

Midlothian Amateur Baseball Association

Bylaws

Table of Contents Page	Number
Article I (Name)	3
Article II (Objective)	3
Article III (Government)	3
Article IV (Admittance)	5
Article V (Financial Policy)	5
Article VI (Removal from Office)	5
Article VII (Board of Directors)	6
Article VIII (Appointed Positions)	10
Article IX (Protest, Complaints, Disciplinary Action & Codes of Ethics)	12
Article X (Registration)	16
Article XI (Coaching Guidelines & Responsibilities)	17
Article XII (Umpires Authority)	19
Article XIII (Practicing)	19
Article XIV (Drafting Procedures)	19
Article XV (Insurance)	20
Article XVI (Tournaments)	21
Article XVII (Compensation)	21
Article XVIII (Awards)	21
Article XVIII (Amendments to Bylaws)	21
Article XIX (Dissolution)	21

ARTICLE I (NAME)

1.1 This organization shall be known as the Midlothian Amateur Baseball Association, Inc. hereinafter referred to as “MABA” or “league”.

1.2 Any use of the name for advertising, promotional activities, fundraisers, or any other reason without prior approval from the MABA Board of Directors is prohibited.

ARTICLE II (OBJECTIVE)

2.1 The objective of this organization is to foster and promote the game of baseball by developing fundamental baseball skills, promoting good sportsmanship, and furnishing wholesome recreation for the youth of Midlothian. To achieve this objective, MABA shall provide a supervised program utilizing uniform rules, regulations, procedures, and methods of playing.

ARTICLE III (GOVERNMENT)

3.1 In accordance with section 501 C (3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, the MABA shall operate exclusively as a non-profit educational organization providing a supervised program of youth baseball. No part of the net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual. Reasonable compensation to MABA Board Members for services must be approved by the MABA Board of Directors and documented in the minutes. MABA will not be involved or associated with any group or person(s) who is carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and will not participate in or attempt to intervene in any political campaign of any candidate for public office.

- A. Each year it shall be the responsibility of the acting MABA Board of Directors to fill out and submit all the proper tax forms for this association to the IRS (e.g. – IRS Form 990, 1099-MISC, etc.).
- B. Not more than once every four (4) years it shall be the responsibility of the acting MABA Board of Directors to submit a periodic report to the Texas Secretary of State (Form 802).

3.2 As provided in the Articles of Incorporation filed with the Texas Secretary of State, MABA has no members and, as such, MABA is governed by a self-perpetuating Board of Directors that elects its own successors.

- A. Only adults at least 18 years of age who are actively involved in the operations of MABA during the preceding season or who have a vested interest in a child that is currently participating in the MABA program may be elected to the Board of Directors.
- B. Candidates for the Board of Directors may be nominated by an existing Board member or may make a request for consideration for election to the Board.
- C. Election of Board member candidates must be accomplished by a majority vote of the existing Board of Directors.

3.3 The election of officers, commissioners, and coordinators from among the Board members shall be held before August 1, during the same year, at an Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors which is called for that purpose. Any person wishing to be considered or nominated for an officer position shall be a current board member in good standing, except in the event of an unoccupied position.

- A. Notification of this meeting will be issued to all Board members and shall be posted on the league’s official website at least seven days prior to the meeting.
- B. The term for officers, commissioners, and coordinators shall be one year. A “YEAR” will constitute the time from the election meeting of the current year to the election meeting of the following year.
- C. Officers, commissioners, and coordinators are eligible for re-election.

D. Any officer, commissioner, or coordinator position vacated during the one-year term may be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors and will satisfy the remainder of the one-year term.

3.4

Only meetings called by the President or two-thirds of the MABA Board of Directors will be deemed an “Official Board Meeting”.

- A. A minimum of two (2) officers must be present at each official meeting.
- B. A minimum Quorum of one more than 50% of the existing Board members must be present at a meeting in order to transact business.
- C. The Board of Directors will hold regular monthly meetings or as often as needed.

D. SPECIAL MEETINGS – Special meetings will address only those subjects for which it was called and no other business (i.e. any disciplinary meetings to acquire information or administer disciplinary action, any meetings to discuss the results of a finding in the background check process.) All discussions will be deemed confidential unless determined otherwise by two-thirds majority vote at the time of the meeting. MABA Board Members shall maintain confidentiality in regard to these meetings and possible consequences except for that communication that is necessary among cognizant persons to administer the disciplinary action program and the necessary communication that is required in these by-laws.

