

SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

PONY LEAGUE POLICY MANUAL

(as adopted January 9, 1999, last amended February 12, 2018)

Contents

Section 1: Code of Conduct 2
Section 2: Official League Games 3
Section 3: Special Playing Rules 5
Section 4: Composition of Teams 7
Section 5: Draft System - Selection of Players 9
Section 6: Pitchers and Pitching Policy 12
Section 7: All-Stars 14
Section 8: League Champion / Post Season Series 16
Section 9: Official Protests 17
Section 10: General Dissatisfaction-Possible Draft Re-Entry 18
Section 11: Emergency Equipment/Supply Purchases 19
Section 12: Team Rules and Discipline 20
Section 13: Substitutions..... 21
Section 14: Post Game Clean Up - Field Maintenance..... 22
Section 15: Practice Schedules 23

Section 1: Code of Conduct

- a) The purpose of the code of conduct is to further amplify Article II of the Constitution of the Susquehanna Township Baseball Association, Inc.
- b) The following types of conduct will not be acceptable by coaches and players and upon review by the Review Committee consisting of the President, Pony Coordinator, and one other board member (none of which may be Pony coaches) shall result in a one (1) game suspension that is subject to adjustment by the Review Committee and appeal by the affected party:
 - 1) Profane or vulgar language;
 - 2) Use of tobacco and/or smoking within the confines of the playing area or use of alcoholic beverages anywhere in or about a playing field;
 - 3) Harassment of players, umpires or coaches;
 - 4) Gestures of bad taste;
 - 5) Fighting;
 - 6) Handling equipment in a manner that could cause physical harm to anyone or the damaging of equipment and league property;
 - 7) Ejection from a league game will result in an automatic one (1) game suspension to be served the next game.
- c) The umpire will be asked by each Head Coach to enforce the following rules before each game:
 - 1) STBA Pony Policy Manual.
 - 2) Official Little League playing rules (latest edition).

Section 2: Official League Games

- a) Starting time for Official League Games shall be 6:00 PM unless indicated otherwise in the official league schedule.
- b) Failure to field a team 30 minutes after the official starting time will result in a forfeit by the offending team.
- c) Prior to the start of a game, the home team Head Coach shall be responsible for postponing a game due to rain or wet grounds (see part (d)).
- d) Postponed official league games are to be rescheduled and played within seven days, if possible.
 - 1) The home team coach must determine at least thirty (30) minutes before game time that the field is not suitable for play.
 - 2) The home team coach must notify the opposing coach, umpire association, Pony Coordinator and snack bar of the postponement.
 - 3) The Pony Coordinator will reschedule the game and procure an umpire.
 - 4) Any team failing to play a rescheduled game will forfeit said game.
- e) Paid umpires shall be used for all official league games. In the event that an umpire fails to appear or sustains an injury, the Head Coaches shall mutually agree upon a qualified individual to fill-in as umpire. If agreement cannot be reached in selecting an alternative umpire, the game will be rescheduled in accordance with Section 2 (d).
- f) The only person authorized to stop a commenced official league game is the umpire.
- g) A uniform league ball must be used in all games. Two (2) new balls, suitable to the umpire, must be provided by the home team. The umpire may reject any ball at any time when it is determined not suitable for use.
- h) Batting helmets or other appropriate head gear must be worn by base runners, player base coaches, and catchers at all times. Throat protectors and athletic supporters with cup are mandatory for all players used as catchers.
- i) The home team must complete pre-game warm-up practice thirty (30) minutes before game time. The visiting team shall then have the playing field for twenty-five (25) minutes.
- j) The home team scorekeeper shall be the official scorer for each contest and must report the final score to the Pony Coordinator. Also, the winning and losing pitchers must be reported along with all other pitchers used in the game (include innings pitched). Game summary sheets will be provided to all Head Coaches at the beginning of the season for this purpose.

- k) All teams are required to maintain an official scorebook during the season. The scorebook is subject to review by the Pony Coordinator to settle any disputes that may arise.
- l) It is the responsibility of the home team to maintain the scoreboard, if applicable.
- m) The Pony Coordinator will provide the official Little League playing rules to coaches and umpires, which shall prevail and be enforced unless otherwise superseded by this Pony League Policy Manual.
- n) All bats must comply with the Little League rules in effect at the time of the season. If a player uses an illegal bat in an official at-bat, the umpire shall call the player out, remove the bat from play, warn the player and any parent or guardian who is present, and shall warn the player's Head Coach.

