

2018 BY-LAWS & GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT OF CHATTANOOGA ADULT BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

I. ARTICLE 1: NAME & PURPOSE

A. This league shall be known as *Chattanooga Adult Baseball Association*(CABA).

B. The purpose of the league shall be to:

- To provide adults 18 & over with the opportunity to play organized baseball in a competitive environment that promotes fairness and good sportsmanship among its players; and regardless of race, gender, nationality, color, or skill level.
- Provide an organizational template in which future expansion allows for league presidents to set up their league utilizing the same organizational structure, rules, and consistency found throughout the CABA
- To supervise and regulate the activities of league members and others participating in CABA sponsored functions; and
- To enter into contracts with vendors in order to obtain facilities, goods and services necessary for carrying out CABA business; and
- To collect, raise and expend funds in an efficient and responsible manner that furthers CABA activities.
- To Promote adult baseball as our national pastime, and provide entertainment and enjoyment for the friends, families and fans of the league and its members.
- To leverage the league's activities in promoting and supporting local veterans and partnering with local veterans organizations to provide aid and assistance.
- To form a fraternity within the league that serves to unite its members for the good of the league, the community, and baseball.

II. ARTICLE 2: MEMBERSHIP, DUES & FINANCES

A. Membership in this league shall be available to invited teams that agree to abide by the regulations of CABA and whose individual members meet league eligibility standards.

B. Beginning in the 2018 season, any new team shall be subject to a one-year probationary period. Team and player conduct will be subject to review by the League President and other league governing officials.

D. The League President shall set team membership dues and the deadline for paying the dues.

III. ARTICLE 3: GOVERNANCE AND MEETINGS

A. Control and governance of the league shall be assigned to the League President, the Vice President, and other supporting staff members assigned to specific roles and functions in the administration of league rules and policies.

B. Regularly scheduled meetings are open to all members of the league. The league will hold at least one preseason meeting, one in season meeting and one year-end meeting per year on dates set by the President. Timely notice of regular meetings will be provided to all league members and published on the league website. Members who do not attend a scheduled meeting may not object to matters decided at the meeting.

C. The League President may elect to issue a vote on any matter, at his discretion. League members may petition the league for a vote, but the League President has the final authority to grant a vote.

H. A manager of record may elect to be represented at league meetings by a person other than himself. In such instances, the league shall be notified prior to the meeting that a team will be represented by a person other than the manager of record. A manager of record may designate alternate assistant managers and player representatives, providing they are in good standing with the league.

IV. ARTICLE 4: DUTIES OF THE LEAGUE PRESIDENT

The League President shall be the chief executive officer of the league. The President will generally oversee league operations and facilitate procedural efficacy to all other league officials. He shall execute contracts in writing on behalf of the league. He shall enforce the provisions of these by-laws, and perform such additional duties as are incidental to his power as the executive officer of this league. The President or an individual acting as the President's designee will chair league meetings. The President will decide on all league matters. The league President may assign and remove authority to any league member.

VI. ARTICLE 6: SCHEDULE AND POSTSEASON PLAY

By April 1st of each year, the schedule shall be posted for the regular season schedule of league games. After the schedule is posted, no changes may be made without approval of the League President or a designated league official. By July 1 of each year, the league shall post the post-season playoff format and schedule.

VII. ARTICLE 7: TEAM ROSTERS & PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

A. CABA team rosters must consist of players that meet the following criteria:

1. Age Limitations

All individuals 18 and over. (a player can register prior to their 18th birthday, but they cannot sign their contract or participate in any games until they have reached 18.)

Players must sign a league approved contract and insurance waiver form and provide age identification per means established by the League President prior to competing. The League President requires that each player provide the league identification at any time, upon the request of any league official or team manager. (driver's license or some other government issued photo I.D). Failure to provide identification will result in immediate ineligibility to play until proof of identity is established and the player is verified to be registered to play.

Good Standing

a) The League President, shall have the authority to discipline, suspend or terminate the eligibility of any team, manager, or player who compromises the principles, policies and purpose of the league.

b) Players must be in good standing with the league in order to be eligible to compete. In good standing includes compliance with the CABA Code of Ethics for players and managers. Players sanctioned by the league for transgressions must satisfy corrective actions meted out by the League President (e.g. serving suspensions, paying outstanding debts to former teams, etc.) before being in good standing with the league.

B. CABA is open to players who meet the age eligibility requirements as defined in these provisions. No player shall be on the roster of more than one CABA team in a designated age division at the same time.

C. Any player who violates the eligibility regulations shall be expelled from CABA for at least one season and for as long beyond that term as may be determined to be appropriate by the League President. In addition, any manager who willfully uses an ineligible player shall be expelled from CABA at least one season and for as long as is determined to be appropriate by the League President. All games in which the ineligible player participated will be forfeited.

