: DUTIES

- A. Duties of President
1. He shall preside at all meetings.
 2. He shall handle all correspondence of the league.
 3. He shall have full charge of the schedule.
 4. He shall preside over the Executive Committee.
 5. He shall appoint all committees with the exception of the Executive Committee.
 6. He shall compile all league statistics.
 7. He shall perform all such duties as are specified in these by-laws.
 8. He shall perform oversight activities on the Treasurer.
 9. He shall perform duties of Treasurer if the position is vacant.
- B. Duties of the Treasurer
1. He shall receive all monies of the league and pay all bills.
 2. He shall also facilitate and resolve Banquet and All-Star Game monies
 3. He shall, as Treasurer, keep a record of all franchise fees, forfeit fees, fines and funds, as well as present an annual financial report at the Franchise deadline Meeting.
 4. He shall perform all such duties as are specified in these by-laws.
- C. Duties of Vice-President
1. He shall take over all duties of President in his absence.
- D. Duties of Secretary
1. He shall keep the minutes of all meetings including committee meetings.

2. He shall keep a correct and complete record of all the proceedings of said corporation such as they relate to the election of officers.

E. Duties of the Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee shall hear all protests in regard to the technicalities of the rules.
2. The Executive Committee shall hear and rule on all matters pertaining to player eligibility and conduct.
3. The Executive Committee shall impose penalties and suspensions as set forth by these by-laws.
4. In the event that the protest or hearing involves a player or team represented by a member of the Executive Committee, the President shall appoint a member or members to this committee from the opposite division of said committee member.
5. The Executive Committee shall act as the auditing committee and shall audit the books before the Organizational Meeting.
6. An appointed member of the Executive Committee shall be present at all play-off games. Protests must be ruled on at this time. The President may appoint a director from the league if no Executive Committee member is available. These committee members shall receive free admission to these games.

ARTICLE 3

SECTION 1: ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR MEETINGS

- A. Call meeting to order.
- B. Roll call.
- C. Reading of minutes.
- D. Treasurer's report
- E. Reports from Executive Committee meeting.
- F. Reports from committees.
- G. Presentation of unfinished business.
- H. Election of officers (Annual Meeting only). I. Acceptance of new members.
- J. New business.
- K. Good and welfare of league.
- L. Adjournment.

SECTION 2: RULES

- A. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all business meetings.
- B. QUORUM: The Rock River league defines a quorum as having at least 70% of the total teams present at the meeting. Action cannot be taken with less than this amount present.

ARTICLE 4

SECTION 1: MEETINGS

- A. The first meeting of the season shall be held on the second Wednesday in December and shall be called the Organizational Meeting. This shall be the deadline meeting for teams to post their franchise and forfeit fees for entry into the league for the coming season.
- B. The Franchise Deadline Meeting shall be held the third Wednesday in January.
- C. League information, schedules, rosters, umpire assignments, and any other items or information deemed necessary by the President must be available by the Tuesday immediately preceding the first scheduled game(s) of the season. This includes electronic distribution of these materials as well.
- D. The All-Star Meeting shall be held the last Tuesday of June.
- E. The Annual Meeting shall be held the second Wednesday following the end of the regular season.
- F. Attendance at the meetings listed above is mandatory for all Board of Directors.
- G. The league President has the authority to alter these dates.

SECTION 2: ORGANIZATION

- A. The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in his absence. If both the President and Vice- President are unable to attend a scheduled meeting, the meeting will be cancelled and rescheduled.

ARTICLE 5

SECTION 1: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- A. Team managers shall comprise the Board of Directors and, as such, shall be entitled to one vote per team. In the event that a manager is unable to attend a meeting, he shall send a proxy who then will become the legal representative.
- B. The Board of Directors shall have the power to elect the general officers and the members of the Executive Committee.
- C. The Board of Directors shall have the power to enact the laws and By-Laws, rules and regulations for the governing of the league.
- D. Only directors of a team holding an active franchise shall be entitled to vote.
- E. Absentee votes will not be permitted unless they are officially notarized.

ARTICLE 6

SECTION 1: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. All general officers shall be elected by a majority vote of all votes cast.
2. The President shall appoint ballot clerks.
3. All nominations and elections shall be cast by ballot.
4. All voting for general officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be by ballot.
5. Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the Annual Meeting and the member from each division receiving the highest number of votes cast shall be declared elected.

ARTICLE 7

SECTION 1: PLAYING RULES

- A. Current Official Baseball Rules (MLB) shall apply except where otherwise noted in these By-Laws.
- B. Designated Hitter (DH) Rule Exception to MLB Rule: DH can be for any position player, not just the pitcher.
- C. TEN-RUN RULE is in effect – The game shall end when the visiting team is behind 10 or more runs after 6 ½ innings OR after the 7th inning, if either team is behind by 10 or more runs, and both teams have had an equal number of times at bat.
- D. High School re-entry rule – starters may re-enter one time, but must re-enter in the exact same spot in the batting order.
- E. The Rock River League is not implementing the pitcher 3 batter minimum rule, 5 mound visit rule, the MLB extra inning rule (California rule), limits on pickoffs or MLB pitch clock rules.

