

LCBA
Bylaws and Rule Book
Spring 2010

BYLAWS

ARTICLE

1.0 NAME AND ADDRESS

- 1.1 This organization shall be known as the Lake Cities Baseball Association (LCBA).
- 1.2 The mailing address of LCBA is P.O. Box 1214 Lake Dallas, Texas 75065.

2.0 PURPOSE

- 2.1 The constitution bylaws were adopted on December 23, 2006.
(Amended on December January 16, 2010)

3.0 DISSOLUTION CLAUSE

- 3.1 Upon any dissolution of the association, any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

4.0 OBJECTIVE

- 4.1 The Lake Cities Baseball Association's objective is to provide supervised baseball programs that will be enjoyable, educational, and challenging for all the youth of our community. The attainment of exceptional athletic skill and the winning of games are secondary to this objective.

5.0 MEMBERS

- 5.1 Membership in this organization shall be open to all persons who sincerely desire to further the objectives as expressed by these Bylaws.
- 5.2 Members of this organization shall be either voting or nonvoting

members.

5.3 A voting member is any officer from September 1st of the current year through August 31st of the following year. A voting member shall have one (1) vote at membership meetings regardless of the number of children they have registered. A non-voting member is any parent or guardian of youth duly registered in the baseball program, or an approved coach in the baseball program.

5.4 General Membership shall be defined as any parent/guardian of a child who is a registered participant in the LCBA, sponsors, coaches, and LCBA Board members of the current LCBA season.

6.0 BOARD MEETINGS

6.1 Regular Board meetings of the LCBA shall be held on a mutual agreed day on an as needed basis. Unless deemed a special meeting that shall be described within, and can be scheduled in a manner that is suitable for the scope of the determining factor that requires a special meeting.

6.2 All membership meetings shall be held in the confines of one the Cities that combined are what are considered Lake Cities which adheres to the following: Lake Dallas, Corinth, Shady Shores and Hickory Creek. Meetings of members for any other purpose may be held at such time and place as shall be stated in the notice of the meeting.

7.0 OFFICERS OF LAKE CITIES BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

7.1 The Officers are:

President	Board Appointed	Non-Voting position
Vice President	Elected	Voting Position
Treasurer	Board Appointed	Voting Position
Secretary	Elected	Voting Position
Director of Coaches	Elected	Voting Position
Director of Equipment / Uniforms	Elected	Voting Position
Director of Fields	Elected	Voting Position

Director of Umpires	Elected	Voting Position
Director of Publicity/Fundraising	Elected	Voting Position
Director of AA	Elected	Voting Position
Rec. League Commissioners *	Elected	Voting Position
Member-at-Large	Appointed	Voting Position
Member-at-Large	Appointed	Voting Position
Member-at-Large	Appointed	Voting position
Member-at-Large	Appointed	Voting position

•Each league or division shall have at least one Commissioner. Leagues or divisions with more than 10 teams may have more than one Commissioner with Board approval.

These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and rules adopted by the association. Specific duties of the officers and directors shall be included in the Standing Rules of the Association attached to these bylaws. A board of Officers hereinafter referred to, as the "Board" shall govern the LCBA.

7.2 Election of Officers. Election of the Officers shall be held no later than two weeks prior to the end of the current playing season. The President or the presiding director shall appoint a Nominating Committee with Board approval. The members of the nominating committee are to solicit the membership at large to obtain officer and director candidates for the following year. The Nominating Committee shall be comprised of LCBA members, subject to Board approval.

7.3 The Nominating Committee Chairperson shall present the names of the candidates the committee has selected at the annual membership meeting. The Nominating Committee shall serve as Tellers of the election.

7.4 Nominations will be submitted for positions to the Board no later than three weeks prior to the end of the current season. A special committee will prepare the ballot for the elections. Time will be made available for the ballots to be cast. Ballots will be counted and new officers will be announced, before the end of the current season. Simple majority will win.

7.5 The elected officers of the Board shall be elected by General Membership every two years. If any position is open, at the end of a non-election year, then nominations will be accepted for the open positions and elections held for those open positions. Each General member, as described in Section 5.5, shall vote only one complete ballot regardless of the number of children they have registered. There will be no limitation to the number of terms a member may serve. No person may serve as President who has not served or held a position as an Officer for a minimum of one season previous to his/her election to the office of President.

7.6 Any Officer of the Association may be subject to disciplinary action for conduct unbecoming or detrimental to LCBA by a simple majority opinion of the Board. The Board shall have the power, by a two-thirds vote of those present at any regular or special meeting, to discipline, suspend, or remove an officer or coach of the LCBA. Such officer or coach shall have the right to defend Himself/herself at a regular or special meeting of the Board.

7.7 If any Officer vacancies occur for any reason, a simple majority of the Officers present at the time of the board meeting where the vacant position is called to be filled may choose a successor, or a successor may be chosen at a special meeting of the members called for that purpose. Each successor officer so chosen shall be elected for the unexpired term of his/her predecessor. In the event the vacancy is not filled the Board as a whole will fill such vacancy for the remainder of the association year.

7.8 Any officer may resign by giving written notice to the President or Secretary, or by verbal resignation at a regular or special board meeting. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, or immediately if no time is specified therein. The acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

7.9 All officers of the association shall be elected volunteers receiving no compensation for performance of their duties. No officer association shall willingly use his position for personal gain or to obtain any benefits that are not available to the entire general membership.

7.10 The term of office for all member elected officers shall be two (2) association years. The President position will be a 3yr. term with eligibility requirements. Eligibility requirements for the President position shall be: to have held office on the board 1 year within the last previous 3 years. An association year shall run from September 1 thru August 31 of each year.

7.11 All Board Members upon acceptance of their elected position will complete a Criminal Background Questionnaire. If the form is not completed,

the individual will not serve in the LCBA in any capacity.

7.12 If for any reason the President cannot fulfill his/her term of office, the Vice President shall assume the office of President. The Vice President, then acting as President, shall call a special meeting of the board, at which time the Board will elect a new president. The Vice President will then reassume his/her normal duties.

8.0 BUSINESS AND AFFAIRS OF THE ASSOCIATION

8.1 The business and affairs of the association shall be managed by the board. The board shall establish all policies, rules, and procedures not covered by these Bylaws.