3.5

All matters concerning the policies and interpretations of the rules and bylaws of MABA shall be decided by a majority vote of the MABA Board of Directors.

3.6

Any motion carried by a majority vote at a Board Meeting cannot be remanded, unless by a majority vote of the MABA Board of Directors.

3.7

A majority vote of the Board of Directors present in accordance with the quorum requirements set forth in Article III, Section 3.4B at any official meeting of MABA shall govern any and all decisions, and or transactions of that meeting.

3.8

“Robert’s Rules of Order” shall govern the proceedings of all Official Board Meetings, except where the constitution of the MABA By-Laws conflict with “Robert’s Rules of Order”.

3.9

In regards to the ~~USSSA~~ Little League International, Inc. rulebook and the amended rules of MABA, the Board of Directors will have full authority to impose whatever penalty or penalties if any at all, they deem appropriate for any violation of all said rules.

3.10

MABA will be governed under ~~USSSA, Inc.~~ Little League International rules until otherwise noted and the bylaws are amended.

- A. Only the “amended rules” set forth by the MABA Board of Directors will have precedence over ~~USSSA, Inc.~~ Little League International rules. ~~These are typically agreed upon by all participating cities in what is now the Best Southwest Baseball Group.~~
- B. ~~This may also apply to Southwest Classic Baseball with whom MABA is associated.~~

ARTICLE IV (ADMITTANCE)

4.1

Admittance to participate in MABA as a Head Coach, Player, Assistant Coach, or Practice Facilitator must be obtained through the application with approval from the MABA Board of Directors. The form is to be filled out completely. **The MABA Board of Directors, who will specify the required certifications, will process all applications.** No one will be allowed to participate in any way or be allowed on the playing field or in the dugout during any league game or tournament play without the proper application to MABA. (Unless otherwise approved by MABA). **Practice Facilitator** (Any person that will be helping with practice or that may be one on one with the players)

4.2

Any person wishing to apply for the position of Head Coach, Assistant Coach, or Practice Facilitator must agree to a personal background check prior to application review by the MABA Board of Directors. Any person who has ever been convicted or indicted of any felony or convicted or indicted of a misdemeanor relating to an offense of murder, sexual assault, kidnapping, indecency with a child, child abuse, rape, domestic violence, etc., will not be allowed to participate in MABA. Any person wishing to apply for the position of Head Coach, Assistant Coach, or Practice Facilitator may petition the Board to request a special circumstance consideration. Each special consideration made by the MABA Board of Directors will be carefully considered, as to the interest of the children, who will participate in this organization.

ARTICLE V (FINANCIAL POLICY)

MABA must keep an accurate account of all financial records including receipt and disbursement of all monies in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

5.1

The MABA Board of Directors shall establish a budget each year before opening day. Although this budget is somewhat vague in some areas (Umpire expenses, awards, equipment....etc), it will be followed as close as possible.

5.2

All expenditures over the amount of \$500.00 shall require a signature from two ~~of the following 5~~ Executive Officers. ~~President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary.~~ No Executive Officer may be a signatory on any check payable to himself/herself.

5.3

The present Board of Directors and the new Board of Directors shall review the financial books at the first "Official" board meeting of the New Year.

5.4

When the MABA decides to purchase the necessary equipment, supplies, and materials needed to operate the league, the MABA will use prudent judgment and make sound decisions as to "where items will be purchased" and "what items will be purchased"

- 1) Purchases over the amount of \$200.00 will require a majority vote of the Board of Directors at any meeting.
- 2) Bids may be sent out for certain items at the Boards discretion.

ARTICLE VI (REMOVAL FROM OFFICE)

6.1

If for any reason a Board member's actions are found to be detrimental to MABA, a Special Meeting may be called by a majority vote from the Board of Directors. A Special Meeting may not be a part of the regular board meeting unless such a request has been formally announced and placed on the agenda 72 hours prior to the regular meeting. To effect the Removal from office of any Board Member, a two-thirds vote of the entire Board of Directors, not just of the voting quorum, will be had.

6.2

In the event the President of the Board is removed voluntarily or involuntarily, the Vice President shall act as President until the Board of Directors has elected a new President.

6.3

Any coach conducting him/herself in an unsportsmanlike manner, or who jeopardizes the well-being of any child, can be removed from his/her position by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. (REFER TO ARTICLE IX.4 Codes of Ethics)

6.4

Any Board Member who fails to attend three consecutive regular meetings, or a total of five regular meetings in one year, after having been given reasonable notice of the meeting, shall automatically be removed from the Board, and his/her position shall be considered vacant. If a Board Member is removed under this section, he/she will not be eligible for election to the Board for a period of one year.

