

KINGSVILLE PARKS YOUTH SOFTBALL AND BASEBALL LEAGUE
CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS

SECTION I

CONSTITUTION

MISSION OF KINGSVILLE PARKS YOUTH SOFTBALL BASEBALL LEAGUE

The goal of KPYSBL is to provide the basic skills and knowledge of
Softball/Baseball to eventually prepare players
for a higher level of play.

ARTICLE I

The name of this organization shall be the **KINGSVILLE PARKS YOUTH SOFTBALL BASEBALL LEAGUE** and will be known as **KPYSBL** for all purposes hereafter enumerated. It will be a division of the City of Kingsville Parks & Recreation Department.

ARTICLE II

KPYSBL shall teach good sportsmanship, educate youth participants and adult sponsors in the fundamentals of the game of softball, promote the game of softball through sponsorship of regularly schedule softball competition, and conduct such other education activities that shall be deemed appropriate to the promotion of Softball and Baseball.

ARTICLE III

KPYSBL shall has no boundaries at this time.

ARTICLE IV

KPYSBL shall be affiliated with and subject to the authority of the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) and Protect Our Nation's Youth (PONY).

ARTICLE V

Membership in the KPYSBL shall be on a seasonal basis and will consist of the following:

- A.** Registered participants – Those individuals who have paid the Registration fee and properly completed all forms set by the Board Of Directors of KPYSBL.
- B.** Parents or guardians of registered participants.
- C.** Managers, coaches, assistant coaches, members of the Board of Directors and other duly appointed officials of the KPRYSBL.

ARTICLE VI

KPYSBL shall be directed by the Executive Board of Directors (herein referred to as the Board). The Board shall consist of the following elected officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Player Agents (1-Baseball Division & 1-Softball Division) elected for a two (2) year staggered term commencing by September 1. (The President, Treasurer, and Player Agent will be elected for two-year terms on even numbered years and the Secretary and Vice-President shall be elected for two-year terms on odd numbered years.) ***These elected officers shall be elected by the current board members. Each officer shall officially file for office and be placed on an official nominating slate for election. The President and the Treasurer are being appointed by the Parks Director for the first term.**

The Executive Board shall approve the General Board members. Director's responsibilities are noted in Section II (Bylaws). After approval by the Executive Board, these appointed members will not have voting privileges. The Manager/Coach Directors (1-Baseball Division & 1-Softball Division) will be elected by the Managers of each Division and will be voting Members of the Board.

In the event of a vacancy of the Board, the remaining Board Members may appoint a successor by a quorum vote of the Board.

ARTICLE VII

The seasonal year for the KPYSBL shall be September 1 through August 31.

ARTICLE VIII

The annual meeting of the KPYSBL shall be held each year, as set by the Board of Directors. The meeting shall be held in the month of August. A minimum of two weeks' notice of said meeting shall appear in the local newspaper, league website, and all available media outlets. The order of business shall be as follows:

- A. Meeting Called to Order
- B. Reading of Minutes of Last Meeting
- C. Unfinished Business
- D. Report of Officers, Directors, and Committees
- E. Election of Officers
- F. New Business
- G. Adjournment

All meetings of all voting members may be called at any time by the Board of Directors. All meetings of the KPYSBL shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of **Robert's Rules of Order.**

ARTICLE IX

Amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules and Regulations of the KPYSBL may be made to the Board at any meeting prior to try-outs. A quorum vote of Board Members or an Executive decision will be sufficient to approve changes. Any proposal to amend the Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules and Regulations must be made in writing to the Secretary and submitted to the Board Members for review at scheduled meeting to vote on Amendments.

ARTICLE X

All expenditures by the KPYSBL will be approved by the Board prior to obligating the KPYSBL. The Board will manage the KPYSBL funds in a responsible manner. The Board will operate within a balanced budget and will not approve any purchases in excess of funds available in the KPYSBL treasury. **All major expenditures for items such as equipment, uniforms and insurance will be approved by the Board.**

All purchases for KPYSBL will be processed through the City of Kingsville Purchasing Procedures and Policies.

Any purchases made for KPYSBL that are not regularly purchased items normal to the execution of the baseball/softball season, i.e., bats, balls, batting helmets, etc., would require pre-approval by the Board.

Types of purchases may be office equipment, software, computers, copy machines, communication equipment, etc. Any purchases of this type would require board approval by a majority vote of the KPYSBL Board of Directors. All such purchases will be the property of KPYSBL.

ARTICLE XI

In the event the KPYSBL is dissolved or ceases to function, the assets and properties of the association shall be transferred to the Kingsville Parks and Recreation Department.

ARTICLE XII

KPYSBL will secure insurance for the Board of Directors and registered players. Insurance for players shall meet requirements as determined by PONY AND KPYSBL shall not be responsible for the deductible incurred. Insurance coverage is in effect from date of tryouts until participation in league activity ceases.