SECTION 2: LEAGUE AND SCHEDULE

- A. All teams seeking admission into the league shall apply by written application. This application must be received by the league President prior to the Organizational Meeting.
- B. All new teams admitted for membership into this league shall pay a \$300.00 probationary fee. This fee shall be refunded upon completion of two full and satisfactory seasons with the league, as determined by the Board of Directors.
- C. The divisions of the league shall be decided by the Board of Directors. In the event that the alignment of the divisions cannot be agreed upon by the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee shall align the divisions and all teams must abide by such alignment.
- D. Regular scheduled games that are rained out must be rescheduled within one week of postponement (not necessarily played). If not rescheduled within one week, the home team has 72 hours to submit three possible dates to reschedule to the league President. The league President shall then have the power to reschedule the game.
- E. Postponed games must be played within one week of the conclusion of the regular season schedule, unless permission is received from the President. All regular season games must be played. During that week, more than one game may be played, provided that they are satisfactorily rescheduled by both managers and approved by the President. No team will be allowed to play a postponed game beyond one week after the close of the regular season schedule.
- F. All postponed games will be agreed upon by both teams involved and the reason for the postponement must be filed in writing no later than five days prior to the scheduled date, unless caused by weather conditions. This must be filed with the President.
- G. Weather causing postponements shall be decided two hours prior to the scheduled starting time. The visiting team, the league President and the umpires must be notified immediately. All weather postponements after this time, wherein

the umpires travel to the game, the home team must pay them each \$50.00 expense money. If rain ruins the diamond after the two-hour notice time, the home team shall try to stop travel mentioned earlier.

- H. No league team shall be allowed to play a game on the day or night of the All-Star game unless approved by the President.
- I. In case of light failure or darkness, a game may be suspended or postponed by umpire's decision.
- J. In the event that only one umpire appears at a scheduled game, the game must be played and the umpire present shall become the umpire-in-chief for that game. With the cooperation of both managers, the umpire-in-chief may select a second umpire
- K. In the event neither umpire appears, a grace period of one hour must be allowed to obtain substitute umpires before definite postponement of the game.

SECTION 3: PLAYOFFS

- A. The playoffs shall be decided on a year-to-year basis, before the season begins, by the Board of Directors.
- B. At least two umpires shall work all playoff and Grand Championship games. The home team involved in a particular playoff game may choose to pay for a third or fourth umpire. The league will pay for a third and fourth umpire in any Grand Championship games.
- C. The 10-run rule and High School re-entry rule is NOT in effect for all playoff games.
- D. If a HOME team elects to play at the ROAD team's field, the two teams would split the cost of umpires. (This would also be the recommendation for all regular season games as well).
- E. For 2017 and beyond it was determined that no double-headers would be played in the playoffs.
- F. The managers involved in the playoffs shall submit a list of umpires they wish NOT to umpire their playoff games. This list is for reference only and does not guarantee exclusion of specific umpires for playoff appearances. This list will be followed as reasonable as possible by the league President/Umpire Assignor.
- G. All teams that make the playoffs will have their rosters reviewed by the executive committee/league President prior to the playoffs beginning. Any players in question shall be brought up at this time. Once reviewed/approved by executive committee/league President, there will be no protests of a player appearing on the approved playoff roster.
- H. All teams involved in playoff and Grand Championship games shall charge the same admission. This will be decided at the playoff meeting.
- I. TIE BREAKER implemented for 2014 season and beyond.
 - 1. TWO TEAMS tied for one play-off spot:
Head-to-head record is the tiebreaker, followed by Run differential in games played head-to-head, Record against teams higher in the standings, Runs allowed during the season, Runs scored during the season, Coin Flip.
NOTE - there is currently no play-in game if two teams tie for that last playoff spot.
 - 2. TWO TEAMS tied for two playoff spots:
Tie breaker will determine seed by the following in consecutive order: Head-to-head record, Run differential in games played head-to-head, Record against teams higher in the standings, Runs allowed during the season, Runs scored during the season, Coin Flip.
 - 3. THREE+ TEAMS tied for any number of play-off spots:
Tie breaker will determine seed by the following in consecutive order: Head-to-head record with teams tied with, Run differential in games involving the teams tied, Record against teams higher in the standings, Runs allowed during the season, Runs scored during the season, Random Draw.
- J. Current Playoff format for 2024 Rock River League Playoffs:
 - 1. Top 5 teams from both the North and South Divisions qualify for the Rock River playoffs
 - 2. Those teams are seeded 1-5 in each division (North & South) where seeds #1, #2 & #3 get a bye and are automatically in the double elimination divisional playoffs.
 - 3. The #4 & #5 seeds in each division will play a single elimination game where #5 plays at #4. Winners of those games advance to the double elimination divisional playoffs, while the losers are eliminated.
 - 4. The double elimination divisional playoffs begin with the #1 seed hosting the lowest remaining seed, while the #2 seed hosts the #3 seed in each division.
 - 5. Higher seeds host throughout the divisional playoffs except in these cases:
 - a. The team that goes 2-0 will host the first divisional championship game regardless of seed
 - b. If game #2 in the loser's bracket is the same matchup as day 1 of the playoffs and the lower seed won the day 1 meeting, the lower seed would then host that game #2 in the loser's bracket.