6.5
When a Board Member is aware of a regular meeting and knows he/she will be unable to attend, the board member must notify a Board Officer (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Director of Classic) at least four hours prior to the meeting by phone, email or in person. If notification is given, this absence will not be included in the requirements for section 6.6 above.

6.6
There shall be no appeals from anyone who has been removed by the MABA Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII (BOARD OF DIRECTORS)

7.1 The MABA Board of Directors will consist of Five (4) Officers.

7.2 The MABA Board of Directors will consist of a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of seven (7) Commissioners.

7.3 The MABA Board of Directors will consist of the number of Coordinators deemed necessary to execute the objectives of the league.

7.4 The MABA Officer positions are as follows:

- A. PRESIDENT
- B. VICE PRESIDENT
- C. SECRETARY
- D. TREASURER

7.5 The MABA Commissioner positions are as follows:

- ~~A. 4 & UNDER COMMISSIONER (Tball 4)~~
- ~~B. 5 & UNDER COMMISSIONER (Tball)~~
- C. 6 & UNDER COMMISSIONER (Tball or Modified Tball)
- D. 8 & UNDER COMMISSIONER (Coach Pitch)
- E. 10 & UNDER COMMISSIONER (Baseball)
- F. 12 & UNDER COMMISSIONER (Baseball)
- G. 14 & UNDER COMMISSIONER (Baseball)

7.6 The MABA Coordinator positions may be expanded as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors. The established baseline positions are as follows:

- ~~A. CONCESSION COORDINATOR~~
- ~~B. FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR~~
- ~~C. VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR~~
- ~~D. TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR~~
- ~~E. INFORMATION & WEB COORDINATOR~~
- ~~F. UMPIRE COORDINATOR "UMPIRE IN CHIEF"~~
- ~~G. COORDINATOR OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION~~
- ~~H. BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE~~
- A. FIELD AND EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR
- B. COACHING COORDINATOR
- C. PLAYER AGENT
- D. SAFETY OFFICER
- E. LEAGUE INFORMATION OFFICER
- F. SPONSORSHIP/FUNDRAISING MANAGER
- G. TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR
- H. BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE

DUTIES OF EACH BOARD POSITION

A. PRESIDENT

1. Oversee the entire operation of MABA
2. Preside at all Board Meetings.
3. Coordinate league operations with the City of Midlothian and Midlothian Independent School District.
4. While chairing a meeting, the President will not vote except to break a tie unless his/her vote is called for in these Bylaws.
5. Ensure that accurate records of all background checks are kept.
6. By December 1st of each year, generate the annual calendar of pertinent MABA events, board meetings, registration, etc, and update the calendar as needed.
7. Notify all Board members of the dates, times and locations of all official meetings as well as securing the location of each meeting.
8. Enter into the annual facility use agreement with the Midlothian Parks Dept.
9. Appoint tournament facilitators as needed. See Article XIX (Tournaments).
10. Timely retrieval of mail from the MABA post office box
11. Keep accurate records of all players' registration, copies of birth certificates and medical releases.
12. Keep accurate record of all Coaches' applications and certifications.
13. Coordinate registrations and drafts.
14. Prepare and disburse all necessary forms and flyers for upcoming season
15. Provide the Midlothian Parks Department of current season schedule and notify them of any rescheduled games as required within the facility agreement.
16. Check league email in a timely manner.

B. VICE PRESIDENT

1. Assume duties of President in his absence or upon vacancy of his presidency.
2. Assist President in overseeing the entire operation of MABA.
3. Responsible for making sure MABA Bylaws are reviewed, corrected, and updated.
- +4. Check league email in a timely manner.

C. SECRETARY

1. Keep accurate minutes at all meetings.
2. Keep all MABA records up to date.
3. Maintain record of age verification for each player.
4. Document and facilitate any official complaints or protests as per the process outlined in Article IX of these Bylaws.
5. Record and facilitate disciplinary correspondence, which will be based, strictly on the outcome of the Boards review and subsequent decision for final action as outlined in Article IX.3 of these Bylaws.
6. Maintain a list of all Board Members including board position, address, and contact information.
7. Check league email in a timely manner.

D. TREASURER

Prepare a financial statement for each monthly meeting. If more than one meeting is scheduled in a month a new financial statement is not needed.