Section 3: Special Playing Rules

- a) The fenced in area of Kauffman, McNaughton and Stabler fields shall be known as the "In-Play" area; other fields require a pre-game conference to define "In-Play" areas.
- b) Avoiding contact or sliding by a base runner is absolutely necessary anytime a play is made on said player except at first base. If a player does not slide and contact is made, player is out.
- c) Head first slides are **PROHIBITED** when advancing to the next base, but may be done when returning to a base. A player sliding headfirst when advancing to the next base will be declared out.
- d) Flagrant or willful contact by any player is strictly prohibited and is cause for ejection from the game. The umpires' judgment in this matter is final.
- e) All players must remain in the dugout during the game except as follows:
 - 1) The nine (9) defensive players.
 - 2) The batter, on-deck hitter, and player base coach.
 - 3) Pitchers and catchers warming up in the "bullpen".
- f) Only players and four (4) coaches, including the Head Coach, are allowed in the "In-Play" area during the game. All other persons shall be considered unauthorized and are subject to removal by the umpire or league officials. The coaches must be eighteen (18) years of age or older or a high school graduate.
- g) A designated scorekeeper may be selected by the Head Coach. This person shall be a responsible individual having a knowledge of Pony League baseball. The designated scorekeeper who is not a Head Coach or assistant coach is not allowed in the playing area during the game.
- h) An Extra Hitter (EH) will be permitted and must be designated when the starting lineup is exchanged. If you start with an EH, you must end with an EH. An EH is defined as a tenth (10th) player in the lineup. An EH is subject to the must play rule.
- i) Stealing of 2nd and 3rd base is permitted throughout the season, stealing of Home is not permitted at any time.
- j) The infield fly rule will not be used.
- k) A courtesy runner (player not in the game, or last batted out) may run for the catcher at any time. This does not satisfy the must play rule.
 - 1) The purpose of this rule is meant to speed up the game.
 - 2) Coaches should allow the catcher to gain base running experience when possible.

- l) The balk rule will not be in effect.
- m) Base runners may advance until the pitcher has possession of the ball on the mound. Once the pitcher has possession of the ball on the mound, if the base runner is halfway to the next base, he is awarded that base. If the base runner is less than halfway, he returns to the previous base.
- n) Intentional walks are prohibited.
- o) A team must start with nine player roster and may end with less. An automatic out is recorded for that at-bat.
- p) Innings are limited to four (4) runs, except for the sixth inning.
- q) On a ball thrown out of the "In-Play" area, the runner is awarded the base they were taking and given the next base. Example: A runner going to third base is awarded home when the ball lands outside of the third base fence.
- r) On an over-throw of first base, the runner may attempt for second base with the understanding that he could be thrown out.
- s) On an over-throw of third base, the runner may not advance home (unless the ball leaves the "In-Play" area.
- t) If a team is leading by ten (10) or more runs after four (4) innings have been completed, the game is considered official. You must complete an inning. Example: If the visiting team takes a ten (10) run lead in the fifth inning, the home team still gets to bat in the bottom of the fifth inning.
- u) A batter may not fake bunt and then swing away. If done, the batter shall be called out. Runners may not advance during this play.

Section 4: Composition of Teams

- a) Team rosters shall consist of no more than thirteen (13) players, whose playing ages will be 10, 9, and to a limited extent, 8 with no more than seven (7) of any one age. Playing age is defined as the age of the player on September 1st of the current season. Hence, a player turning 11 on or before August 31st is considered ineligible.
- b) The Pony Coordinator, in his sole discretion, shall have the authority to expand all team rosters to no more than fourteen (14) players as set forth in the following sub-paragraph (c), and the additional authority to expand individual team rosters to fifteen (15) players should new players move into the area as set forth in section 5 (h).
- c) To the extent roster spots are not filled by 10 and 9 year-olds, 8 year-olds may be selected in the draft, under certain limited circumstances, as follows:
 - 1) Where the Pony Coordinator determines on or before draft day that there is an insufficient number of 10 and 9 year-olds to fill all roster slots based on a thirteen (13) player per team roster, then any available roster slots may be filled with 8 year-olds.
 - 2) Where the Pony Coordinator determines on or before the draft there are 9 and 10 year-olds in sufficient numbers to fill all thirteen (13) player per team roster slots, the Pony Coordinator shall expand all team rosters to no more than fourteen (14) players (see sub-section (a) above). The Pony Coordinator shall also be required to expand team rosters if 9 and 10's fill all thirteen (13) per team roster slots with the exception of a very limited number, thereby creating a situation where only a very small number (3 or 4, for example) 8 year-olds would be placed in the Pony program.
- d) The roster size is determined at the beginning of each season and is a function of returning players and new registrants.
 - 1) All roster vacancies (where the coach has reason to believe the missing player will not return that season) shall be promptly reported to the Pony Coordinator, who shall supervise and direct the filling of such vacancies from the Standby List as provided in Article IV of the Constitution.
 - 2) If temporary player shortages which are likely to cause a forfeit shall be filled, on a game by game basis, with players from the eligible list compiled by the Pony Coordinator.