6. North & South Divisional winners will meet for a best of three championship series. If each division has played the same number of regular season games, the team with the highest winning percentage would host games 1 & 3. If that number in each division was not the same, a coin flip will determine who hosts games 1 & 3 unless a team in one of the divisions went undefeated.
- K. Graphical Representation of the 2024 RRL Playoffs *see Appendix B*

ARTICLE 8

SECTION 1: BALL FIELDS

- A. All ballparks must be enclosed with nothing less than a snow fence or team must justify reason to the Board of Directors for a vote. The lack of a fence at a field is not able to be protested.
- B. The batter's box and all foul lines are to be lined by the home team. If not marked or marked incorrectly, the Umpire-in-Chief shall use their judgment to determine these playing conditions and his orders shall be final and obeyed by all directly involved.
- C. The visiting team shall have the field from 12:30 to 12:55 or a comparable time if starting time is different. They may use this time for either batting practice or infield practice or both.
- D. Where admission is charged, no team in the league shall charge less than \$3.00 admission.
 - 1. The fee shall pertain to those 18 years of age and older, no admission fee for anyone under the age of 18.
 - 2. Players' wives or girlfriends will have to pay for games away from home, the same as any other spectator.
 - 3. Players in uniform, two bat people and a scorekeeper will be allowed in ballparks free of charge.
 - 4. Each club shall have control over its gate receipts.

SECTION 2: BASEBALLS

- A. The official ball adopted by the managers effective until the end of 2024 season will be the Diamond D1-Pro "Low Seam" and must be used in all league games.
- B. If an illegal ball is found in a game, it must be replaced with an official ball. If no official ball is available, a substitute ball may be used with the approval of both managers and umpires. There shall be no protest on the use of an illegal ball.
- C. Three new baseballs must be given to the umpires at the start of the game. The umpire must approve any balls added later.
- D. The home team must have one dozen new baseballs available for each home game, with the exception of the last home game, when a half dozen must be available.
- E. The home team is required to furnish a warm-up ball for the visiting team upon request.

SECTION 3: BATS

- A. Only wood or wood composite bats are legal.

SECTION 4: UNIFORMS

- A. All players and coaches representing their team on the field must wear closely matching uniforms.
- B. Managers must be in complete uniform unless agreed upon by the opposing manager.

SECTION 5: OTHER

- A. The home scorekeeper shall be the official scorekeeper. In the event the home scorekeeper is not present, the visiting scorekeeper shall act as the official scorekeeper. If the scorekeepers are unable to agree on a base hit or error decision, the home plate umpire shall rule on this and his decision shall be final.
- B. Base runners and batters shall be required to wear a protective helmet with at least one ear flap at all times. It is also recommended that base coaches wear a helmet. A base coach or player who chooses to not wear a helmet assumes all liability of any injury that occurs.
- C. No player or umpire shall indulge in alcoholic beverages while performing his duties. No player or umpire shall smoke on the field of play. Once a player has appeared in the lineup, and is removed from the game, he may not indulge in intoxicating liquor or beverages until the contest is completed. At no time shall he conduct himself in a manner that would be unsportsmanlike; such as the use of profanity or derogatory remarks.

- D. With the agreement of both managers, a ball player may re-enter a game in case of injury to a player if no replacement is available.
- E. A team must have 9 players to start the game. If a team cannot field 9 players to start the game league forfeit fees and sanctions apply. Exceptions listed below.
 - 1. **INJURY**: If an injury occurs following the start of the game, you can play with 8 or 7, but no less than 7. If there are less than 7 players available, the game is over. The team with less than 7 players forfeits the game with a score of 9-0, however the stats for the game count. When there are less than 9 players, the injured player's spot in the batting order will be considered an automatic out. The manager of the injured player's team may pick a player to re-enter if available. League forfeit fees and sanctions will not be applied.
 - 2. **EJECTION**: As a result of an ejection leaving a team with less than 9 players, the game is forfeited by the team with less than 9; resulting in a score of 9-0. Any stats in the game to the point of ejection would count. Once game has become official, league forfeit fees and sanctions do not apply.