1. Keep accurate account of all financial records of MABA ~~and Southwest Classic Baseball~~ including receipt and disbursement of all monies.
2. Provide information to and work with MABA CPA to ensure that all taxes and other reports are up to date. (e.g.- Sales tax, federal tax, 501 classification, Texas Secretary of State Form 802 Non-Profit Periodic Report, IRS Form 990, 1099-MISC)
3. Make sure that all monthly bills are paid in a timely manner.
4. Issue notices for delinquent registration accounts.
5. Keep accurate account of sponsor monies.
6. Prepare the annual budget and track annual income and spending compliance.
7. Prepare an accurate annual financial statement to be issued to the newly elected officers, commissioners, and coordinators on or before the date of the MABA annual election meeting.
8. Work with President or Vice President ~~and the Director of Southwest Classic~~ to prepare monthly and annual financial reports.
9. Keep Insurance policy current and have the City of Midlothian listed as Additional Insured.
10. Check league email in a timely manner.

~~E. DIRECTOR OF CLASSIC~~

- ~~1. Will act as the Midlothian Amateur Baseball Association's official, voting, Classic representative within Southwest Classic Baseball.~~
- ~~2. Will attend all Southwest Classic Baseball Board meetings.~~
- ~~3. Will relay the minutes of each Southwest Classic Baseball meeting to the MABA Board of Directors~~
- ~~4. Will organize and manage regular Classic Coaches meetings to keep all Classic Coaches informed of any rule changes and any new business within Southwest Classic Baseball.~~
- ~~5. Will organize and conduct a Classic Coaches' meeting to cover Classic rules and Coaches responsibilities.~~
- ~~6. All Classic registrations shall come through the Director of Classic.~~

~~7. Any and all rescheduling of Classic games shall be made through the Director of Classic.~~

~~8. Scheduling and rescheduling of umpires for the Classic Division.~~

~~9. Check league email in a timely manner.~~

E. LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS

1. Directly responsible for their Divisions and answerable directly to the Board.
2. Assist in the recruitment of Head and Assistant Coaches; ensure applications are submitted.
3. Ensure all pertinent information is communicated to coaches.
4. Responsible for coordinating their Division's draft proceedings and coach's information meeting.
5. Provide team rosters and player contact information to coaches.
6. Coordinate field practice times.
7. Work with equipment coordinator to ensure coaches are issued needed equipment.
8. Report and facilitate improvements that need to be made to the playing fields.
9. Report and, if possible, repair any potential safety hazards to the playing field, dug out or surrounding area.
10. Ensure all Head Coaches have a Coaches book that will contain:
 - A. a copy of each player's Birth Certificate
 - B. a copy of each player's registration/medical release
 - C. certifications of each Head Coaches
 - D. proof of insurance
 - E. a current copy of the MABA Bylaws and General Playing Rules
 - F. an up-to-date pitching log for his/her team, if applicable
11. Each Commissioner may have additional responsibilities added by the president, as needed, throughout the course of a season.
12. Any and all rescheduling of Recreational games shall be made as provided in the facility usage agreement.
13. Check league email in a timely manner.

ARTICLE VIII (Coordinator Positions)

A. FIELD AND EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR

1. Coordinate with each League Commissioner for the collection of all equipment issued by MABA from the Coaches.
2. Provide an inventory of all equipment.
3. Maintain an inventory of all equipment collected and equipment that has been damaged or not returned to the Board at the end of each season.
4. Notify the Board of Directors of any Coach or Asst. Coach who has not returned any or all pieces of equipment that had been issued to them
5. Will assign equipment to the coaches and maintain a listing of all equipment issued to each coach and will obtain signature of receipt from each coach.
6. Will assign equipment to each Recreational team's head coach as follows:
 - a. equipment bag
 - b. 5 batting helmets

c. One set of catcher gear, if applicable. (Includes: 1 Chest protector, 1 set of shin guards, and 1 catcher's helmet with mask and throat guard). Catchers Glove if applicable.

7. On or before the 1st Official meeting after the close of each season, the Equipment Coordinator will be responsible for providing the Board of Directors an accurate inventory of all equipment collected and a report of any equipment damaged or not returned to the Association. This report must include the specific equipment damaged or missing and the pertinent Coaches signed equipment receipt. Any equipment damaged beyond normal wear and tear or not returned will be the sole responsibility of the head coach that was assigned the equipment.