SECTION II

BY LAWS

ARTICLE I

The **President** of the KPYSBL shall have the following responsibilities:

- A. Preside at all general meetings of the league.
- B. Preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors.
- C. Appoint delegates to any softball association or league meetings.
- D. Submit an annual report in writing at the annual meeting.
- E. Be responsible for and coordinate the activities of all members of the Board and appoint special committees.
- F. Keep informed of all activities within the KPYSBL.
- G. Have an audit made of all financial records once a year by president, treasurer and equipment director.
- H. Compile and distribute current season's calendar of events, including scheduled league activities, deadlines, tournament dates, etc.
- I. Direct committee activities to solicit and acquire sponsors for all teams.
- J. Register teams for PONY affiliation/tournament play.
- K. And other duties as assigned.

ARTICLE II

The **Vice-President** of the KPYSBL shall the following responsibilities:

- A. Succeed to the powers of the President in his/her absence.
- B. Keep informed of activities of the league with the Player Agent.
- C. Prepare game schedules for the playing season and modify as necessary due to rainouts, etc.
- D. Provide game schedules and changes to umpires/division directors.
- E. And other duties as assigned.

ARTICLE III

The **Secretary** of the KPYSBL shall the following responsibilities:

- A. Record the minutes of all general meeting and Board meetings.
- B. Set up a secretarial pool for typing of KPYSBL literature or correspondence as necessary.
- C. Publicize league activities as needed.
- D. Contact public school officials to acquire use of practice field for the league.
- E. And other duties as assigned.

ARTICLE IV

The **Treasurer** shall have the following responsibilities:

- A. Be responsible for all banking deposits and withdrawals within the City of Kingsville's guidelines.
- B. Maintain accurate accounting of all funds received and disbursed. Be prepared to submit a financial report at all Board meetings.
- C. Prepare a written financial statement for the annual meeting.
- D. Coordinate with the Player Agent the collection of registration fees and issuance of receipts at sign-up. Acquire registration sites, provide materials, etc.
- E. File all required state and federal forms when due.
- F. Compile list of eligible umpires of Board approval.
- G. Administer Board approved guidelines, regulations, etc.
- H. Maintain communication with Managers and Umpire Association and transfer such findings to the Board.
- I. Responsible for obtaining umpire payroll vouchers.
- J. Compile and submit payment summary.
- K. And other duties as assigned.

ARTICLE V

The **Player Agent** shall have the following responsibilities:

- A. Record all player transactions and maintain an accurate and up-to-date record thereof.
- B. Receive and review applications for player candidates and check player Age eligibility.
- C. Schedule and coordinate the player registration, try-outs, and draft.
- D. Conduct the draft and maintain player pools per division after draft. Assignments of players will be conducted on a daily basis.
- E. Conduct all player transactions or pool selections after draft and throughout season.
- F. Prepare player agent's list.
- G. Prepare team rosters and acquire team information from directors as needed.
- H. And other duties as assigned.

ARTICLE VI

The **Manager/Coach Directors (1-Baseball Division & 1-Softball Division)** shall have the following responsibilities:

- A. Represent managers/coaches at regularly scheduled meetings.
- B. Maintain communication with managers and transfer such findings to the Board.
- C. Schedule and coordinate coaching clinics as needed.
- D. Schedule tournament events for league.

- E. Deliver schedule to Board members, division directors, etc., to communicate to all teams.
- F. Work with equipment director for needed equipment, trophies, and/or ribbons for awards at tournament.
- G. And other duties as assigned.

ARTICLE VII

Committee Chairpersons:

The committee chairpersons shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board to perform duties as needed for the well-being of the league. Chairpersons of such committees are recognized as non-voting meetings to the Board. Such committee chairpersons will include and not be limited to the following: Ways and Means Director, Equipment Director, Division Directors, Statistics, Director and Community Directors.

ARTICLE VIII

The **President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Player Agents** shall constitute an Executive Board on matters demanding immediate attention where it is impossible to call a meeting of the full Board, and /or quorum is not met, and a vote must take place. An executive decision may be made by 3 of the above listed officers. Voting can be done via text or email.

ARTICLE IX

The Board shall transact all business of the KPYSBL, and shall have the power to enforce the Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules and Regulations of the KPYSBL. It shall have the power to settle all disputes, appeals, or protests that may arise. **Meetings will be scheduled by the President.**

ARTICLE X

The address of the KPYSBL shall be a permanent P.O. Box number.

ARTICLE XI

The Board shall have the power to set up rules governing regular season, post season, and special events competition. This shall include the power to interpret or expand the rules as necessary, to secure an orderly season. This shall also include the power to set registration fees.

The Board shall set policies regarding practices for the season, post season, and tournament play.

ARTICLE XII

Four members of the Board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board. A majority vote shall be sufficient to decide all questions put to a vote.

ARTICLE XIII

A complete equipment inventory and financial report must be submitted to the Board and may be subject to an audit. All equipment must be collected and stored at the end of the playing season and/or tournament play.