ARTICLE 9

SECTION 1: ROSTERS

- A. Roster limit is 30 players plus 5 additional spots for players that are currently in High School (HS) or have graduated HS in the school year just ended.
 - 1. Each team's manager (one per team) plus two additional team personnel (assistant coach, general manager, scorekeeper, others involved with running the team, etc.) do not count against the roster limit. These individuals will be approved by the executive committee prior to the season beginning.
 - 2. If a team reaches their roster limit, they will need to remove a player from their 'active roster' to add any additional players.
 - 3. Players removed CAN NOT be added back and are NOT eligible for the RRL Playoffs.
 - 4. Teams losing players to selective service, injury, sickness or other unavoidable circumstances, which would hamper the team severely, may add players upon approval of the league President.
- B. A player is not eligible until they have completed the player contract identifying the team they will be playing for.
 - 1. Managers should also notify the league in email or text of any player additions throughout the season.
 - 2. If a player is added the day of a game, the opposing team must be notified of that added player prior to the game starting.
- C. The minimum age of a ballplayer in the RRL is 16 years old. League approval must be met for ballplayers seeking admittance if younger. (Minors may need liability forms signed by legal guardians in order to play – concussion forms)
- D. Players shall be strictly amateur. Any player receiving any pay or fee, regardless of whether from the team, manager or any individual shall be expelled from the league.
- E. The previous year's roster shall hold over as the roster of the respective teams for the coming year.
- F. Players seeking release from their previous team must:
 - 1. Obtain a written release from a team rep of the team with whom he was registered with the previous year and
 - 2. Complete the player contract identifying their new team.
 - i. The written release must be granted by previous team if a player is in good standing (uniform turned in, monies collected, team equipment, or other team property).
 - ii. The Executive Committee may have the power to overturn the decision by a team to not release said player.
 - iii. A player will be declared ineligible if he chooses to play with another team in the RRL without obtaining a release from his former team
 - iv. A player declared ineligible for one team in the RRL is also ineligible to play with any other team in the RRL
- G. If a player is not allowed to play at least 5 innings in three consecutive games, he may obtain his release from the Executive Committee (player must appeal to the league President).
- H. Deadline for roster additions will be **JULY 1st by 11:59PM.**
 - 1. Players that are currently in High School (HS) or have graduated in the school year just ended may be added to your roster through the end of the regular season. These players would be eligible for the RRL Playoffs if they appear in 2 regular season games must be identified with the league President if added after the July 1st roster deadline.

2. The league President can add players after the deadline on a case-by-case basis. Players added after the deadline would not be eligible for the RRL Playoffs.

SECTION 2: ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- A. To be eligible for the RRL Playoffs, all players will need to satisfy an appearance (games played) minimum as outlined below. An appearance in a game will be considered when a player has either recorded a plate appearance batting, at least one out pitching or appeared in a game as a defensive substitution. For a player who only played in a game as a defensive substitution, those players need to be communicated to the league statistician immediately following each game.

A team's manager and two team personnel members identified before the season and approved by the executive committee do not need to meet these requirements below.

1. Players will need to appear in 4 games to be eligible
 2. However any player who transfers to another RRL team during the season must appear in at least 6 of his new RRL team's games to be eligible for the playoffs.
 3. Additionally High School players will only need to appear in 2 games to eligible.
 4. If a player is unable to meet these eligibility requirements due to unavoidable circumstances (selective service, injury, sickness, etc.) their situation may be reviewed and an exception possibly granted by the executive committee/League president. The League president needs to be notified immediately when it is known that a player has a situation that may affect eligibility comes up.
- B. Outside of those requirements above, a player already registered as being on a RRL team's roster may only miss a RRL game to play for another team if one of the exceptions below apply. If neither exception applies, the player would be considered ineligible.
 1. The player is a member of a team in organized leagues such as High School, American Legion, Babe Ruth, Pony, MSBL, MABL, Senior type league or an age limit leagues (18U and under, 25+, 35+, etc) or a league that requires College eligibility (Northwoods, Cape Cod, Dairyland College League, etc.). These players will not lose their RRL eligibility if they choose to play with that team when their RRL team is scheduled to play a game at the same time.
 2. Each RRL team is allowed up to 3 players on their roster that may miss multiple RRL games to play for another team in a non-professional baseball league and will remain eligible as long as they are identified with the league President before the next scheduled RRL game. Identifying these players the first time they miss a game is all that is needed.

These players are then required to appear in 50% of its RRL team's regular season games to become eligible for the RRL Playoffs (would be 8 games in the North and 8 games in the South for 2024). If this player is a pitcher and misses a RRL game to pitch in another league, he would need to throw 25 innings and still appear in 50% of his team's RRL games (not necessarily pitch in 50% of the games) to be eligible for the RRL Playoffs.
 - C. All teams that make the playoffs will have their rosters reviewed by the executive committee/league President prior to the playoffs beginning. Any players in question shall be brought up at this time. Once reviewed/approved by executive committee/league President, there will be no protests of a player appearing on the approved playoff roster.

ARTICLE 10

SECTION 1: FINANCES

- A. The Franchise and Forfeit Fees for membership shall be set on a year-to-year basis.
 1. The Franchise Fee for 2024 is \$550 per team and is broken down as follows:
 - i. \$360 - website, scheduling, statistics, admin, and umpire assigning costs
 - ii. \$140 - Annual Awards Dinner tickets
 - iii. \$50 - Schedule Poster Sponsorship Ad
 2. The Forfeit Fee shall be equal to \$300. In case of a forfeit, this fee will be split as follows:
 - i. \$100 to each umpire (\$200 in total)
 - ii. \$100 to the team being forfeited against

3. Teams may have their Forfeit Fee refunded at the Annual Meeting, provided they have fulfilled their duties under the rules and regulations and are in good standing with the league.
- B. Each team must pay for a minimum of 7 tickets for the Annual Awards Dinner (\$20 per ticket). The cost of these tickets (\$140) is included in the franchise fee.
- C. Each team must take and pay for a minimum of fifty tickets (\$1 each) for the annual All Star game. The cost of these tickets (\$50) is included in the franchise fee – *since 2020 this \$50 has been used to cover league operating expenses.*
- D. The Franchise and Forfeits Fees must be paid at the Organizational Meeting in order for teams to compete in the league in that particular season.
- E. Any team with an outstanding balance as of the end of the fiscal year shall lose its franchise in the league and all voting privileges of that franchise until fees are made current.
- F. Each member of the Executive Committee with the exception of the President shall be paid \$50.00 per year as compensation for traveling expenses. This is to be paid at the Annual Meeting. A substitute member appointed by the President for a specific meeting shall receive \$5.00 per meeting. Funds to be paid from the general fund.
- E. Members of the Executive Committee shall receive two complimentary tickets to the Annual Awards Dinner.
- F. Umpires who work at the current years' All Star game are eligible to receive two complimentary tickets to the Annual Awards Dinner.