8.2 Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President from time to time. Any two (2) officers may call a special meeting of the Board by giving notice to the President or in his/her absence, the presiding Vice President.

8.3 The first meeting of the newly elected Board shall be held in joint session with the old Board at a time and place to be determined by the board. At this time all books and reports shall be turned over to the newly installed officers.

8.4 All officers of the association have one vote during Board meetings except for the President or presiding officer. The President or presiding officer will only vote in order to break a tie vote during all meetings. Proxy votes will be allowed for a quorum only, not for voting purposes.

8.5 Any officer who is absent from two (2) consecutive regular Board meetings will lose his/her power to vote until the following conditions are met: 1) attend one complete Board meeting without voting status, and 2) review minutes of all meetings previously missed.

8.6 In such an event, the member shall be contacted by the President or Vice President to see if the member has a desire to continue with their position. The member will also be notified that failure to attend the next meeting will result in their removal from the board.

8.7 The majority of officers of the association with voting powers constitute a quorum at a regular scheduled board meeting. At all special meetings, at least 2/3 of the officers (filled positions only) constitute a quorum. The President or presiding officer will count as one of the officers of the quorum. The act of a majority of the voting officers present at any meeting shall be

the act of the Executive Board except as may be otherwise specifically provided by these Bylaws. A previously adopted resolution (excluding bylaws and standing rules) can be amended and /or rescinded with a two-thirds majority vote or by a majority vote if there was prior notice. Prior notice requires notice of the proposed amendment/recession to each board member when notice of the meeting is given, or is satisfied if the proposed amendment/recession was discussed in the preceding meeting.

8.8 A complete list of members entitled to vote shall be available at the meeting. This list shall be produced and kept open at the time and place of the meeting. The list shall be subject to inspection by any member who may be present.

8.9 At any regular or properly called membership meeting, the vote of the majority of the members present having voting power shall decide any question brought before such meeting unless the question is one upon which, by express provision of these Bylaws, a different vote is required; in which such the express provision shall govern and control the decision of such question. The voting members present at a duly organized meeting may continue to transact business until adjournment.

8.10 Any rule changes must be made prior to the draft for the spring season. There will be no rule changes once a season has begun unless it is a safety issue, or deemed an emergency change by the Board; in which, a special meeting will be held and the laws that apply according to quorum and such will apply.

8.11 Rules made by the board will not be reevaluated for 90 days.

9.0 COMMITTEES

9.1 Standing or special committees shall be appointed by the President or Executive Board from time to time. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

9.2 All Standing Committee compositions and duties will be written in the Standing Rules of the association.

10.0 AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES

10.1 These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed at any meeting of the membership by the affirmative vote of 2/3 of those present at any regular or special meeting of the Board.

10.2 Standing Rules are rules which are related to details of the association. Standing Rules may be altered, amended, repealed, or granted an exception at any Executive Board Meeting by the affirmative vote of a two thirds (2/3) majority of voting officers present (excluding the President or presiding officer).

10.3 Playing Field rules may be modified by LCBA without notification in case of weather, make-ups, field availability, or convenience of LCBA.

11.0 Purchases

11.1 All purchases of the association must be approved by the board.

11.2 Requests for purchase/reimbursement should be submitted to the Treasurer who will submit the requests to the board for approval. Requests must include an invoice.

11.3 All purchases over \$300 for League equipment, Uniforms, Pictures, and/or Services should be competitively bid. The board must approve the final selection on all bids.

11.4 The President is authorized to write a check for up to \$200 to handle emergencies.

11.5 Only specific persons have been granted purchasing authority by the LCBA Board.

12.0 Registration

12.1 The board shall approve a registration opening date and a registration closing date at least 30 days prior to the opening of registration.

12.2 All board members shall assist in registration under the direction of the Vice-President.

12.3 The board shall approve a registration fee at least 30 days prior to the opening of registration.

12.4 The board shall adequately advertise registration in advance. Advertisement should include but not be limited to the following:

- a. Flyers distributed to all local schools to be sent home with every student.
- b. Flyers displayed in public areas.

- c. Local newspaper advertisements.
- d. Signs to be displayed throughout various locations

12.5 The board shall approve appropriate registration forms at least 30 days prior to the opening of registration. The forms must include a medical release and hold harmless statements.

12.6 No individual will be allowed to register after registration closes with the following exceptions:

- a. New players moving into the area. These persons will be allowed to register through the third week of regular season league play. After this date, no one will be allowed to register. A "late move in" registrant shall be placed on the team with the fewest number of active players at the time of their registration. If more than one team qualifies for the new player then the Commissioner of the league/division will place the new player on one of the teams that qualify.

- b. Late registrations will be accepted at the leagues discretion if needed to fulfill rosters. There will be a \$20.00 late fee, in addition to the regular registration fee, assessed for these registrations.

12.7 In the event a team roster decreases below the required number of players and no new registrants are available, an equitable solution will be established by the board so that the team may continue to play. The manager of the team will be required to give notice in writing to the board (through his/her commissioner) that his team is below the required number of players.

12.8 Refunds of Registration Fees:

- a. There will be no refunds for players leaving a team after the participant has been assigned a team unless extenuating circumstances exist.

- b. Players that move out of the LCBA area prior to the first league game may receive a 50% registration fee refund with board approval. (The board may approve a 100% refund if uniforms were not ordered for that player.)

- c. All registration refund requests for players leaving prior to the first league game must be submitted in writing to the board (through the appropriate commissioner). The board will decide the amount of the refund, if any, based on the specific circumstances.

STANDING RULES

Inability or failure to perform the duties of the position, without an adequate reason will result in removal from the board.

(Note: a copy of the duties of each office should be given to each candidate prior to their acceptance of a nomination. If a candidate cannot perform the duties of the office for which they are nominated, they should not accept the nomination. If they can perform the duties and agree to do so, they should sign the copy of their duties and return it to the Nominations/Elections Committee Chairperson prior to the ballots being created. Failure to do so will void that person's nomination.)

Duties of Officers

13.0 President

13.1 To preside over all meetings and shall be Chairman of the Board of Officers.

13.2 To break any tie vote.

13.3 To create and coordinate an agenda for every meeting.

13.4 To represent LCBA at meetings with other Athletic Associations.

13.5 To manage the Officers of the association and ensure that all duties of the Executive Board are completed in a timely fashion.