- i) This list shall be composed of no more than fifteen (15) 8 year-old league players, who shall be placed on the list in order of ability as much as possible. A copy of this list shall be provided to each Pony Head Coach. No players moved to Ponies under this rule shall be permitted to pitch. Moved players are subject to the "must play" rule set forth elsewhere. All listed players shall retain full 8 year-old league eligibility.
- 3) These provisions set out the sole and exclusive means of moving a player from the Jr. Pony Level to the Pony Level without Board approval.
- e) The league will supply a team roster of returning players to each Head Coach when registration is complete. This roster must include at least the name and playing age of each player. After the draft is complete, the league will supply the official team roster, which must include but not be limited to name, age, address, and telephone number.
 - 1) Any discrepancies or later changes must be brought to the attention of the Pony Coordinator or Association President immediately for appropriate action.
- f) There will be no trading, transfer, reassignment, or shifting of players from one team or program to another except as specifically authorized in this Pony League Policy Manual. Any team utilizing an ineligible player shall forfeit all games in which such a player has participated, subject to review by the Board. Any coach knowingly utilizing such a player shall be removed from his coaching position subject to review by the Board.
- g) Coaches shall be prohibited from recruiting existing league players to switch League affiliated Associations for the purposes of gaining a competitive advantage.

Section 5: Draft System - Selection of Players

- a) The selection of players to fill team rosters will be made at the player draft meeting, which will be held after appropriate tryouts. The tryout date(s), time, and place will be set by the Board in consultation with the Pony Coordinator. Tryouts will be for all first year 9 and 10 year-olds, all of whom will be drafted and all 8 year-olds; however, only a limited number of 8 year-olds will be selected (see Section 4 (c)).
- b) The Pony Coordinator or designated substitute shall preside at and supervise the player draft meeting.
- c) The order in which teams will draft players will be the reverse order of the previous year's regular season won/loss records. If teams have identical records, the head-to-head competition shall determine their order; worst record picks first. If the order of finish cannot be determined by head-to-head competition, the teams shall be pulled from a hat.
- d) The draft shall continue in the order specified in (c) until all eligible players have been selected. Each team will select a player in the first round and thereafter in rounds as indicated by the Pony Coordinator. For example, if the roster size is set at fifteen (15) players, there will be fifteen (15) rounds of drafting with the number of team picks spread evenly over the fifteen (15) rounds. That is, a team needing three (3) players to fill their roster would select in rounds 1, 8, and 15 (Section 4 (a) limits any age group to seven (7) players.)
 - 1) The order of drafting and the rounds in which each team will draft will be determined by the Pony Coordinator and discussed with the Head Coaches prior to the draft.
 - 2) Any 9 or 10 year old players not showing for the tryouts and not already drafted, will be drafted in the last round by pulling names from a hat (Subject to Sec 5 (d) (5)).
 - 3) Whenever possible players from the same family should be drafted by the same team. These automatic draft selections shall be handled as outlined in part (e) below.
 - 4) If any team has more than seven (7) players in any age group, that team will be prohibited from drafting players of that age, unless players of a different age are unavailable. For example, a team with seven (7) 10 year-olds would be prohibited from drafting or drawing from the hat another 10 year-old unless no other players were available.