ARTICLE 11

SECTION 1: PROTESTS

- A. No protest will be accepted on the judgment of a play. All protests on technicalities must be made at the time of the play (play having resumed, there shall be no more protest on that play). The reason for protest must accompany the official summary sheet as well as the score at the time of the protest, what inning, who was batting, how many outs, the count on the batter and any other necessary information to be sent in by the umpires
- B. The protest fee of \$60.00 must be filed in the league office within forty-eight hours of the start of the contest. Managers and umpires shall agree on game being played under protest unannounced to the fans. This is necessary to protect the home management from refunding money to the fans
- C. Protests on eligibility of a ball player must be filed in writing to the league President. Protest may be filed at any time during the regular season. A team will lose all games in which an ineligible player participated in after the violation.
- D. In the event that the protest is won, the \$60.00 fee is returned to the protesting team. If the protest is lost, one third of the fee is retained by the league President and the other two thirds of the fee go to the umpires for attending the meeting. If the umpires do not attend the meeting, the entire fee goes to the President.
- E. In a protested game, the home manager is to send the umpires' fees to the President if the protest is related to the officials. If the protest is disallowed the umpires will receive their fees immediately as well as their fee for attending the meeting. In the event the protest is allowed, the umpires will get their fee after the protested game has been completed. The league President will have to authority to determine the appropriate amount the umpires are to receive pending they are unable to complete the protested game. However, if the protest is related to anything else, the umpires must be paid their full game fee at the conclusion of the game. They will receive no compensation for attending the protest meeting.
- F. If a protest is filed by a team in the last game of the season and the protest is won, the game must be replayed unless mutually agreed upon by the managers not to replay it. Any team refusing to play will be subject to the non-appearance penalty.

SECTION 2: FORFEITS AND FINES

- A. All games in which either manager involved wants to play a scheduled game, it must be played. If a team does not appear this will be considered a forfeit.
Note: A team forfeited to will receive a portion of the forfeit fee whether they are the home team or the visiting team. In 2024, \$100 will go to each umpire, with the remaining \$100.00 going to the team forfeited to.
- B. A team that forfeits a game must have a new forfeit fee in the league office before their next scheduled league game
- C. If a team fails to appear with nine or more players on two different occasions, they not only forfeit the game but are dropped from the league. At anytime they seek reentry into the league, they must pay all fines.
- D. Umpires must wait thirty (30) minutes before declaring a forfeit if a team appears with less than nine players.
- E. In case of an accident in route to the game, a team may add others to play the game. Forfeiture will be decided by the

- Executive Committee in respect to the relative facts presented by the offending team within forty-eight hours.
- F. \$25.00 fine will be levied against any team in the league which fails to send a representative to any league meeting unless their absence is excused by the league President.
 - G. \$25.00 fine will be assessed to any team that does not give the President an advance notice of attendees to the banquet by the set guideline established at the Annual Meeting.
 - H. \$5 fine to any All Stars selected but not appearing at the All Star game, unless excused by the President.
 - I. \$300 fine will be assessed to any team found guilty of using a player who has received pay or compensation and said team shall forfeit their forfeit fee money to the league and forfeit the results of each game in which that player participated.
 - J. All summary sheets must be postmarked or emailed within 24 hours of the date of the game or a \$5.00 fine will be levied. After the third offense, the fine will double to \$10.00.

SECTION 3: EJECTIONS/SUSPENSIONS

- A. A player can be ejected by an umpire at any time during the game for profanity or misconduct. The player is ejected for the remainder of the game.
- B. If a player is ejected from a game or performs any act of misconduct where a suspension is recommended by an umpire or League Director follow the guidelines below.
 - 1. For a profanity or misconduct offense
 - i. First offense, the player shall receive a 0-1 game suspension.
 - ii. Second offense, the player shall receive a 1-2 game suspension.
 - iii. Third offense, the player shall be suspended 2+ games and up to the remainder of the season.
- C. There will be an automatic-minimum- three game suspension for physical contact with an umpire.
- D. Each Team Manager or Team representative must notify the league President within 24 hours if there has been an ejection at their game.
- E. Any player ruled ineligible by the Executive Committee shall be suspended for the remainder of the season and all games said player appeared in after he was ruled ineligible will be forfeited.
- F. The President shall declare a player ineligible if he finds that the player has violated league eligibility rules.
- G. Any team knowingly using an ineligible player or that uses a player under an assumed name shall forfeit that game and pay a \$200.00 fine if it is a road game or a \$100.00 fine if it is a home game. Additionally, the offending team's manager shall be suspended for four regular season games.
- H. In the case of suspension or ineligibility, all players, managers and umpires involved must be given the opportunity to state their case to the Executive Committee.
- I. The findings of the Executive Committee shall be final. Under no circumstances shall it be reconsidered ,reopened, or inquired into, either by the league or a subsequent board