13.6 To appoint committees and all appointed positions, with board approval, and act as an ex-officio member at committee meetings.

13.7 To perform such other duties as the Executive Board prescribes.

13.8 To assist the Vice President set up, organize, and conduct registration, try-outs, and drafts for baseball.

13.9 Is empowered to take reasonable and prudent action in cases covered in this constitution and such authority is implicit in this office.

13.10 To sit on the Rules and Protest Committee

13.11 He/She shall appoint a person or committee to schedule all games and give copies of schedules to Commissioners for distribution to all coaches. He/she shall oversee the Commissioners and reschedule games as necessary.

13.12 He/she is responsible for making payment in full for the annual

registration fees, etc. to Nations Baseball and other associations.

14.0 Vice-President

14.1 To preside over all meetings in the absence of the President.

14.2 To act as chairman of the Sponsor Committee which will establish a program for obtaining Sponsors and maintaining a working relationship between the Sponsors and the association.

14.3 To set up, organize, and conduct registration, coach looks, and drafts for baseball.

14.4 To perform duties as assigned by the President.

14.5 To act as chairman of the fund-raising committee.

14.6 To procure and manage the insurance for LCBA with Executive Board approval.

15.0 Treasurer

15.1 To receive and collect all funds.

15.2 To dispense all bills and charges under the direction of the board.

15.3 To maintain the financial status of the association using the association's computer and financial software.

15.4 To provide a full report of receipts and expenditures, deposit balances and financial condition monthly at the regular scheduled meetings.

15.5 To file tax returns and forms required and report all filings to the board.

15.6 To sit on Membership and Registration Committee.

15.7 To perform duties assigned by the President.

16.0 Secretary

16.1 To make and preserve the minutes of all meetings.

16.2 To keep all committee reports.

16.3 To maintain the record books in which the bylaws, standing rules, and minutes are entered, with any amendments to these documents properly recorded, and to have the current record books on hand at every meeting.

16.4 To prepare an agenda for each meeting with the coordination of the President.

16.5 To maintain a complete list of all voting Officers of the association and maintain a list of the entire membership.

16.6 To notify all Officers of the association of Executive Board Meetings.

16.7 To secure reports from League commissioners.

16.8 To update and maintain the associations' database.

16.9 To make and distribute copies of the bylaws, standing rules and any standing resolutions to new Officers of the association.

16.10 Assist commissioners with making and distributing copies of the following materials to each coach through the appropriate commissioner:

- a. LCBA rules for the appropriate league/division
- b. List of current Board Members
- c. Medical release forms
- d. Team roster with parent names and phone numbers
- e. List of league/division coaches names and numbers
- f. To perform duties as assigned by the President.

16.11 To maintain a record of all LCBA activities and rosters of sponsors.

16.12 To notify all Board officers of regular and special Board meetings.

16.13 He / She shall maintain the player pool for LCBA.

16.14 Create and maintain a database of all registered players, draft date, tryout information, team information, etc.

17.0 Director of Coaches

17.1 To compile a qualified list of coaches, with Board approval, and work

with the coaches.

17.2 To ensure that all LCBA Board Members, coaches and Assistant coaches completed and submit a completed Criminal Background Questionnaire.

17.3 He/she will submit all forms to the Background Review Committee.

17.4 Responsible for completing background checks on all coaches, umpires, board members, and volunteers.

17.5 To serve as a communicator/facilitator between Executive Board and Managers/coaches in the respective leagues/divisions.

17.6 To implement rules, policies, and procedures as established by the Board.

17.7 To preside over all meetings of team managers.

18.0 Director of Equipment / Uniforms

18.1 To make an annual inventory report.

18.2 To obtain bid(s) and select vendor (s) with board approval for league equipment.

18.3 To organize and supervise the distribution and collection of all equipment.

18.4 To supervise the storage and security of all equipment and LCBA facilities.

18.5 To, submit for board approval, a budget for equipment at least 30 days prior to the start of the season.

18.6 To obtain bid (s) and select vendor (s) with board approval for league uniforms.

18.7 To organize and supervise the distribution of all uniforms.

18.8 To obtain bids and select a photographer, with board approval.

18.9 To schedule and coordinate the team pictures with the approved photographer and the league/division commissioners.

18.10 To obtain bids and purchase trophies, with board approval, no later than 21 days prior to the end of the season.

18.11 To perform duties as assigned by the President.

19.0 Director of Fields

19.1 Responsible for the preparation of all fields.

19.2 Handling of all items pertaining to field conditions, including markings and base bags.

19.3 To perform duties as assigned by the President.

20.0 Director of Umpires

20.1 Train umpires in our umpiring pool.

20.2 Communicate with umpires about any changes to rules.

20.3 Schedule umpires for games for the organization.

20.4 Sits on the Rules and Protest Committee

20.5 To perform duties as assigned by the President.

21.0 Director of Publicity / Fundraising

21.1 To run board approved advertisements in the local newspaper regarding registration.

21.2 To produce Board approved registration information flyers and distribute them to all local schools and public bulletin boards.

21.3 To write and submit board approved articles to the local newspaper for the association.

21.4 To inform general public of LCBA activities including registration, league standings, team scores, and promoting tournaments.

21.5 Maintain and keep the LCBA website current with good information for the public at all times, in the event a League Webmaster is not named. All Website maintenance requests should be accomplished within 24 hours of the initial request.

21.6 To assist with the organization of spring registration.

21.7 To obtain sponsorships for scoreboards, teams, etc.

21.8 To distribute plaques to team sponsors.

21.9 To present sponsorship pricing and ideas to board.

21.10 Coordinate, order and distribute Booster club items.

21.11 To perform duties as assigned by the President.

22.0 Commissioners

22.1 To serve as the focal distribution point for their respective league's/division's equipment, pictures, trophies, fund raiser, newsletters and other items which need to be distributed to each team.

22.2 To procure managers and registered coaches for each team of the commissioner's league/division and provide their information to the Director of Coaches.