D. Players must be on the roster and have appeared in at least 50% of regular season games for the team with which they finish the season in order to be eligible to participate in CABA league playoffs. A player that does not officially appear in a game may be credited for an appearance if they are present for at least 3 innings, in uniform and listed on the lineup card. Players not at a game due to Covid-19 quarantine will not be penalized for games missed. Players who show up and their game is subsequently forfeited through no fault of their own will get credit for the game towards playoff eligibility.

E. Team rosters shall consist of at least 15 players and not more than 20 players under the provisions of the insurance policy. Team rosters may be expanded if a separate insurance policy is purchased. Rosters will be published on the league website. Rosters may not exceed the roster limit without first purchasing an added insurance policy. Any roster changes must be completed prior to the 24 hour window of your next game for a player to be eligible to play that week. There is no provision to add a player on the fly during a game. If such a situation exists, the manager can appeal to the League President for an exception in cases where it will prevent a forfeit.

VIII. ARTICLE 8: PLAYER MOVEMENT - PLAYERS POOL - DRAFT PROCEDURE

A. For the purposes of the article, the "Season" for the CABA is defined as that calendar time period between the leagues first regular season game and the final game of the post season. Also, all players are free agents after the last game of the post season until a player signs and dates the league liability waiver for the season in question and the waiver is submitted to the league.

B. Any player desiring to change teams during the season must apply for a general release and transfer. In this situation, the player would obtain from his current manager a "general release and transfer". Managers, at their discretion, may grant requests for a general release as long as the player is in good standing. A player may appeal to the League President a decision of a manager to deny a request for general release and transfer. Upon the approval of a players general release and transfer, the player is placed in the league player pool and may be drafted by another team under the provisions of Article 8, paragraph F. In order to prevent "poaching", A player cannot request a general release and sign with a team of his choice in the league unless mutually agreed upon by the managers of both teams and approved by the League President.

C. In the event a team disbands during the course of a season, all players wishing to continue league play for the season in question will be placed into a special draft. The remaining teams within the division will have the right to select these players using the reverse order of the current season standings. The League President will determine the date of the standings and any tie breakers which may be applied in determining the order of the draft. Any player not selected in this draft will be placed into the league players pool and will be subject to the procedures set forth in this article. Players which are selected in the special draft are obligated to play for the selecting team for the remainder of the season.

D. Individuals who respond to league sponsored tryouts or league sponsored marketing events will be subject to the following draft procedure. The teams from the preceding season will be ranked in reverse order from last to first. The League President will decide the draft position of new teams in the division which do not have a record from the previous season. Each team has the right to select a player from the tryout or event in this order until all desired players are selected. Any player who is not selected will be placed in the league players pool and may be drafted by another team under the provisions of Article 8, paragraph F.

E. Players recruited by individual teams outside of league tryouts or league sponsored marketing events do not have to be placed into the league players pool and are not subject to league draft procedures. These players have the right to play with any team in the league.

F. During the CABA "Season", players placed into the league players pool or players who fill out the online registration form will be subject to the following draft procedure.

1. An automated email notification will be sent out to all teams in the league when a player is registered in the players pool.

2. Teams will be ranked in reverse order of the final regular season standings from the preceding season.

3. The bottom 50% of teams within a division will have 72 hours to notify the League President of intentions to draft a player. The team with the lowest ranking will have first rights to this player. If a team exercises this right within the 72 hour time limit, this team will be placed highest among the teams in this group for any succeeding selections for new players entered into the players' pool.

4. Any player not selected within 72 hours of the email notification shall remain in the players' pool and will be available for selection by any team within the division. Selection of a player by any team after the 72 hour time limit does affect the team draft order for future players.

5. Players who register in the league players pool outside of the calendar "season", are available for selection by any team in the league.

6. Players who are selected from the players pool during the "season" are obligated to play for the selecting team for the remainder of the season.

G. During the time period outside the calendar "season", all league players are considered free agents. Players are free to move between teams and are not subject to the draft procedures or the general release and transfer provisions of this article.

IX. ARTICLE 9: EQUIPMENT

A. All CABA players are required to wear appropriate safety-related baseball equipment while participating in CABA league games. Batters and runners are required to wear helmets. Catchers are required to wear a skullcap or helmet when catching.

B. All CABA participating players and managers must wear numbered baseball uniforms while within the confines of the field of play. Metal spiked baseball shoes are allowed.

C. The League President shall declare and report to team managers the type and brand of baseball that will be the official baseball used in all CABA games. Violations of league approved equipment can result in penalties or fines up to, and including forfeiture of any game upon which the violation occurred.

D. The league President shall establish guidelines to determine the types of bats that may be used in league games. These guidelines will be specifically addressed in the CABA Addendum to Superseding Exceptions (League Rules).

X. ARTICLE 10: LEAGUE RULES

The MLB rules plus the "CABARule book" will be the code of rules governing the playing of baseball games by teams of CABA. The League President will ensure that the "CABARule book" is posted on the league web page. The Official NFHS rules will be provided via email in PDF format.

XI. ARTICLE 11: MODIFICATION OF GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT

These provisions may be amended by the league President at any time.