ARTICLE 12

SECTION 1: BATTING CHAMPIONSHIPS/AWARDS

- A. The batting champion of each division, as determined by the official statistics at the close of the season, shall be awarded a suitable trophy. Major league rules shall apply in determining the batting champion.
- B. The official league statistics shall be those compiled by the President or league statistician(s).
- C. For any award where there are three or more names on the ballot, the ballot must be fully completed or the ballot will become void. The same holds true if there are only two names on the ballot. *See Appendix A*

ARTICLE 13

SECTION 1: UMPIRES

- A. The league President shall be in charge of the umpires and shall have full authority in the assignment of the umpires to all league games except the playoff and Grand Championship games.
- B. The league President should notify teams of umpire assignments as soon as possible prior to their scheduled home games.
- C. Umpires should be paid before the game.
- D. For 2024 Umpire Pay is as follows:

- 9 inning game - \$100 per umpire (\$200 total)
- 7 inning game - \$85 per umpire (\$170 total)
- 7 inning DH's - \$170 per umpire (\$340 total)
- 9 inning game – only one assigned umpire - \$150

- If for any reason, one umpire individually works a game unexpectedly (not assigned as one umpire), he shall be entitled to the full amount of the total fee for two umpires, unless another amount is accepted or agreed upon by the umpire and the home or paying team.

- When umpires travel for a game and it is not a legal game, they shall be paid at least \$50.00 each for travel and \$10 per inning for shortened non-legal games.

- F. Umpires in playoff and Grand Championship games shall receive the normal regular season rates.
- G. The umpire-in-chief shall allow a 1/2 hour grace period before declaring a forfeit victory for the team present, unless he is officially notified prior to that time that the forfeiting team will not be present.
- H. The umpires must wait a 1/2 hour in case of rain after said game has started before calling the game unless both teams agree mutually for the game to be called.
- I. There shall be no harassment by any player, manager or coach after the game. If an umpire remains on the scene after receiving his pay, he shall do so at his own risk. Any harassment before the umpires have been paid shall give the umpires grounds to recommend suspensions.

ARTICLE 14

SECTION 1: BOND OF TREASURER

- A. The treasurer of the league shall be bonded up to the sum of \$10,000 and the payment of said bonding is to be paid out of the league treasury.

ARTICLE 15

SECTION 1: DISTRIBUTION OF LEAGUE RULES

- A. A manager or team delegate from each team must see to it that all his team personnel are familiar with the league rules as outlined herein. By the same token, all umpires must acquaint themselves with the rules and regulations pertaining to their part of the league.

ARTICLE 16

SECTION 1: INDEMNIFICATION – Section 181.045

- A. Every person who is a director, officer or employee of the corporation, or a former director, officer or employee of the corporation, or a person who is serving or has served at the request of the corporation as a director officer or employee of another corporation is hereby indemnified against expenses, judgment decrees, fines, penalties or amounts paid in settlement in connection with the defense of any pending threatened legal action, suit or proceeding, criminal or civil, to which he is or may be made a part of by reason of being or having been such director, officer or employee provided he is determined by the directors of the corporation acting at a meeting at which a quorum consisting of directors who are not parties to or threatened with any such action, suit or proceeding is present: (a) not to have been negligent or guilty of misconduct in the performance of his duty to the corporation of which he is such director, officer or employee; (b) to have acted in good faith in what he reasonably believed to be the best interest of such corporation; and (c) in any manner the subject of a criminal action, suit or proceeding, to have reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful; provided, however, that no director who is party to or threatened with such action, suit or proceeding shall be qualified to vote on such matter. Alternatively, such determination may be made: (a) by a court of competent jurisdiction; (b) by the shareholders of the corporation at a meeting held for such purpose by the affirmative vote of the holders of shares entitling them to exercise a majority of voting power of the corporation on such proposal, or (c) adopted by the shareholders of the corporation without a meeting by the written consent of the holders of the shares entitling them to exercise two thirds of the voting power on such proposal.

- B. Such indemnification shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which such director, officer or employee may be entitled including, without limiting and generally of the foregoing, and insurance purchased by the corporation.

ARTICLE 17

SECTION 1: ALL STAR GAME

- A. The date of the inter division All Star game shall be decided on a year-to-year basis and will be shifted each year (one year in the Northern Division and the next year in the Southern Division). The host team must furnish gate collectors and ball chasers. The host team must also take care of all field maintenance. All gate receipts go to the league with the host team keeping all the refreshment stand revenue.

ROCK RIVER LEAGUE ALL STAR GAME ROTATION

2011 – Farmington	2014 – Slinger	2017 – Ashippun	2020 – COVID-19
2012 – Brownsville	2015 – Watertown	2018 – Hartford	
2013 – Milton	2016 – Rubicon	2019 – Johnson Creek	

*The All Star was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19 and has not been played since, here was the order of teams set to host in future years: Kewaskum, followed by Lebanon, Neosho, Oakfield, Clyman and Hustisford
TBA: Cedarburg, Helenville Saukville, Thiensville-Mequon.