22.3 To maintain accurate team rosters, and report to the board any time a player quits a team, for any reason.

22.4 To attend and/or assist in the umpire and scorekeeper training.

22.5 To be present at scheduling and draft of their appropriate age group.

22.6 To perform duties as assigned by the President.

23.0 Members-at-Large

23.1 To serve on committees as appointed.

23.2 To perform duties as assigned by the President.

24.0 Director of AA

24.1 To serve as a communicator/facilitator between the Executive Board and the Managers/coaches in each respective league/division.

24.2 To implement rules, policies, and procedures as established by the board.

24.3 To preside over all meetings of AA team managers.

24.4 To serve as the focal distribution point for respective league's/division's equipment, pictures, trophies, fundraisers, newsletters and other items which need to be distributed to each team

24.5 Act as Nations Baseball Liaison and NTI representative and is responsible for registering teams and submitting rosters.

24.6 He/She is responsible for registering LCBA to become a member of the State Association and completing and submitting official team rosters to the State office.

24.7 To provide the following information to each manager in each respective league/division:

- a. NTI rules for the respective league/division
- b. Roster of the Executive Board
- c. Schedule of games and tournaments
- e. Schedule of practice fields
- f. List of coaches in the respective league/division and phone numbers
- g. To make reports as required by Board.
- h. To perform duties as assigned by the President.

25.0 Appointed Positions and Duties/Standing Committees

25.1 Rules Committee

- a. President is the Chairman of this committee.
- b. Vice President, Director of Umpires, Director of Coaches and Director of AA / NTI Rep. sit on the committee
- c. Evaluates rule changes and suggestions.
- d. Presents recommendations from Rules Committee to the Board

25.2 Membership and Registration Committee

- a. Vice President is Chairman of the committee.

- b. Consists of at least two other members.
- c. Finds location and sets times for registration.
- d. Informs Director of Publicity as to dates and place of registration.
- e. Finds volunteers for registration.
- f. Collects membership and fund-raising money.

25.3 Coaches Conduct Committee (CCC)

- a. Any negative allegation submitted in writing concerning the conduct or ethics of an LCBA team registered with or sponsored by the LCBA will be subject to review by the Coaches Conduct Committee (CCC).
- b. The CCC shall consist of the following: An individual selected by the President will chair the Committee. This position may be either a standing committee chairman position or an individual appointed as needed. When convened, the committee will consist of the Commissioner and one other manager from the league of the coach whose conduct is under consideration. Two other Commissioners and two other managers from any other leagues will also preside for a total of seven people. The Chairman will only vote to break a tie. Findings of the CCC with recommended action will be referred to the Executive Committee.

Note: Findings and Resolutions of the CCC will be reported to the Executive Board.

- c. A manager, registered coach, temporary, assistant or acting coach may be referred to the CCC for alleged violations of rules, bylaws or questionable ethical conduct at any time. Any coach, Commissioner or Board Member informed of an allegation must act upon receipt of said allegation. Such allegations must then be forwarded in writing to the President and Director of Coaches within 24 hours of the initial complaint. The President will consider the merits of the allegation and if warranted, instruct the CCC Chairman or his representative to convene a hearing. Anonymous complaints will not be accepted or acted upon. Persons making a complaint must be willing to appear before the CCC, Executive Committee and/or the Board of Directors. The CCC Chairman and committee will consider the matter within the subsequent 48 hours after receiving the complaint.
- d. A written copy of the decision of the CCC will be presented to the Board of Directors and sent to the persons involved by mail. A copy of the

decision will be placed in the coach's permanent LCBA file.

e. A coach may appeal the decision of the CCC. Any such appeal must be delivered to a member of the Executive Board within 48 hours of the receipt of the final decision. The Board of Directors will then conduct an appeal hearing at mutually agreed upon date, time, and location. At that hearing, written and oral arguments from the affected person(s) will be heard. The Board of Directors will make the final decision, in closed session, and then notify all parties involved of their decision, within 24 hours.

f. Members of the Committee, Executive Committee or Board of Directors, who become subjects of the CCC, will abstain from membership during the committee's consideration of the case.

25.4 Nomination Committee

a. President appoints Chairman of this committee and sits on this Committee. Chairman of this committee will select a minimum of two other board members to assist with and validate election results.

b. Accepts nominations and ensures candidates will accept.

c. Creates ballot of candidates.

d. Oversees the casting of votes.

e. Counts votes.

f. Creates a document that outlines the duties and expectations of each board member position and ensures that each potential candidate reads, acknowledges, and signs the document prior to accepting their nomination.

g. Contacts winning candidates and posts official election results on the league website within 48 hours.

25.5 Protest Committee

a. President is the chairman of this committee.

b. Vice-President, Director of Umpires, Director of Coaches, and one Member-at-Large sit on the committee.

c. Presents recommendations of Protest Committee to board.

d. Receives forwarded copies of all written protests.

- e. Selects times for hearing and voting on protests.

26.0 Team Scorekeeper

26.1 Coaches at their discretion may select a team scorekeeper to keep a scorebook to be used solely for the purpose of helping the team. The team scorekeeper may help their coaches with such items as pitching eligibility, player participation, and batting order. The scorebook kept by the home team scorekeeper will be counted as the official scorebook unless an official scorekeeper is designated by the league.

26.2 In no case is the team scorekeeper allowed to call time-out or initiate a conference with the umpires.

26.3 Should a conflict occur between the team scorebook and the official scorebook, the official scorebook will be deemed correct.

26.4 Coaches are responsible for signing the opposing team's scorebook in order to verify the score.

26.5 To achieve uniformity in keeping the records of the league and championship games, the Scorekeeper must conform to the Official Scoring Rules as carried in the Official Baseball Guide and Record Book, and the ASA Official Guide.

26.6 The scorekeeper must maintain an accurate account of innings pitched. (9/10, 11/12, 13/14).

26.7 The visiting team is responsible for providing a person to run the electronic scoreboard.

27.0 Umpires for Division Play

27.1 An official umpire is defined as one that is approved by LCBA.

27.2 There shall be at least two umpires working each game with the exception of (5/6) Tee Ball and (8U) Coach Pitch. Tee ball will not have an umpire and Coach Pitch will have at least one umpire.