B. COACHING COORDINATOR

1. Represent coaches/managers in league;
2. Present a coach/manager training budget to the board;
3. Gain the support and funds necessary to implement a league-wide training program;
4. Order and distribute training materials to players, coaches and managers;
5. Coordinate mini-clinics as necessary;
6. Serve as the contact person for Little League International

C. PLAYER AGENT

1. Record all player transactions and maintain an accurate and up to date record thereof;
2. Receive and review applications for player candidates and assist the President in verifying residence or school enrollment and age eligibility;
3. Conduct the tryouts, the player draft and all other player transaction or selection meetings;
4. Prepare the Player Agent's list;
5. Prepare for the President's signature and submission to Little League International, team rosters, including players claimed, and the tournament team eligibility affidavit;
6. Notify Little League International of any subsequent player replacements or trades.

D. SAFETY OFFICER

1. Be responsible to create awareness through education and information, of the opportunities to provide a safer environment for children and all participants of the league.
2. Develop and implement a plan for increasing safety of activities, equipment and facilities through education, compliance and reporting.
3. Responsible for communication and completion of background check requirements for all coaches and volunteers.
4. Responsible for defining a process to assure that incidents are recorded, information is sent to the league/district and national offices, and a follow-up information on medical and other data is forwarded as well.
5. Should facilitate meetings and/or distribute information among participants including players, managers, coaches, umpires, league officials, parents, guardians and other volunteers.

~~B. CONCESSION COORDINATOR~~

- ~~1. Will be responsible for staffing of concession stand using Board approved methods. (e.g. assigning teams for concession stand duty, enlisting volunteers, hiring hourly workers)~~
- ~~2. Coordinate the stocking of the concession stand and purchasing of all concession stand items.~~
- ~~3. Will make sure all concession equipment is working properly.~~
- ~~4. Will coordinate to keep the Concession stand and surrounding area clean, sanitized and safe at all times.~~
- ~~5. Will identify all state and local health requirements and ensure that requirements are met.~~

~~6. Will make recommendations to the Board of Directors on improvements to the concession stand and concession equipment and will assist the Board of Directors in obtaining competitive bids for new equipment, concession-stocked goods and cost effective vendors.~~

~~7. Will generate an annual concession stand equipment inventory report. This report should include the working condition of each piece of equipment.~~

~~8. The Board of Directors may elect to enter into a contract with another organization to facilitate the concession operations for any given period of time so long as MABA receives a portion of the net proceeds.~~

E. ~~INFORMATION & WEB COORDINATOR~~ LEAGUE INFORMATION OFFICER

1. Manage the League's home page
2. Manage the online registration process, provide user help as needed, and ensure that league rosters are maintained on the site.
3. Assign administrative rights to Board Members.
4. Ensure that league news and scores are updated on a regular and timely basis.

F. ~~FUND-RAISING COORDINATOR~~ SPONSORSHIP/FUNDRAISING MANAGER

1. Will be responsible for the MABA's Fund-Raising Projects.
2. Will research and present to the Board of Directors viable fund-raising options that the association can use through out the year.
3. Coordinate the scheduling, presentations, pickup and delivery of the fund-raiser products.
4. Work in conjunction with the Treasurer to ensure all fund-raiser monies are collected and accounted for.

D. ~~VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR~~

- ~~— 1. Will be responsible for coordinating a volunteer pool to be utilized throughout the season.~~
- ~~— 2. Will Coordinate with Head Coaches in all divisions to create a list of Volunteer that will be used throughout the season.~~
- ~~— 3. Will work with the Concession Coordinator to ensure that concession stand duties are covered throughout the season.~~

G. TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR

1. Will oversee the End of the Season Tournament for the Recreational seasons.

H. ~~COORDINATOR OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION/DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE~~

~~1. The Disciplinary Committee will consist of the President of MABA, who will serve as the Chair; the Commissioner of the Division involved and the Coordinator of Disciplinary Action. The MABA Secretary should be present to record the events of any Protest, Complaint, or Disciplinary Action Hearings or a Board Member may be appointed to act as Secretary. If any of the Disciplinary Committee members are parties to a Protest, Complaint or Disciplinary Action, another Board Member must be appointed to fill that position for that hearing.~~

~~2. It is the responsibility of the Disciplinary Committee members to make themselves available to meet the time requirements for hearings as referred to in Article IX of these Bylaws.~~

~~3. It is the responsibility and duty of the Disciplinary Committee members to be fair and subjective at all Hearings to which they are a part.~~

~~4. Refer to Article IX of these Bylaws for further description of duties and responsibilities.~~

H. BOARD MEMBERS

Board Members not elected to be officers, commissioners, or coordinators may be assigned duties as deemed necessary by the President. All Board Members are responsible for attending all called meetings of MABA. This position requires careful deliberation on all issues and consideration of the purpose of MABA. This position is extremely important to MABA due to the advice given to the Officers and the approval of all actions and expenditures.