- 5) Immediately prior to the actual commencement of the draft, the Head Coaches (or a coaches designate) will establish a pool of 8 year-olds. All 8 year-olds the Pony Coordinator or coaches declare Pony appropriate, shall be placed in this pool. A Pony coach may pick these players anywhere in the draft, regardless if they attend tryouts or not, though it is not mandatory to pick these players. If a player refuses to move up, his money will be refunded and his Jr. Pony position will be filled. Once the draft begins, any coach is free to choose from the available 9 and 10 year-olds, or to choose an 8 year-old from this pool, subject only to applicable age and roster restrictions contained elsewhere in this Pony League Policy Manual.
- e) If a Head Coach has their child who is not on any other roster and he/she desires to draft this player, this intention must be made known prior to the draft. At this point, the Pony Coordinator will determine in which round the player becomes an automatic selection by polling the coaches to ascertain the player's rating.
 - f) If a Head Coach has their child who is on another team's roster and he/she desires to draft this player, this intention must be made known prior to the draft. As in part (e), the Pony Coordinator will determine in which round the player becomes an automatic selection. Additionally, an adjustment to the rounds in which each team will select players must be made to recognize the change in roster sizes.
 - 1) A transfer of this nature may only occur at the draft meeting - never during the regular season.
 - 2) If more than one (1) child is involved and/or more than one (1) other team, each transfer shall be handled as outlined above.
 - g) In order for a player to be eligible for the draft, the player must register during the established registration period, which terminates when tryouts are held. A properly executed player registration card must be completely filled out and signed by the player's parent(s) or legal guardian. Any registrations after the cutoff date will be added to the standby list for possible activation by the Pony Coordinator.
 - h) If, after the draft has been held and on or before game five (5) of the season, an eligible player moves into the geographic boundaries governed by the STBA and becomes legally registered, the following procedures shall be followed:
 - 1) The player shall be placed on an active roster by the Pony Coordinator or association President following the rotation used on draft day. The established order will not be used when a team has lost a player since the draft (creating an opening to be filled) or when placing a new player on a roster would violate Section 4 (a) which limits to seven (7) the number of players in any age group.

- 2) The new player will be retained on the Pony roster to which he was placed. Note that no new registrants may be added to a roster after game five (5).
 - i) Any player that becomes eligible for draft re-entry provided for in Section 10 shall not be eligible to be selected by the team that the player was removed from the previous season. An exception is granted in the case where a new Head Coach has been appointed in accordance with STBA By-Laws.
- i) Players that initially registered to participate in the Susquehanna Township Pony League and were drafted by a team will remain with that team for the duration of the player's eligibility except as provided for in Section 10. However, it is the player's responsibility to register each year of his/her eligibility as provided for in this Pony League Policy Manual.
 - 1) If a returning player fails to register, said player will be ineligible for the season and must re-enter the draft the following year.
 - 2) If a returning player registers after the cutoff date, said player will be added to the standby list, but is only eligible for activation to his/her current team.

Section 6: Pitchers and Pitching Policy

- a) Any player on a team's official league roster may pitch.
- b) A player called up from the Jr. Pony program may not pitch.
- c) A pitcher may throw the following number of pitches per game:
 - 1) Sixty (60) pitches per game through May 14th.
 - i) If the pitcher throws thirty (30) pitches or less in a game they must rest a minimum of one (1) day prior to pitching again.
 - ii) If the pitcher throws more than thirty (30) pitches in a game they must rest a minimum of three (3) days prior to pitching again.
 - 2) Eighty (80) pitches per game beginning on May 15th.
 - i) If the pitcher throws forty (40) pitches or less in a game they must rest a minimum of one (1) day prior to pitching again.
 - ii) If the pitcher throws more than forty (40) pitches in a game they must rest a minimum of three (3) days prior to pitching again.
- d) If a pitcher has reached their maximum number of pitches while facing a batter, they may finish pitching to that batter before being removed from the pitching position.
- e) A pitcher who delivers forty-one (41) or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of that day. Any player who has played the position of catcher in four (4) or more innings in a game is not eligible to pitch on that calendar day.
- f) A pitcher can only throw one (1) game per day in case of doubleheaders.
- g) Each Head Coach will be supplied with a game day pitch count chart as well as a season long pitcher chart.
- h) Each Head Coach will be responsible for counting the pitches of all pitchers during the game. After each game, both head coaches will initial next to their pitcher's pitch count thus agreeing to the number of pitches thrown.