28.0 MANAGER AND COACHES DUTIES (GENERAL)

28.1 The manager's purpose is not only to coach and administrate his/her team but more importantly to act as **a role model** for the youth in our community. The managers are responsible for directing the conduct of their

players, assistant coaches, player's parents, and themselves towards the accomplishment of the LCBA objective.

28.2 Managers will coach his/her team using the rules described in the associations Rules for the particular League/Division that the manager is assigned.

28.3 CONDUCT:

a. Any Lake Cities Baseball member who is reported to the Board **in writing** for using profane language, acting in an unsportsmanlike manner, and/or under the influence of intoxicating beverages or illegal and/or controlled substance, any time or place in conjunction with a LCBA function, will be subject to disciplinary action by the Executive Board.

b. If any person is ejected from a game for any reason, he/she will leave the field area immediately. If the ejected person continues to disrupt the game they will be asked to leave the park. Failure to abide by this rule will constitute a forfeited game. A person ejected may be suspended from the program for the duration of the year upon review by the Executive Board. If a person is ejected twice in one season, they will be subject to suspension from LCBA. A person may be ejected immediately from the park for poor conduct at the discretion of a league Official or Umpire.

d. Any manager or registered coach who does not fulfill his/her duties or is the subject of a written complaint is subject to review and discipline by LCBA.

28.4 Each manager must notify the appropriate Commissioner in writing within 48 hours if any player quits their team.

28.5 Each manager must notify the appropriate commissioner in writing within 48 hours of any permanent coaching changes. All managers and registered coaches must be approved by the Executive Board.

28.6 All Coaches and assistant coaches will be approved by the board.

28.7 Assistant coaches, for the purpose of protecting players must be declared before try-outs and board must approve before try-outs.

28.8 All coaches will be required to attend coach's clinic and complete and maintain NYSCA certification and a copy of certification must be provided to

the league.

28.9 The head Coach is responsible for recording the win/loss record on Sportability.

29.0 Registration

29.1 The players will be registered in the following leagues based upon ages:

<u>A (REC)</u>	<u>AA (Select)</u>
Blastball - Ages 3/4	9U
Tball -Age (5/6)	10U
Coach Pitch - Age 8U	11U
Baseball - Age 10U	12U
Baseball - Age 12U	13U
Baseball - Age 14U	14U

- a. Special Needs: REC Try out is not required in a case of handicap. This is a case by case basis.

29.2 Spring baseball players will be registered in the appropriate league based upon the player's age prior to April 30th of the current year.

29.3 Player pool assignments will be made at the discretion of the Board.

29.4 Any player that submits their application after the close of registration will be placed in the player pool.

29.5 Players of proper age whose residence, as determined by the residence of their parents or legal guardians (supported by school records), is within the approved league boundaries shall be considered "legal" player for League and tournament play.

29.6 Copies of birth certificates are required for age verification upon request from the board. Documents must be legible and with an authorized signature from the issuing agency. Notarized statements from parents are unacceptable.

29.7 It is the intent of LCBA to allow all youth the opportunity to participate in the LCBA. If a player needs financial assistance in order to play, a player scholarship may be awarded. Proof of such need must be submitted to the Board for approval (i.e., reduced school lunch program voucher, unemployment check stub, etc.).

GENERAL RULES

30.0 Miscellaneous - Coaches

30.1 Each team may consist of one Head coach and a minimum of two Assistant Coaches with the exception of 8U, which will have one Head coach and a minimum of three Assistant Coaches.

30.2 A person can be declared a Head Coach on one team only, but can be declared an Assistant on another team. A person may be an assistant coach on two teams. A coach may protect a maximum of two of his/her children.

30.3 Any coach exercising their Parent/Child option must actively participate in coaching their team during games.

31.0 Control of Playing Action

31.1 START OF GAMES:

a. First Game of the Day (or games with no preceding game played on the field): The umpire will call a conference with the Manager or Registered Coach of each team no earlier than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time, but no later than 5 minutes prior to scheduled start time. The umpire will notify the coaches that the game will start when the umpire is in position and announces "Play Ball". The umpire will discuss any safety items and rule clarification and answer any questions from the coaches. The home plate umpire will announce "Play Ball" at scheduled start time.

b. Back to Back Games: All subsequent games when back to back games are played will start as soon as possible after the end of the proceeding game and no later than 15 minutes following the end of the proceeding game. The umpire will call a conference with the coaches (as explained above) no later than five minutes prior to starting the game.

c. The umpire will start the timing for the game when he

announces "Play Ball".

d. If the first pitch is not completed within 5 minutes after the plate umpire announces "Play Ball" due to one team's inability to start, then the umpire(s) will declare a forfeit and award a win to the team that is ready to play. If neither team is ready, then the umpire(s) will cancel the game. In either case, if the teams are prepared to play after this time, then they may play a practice game at the discretion of the coaches and they must be removed from the field at least 15 minutes prior to the next scheduled game. Umpires will remain for a practice game.

31.2 TIME CONTROL: The umpire(s) must ensure that the game play is continued in a timely fashion. The umpire should attempt to postpone all coach's questions until after the game or between innings unless it is a "rule clarification question" regarding a call.

31.3 Umpire will determine when play is to be stopped and resumed.

32.0 Protests and Disputes

32.1 A protest based on play which involves an umpire's judgment shall not be permitted. Umpires will work to settle all situations on the field. Protests will be allowed for age, pitching violations or rule interpretations only.

32.2 When a protests are based on an interpretation of the rules, the objecting manager shall, at the time the play occurs, notify the head umpire, the opposing manager and official scorer that the game is being played under protest, and submit the protest in writing to the league president and / or secretary within 24 hours of the completion of the game. All protests must be discussed with the umpire in charge by the offended team at the time of the play before the next pitch.

a. When protests based on the interpretation of a rule are upheld by the Rules and Protests Committee, the game concerned shall be replayed from the point of protest.

b. Umpires should make a public announcement to the crowd when the game is being played under protest.

c. Protests will only be accepted for the purpose of adjudication of a rules violation. Protests will not be accepted to arbitrate judgment rulings made by the umpires.

32.3 Any team manager or other adult leader who withdraws a team from the playing field under any circumstances prior to the official completion of the game shall forfeit all rights to protests as prescribed in this section and forfeit the game.