Each Board Member will be on a rotating schedule to be Board Member on Duty at the fields when there are games scheduled. The designated Board Member on Duty will have this duty regardless of the age division playing. The Board Member on Duty will also have the responsibility to oversee the operation of the field lighting. The Board Member on Duty is there to represent MABA and resolve any situation that may arise.

Each Board Member will be on a rotating schedule to operate the field lights during pre-season practice times and when no games are scheduled.

Each Board Member will also be responsible for assisting in the preparation and function of Opening Day Ceremonies.

I. OTHER COORDINATOR POSITIONS or COMMITTEES

COORDINATOR OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION/DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

1. The Disciplinary Committee will consist of the President of MABA, who will serve as the Chair; the Commissioner of the Division involved and the Coordinator of Disciplinary Action. The MABA Secretary should be present to record the events of any Protest, Complaint, or Disciplinary Action Hearings or a Board Member may be appointed to act as Secretary. If any of the Disciplinary Committee members are parties to a Protest, Complaint or Disciplinary Action, another Board Member must be appointed to fill that position for that hearing.
2. It is the responsibility of the Disciplinary Committee members to make themselves available to meet the time requirements for hearings as referred to in Article IX of these Bylaws.
3. It is the responsibility and duty of the Disciplinary Committee members to be fair and subjective at all Hearings to which they are a part.
4. Refer to Article IX of these Bylaws for further description of duties and responsibilities.

Other Coordinator Positions or Committees may be formed as deemed necessary.

ARTICLE IX (PROTEST, COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINARY ACTION)

IX.1 PROTEST

- 9.1.1 All protests must be submitted in writing to any Board Member within 48 hrs. after said game has ended.
- 9.1.2 Each protest must include a protest fee of \$50.00.
- 9.1.3 Protest fee will be refunded if protest is ruled favorable.
- 9.1.4 Each protest will be carefully examined and will be accepted or denied by a majority vote from the Disciplinary Committee, within 3 days from the time a committee member as been notified of such protest. (Disciplinary Committee - Refer to Article VIII, Section I)
- 9.1.5 A final decision on protest may be appealed to the MABA Board within 24 hours and must be submitted to the Chair of the Disciplinary Committee along with an "Appeal Fee" of \$100.00 for consideration.
- 9.1.6 When protest has been made in a game, the Head Umpire, the opposing Coach and Head Scorekeeper must be notified that the remainder of the game is being played under protest.
- 9.1.7 "Judgment Calls" in a game cannot be protested, only the rules of the game.
- 9.1.8 "Judgment Call" protest fee of \$50.00 will not be refundable.

IX.2 COMPLAINTS

9.2.1
A. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to suspend, discharge or otherwise discipline any player, manager, coach, umpire, league officer or other person whose conduct is in violation of the MABA Bylaws and General Rules and/or Rules and Regulations of ~~USSSA Baseball~~ Little League International and/or is considered detrimental to the best interest of the league. Said persons are not limited to residents or participants in MABA.

1. Persons subject to such discipline shall have the right to a hearing before the league officers before such discipline is imposed.
2. In the event of discipline procedure involving a player, or other person under the age of 18, that person's parents shall be invited to attend.

3. The hearing (mentioned in (1) and (2)) shall be before the Disciplinary Committee as referred to in Article IX, Section I of these Bylaws.
4. Other cognizant parties may be invited when deemed necessary or appropriate, such as officials, umpires' representative, witness, etc.
5. MABA Board Members shall maintain confidentiality in regard to these hearings and possible consequences except for that which is necessary among cognizant persons to administer the disciplinary action program. (See Article III, Section 3.4D)

B. Procedure for reporting a conduct/discipline complaint: Any parent or guardian of a player, board member, coach or manager, umpire or commissioner may report a complaint under this heading. The complaint must be reported in writing (legibly) and mailed to MABA, PO Box 27 Midlothian, Texas 76065 and must be received within 72 hours of the occurrence or mailed via electronic mail to any Board Member. The complaint must include, as a minimum, name(s) or positive identification of the person(s) accused; name(s) of the team(s) involved; division in which occurrence took place (4U, 5U, 6U, etc); date and approximate time of the occurrence; status of the accused (player, coach, etc); witnesses, if any; and name, address and phone number and/or email address of person(s) making the complaint. Complaints under this heading must be confined to conduct/discipline issues. The Board will then respond to the complaint within 72 hours.