SECTION 2: PLAYERS

- A. The All Stars will be selected by the Board of Directors of the league.
B. The manager of the all-star game is highest seeded team's manager from the previous season. This manager is responsible for finding fellow coaches.
C. The President shall have full charge of publicity of the All Star game.
D. The President shall appoint the official scorekeeper for the All Star game.

ARTICLE 18

SECTION 1: DISAGREEMENTS

- A. In case of a disagreement on the field, only managers, coaches or captains of both teams, player or players DIRECTLY involved and umpires shall be the only ones allowed on the field. Captains of each team must be announced to the umpires prior to the start of each game. This is the duty of each team manager.
B. In the event that there is a dispute or disagreement that is not specifically covered by these By-Laws, or if the interpretation of these By-Laws is unclear or in conflict, the President will make the final decision on the dispute or disagreement in question based on the following: good and welfare of the game of baseball in general and the league in specific, the intent of the By-Law in question and by disallowing any potential loop hole that was not specifically addressed when these By-Laws were formed. Finally, past precedent does not have to be used to make future or current decisions. Each decision can be ruled independently.

ARTICLE 19

SECTION 1: FISCAL YEAR

- A. The fiscal year of this corporation shall begin the first day of January and end the thirty-first day of December of said year.

ARTICLE 20

SECTION 1: AMENDMENTS

- A. The constitution and by-laws of this corporation may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of all teams present and voting at the Annual Meeting or by three-fourths vote at any other meetings prescribed in these by- laws, provided there is a quorum present at any of these meetings.

Appendix A

Rock River All-League & Awards

At the conclusion of the season each division of the Rock River League will select an all-league team (North & South) based off the official league regular season statistics. To qualify for the all-league team the following criteria must be met in 2024:

*** Pitchers must have thrown at least 25 IP to qualify*

**** Position players must have 45 plate appearances (PA) to qualify in the North and 40 plate appearances (PA) to qualify in the South. This was determined by taking 80% of the PA needed to qualify for the batting title for each division.*

North - $3.1 \text{ PA} \times 16 \text{ league games in North} = 50 \text{ PA} \times 80\% = 40 \text{ PA}$

South - $3.1 \text{ PA} \times 16 \text{ league games in South} = 50 \text{ PA} \times 80\% = 40 \text{ PA}$

The All-League team shall consist of the following:

Catcher	Outfield
First Base	Outfield
Second Base	Outfield
Shortstop	Utility / DH
Third Base	Pitcher

Other awards shall include:

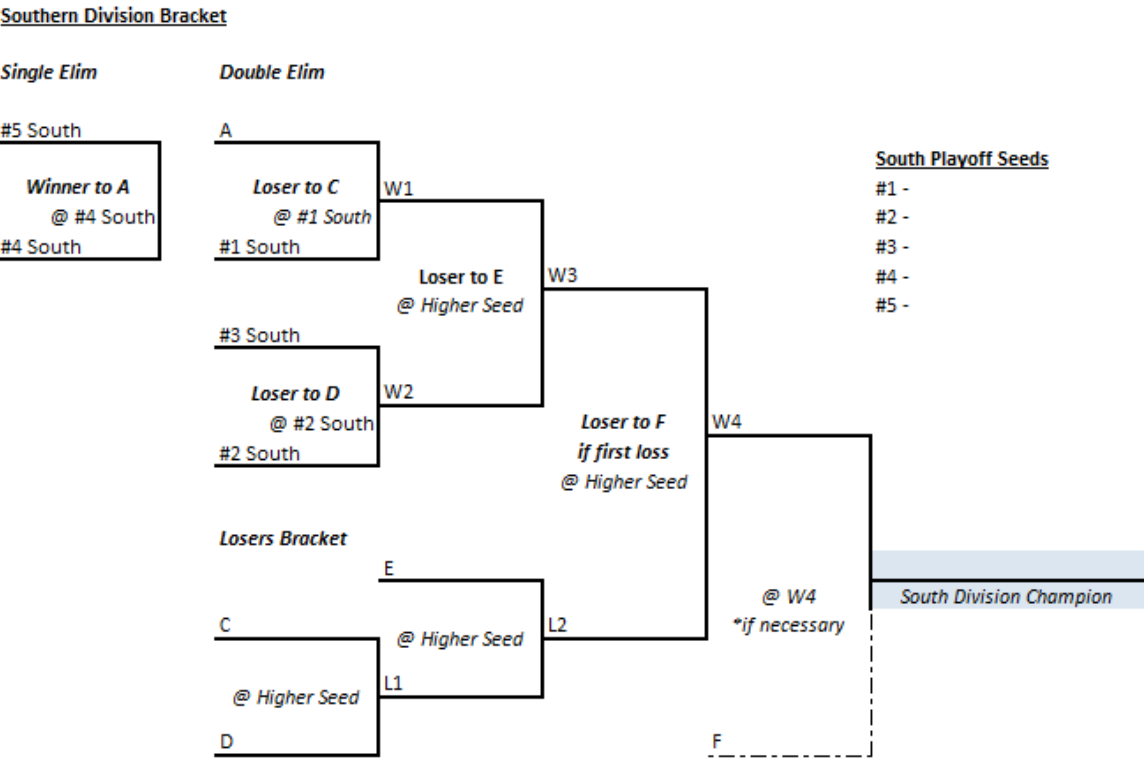
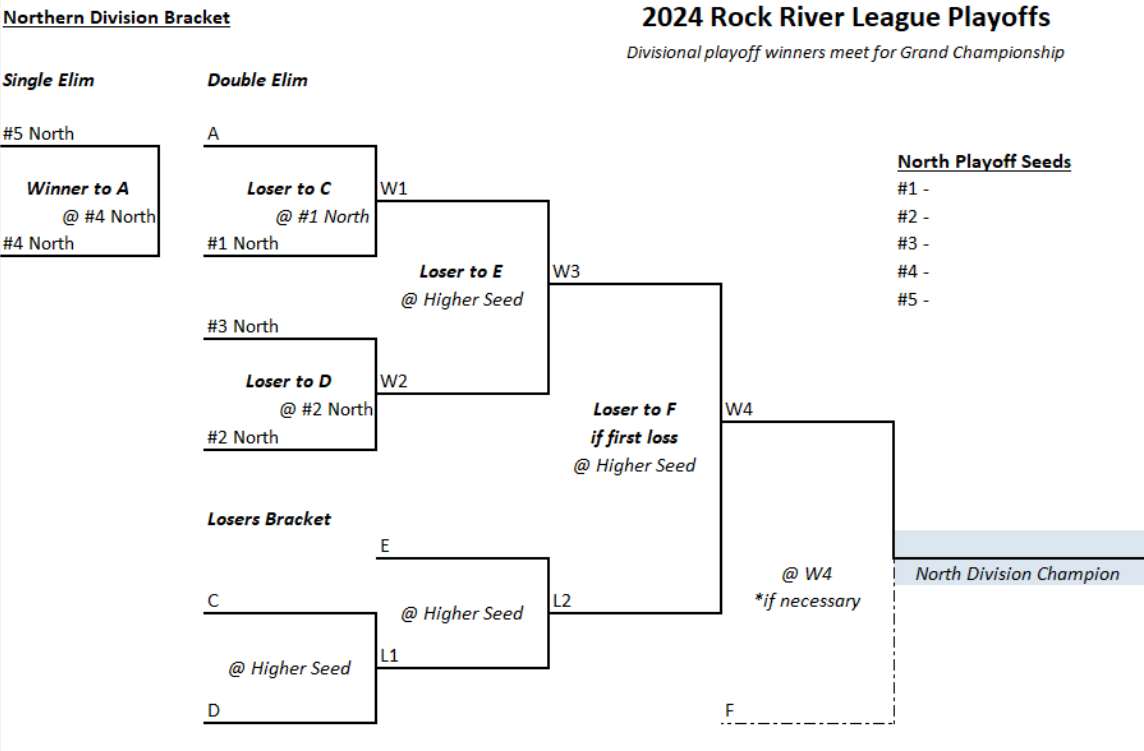
Most Valuable Player	Most Improved Team	Umpire of the Year
Rookie of the Year **	Scorekeeper of the Year	
Manager of the Year	Bat Boy of the Year	
Player of Merit	Batting Champion ***	

*** 40 plate appearances or 25 IP needed to be eligible for Rookie of the Year, a player does not qualify if they have reached 40 plate appearances or 25IP in a previous season*

**** To be eligible for batting champion, hitters must have at least 50 plate appearances in the North ($3.1 \text{ plate appearances} \times 16 \text{ league games}$) and 50 plate appearances in the South ($3.1 \text{ plate appearances} \times 16 \text{ league games}$)*

Each team should nominate one player as their team MVP

Appendix B
Rock River League Playoffs



REVISION HISTORY

Date	Description of Change	Name
01/17/2014	Revised old outdated By-Laws	RH
01/22/2014	Milwaukee /Slinger Change All Star	RH
01/22/2014	Added Tie Breaker to playoff section	RH
03/26/2014	Added 2014 Playoff Picture	RH
05/08/2014	Added omitted DH rule to Article 8	RH
01/21/2015	Tie-breaker & Player eligibility	RB
04/01/2016	Playoffs	MM & RB
04/01/2017	Playoffs, Baseballs and Roster changes	JZ
04/01/2018	Roster, Eligibility and Re-Entry Rule	JZ
01/02/2019	Adjusted Fees per meeting approval, All Star locations, and forfeit amounts.	RH
12/12/2019	Added after deadline roster addition verbiage and clarified other allowed organized leagues	RH
07/12/2020	Adjusted 2021 All Star game location to Lebanon since 2020 was cancelled	RH
04/25/2022	Updated 2022 Playoff Format, Suspension Guidelines and any Finance updates for 2022 (umpire pay, franchise fee, etc.)	JZ
3/5/2023	Updated 2023 Playoff Format, Roster & Eligibility Guidelines and any Finance updates for 2023 (umpire pay, franchise fee, etc.)	JZ
4/25/24	Updated 2024 Playoff Format, Eligibility Guidelines for Team Personnel and any Finance updates for 2024 (umpire pay, franchise fee, etc.)	JZ