32.4 A \$100.00 cash filing must accompany any protest.

a. If protest is upheld the money will be refunded.

b. If the protest is rejected the money will be placed in the league general fund.

33.0 Player Participation

33.1 Player participation of 2 innings in the field must be accomplished by the end of the 4th inning, time permitting. All games will be governed by time limits set by LCBA. If a Home team is ahead when time expires the game is an official complete game.

33.2 A coach who does not abide by the Player Participation rule will be disciplined as follows:

a. First offense: written warning from the Commissioner with copy to the President of LCBA.

b. Second offense: The coach involved will be suspended for the next scheduled game.

c. Third offense: The coach involved will be suspended for the remainder of the season.

If the violation is determined to have been intentional, a more severe penalty may be assessed by the Executive Board to include possible forfeitures.

33.3 Coaches are not required to fulfill the player participation requirement if the player is habitually absent from practices, without a justifiable reason **and** notification given to the coach explaining the absence.

34.0 Miscellaneous

34.1 Concessions- Team drinks are limited to the official team players and coaches.

34.2 Field Maintenance- After each game, players are to pick-up trash on

their side of the field **to include Dugouts, bleachers and surrounding areas.**

34.3 Awards-Awards will be presented at the end of the baseball season. Value of the awards and material gifts to individual players must be in accordance with the financial solvency and at the discretion of the LCBA.

35.0 League Schedule

35.1 Regular season games shall be scheduled around community activities, or school activities which involve a large number of players from any or all leagues. If a conflict occurs, and cancellation is necessary, said cancellation must be reported to the Commissioner no later than 72 hours prior to the scheduled game time. These games will be treated as rain-outs and will be rescheduled accordingly.

36.0 Postponed, Rain-out and Suspended Games

36.1 If postponement is necessary, said postponement must be reported to the commissioner no later than 72 hours prior to scheduled game time.

36.2 It shall be the responsibility of each League Commissioner or designated board member to see that all postponed, rain-out, make-up and suspended games are rescheduled and played at the earliest possible date. All such games must be played during the regular season of play and before the end of the official league season.

- a. A postponed and/or make-up game is defined as one that is rescheduled to be played in its entirety at a later date.

37.0 LCBA LIGHTNING POLICY

(Adopted April 9, 2007)

LCBA LIGHTNING SAFETY POLICY / PROCEDURE

In the event of lightning, guidelines by the NCAA and NSSL (National Severe Storms Laboratory) will be followed during games, practices, or any other LCBA sanctioned event. The NCAA and NSSL, strongly recommend terminating activity when lightning is 6 miles away, as there is a 70% chance that the next cloud-to-ground strike will occur in a circular area with a 6-mile radius from the previous strike.

In accordance with the above recommendation, LCBA will adhere to the following policy, in the event of lightning. Please note that the LCBA considers the safety of our children as the highest priority. LCBA officials will render a decision based upon information gathered on the local weather conditions.

In the event of lightning, the following will take place:

When using the lightning detector apply the 3 to 8-mile "within-range" rule according to the unit's reading. If lightning is detected within the 3 to 8-mile range (or closer), all games will be delayed for 15 minutes; to allow LCBA board officials time to assess the situation.

If after the 15-minute delay, any lightning strikes are detected within the 3 to 8-mile (or closer) range on the detector, all games will either be suspended or postponed, whichever applies. If at the end of 15 minutes, it is determined that the storm is moving away from the playing areas, and no strikes occur within the 3 to 8-mile (or closer) range, all games will resume.

During the 15 minutes delay/evaluation period, teams will be removed from the playing field and dugout area. Teams may proceed to the concession stand area to await the decision of a LCBA board official. If any team chooses not to wait the required delay period (15 minutes), then the game will result in a forfeit by said team. If both teams decide not to wait the required time, the game will result in a double forfeit and will not be replayed.

In the event of a game delay or suspension, it is the responsibility of the "home" team to record all aspects of play (e.g. game start time, time of delay, score, position of runners, player at bat, balls/strikes, outs, etc.)

A delayed/suspended game, when resumed, will continue from the exact point of delay/suspension.

In accordance with Nations Baseball Rules, all games that for any reason cannot be declared a regulation game will be a suspended game. Please refer to Nations Baseball for definition of a regulation game.

If any game is called due to rain, weather, light failure in the event of a night game, or other acts of God and cannot be resumed, LCBA will follow the Nations Baseball rules for a regulation game.

In accordance to LCBA Bylaws and Rules: a postponed game/make-up game will be defined as one that is to be rescheduled to be played in its entirety at a later date.

38.0 League Champions

38.1 A single award will be presented to the Champion of each division, which will be determined by the end of the season regular play. (1st place Champion only.)

38.2 In the event of a tie in any division at the end of regular season play, the standards set forth on Sportability / Nations will be used to break all ties.

38.3 There will be a regular season and an End of season Tournament champion awarded.

39.0 Selection of Players and Draft System

39.1 Player Participation/Try-outs

- a. All registrants entering LCBA, with the exception of 8U and below, must attend Try-outs for their respective age group.
- b. Any individual that is required to attend Try-outs and does not will be selected by blind draw after all eligible players are drafted. Blind draws will not be eligible for trade.
- c. Any team exercising an option will have to declare that option before the designated published try-out time.

39.2 Draw/Draft

- a. The Manager and his/her Registered Coaches should be present for the draw/draft process.
- b. At the actual draft, there will be a limit of three representatives for each team of which only one will be the spokesperson.
- c. The President, Vice President, League Commissioner, or agreed upon designate, will advise the round at which each team will commence their participation. Teams will draft in ascending/descending order based on a lottery draw, unless the number of teams is below 6 (six).
- d. All other draft rules that do not pertain to player protection still apply.
- e. LCBA President or Vice President will answer any questions at Draft time.
- f. A Coach's option is defined as the son or daughter of the Coach or Assistant Coach.
- g. A team will have a maximum of three options exercised in the first, second, and third rounds. Option one (Coach) goes in the first round, option two (Assistant Coach) goes in the second round, option three (Assistant Coach) goes in the third round.
- h. If a player is drafted as a sibling option, that option must be exercised in the following round. The parents' permission must be included on the registration form in order to waive the sibling option.