- 9.2.2
All parties listed in a formal complaint will be contacted by mail and/or electronic mail.
- 9.2.3
The MABA Disciplinary Committee will hear all formal complaints. Once the Hearing is completed, disciplinary action, if any, will be assessed and carried out by the Board of Directors. (See Disciplinary Action Below)

IX.3 DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- A. Persons, youth or adult, who refuse to comply with the rules of ~~USSSA Baseball~~ Little League International, or the League, may be considered for disciplinary action. The Disciplinary Committee will have full authority to impose whatever penalty or penalties if any at all, they deem appropriate for any violation of all said rules.
- B. The MABA Board of Directors reserves the right to immediately ban any individual it deems may pose a risk to the safety or well being of a player, spectator, coach, umpire or board member.
- C. The MABA Disciplinary Committee will review and investigate all reported incidents to the best of its ability.
- D. Recognizing the difficulty of establishing specific penalties for a variety of violations of acceptable conduct, the following penalties are suggested. The Disciplinary Committee may impose one or more which, in their opinion, appears to match the severity of the offense.

Warning. The offending person is to be advised, in writing, of the offense, and further advised that repetition of the offense shall result in a more severe penalty.

1. Forfeitures. The offending person is to be advised, in writing, that his/her offense has resulted in the forfeiture by the team he/she is affiliated, of a specific game or games for the purpose of team record and league standings. The game(s) will be played as usual except that the offender's affiliated team will suffer a loss by the score of 9 to 0 for each game forfeited regardless of the actual game score. If the Head Coach/Manager of the offender's affiliated team is not the offender, the Head Coach/Manager shall also be notified as above.
2. Suspension. The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been suspended from all league activity for a specific number of games or days.
3. Dismissal. The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been dismissed from the league for the remainder of the current season.
4. Barred. The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been barred from present and future participation in the league, permanently, or for a specific number of years.

E. The following guidelines will be followed when disciplinary actions are taken.

1. Warnings are issued only one time; any further infractions will carry the minimum of suspension.
2. Suspension will be the minimum awarded penalty for any physical confrontation occurring.
3. Dismissal or Barring requires two-thirds majority vote of the entire Board of Directors. If the Disciplinary Committee makes the recommendation to the Board for Dismissal for Barring, a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors should be called.
4. Any person found at fault in a disciplinary action will automatically be placed on probationary status for the remainder of the current season and the year immediately following.
5. Any person found at fault in a disciplinary action while on a probationary period will not be considered for application of coaching in the year immediately following.

9.3.1

Any person reported to have committed one of the following offenses will automatically be reviewed by the Disciplinary Committee for Disciplinary Action. The following in no way represents the complete list of reviewable offenses and the Board of Directors reserves the right to add to this list without prior notice.

- A. Any Head Coach, Asst. Coach, Player, spectator or Board Member who acts in an unsportsmanlike manner, uses profane language, or does not act responsible toward the well being of any player.
- B. Any Head Coach, Asst. Coach, Player, spectator or Board Member who is found to be intoxicated by an intoxicating substance while on the playing field or on the ballpark grounds.
- C. Any Coach, spectator or Player ejected from a game. (Also see UMPIRES AUTHORITY Article XII)
- D. Physical or Verbal abuse of a Player, Coach, Umpire, spectator or Board Member.
- E. Repeated confrontations with Coaches, Umpires or Board Members.
- F. Malicious damage or misuse of MABA property or equipment.
- G. All Actions Listed under rule VII, Acts of Disbarment, in the ~~USSSA National~~ Little League International by-laws

9.3.2

Any person named in an incident that is reviewed by the Disciplinary Committee, whether deemed worthy of disciplinary action or not, will be notified either by mail and/or electronic mail of the Committee's final decision.

9.3.3

Any Disciplinary Action handed down by the Disciplinary Committee is in immediate effect and shall remain in effect regardless of any pending appeal.

9.3.4

The decision of the Disciplinary Committee may be appealed to the MABA Board.

9.3.5

The Board of Directors will resolve major conflicts between a parent and a coach.

IX.4. CODES OF ETHICS

All Coaches, Players, Parents, Spectators and Board Members must adhere to the respective Codes of Ethics below:

A. Coach's Code of Ethics (For all coaches and Board members)

I hereby pledge to live up to my certification as a MABA Coach by following the MABA Coaches' Code of Ethics.

I will place the emotional and physical well being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.

I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.

I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.

I will promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.

I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.

I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players

I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.

I will be knowledgeable in the rules of baseball, and I will teach these rules to my players.