- i) Violation of the pitching policy by any league coach will follow the below mentioned disciplinary action:
 - 1) First Violation - the pitcher will be removed from the game immediately and will not be able to pitch for seven (7) days.
 - 2) Second Violation - the pitcher will be removed from the game immediately and will not be able to pitch for seven (7) days. The head coach will also face a one (1) game suspension.
 - 3) Third Violation - the pitcher will be removed from the game immediately and will not be allowed to pitch for seven (7) days. The head coach will be removed immediately and will no longer be eligible to coach in the STBA program.
 - 4) If the pitching policy is violated and discovered after the game, the game is forfeited by the violating team and the pitcher will not be able to pitch for seven (7) days.

- j) Such disciplinary action shall be handed down by the Pony Coordinator. Either team has the right to request an appeal of the Pony Coordinator's decision to a committee composed of the President and two (2) other Board members selected by the President, subject to the condition that the appeal be provided to the President, in writing, setting forth the reasons the Pony Coordinator's decision is believed erroneous, within twenty-four (24) hours of the Pony Coordinator's decision. The committee's decision is final.

- k) Any pitcher who hits three batters with a pitched ball will be removed from the pitcher's position.

Section 7: All-Stars

- a) The league All-Star nomination process shall be as follows:
- 1) Each league Head Coach shall submit a list of eligible players who they feel can compete at an All-Star level to the Pony Coordinator prior to the start of the 1st game of the regular season {List #1}. Eligible players include the following:
 - i) For the 9U team (Players 8 or 9 years old).
 - ii) For the 10U team (Players 10 years old).
 - 2) The Pony Coordinator shall distribute the potential All-Star list {List #1} to all Head Coaches for the purposes of evaluating players throughout the regular season.
 - 3) By June 1st, all Head Coaches shall submit a list of All-Star eligible players to the Pony Coordinator {List #2}. The Head Coach shall include player vacation schedules and any other information that would establish the availability of their players from the middle of June through the first week of August.
- b) All-Star Coaching Staff selection process shall be as follows:
- 1) Interested Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches shall submit their name and availability, via email, by June 1st to the Pony Coordinator indicating their desire to coach an All-Star team.
 - 2) At least one (1) day prior to the June STBA Board meeting, the Pony Coordinator shall conduct an All-Star meeting for the purpose of selecting All-Star Coaches. All teams Head Coaches, or their written designee if the Head Coach is unavailable, shall attend.
 - 3) At the All-Star meeting, the Pony Coordinator shall identify an All-Star Head Coach, after considering input from the teams Head Coaches, other available information, and his own judgment, and shall specifically consider the following:
 - i) The coach's experience, background, and history with the organization.
 - ii) The coach's previous years desire/selection to coach an All-Star team.
 - iii) The number of likely All-Star players from a given team/organization.
 - 4) The Pony Coordinator, in consultation with the All-Star Head Coach, shall identify Assistant Coaches using their best judgment as to what is best for the team, including roster composition and past experience. Such selection shall reflect the wishes of the All-Star Head Coach to the fullest extent possible.

- c) All-Star Players selection process shall be as follows:
- 1) At least one (1) day prior to the June STBA Board meeting, the Pony Coordinator shall conduct an All-Star meeting for the purpose of selecting All-Star players. All team Head Coaches, or their written designee if the Head Coach is unavailable, shall attend.
 - 2) The Pony Coordinator shall then identify the nine (9) top nominated players, based upon input of the Head Coaches, other available information, and his own judgment, with the goal of fielding the strongest possible team.
 - 3) The All-Star Head Coach shall then fill three (3) roster slots with players, with a special emphasis on ensuring that the catching, pitching, and base running needs of the team are addressed.
 - 4) The All-Star Head Coach shall then pick, at their discretion, up to three (3) alternate players. The purpose of their selection shall be to satisfy the requirement, imposed by some tournaments, that all league teams be represented, and to ensure that capable players are available in the event primary players are unavailable due to sickness, injury, or vacation.
 - i) With respect to vacations, a primary player shall not be declared ineligible due to vacation. Instead, the All-Star Head Coach shall exercise his best judgment as to when to utilize an alternate player, with the absent primary player to be returned to an active role on the team at a time to be determined by the All-Star Head Coach, the goal being to field the strongest possible team at all times.
 - ii) The Head Coach shall fully disclose the role of the alternate player to the player and parents, shall strongly encourage the player to attend practices, may allow the player to dress for games, and to play in games whenever possible.
- d) The Pony Coordinator shall report his recommendations as to All-Star Coaches and All-Star Players at the June STBA Board meeting, which recommendations shall be approved and adopted upon a majority vote of the STBA Board.
- e) Each team's All-Star season will begin immediately following the conclusion of the league's playoff series. The season will consist of the following:
- 1) Entry into at least one (1) but no more than three (3) all-star tournaments.
 - 2) These tournaments will be selected at the discretion of the team's Head Coach and approved by the board.