Meaning, siblings of an age that puts them into the same age group must be on the same team utilizing the sibling option unless a waiver is filed by the parent or guardian stating that is acceptable for the children to be on separate teams. All sibling options must be declared before or during formal tryouts. Siblings of returning players will be optioned in the fourth round.

i. The "league age" of a player shall be recorded and announced at the player draft to guide the Coaches in making their decisions.

39.3 All players and their parents (or guardians) shall be required to sign a player agreement prior to any participation in any Nations Baseball activity, agreeing to abide by all Nations Baseball rules and regulations and, in addition, all local league rules and regulations. This player agreement must include a statement releasing the local league affiliate and its officer, all sponsors, and the USSSA state organization from any and all liabilities associated with any injuries sustained as a result of any Nations Baseball activity.

40.0 Player Trades and Releases

40.1 During the draft, all player trades must be one for one. No player trades will be permitted after the draft/draw meeting is adjourned.

40.2 Once a player has been added to a team by either the draft or draw method, the only way he may be removed to another team is by written request to the LCBA Board of Directors, stating reason(s) why the player in question should be removed from his present team and placed on a team with the least number of qualified players as determined by the Board of Directors. Note: The LCBA Board of Directors will have the final ruling on whether the reason(s) given are acceptable. In the event that the reason is not suitable, the player will remain on the team that they were placed on by either the draft or draw method. In the event that the parent or coach does not agree with the decision and decides to withdraw from competition, no refunds will be issued.

40.3 A coach cannot drop a player without the Board's concurrence.

40.4 Team Roster / Player Release

a. A drafted player is any player who played in the prior LCBA calendar season. Fall players must have been eligible to be drafted onto any team by LCBA.

- b. No coach will have the ability to drop a returning player without a written request being submitted to the board. The board will have the final approval on all "release of player requests" and the coach will be notified by the board of its decision.
- c. Any player who requests a team change will go thru the draft process.
- d. LCBA Fall season will be under the guidelines of Nations, with the exception that the playing rules may be modified due to interlock play with other leagues.
- e. All players who tryout must be drafted prior to any blind drafts being chosen.
- f. No older team can draft younger players in their age division, until all younger age division teams have had the ability to fill their rosters, to try to achieve age pure status, with the exception of sibling options.
- g. Constitutions of teams will take into the consideration the age of players with the intentions of keeping teams age pure. The league will use care to place like age players with like age teams. However circumstances such as team roster size may require players of dissimilar ages to be mixed on a team roster.
- h. A returning head coach from the previous spring season, who also had a fall roster, has the option to fill his roster with players from that prior fall roster. Spring players will take precedence over any fall players on the roster.
- i. Any team who plays in a higher classification with LCBA in a prior calendar season, may return the following season to the next lower classification if it is deemed by the board that the team was non-competitive in that higher classification.

RESOLUTIONS

41.0 Game Ejection

41.1 Any Manager, Registered Coach, Player or Player's Parent that has been ejected from a game will be ejected for the next scheduled game.

42.0 IMPORTANT NUMBERS

WHO TO CALL

LCBA Rain-out Number Weekday. 940-497-5207

The Lake Cities Baseball Association adheres to Nations Baseball rules and regulations when specific areas of game play are not defined in the Lake Cities Association Rules and Regulations Handbook.

OFFICIAL RULES

All league play in all divisions shall be covered by the Official Nations Baseball Playing Rules. Playing rules not specifically covered shall follow the Official rules of Baseball (National League) as published by the Sporting News.

43.0 General Rules applicable to all Divisions

44.0 Local League Rules

44.1 Special rules such as time limit, etc., are applicable to local league play only.

45.0 Hidden Ball Trick

45.1 The Hidden ball trick will not permitted in any division.

46.0 Bench and Field Conduct

46.1 A coach, player substitute, attendant, or other bench personnel shall not:

- a. Deliberately throw a bat or helmet.

Penalty: Umpire may warn the offender, and then eject him if he repeats the offense.

- b. Call "time" or use any command or commit any act for the purpose of trying to cause the opposing pitcher to balk.

Penalty: Umpire shall eject the offender from the field. Failure to comply shall result in game being forfeited.

- c. Use word or act to incite spectators to demonstrate, or use profanity or remarks which reflect upon opposing players, umpire, or spectators.

Penalty: Umpire may warn offender, then eject him if he repeats the offense.

- d. Drink, use, or appear to be under the influence of any intoxicants while on playing field, benches, or dugouts, or when participating in any LCBA function.

Penalty: Umpire shall eject the offender from the field. Failure to comply shall result in the game being forfeited.

- e. Enter the area behind the catcher while the opposing pitcher and catcher are in their positions.

Penalty: Umpire may warn the offender, and then eject him if he repeats the offense.

- f. Fake a tag without the ball.

Penalty: Umpire shall eject the offender from the field. Failure to comply will result in game being forfeited.

46.2 Free substitutions shall be allowed in all leagues. The game will be automatically forfeited if either team cannot place eight (8) players on the field within ten (10) minutes after scheduled game time. Late players will be added to the bottom of the order as they arrive. An automatic out will be assessed to the ninth hitter's spot until one arrives. Official start time is determined by the Home plate Umpire.

46.3 Coaches may warm-up the pitcher at home plate between innings, or in the bullpen at any time.

46.4 Any ejected person will be penalized as follows:

- a. First Ejection: Automatic suspension from the next game.
- b. Second Ejection: Automatic suspension from the next three games.
- c. Third Ejection: Automatic suspension for the rest of season and following season.

A harsher penalty may be imposed due to the seriousness of the offense.

46.5 A coach shall not leave the bench or dugout except to confer with one of the players, or with an umpire, and then only after a time-out has been obtained, except those coaching bases.

46.6 Charging of the mound shall be an automatic suspension. Any pitcher

leaving the mound area other than in self-defense shall incur the same penalty.

47.0 Charged Conferences (Time-outs)

47.1 Defense: Defensive timeouts are governed under the official rules of baseball. Defensive timeouts are considered a "trip to the mound" and will be charged as such by the Umpire in charge.

47.2 Offense: Each team will be allowed (1) offensive timeout per inning. This timeout may be used to discuss strategy with a batter or runners. When a Coach calls a batter to the coach's box this will be considered an offensive timeout.