ARTICLE XIV

Team Participation Guidelines: Inter-League Teams:

- A.** Must be an ASA/PONY/TAAF/ or other chartered and insured team.
- B.** Must meet age divisions established by KPYSBL.
- C.** Must meet league uniform requirements.
- D.** Pay officials' fee per scheduled game and supply one game ball for each home game.
- E.** Teams from area outside Kingsville, Riviera, Ricardo, or Sarita that do not have a league may join the league if approved by the Board.

SECTION III RULES AND REGULATIONS

RULE I **TEXAS AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION (ASA)** **And** **PROTECT OUR NATIONS YOUTH (PONY)**

- A.** **PROTECT OUR NATIONS YOUTH (PONY)** regulations for girls/boys softball & baseball will be followed. PONY rules governing all play will be those adopted by the playing rules committee of softball/baseball of the PONY Organization.
- B.** Additional rules and regulations may be adopted by the KRYISBL so long as such rules and regulations do not conflict with **ASA** and **PONY** rules and regulations.

RULE II REGISTRATION

- A. No player may register without written consent from a parent or guardian.
- B. Age divisions shall comprise of players who are, on the first day of January of the current season:

Pony Division: Fourteen (14) years of age or under

Bronco Division: Twelve (12) years of age or under.

Mustang Division: Ten (10) years of age or under.

Pinto Division: Eight (8) years of age or under.

Shetland Division: Six (6) years of age or under.

Foal Division: Three (3)- Four (4) years of age.

Players will be allowed to play in one division per season per year. No double seasons will be permitted. Player's intent shall be made known at time of registration.

- C. Proof of age shall consist of birth certificate, baptismal certificate, hospital certificate, driver's license, or court approved document. Birth certificates will be required for tournament play.

Players must establish eligibility within the age division they have registered to play for the league. Any player who is waived up a division cannot play down to a lower division for All-Star post-season play. Players request to be considered for the draft/player's agent list as "waivers" to the next league age level must be submitted in writing and signed by the parent/guardian. League age waivers are extended to but limited to the discretion of parent / coach.

Approval by the Board will be based on the player's ability, maturity, and special circumstances or the needs of the KPYSBL.

- D. **KPYSBL does not limit participation** in its league **on the basis of disability**. A signed medical release from the player's attending physician shall include, but not limited to, the following: specific medical identification of disability, equipment specification needed by the player, etc. Equipment required for play shall be the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian. Identified player(s) will be allowed to play a division lower on the extent of disability, as determined by the Board.
- E. A maximum of three (3) Manager/Coaches' daughter/son options may be used on any one team during a season and such option(s) continues for duration of player's career within the division in which such option was exercised. **Manager/Coach must participate in practices and games.**

RULE III TEAMS

- A.** A player shall become a member of a team only after paying the registration fee as set by the Board, filling out the proper registration forms, and having them accepted by the Board. All hardship cases will be presented to the Board for consideration.
- B.** Each team shall have a **maximum of twelve (12) and a minimum of (10)** registered players at one time. Exception to these rules will be only allowed by approval by the Board.
- C. COMMUNITY TEAMS:** Community teams will be allowed. All community team members must either reside in the specific community or go to school at the community's district. If more than one team from community for same division is allowed by number of participants, a draft must be held to form teams.
- D. No new** teams will be added after a draft. Exceptions to this rule may be granted by the Board under special circumstances that are deemed in the best interest of the league.
- E.** Team names shall bear no resemblance to religion or nationality. In general, team names will be determined by the team Manager and approved by the Board.

RULE IV PLAYER AGENT'S LIST

Prior to try-outs, the Player Agents shall make a list showing the names and numbers of each candidate. Prior to player draft, and after requirements that have been taken into consideration, a final player agent list of all players who are qualified as eligible candidates will be prepared before the draft takes place. This list must be maintained and is the basis for future player replacement. Parental requests to be released from a team to attend a new season try-out for the draft must be submitted in writing to the Player Agent **Player freeze or release must be submitted in writing at least 48 hours prior to the draft.**

RULE V TRY-OUTS

During the try-outs, each candidate shall be given the opportunity to bat, field, throw, and run in competition with youngsters having the same league age. These try-out periods will be conducted in the presence of all managers, who shall observe the ability of each candidate. Neutral outside community members will observe and grade the candidates for draft. No gentlemen's agreement of any type will be permitted. Team rotation, in regards to the draft, shall be randomly placed on a team according to the next team in the picking order after the official draft is over. The **player agent and the president / vice president and 1 other board member** shall oversee this procedure.

Each manager shall grade the candidate on the Player Agent's list for their own reference.