Section 8: League Champion / Post Season Series

a) The League Champion will be the team that wins the post-season playoffs seeded by their final regular season records.

1) In the event of ties, the seeding will be determined by:

- i) Head to head competition.
- ii) Total runs head to head.
- iii) Coin toss.

b) Once the teams have been seeded, the playoff format will be determined by the Pony Coordinator and will follow a pattern similar to the one listed below but subject to change due to the number of teams in the league (Example based on a six (6) team league):

Quarterfinals - Game 1	Team 3 vs. Team 6
Quarterfinals - Game 2	Team 4 vs. Team 5
Semifinals - Game 3	Team 1 vs. Lowest Seeded Team
Semifinals - Game 4	Team 2 vs. Highest Seeded Team
Finals - Game 5	Game 3 Winner vs. Game 4 Winner

c) The Pony Coordinator will determine the dates, times and fields for games.

d) All pitchers begin the playoffs assuming they have thrown no pitches to date.

Section 9: Official Protests

- a) A protest shall be considered only when based on the violation and/or interpretation of a playing rule or the use of an ineligible player, except a pitcher; see Section 6. No protest may be lodged based on an umpire's judgment. Illegal equipment must be removed from a game and shall not be the basis for a protest.
 - 1) Protests should be avoided whenever possible. When a protest situation is eminent, the potential offender should be notified immediately.
- b) Only the Head Coach (or designated assistant in the absence of the Head Coach) may protest a game.
- c) In a protest situation:
 - 1) The Head Coach or designee shall immediately and before any succeeding play begins, notify the umpire and opposing coach that the game is being played under protest.
 - 2) If the umpire is convinced that his decision is not in conflict with a playing rule and does not reverse the decision; the umpire shall announce that the game is being played under protest. Failure to provide this announcement shall not affect the validity of the protest.
 - 3) If, at the end of the game, the protest is not withdrawn, the Head Coach should get the umpires signature on both scorebooks. Additionally, the Head Coach must file a written report detailing the protest with the Association President within twenty-four (24) hours.
- d) Protests made due to the use of an ineligible player may be considered only if the umpire is notified prior to the last out of the game. Whenever it is determined that an ineligible player is being used, said player shall be removed from the game and the game shall resume under protest or not as the protesting manager decides.
- e) A committee composed of the Association President, Pony Coordinator, and one (1) board member shall hear and resolve any filed protest. After reviewing documents and consulting with the Head Coaches and/or umpire, the committee shall make a recommendation to the Board of Directors for final resolution.
- f) If a protest is allowed and the Board's resolution requires resumption of play from the point when the infraction occurred, the Pony Coordinator shall review both scorebooks with the coaches to duplicate the original game conditions and set a date and time for the completion of the game.