Only the umpire in charge can grant a timeout. Umpire in charge is not obligated to grant the offensive or defensive team a requested timeout.

48.0 General Equipment

48.1 Any child/player warming up a pitcher shall wear a League Approved helmet, face mask, throat protector and protective cup. NO EXCEPTIONS! Coaches and/or Parents may warm up a pitcher without the above listed equipment, at their own risk. LCBA assumes no responsibility for injuries incurred as a result of not wearing protective equipment.

48.2 All league catchers must be fully equipped (protective helmet, mask, chest protector, protective cup, and shin guards) during practice, pitcher warm-up, and games. Catcher's mitts will be required in age groups 10U and above. NO EXCEPTIONS!

49.0 Run Rules

49.1 Six run limit per inning in 8U and 10U. In 12U Division, there will be a six run limit for the first two (2) innings, and then open until the completion of the game. 14U division will be open innings.

49.2 Mercy Run Rules apply in all age divisions.
8U – 12U: 15 runs after 3 innings, 10 runs after 4 innings and 8 after 4 innings.
14U: 20 runs after 2 innings, 15 runs after 3 innings, 12 runs after 4 innings, 8 runs after 5 innings.

General Division Rules

50.0 Blast-Ball Division – 3 / 4 Year Olds

51.0 Players Age

Age requirements are that all players must be 3 years old on or before the 30th of April of the playing season, and must not be 5 years old on or before April 30th following the playing season.

52.0 Playing Field

52.1 Playing field will consist of 1st base loaded with a horn, home plate where batter will hit from a "Tee" and all defensive players will line up at least 40 feet away from home plate.

52.2 Any ball hit past the 10 foot arc drawn in front of home plate will be considered a fair ball and the batter shall advance to 1st base.

52.3 1st base will be set at a distance of 40 feet from home plate.

53.0 Equipment

53.1 All players must wear team baseball cap and team t-shirt supplied by LCBA. Hat and shirt must be worn during all games.

53.2 No player shall be required to wear a baseball/softball glove. The game ball is foam rubber and will be safe for kids to play without gloves.

53.3 All equipment for Blast-Ball, with the exception of gloves will be furnished to the team and coach by LCBA.

53.4 LCBA furnished equipment will include: Blast balls, bat, batting tee, blast-ball 1st base, and (2) batting helmets will be provided to all teams.

54.0 Length of Games

54.1 LENGTH OF GAMES: Games shall last 45 minutes, at the end of 45 minutes the game will end and all play will cease. If the game is called because of darkness or inclement weather, it will be declared a complete game if thirty (30) minutes are completed prior to the stopping of play.

54.2 No OFFICIAL score or win/loss records will be kept.

55.0 Rules

55.1 Each Blast-Ball team must have (2) coaches on the field of play at all times.

55.2 No offensive player will be allowed on the field unless he/she is wearing a batting helmet.

55.3 Each team will bat its entire roster in each inning one complete time, which will constitute a half inning of play. Each turn at bat the batting order will be reversed. (Example: if a player bats last in the 1st inning he/she will bat first in the next inning).

When at bat, the object is to hit a fair ball, reach the base and sound the horn before the defensive team fields the ball, holds it above their head and yells "Blast". Each batter will return to the dugout after running to 1st base.

55.4 Each batter will receive a maximum of 6 swings in which to hit a fair ball. A fair ball is any ball between the foul lines and past the 10 foot fair ball arc in front of home plate.

55.5 When on defense, all players will play a defensive position at least 40 feet from home plate. No player shall play catcher. Defensive positions will be marked with squares and placed in the infield before the game. Defense will consist of 5 infielders.

55.6 The home team will be responsible for setting up the field for the game.

55.7 Coaches will also serve as umpires while on the field.

56.0 Tee-Ball 5/6 Division

57.0 Players Age

Age requirements are that all players must be 5 years old on or before the 30th of April of the playing season, and must not be 7 years old on or before April 30th following the playing season.

57.1 Official team shall consist of no less than ten players.

58.0 Length of Game

58.1 T-Ball shall consist of each team batting through their respective batting orders with a maximum time limit of 1 hour.

- a. Games called for any reason shall be considered complete games if two innings have been completed. If games are called in less than 30 minutes and are to be continued, they shall be continued from point of curtailment.
- b. Batters that are called out shall not remain on the bases.
- c. Bases will be cleared each time 3 outs are made.

58.2 The Home Team Coach is responsible for managing the game from a starting and ending time stand point.

59.0 Batter rules

- 59.1 Coach will pitch the first 3 pitches, after the 3rd pitch a tee is used.
- 59.2 Any player may opt out and use the tee for their entire bat.

60.0 Control of Playing Action

- 60.1 To start play, the coach of the offensive team, will place the ball on the batting tee or step on the Pitchers Mound, and call "Batter-Up."
- 60.2 When the ball is in the possession of an infielder and all play on the runners has ceased, the defensive coach shall call time. Note: It is the defensive players' job to stop the lead runner from advancing. This can be done by throwing the ball to the base the runner is trying to take, or by running the ball to the player. It is the coach's responsibility to teach which method is used and why.
- 60.3 Base runners will be allowed only 1 base on any overthrow.
- 60.4 No jewelry shall be worn by any player, except for medical identification.

61.0 Coach- Pitch 8U Division

- 61.1 Official team shall consist of no less than ten (10) players.

62.0 Length of Game

- 62.1 LENGTH OF GAME: 8U League games not to exceed 1 hour and 15

minutes.

63.0 10U Division

63.1 Official team shall consist of no less than ten (10) players.

64.0 Length of Game

64.1 LENGTH OF GAME: 10 U League games will have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes.

65.0 12U Division

65.1 Official team shall consist of no less than ten (10) players.

66.0 Length of Game

66.1 LENGTH OF GAME: 12 U League games will have a time limit of 1 hour and 45 minutes.

67.0 14 U Division

67.1 Official team shall consist of no less than ten (10) players.

68.0 Length of Game

68.1 LENGTH OF GAME: 14 U League games will have a time limit of 1 hour and 50 minutes.

69.0 Tournament Guidelines

69.1 There will be no combining of teams allowed. NO team roster changes will be allowed.

69.2 Rules of the Tournament will be determined by the tournament director.