RULE VI
DRAFT SYSTEM

- A. WHEN a thorough try-out program has been completed, a time and place specified by the Board to conduct division drafts will be given. Expanding teams will be placed first on the rotation for the draft selection. If more than one team is added, a drawing will be held to determine placement of teams. Core teams will be placed ahead of returning teams in the rotation schedule. Freezes in expansion teams will be included in the actual count. Freezes for core teams will be included as part of the core team selection, unless it applies to sister/brother option in existing division.

For example: Rotation will be as follows: Expanding Team(s), Core Team(s). Core teams and returning teams will be placed in draft rotation order in descending order according to prior year standings.

- B. Number of registered players will establish the number of players per team as determined by the Player Agent based on a level-off formula (number of registered players/number of teams within the division). Drafted rounds will continue until the level-off mark and/or maximum number of players per team has been reached. Draft will consist of all players that registered prior to tryouts. Frozen players will be selected as 1st round picks with additional freezes in each round that follows.
- C. The Player Agent will draft players for any team not represented at the draft. The identification numbers of all players within the division who participated in the tryouts will be placed in a hat. The Player Agent will draw numbers from the hat until the number of an un-drafted player is drawn.

BROTHER/SISTER OPTION: Managers may submit an option on brother/sisters who are subject to the draft. When 1st brother/sister is drafted and an option has been submitted, the manager automatically takes sister on next turn. A manager may also submit an option on a draftee if a youngster's brother/sister is a member of that manager's team. This option must be exercised within the first round draft selection.

SON/DAUGHTER OPTION: A manager, who has a son/daughter eligible for the draft, who wishes to draft them, must state so in writing to the Player Agent prior to the try-outs. The parent-manager is required to exercise this option as a 1st round draft pick. Parents of league players who become managers/coaches after their children have been selected to another same age division team may not automatically claim their daughter/son.

If a team has more than one (1) coach, only the senior coach in service may qualify provided that senior member has served as a coach of record for that team for 1 or more years. New coaches should be appointed after the draft to avoid "red-shirting" of players through selective coaching appointments.

DURATION OF TITLE (CAREER): Each player acquired shall, for the duration of their age division career, be the property of the team making the acquisition, unless subsequently traded or released. The Board of Directors shall reserve the right to rule if a player shall continue as that team's acquisition or release such player to the draft or for placement by the player agent to the next available team according to team standings.

SECRECY: Players should never be told the position in which they were drafted.

DURATION OF OPTIONS (FREEZES): Manager/Coaches exercising options on daughter/son are limited to a total of three (3) options for manager/coaching staff and are held to such freezes for duration of player's career within the same age division or unless subsequently released by the Board to return to the draft or reassignment to a team by the Player Agent. When a core team moves up, freezes will remain in effect. If coach does not wish to exercise those options, players may then be released to another coach for a coach's option or released to the draft. Previous coach's freezes will not count as core players when teams move up to a new division. ***Should coach not participate in coaching this will make daughter/son an ineligible player for the remainder of the League Season.**

RULE VII PLAYER TRADE

NO PLAYER TRADES WILL BE ALLOWED.

RULE VIII UMPIRES

- A. A professional umpire will be used for all Shetland through Bronco Division games.
- B. Umpires shall at all times impose the rules and regulations as designated by the KPYSBL and the ASA/PONY playing rules in general.
- C. Umpires shall at all times put great emphasis on the welfare of players and officiate the game in a manner inducing clean competition and good sportsmanship.
- D. Umpires shall maintain communication with the league's Umpire Coordinator.

RULE IX MANAGERS AND COACHES

- A. All managers and coaches must submit a letter of intent to return to coaching for the next season **no later than Feb. 1st of the current year**. Then approval by the Board to manage, coach, and/or assist one team with a division in the KPYSBL will take place.
- B. It shall be the duty of each manager and coach to:
 - 1. Reflect an understanding of the age group they supervise.
 - 2. Be aware that they are an example to those whom they work.
 - 3. Demonstrate that they have an appreciation of the philosophy of the

KPYSBL, and cooperate with others in making the program of mutual benefit to all youngsters.

4. Show by example, that they respect the judgment and the position of authority of adult leaders in the league.
5. Exercise their leadership role adequately but leave the softball/baseball game in the hands of the players.
6. Within the regulations of the league, provide an opportunity for each youngster to participate.
7. Encourage their players at every opportunity.
8. Instill a desire to win and improve, striving to impart as much baseball/softball knowledge as possible to each player.
9. Know the playing RULES and REGULATIONS of ASA/PONY and be able to interpret them correctly. Play by the rules and adhere to their intent, instilling in the players a respect for the judgment in protest situations.
10. Are cautious and use sound, reasonable judgment in protest situations.
11. Have had an opportunity to participate in a preparatory training program concerning their responsibilities before the start of the season and assignment to the team.
12. At all times encourage clean competition and good sportsmanship in both players and spectators.
13. Assume responsibility for any equipment issued to them and shall return same when requested or at the end of the season or pay the replacement value of the equipment.
14. At all times display respect to other team managers/coaches/players by not interfering with any team activities not directly involving his/her own team.
15. Assist league through volunteer work whenever tournament(s) is hosted by local league. This is required to maintain/establish status for consecutive season involvement. **Time to be a minimum of 4 hours of duty per tournament**, per manager and each member of the coaching staff, to be placed as needed by the Tournament Chairperson.
16. Mandatory attendance at All-Star selection meeting.