Section 10: General Dissatisfaction-Possible Draft Re-Entry

- a) In the event that a dispute arises or general dissatisfaction develops during the season between any member of the coaching staff of a team and the parents or guardians (hereafter referred to as "Parent") of a team member, the following procedures shall be followed:
- 1) The problem shall be thoroughly reviewed by the Head Coach and Pony Coordinator as soon as possible. Every effort should be made to resolve the conflict.
 - 2) If the conflict cannot be resolved to the mutual satisfaction of all parties, the Head Coach or parent may elect to remove the player from the team's active roster. When this occurs, the party taking action must forward a detailed report, within seven (7) days of impasse to the Pony Coordinator setting forth all reasons for removing the player from the active team roster.
 - 3) Within seven (7) days of receipt of said report, the Pony Coordinator shall confer with the coach and parent separately in an attempt to resolve the conflict. At the discretion of the Pony Coordinator, a meeting of all concerned parties may be convened. If these attempts at resolution are unsuccessful, the player shall be permanently removed from the roster and may re-enter the Pony program as set forth below (part b).
- b) A player removed from an active roster is ineligible for the current season. However, the player may re-enter the draft the following year if all other requirements set forth in this Pony League Policy Manual are met and the Board of Directors upon review of all the facts grant approval.
- c) If a player desires to re-enter the draft after playing for one of the Pony league teams in the previous season, the player's parents must petition the Board of Directors. The letter sent to the board must detail the reasons for the re-entry request. The Head Coach of the affected team must be informed of the petition by the board. The Head Coach and/or parents may address the Board of Directors before a final decision on the draft status of the player is reached.
- d) If a Head Coach desires to place an eligible player from the previous year back in the draft, the coach must inform the Board of Directors, in writing, of this intention. The request must detail the reasons for re-entry and must be received by the board before March 1st. The parents of the affected player must be informed of the petition by the board. The Head Coach and/or parents may address the Board of Directors before a final decision on the draft status of the player is reached.

Section 11: Emergency Equipment/Supply Purchases

- a) Article VII - Finances - Section 6 prescribes the manner in which all necessary baseball equipment purchases shall be handled. However, when an emergency purchase is necessary the Head Coach or designee shall inform the Pony Coordinator or Association President of the need for equipment. The Pony Coordinator may grant permission for the purchase as long as the cost does not exceed fifty (\$50) dollars.
- b) At the beginning of each season each team shall be given baseballs.
- c) Hats for team members and the coaching staff should be ordered each year by the equipment manager from a Board approved vendor. Extra hats should be obtained to replace hats that become lost or damaged during the season. Any player obtaining a second hat must pay the association for the replacement.

Section 12: Team Rules and Discipline

- a) It shall be the inherent right of all Head Coaches to establish their own team rules and team discipline policy. The rules and discipline policy must be consistent with the purpose of the Susquehanna Township Baseball Association Constitution.
- b) Each Head Coach shall explain the team discipline policy to the players and parents prior to the start of the season. It is strongly suggested that the policy be given to each player in written form along with a statement about the code of conduct set forth in Section 1 (a), (b), and (c) of this manual.
- c) A copy of each team's disciplinary code must be provided to the Pony Coordinator prior to the start of the season. This copy will be filed for reference in the event that a general dissatisfaction conflict should occur. Neither the Pony Coordinator nor the Board of Directors has any right to pass judgment on the disciplinary code established unless there is a contradiction to the Constitution.

Section 13: Substitutions

- a) A player in the starting line-up who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game at any position in the batting order given the following conditions:
 - 1) The substitute must have completed one time at bat and played defensively for at least two (2) innings.
 - 2) Only a player in the starting line-up may re-enter the game.
 - 3) A pitcher may not re-enter the game as a pitcher.
- b) Each player on the official team roster must play a minimum of two (2) innings on defense and bat at least once per six-inning game.
 - 1) The only exceptions permitted will be in the case where a player sustains an injury, leaves for other obligations, or violates team policies. In the latter two cases, the coach must announce to the opposition his/her intentions prior to the start of the game.
 - 2) A player entered into a game in the fifth inning by the home team who does not get to bat, due to a win situation, must have been scheduled to bat either 1, 2, or 3 in the sixth inning in order to not violate this rule.
- c) Violation of this rule will result in a forfeit by the offending team.

Section 14: Post Game Clean Up - Field Maintenance

- a) At the conclusion of each game, the Head Coaches will insure that team members for each team clean their dugout area. Also, the coaches should assign to their players areas around the field of play for general removal of paper, cans, and other litter.
- b) Team members should be given the job of insuring that all team and field equipment is placed in the proper storage location.
- c) The Home teams coaching staff is responsible for repairs to the playing field where maintenance is needed. The batter's boxes and pitching mound should be raked and leveled to eliminate holes caused by routine play. Additionally, the area around each base should be raked to return dirt to low spots caused by sliding. In some cases it may become necessary to water the infield dirt area to insure that graded dirt stays in place.

Section 15: Practice Schedules

- a) Pre-season practice may start the day following the draft meeting. The Pony Coordinator or designee in consultation with the coaches shall develop a schedule for field use.
- b) During the regular season alternative sites should be used for practice. A list of practice sites shall be developed at a coaches meeting together with a plan of shared usage.

END OF PONY LEAGUE POLICY MANUAL