RULE X **COMPETITION**

A. All competition shall be conducted in accordance with applicable rules as outlined in the current PONY rule book and/or ASA CODE and COMPETITION PROCEDURAL CODE located within the Official Guide and Rulebook for PONY and ASA.

B. Line-up sheet with name and number will be turned to the official scorekeeper at least 15 minutes prior to game time.

***C. All players must be listed on batting line-up sheet.** All players must be present at game time. Players arriving late may be submitted to line-up as substitutes. Failure to

field required number of players will result in a forfeit. (Fast pitch requires 9 players to start. Slow-pitch requires 10 players to start.)

D. All games will start at scheduled time. Official time will be kept by the official scorekeeper who will be located in the score booth. **Forfeit time is game time.**

E. IN SLOWPITCH COMPETITION: The time limit for all games will be 60 minutes or 6 innings, whichever comes first. An inning in progress at the expiration of 55 minutes will be completed, but a new inning cannot be started. **Tie games will be continued for a maximum of one inning after reaching the game time limit.** {Using International Tie-Breaker Rule}

F. IN FASTPITCH COMPETITION: The time limit for all games will be one (1) hour and twenty (20) minutes or 7 innings, whichever comes first. An inning in progress at the expiration time will be completed, but a new inning cannot be started after 1 hour and 15 minutes. Ties games will be continued for a maximum of one inning after reaching the game time limit. **{Using International Tie-Breaker Rule}**

1. 5 run limit per inning. If the seven-run rule will not affect the outcome of the game, game time may be called.

2. A fifteen run rule limit will be applied after three innings of play. A ten run rule limit will be applied after five innings of play.

3. Each player on the team roster must play at least one (1) consecutive defensive inning and one (1) turn at bat. If a player does not play one consecutive defensive inning and one consecutive offensive inning, then the player must start in the next game and play until at least one turn at bat.

4. In addition to the players, no more than three (3) of the following (team managers, coaches, scorekeepers) will be allowed in the dugout during the game.

5. Warm-up pitches will be as follows: 5 pitches or 1 minute maximum between innings.

6. If the ball slips from the pitcher's hands during his/her windup or during the backing, a ball is declared on the batter, the ball will be in play, and the runners may advance at their own risk.

7. Stealing of bases is allowed. For **Fast Pitch** it is allowed starting at the Mustang Division. Base runner must wait until pitcher has released the pitched ball before attempting to steal a base for Fast Pitch. In **baseball**, runner is able to steal as soon as the pitcher has taken position on the mound.

8. Batter may advance on dropped 3rd strike if base is not occupied with less than two (2) outs. After two (2) outs, runner may advance even if 1st base is occupied. **For local league play, dropped 3rd strike will apply starting in the Mustang Division.**

9. A designated player (DP) may be used for any player provided it is made known prior to the start of the game and the player's name is indicated on the lineup as one of the nine hitters in the batting order.

10. The name of the player for whom the DP is batting (Flex Player) will be placed in the tenth position in the lineup.

11. The starting player listed as the DP must remain in the same position in the batting order for the entire game. The DP and DP's substitute, or the substitute's replacement, may never play offense at the same time.

12. The DP may be substituted for at any time, wither by a pinch-hitter, pinch runner, or the Flex Player. If the starting DP is replaced on offense by the Flex Player, the DP will leave the game. If replaced by a substitute, the DP position remains in the lineup. A starting DP may re-enter one time, as long as the DP returns to the original position in the batting order.

If replaced by the Flex Player, this reduces the number of players from ten to nine. If the DP does not re-enter, the game may legally end with nine players.

If the DP re-enters and the Flex Player was batting in the DP spot, the Flex player returns to the number ten position and plays defense only or leaves the game.

13. The DP may play defense at any position. Should the DP play defense for a player other than the one for whom the DP is batting (Flex Player), that player will continue to bat but not play defense and is not considered to have left the game. The DP may play defense for the Flex Player and the Flex player is considered to have left the game, reducing the number of players from ten to nine. The Flex Player may re-enter the game under the re-entry rule.

14. The person being batted for (Flex Player) may be substituted for at any time, either by a legal substitute for the DP for whom the Flex Player is playing defense. The Flex Player may re-enter the game under the re-entry rule either in the number 10 position or in the DP's position in the batting order.

If returning to the number 10 position, the Flex Player will again play offense and defense; there will be only nine players in the batting order.

If the Flex Player returns to the DP's position, the Flex Player will play offense and defense; there will be only nine players in the batting order.

15. Placing the Flex Player into one of the first nine positions for someone other than the original DP or the original DP's substitute is considered an ineligible player. The ineligible player shall be removed from the game. The Flex Player replacing the DP is not considered a substitute for the Flex Player. The DP, who has left the game, may re-enter the game under the re-entry rule.

G. SHETLAND/FOAL DIVISION/PRE-TEE BALL DIVISION will have the following rules.

1. Playing field specifications: Pitching distance is 35 feet, bases are 50 feet. A line 5 feet in front of 1st and 3rd base will be drawn perpendicular to the foul line. A 10 foot arc will be drawn from point of home plate between the foul lines. Except for the pitcher and catcher, no player can be closer than 45 feet from home plate until the ball is hit. A ball must travel on or beyond the 10 foot arc to be a fair ball.

2. Each batter will hit off a tee located tip to tip on home plate. The umpire will be responsible for the bat and the tee. Bats marked T-ball or T-bat as well as Softball bats are legal.

Note: T-placement. When T is used, place T “tip to tip” to Home Plate.

3. The batter may not swing until the pitcher has made a pitching motion from the pitching rubber.

4. **The batter will position themselves** in the batter’s box and may address the ball as the umpire holds the ball on the tee. The umpire will ask the batter if she is ready and if so will remove his hand from the ball and gives the signal to play ball. **If the batter addresses the ball** after this, **a strike is called** and the ball is dead.

5. Contact, even partially must be made with the ball. This will be an umpire’s judgment call. A ball hit foul, or swung at and missed, even if the tee alone is hit, will be a strike. After two strikes, there will be unlimited foul balls allowed until one is hit fair or there is a strikeout by missing the ball or hitting the tee alone.

6. The pitcher will take position on the rubber, making an underhanded pitching motion while remaining in contact with the rubber until the ball is hit. Failure to do so will result in a dead ball unless hit fair. There are no intentional walks.

7. For safety reasons, it is better to have the catcher stand away from the batter until the batter has swung.

8. The umpire will keep the official count.

9. Base runners are not allowed to steal. They cannot leave the base until the ball is hit.

10. There is no infield fly rule.

11. When the ball is in possession of an infielder and the lead runner has stopped, time will be called by the umpire.

12. Appeals may be made following a play and before the pitcher has made a pitching motion.

13. The game consists of 4 runs per half inning. Any runs crossing the plate after the 4th run will not count unless the run limit has been lifted. Each half inning is over when 4 runs are scored or 3 outs are made. A game will be 1 hour, 6 innings. If a team is ahead by 9 runs after 4 innings or 5 runs after 5 innings, whichever comes first, game will be called. **If a game is tied at the end of 6 innings or at the end of full inning in which time has expired, then the run limit is lifted.**

14. Each team is allowed 3 members on the coaching staff: manager, coach, and business manager. On offense two of the staff can coach 1st and 3rd bases. On defense, no staff is allowed on the field while the ball is live. Only the coaching staff and player are allowed in the dugout.

H. In addition or in place of existing rules, the following rules will be followed in the

PINTO DIVISION:

1. One hour time limit, 6 innings, if a team is ahead by 9 runs at the end of 4 innings or by 5 runs at the end of 5 innings, whichever occurs first will be the game.

2. Four (4) runs per inning per team. If a game is tied after 6 complete innings, then all succeeding innings will have no run limit.

3. When time expires and the game is tied, at the completion of that inning all subsequent

innings will have no run limits.

4. Each batter is allowed 4 pitches. Umpires can will swinging strikes only and 3 will be an out. The 4th pitch, if hit foul is not an out. A player that hits a foul ball on the 4th pitch will continue to bat until ball is hit fair or 3rd strike is called by the umpire. Intentional walks are not allowed.

5. The infield fly rule is not in effect.

6. Bats marked T-Ball, T-Bat, or League are illegal.

7. No defensive player, except for the pitcher who must be parallel to and 3 feet from either side of the pitching rubber and the catcher who must be within the confines of the catcher's box, can be closer than 45 feet from the home plate. If in the umpire's judgment, these are not in effect to the pitch, no pitch will be called. There should be lines at 1st and 3rd base, but if not, then it will be the umpire's judgment.

8. Only the players and coaching staff whose names appear on the affidavit will be allowed in the dugout. Pinto teams may have up to four coaches on the coaching staff: Manager, business manager, and two coaches.

9. All other current PONY rules are in effect.

10. **PITCHING COACHES:** Each team will provide their own pitching coach.

The pitching distance is 35 feet. The ball must be delivered to the batter in a safe manner and no arch required. **The pitcher cannot communicate with their players while on the field; and also cannot communicate with other coaches while the ball is alive, but can communicate on a dead ball.** If they do so, one warning will be given, and if it occurs again during the game, then the pitcher will be removed from the pitching position for the remainder of the game. After the ball is hit fair, the pitcher must clear to the opposite side of the field that the ball is hit or move forward or back in order not to interfere. When the pitcher interferes with an offensive player then the play stands. When the pitcher interferes unintentionally with a defensive player then the umpire has an option to call a base runner out. If intentional interference, then the lead runner will be called out.

Should a pitcher be hit with a batted ball, then no pitch will be called.

11. All other current PONY pitching rules are in effect.

RULE XI

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROCEDURE

Procedures for reducing the potential for transmission of infectious agents, should include, but not be limited to the following:

1. The bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered, and if there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform, it must be changed before the player may participate.
2. Routine use of gloves or other precautions to prevent skin and mucous-membrane exposure when contact with blood or other body fluids is anticipated.
3. Immediately wash hand and other skin surfaces if contaminated (in contact) with blood or other body fluids. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves.
4. Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with an appropriate disinfectant before competition resumes.
5. Practice proper disposal procedures to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels, and other sharp instrument or devices.
6. Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for

emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouth pieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices should be available for use.

7. Athletic trainers/coaches with bleeding or oozing skin conditions should refrain from all direct athletic area until the condition resolves.

8. Contaminated towels should be properly disposed of/disinfected.

9. Follow acceptable guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and when handling bleeding dressings, mouth guards, and other articles containing body fluids.

10. A player, coach, or umpire who is bleeding or who has blood on their uniform shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment can be administered. If medical care or treatment is administered in a reasonable length of time, the individual will not have to leave the game. The length of time that is reasonable is left to the umpire's judgment.

11. Uniform violations will not be enforced if uniform change is required.

The umpire shall:

a. Stop the game immediately, call a coach, trainer, or other authorized person to the injured player and allow treatment.

b. Apply the rules of the game regarding substitution, and re-entry if necessary.

RULE XII **LEAGUE CONDUCT**

KINGSVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION YOUTH BOYS/GIRLS LEAGUE **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT**

1. The executive committee will convene to discuss infraction and determine the level of discipline, which could include but not limited to- verbal warning, probation and/or immediate removal of board position. If infraction involves an executive committee member, the other executive committee members shall meet to discuss infraction and disciplinary actions. Next person in line will step in to still have a executive committee of 3. If removal from the board is determined, then the recommendation shall be presented to the entire board at a special meeting no earlier than 72 hours from meeting of executive committee.

2. Board members shall conduct themselves in accordance to the spirit of KPYSBL whether on the field or off.

3. Board members, if ejected while coaching a game shall receive an automatic two(2) week suspension and a hearing before the board at the next board meeting not to exceed 2 weeks.

4. Board members shall, to the best of their abilities and knowledge, ensure the safety of the children of this league before, during and after games including practices and all KPYSBL approved activities.

5. Board members shall be accountable to their board position responsibilities and shall also be responsible for any KPYSBL commitments they are assigned. In the event that a board member cannot follow through on their assignments, it will be that board members responsibility to ensure that their assignment is covered by

another suitable replacement.

B. MANAGERS AND COACHES:

1. Profane or abusive language, racial or ethnic remarks, obscene gestures, smoking on the field or in the dugout, consumption of alcoholic beverages prior to or during league functions, use of illegal drugs, or any violation of Rule IX (B) will result in indefinite suspension from all league activities as determined by the Board.
2. Remarks directed at opposing team manager/coaches/players for the purpose of obvious intent to distract players will not be permitted. Foul or rude language or unsportsmanlike conduct by manager/coach will result in the following penalties:
 - a. 1st Offense: Warning to manager/coach by umpire and league official in charge.
 - b. 2nd Offense: Forfeit of game, with win to be awarded to opposing team and official reprimand as determined by the board.
3. Remarks directed at league officials will not be permitted and will result in official reprimand as determined by the Board.
4. Ejection from the game by an umpire for any reason:
 - a. 1st Offense: A minimum of 2 weeks suspension from all league activities. (A manager or coach is not allowed in vicinity of team dugout 15 minutes prior to game and during game while on suspension.) Violation of this rule will result in an immediate suspension from all activities.
 - b. 2nd Offense: Indefinite suspension from all league activities.
5. Any manager or coach or scorekeeper who knowingly violates any of the Rules and Regulations is subject to reprimand or suspension by the Board. A second reprimand during a season will result in dismissal of the manager, coach, or scorekeeper by a vote of the Board.

C. PLAYER:

1. **USE OF EQUIPMENT:** Any batter throwing a helmet at any time or throwing a bat on the 2nd offense will be ejected from the game for unsportsmanlike conduct.
2. Profane or abusive language, racial or ethnic remarks, obscene gestures, smoking during a game on the field or in the dugout, consumption of alcoholic beverages prior to or during league functions, or use of illegal drugs will result in indefinite suspension from all league activities as determined by the Board.
3. Remarks directed at opposing team manager/coach/players for the purpose of obvious intent to distract players will not be permitted. Foul or rude language or unsportsmanlike conduct by players will result in the following penalties:
 - a. 1st Player/Team Offense: Warning to player by umpire/league official in charge.
 - b. 2nd Player/Team Offense: Ejection of player from game.
 - c. 3rd Player/Team Offense: Forfeit of game with win to be awarded to opposing team.

D. SPECTATORS:

1. Use of profane or abusive language, racial, or ethnic remarks, obscene gestures, smoking during a game on the field or in the dugout, consumption of alcoholic beverages prior to or during league functions, use of illegal drugs will result in the

following penalties.

a. 1st Offense: Warning to spectator(s) from official and/or Board Member in charge in the press box.

b. 2nd Offense: Removal of spectator(s) and/or forfeit of game with win to be awarded to opposing team.

2. Remarks directed at opposing team manager/coach/players for the purpose of obvious intent to distract players will not be permitted. Foul or rude language or use of sportsman like conduct by spectator(s) will result in the following penalties.

a. 1st Offense: Warning to spectator(s) by umpire/league official in charge.

b. 2nd Offense: Forfeit of game with win to be awarded to opposing team.

E. Each umpire/official has the authority to rule on any point not specifically covered in these rules.

RULE XIII PROTESTS

All protests of a game will be made by a Manager to the Umpire in accordance with PONY rules. The scorekeeper will note that the game was played under protest. The Manager protesting the game must submit the protest in writing **to the President or Board member in charge within 24 hours**. All legitimate protests will be ruled on by a vote of the Board. A filing fee of \$25.00 must accompany all protests. The fee will be returned only if the Board rules in favor of the protest.

RULE XIV FORFEITS

Team manager/coaches are encouraged to notify officials of possible forfeit as soon as possible to keep from umpire fees being incurred. Such notification should be given 24 hours prior to game time if at all possible.

RULE XV PRACTICES

A. Practices will be allowed provided the participant is a returning registered player from the prior season.

B. Practice times, fields, etc., are the responsibility of the manager/coach providing offseason play.

C. Players will not be left without adult supervision during practice. After practice is over, Managers will not leave players unattended prior to being picked up from practice.

RULE XVI
DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP

Division championships will be based on standings of regular league games. If two teams are tied for first place but agreed upon as to determine first place tournament manager/coach, ties will remain and teams will be declared co-winners. If manager/coach cannot be determined at the end of the season, first tie breaker will be head to head standings. If still unable to determine division champion, a single playoff game (seven innings, no time limit) will be required to determine the first place winner. If more than two teams are tied for first, a round robin playoff will be used to determine the final places.

RULE XVII
PLAYING FIELDS AND BALL SIZE FOR SOFTBALL/FAST PITCH

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>BASE LENGTH</u>	<u>PITCHING DISTANCE</u>	<u>BALL SIZE</u>
Foal	50 Feet	35 Feet	11 Inches
Shetland	50 Feet	35 Feet	11 Inches
Pinto	50 Feet	35 Feet	11 Inches
Mustang	60 Feet	35 Feet	11 Inches
Bronco	60 Feet	40 Feet	12 Inches

RULE XVIII

SCOREKEEPING AND ANNOUNCING

Each team **must provide** an adult volunteer (**at least 17 years of age**) to work in the press box 15 minutes prior to game time. Failure to provide one will result in a forfeit. Only the league official will communicate with the umpire, manager, or coach on the playing field during a game in progress. All volunteers must remain neutral while working in the press box. **Home team provides official scorekeeper in the press box and will bring in the bases at the end of the last game.** Visiting team provides electronic scoreboard keeper and marks the field. Workday will be held to explain how to do things.

RULE XVIX

ALL-STAR TEAMS

ALL-STAR SELECTION

All-Star selection will be overseen by the President, Player Agent and 1 additional board member.

1. First place team manager will coach the All-Star Team. If not able or willing, the coach will be selected in descending order of standing within the division.
2. All-Stars will be selected by team managers or acting managers. The team will consist of a roster of up to 15 players as determined by the All-Star manager. Each manager will nominate up to 7 players from their team.
3. Each manager will vote for up to 15 players that were nominated and submit ballot. Top vote getters will constitute the All-Star team for that division.
- *4. Team managers will make every effort to vote fairly for players based on player attitude, playing ability, sportsmanship, playing positions, attendance and participation of all practices and games.**
5. All-Star Managers will break all ties if/when necessary.

RULE XX

ALL-STAR TEAM FINANCIAL GUIDELINES

KINGSVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION YOUTH Baseball Softball LEAGUE WILL ONLY BE PAY PONY REGISTRATION FEE AND UNIFORM TOP FOR ALLSTARS.

Note: Verbal complaints, notifications, agreements will be hear say, but not acted upon without such being in written form and in possession of the League President or his/her designee. All consents of parents or legal guardians for participation of a player in non-league tournament play should be in writing and filed with the player agent of the KINGSVILLE PARKS YOUTH BASEBALL/SOFTBALL LEAGUE.