I will use age-appropriate coaching techniques for each of the skills that I teach.

I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.

B. Parent Code of Ethics

Parents' Code of Ethics

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports by following this Parents' Code of Ethics Pledge.

I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event.

I will place the emotional and physical well being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.

I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.

I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.

I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.

I will remember that the game is for youth, not for adults.

I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.

I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials, with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.

I promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by doing whatever I can, such as being a respectable fan, assisting with coaching, or providing transportation.

I will require that my child's coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sports coach and that the coach upholds the Coaches' Code of Ethics.

I will read the NYSCA National Standards For Youth Sports and do what I can to help all youth sports organizations implement and enforce them

C. Player Code of Ethics

Players' Code of Ethics

I hereby pledge to be positive about my youth sports experience and accept responsibility for my participation by following this Players' Code of Ethics Pledge.

I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials and parents at every game and practice by demonstrating good sportsmanship.

I will attend every practice and game that I can, and will notify my coach if I cannot.

I will expect to receive a fair and equal amount of playing time.

I will do my very best to listen and learn from my coaches.

I will treat my coaches, other players, officials and fans with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities and I will expect to be treated accordingly.

I deserve to have fun during my sports experience and will alert parents or coaches if it stops being fun!

I deserve to play in an environment that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and expect adults to refrain from their use at all youth sports events.

I will encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity because it's important to me.

■ I will do my very best in school.

■ I will remember that sports are an opportunity to learn and have fun.

ARTICLE X (REGISTRATION)

10.1

Valid registration shall be defined as a properly executed signed registration application, also including proper application fees as deemed necessary by the BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

10.2

Any registration application deemed non-valid or fraudulent shall cause the applicant to be ineligible for the duration of the season and all games said applicant participated in shall be forfeited.

10.3

Registration fees will not be refunded after the recreational draft for any reason unless approved by the BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

10.4

Each player will be required to submit a Birth Certificate at time of registration, or to his or her Head Coach, before the first scheduled game or the player will be ineligible to participate. All Head Coaches will be required to turn in their player's Birth Certificate to their Commissioners, to be submitted to the league Secretary before the first game.

10.5

Each applicant's Birth Certificate shall certify age eligibility.

10.6

Any other form stating proof of age may be presented to the Board of Directors for their approval.

10.7

The age limits of each division shall be as described under ~~USSSA~~ Little League International Rules, or after having special board approval due to ability level, safety concerns, or other special circumstances. An "Illegal Player" is one who does not meet requirements as to age, or registration rules.

A. Any player found to be illegal shall be suspended for the remainder of the season and all games in which player participated in shall be forfeited.

B. Players will be allowed to participate in other Baseball Associations as well as MABA.

10.8
If a player is unable to pay the registration fee, they may submit a request for scholarship to the Board of Directors for approval.

ARTICLE XI (COACHING GUIDELINES & RESPONSIBILITIES)

11.1
All participating coaches must be on file and approved by the MABA BOARD OF DIRECTORS prior to the draft, the following will be the order in which a prospective coach will be allowed to have a team.

- A. First Choice – A Head Coach returning from last season.
- B. Second Choice – A Head Coach returning from last year.
- C. Third Choice – An Assistant Coach returning from last season.
- D. Fourth Choice – An Assistant Coach returning from last year.
- E. Fifth Choice – A Head Coach returning from previous years.
- F. Sixth Choice- Prospective new Coach wanting a team.

11.2 In case of equal seniority, the final decision, (as to who gets a team), shall be made by the Board of Directors.

11.3
Any MABA Board Member, including President, is eligible to coach or manage a team(s) in any division.

11.4
Any Head Coach or Asst. Coach who acts in an unsportsmanlike manner, uses profane language, does not act responsible toward the well being of any player shall be held accountable by the MABA Board of Directors. If found guilty by the Board, said person or persons, shall be punished as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors. (Also see: Article IX.3)

- A. If found guilty by the Board, shall be disciplined as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.
- B. There shall be absolutely no appeals for any and all punishments handed down from the MABA Board of Directors.

11.5
Any Head Coach, Asst. Coach, Player or any Board Member who is found to be intoxicated by an intoxicating substance while on the playing field or on the ballpark grounds, shall be subject to a Disciplinary Hearing (See Article IX.3), and may be permanently banned from MABA by the Board of Directors.

- A. This also includes parents and spectators as well.
- B. Anyone noticed in this condition should be reported to a Board Member immediately.

11.6
Any person interested in becoming a Head Coach or Assistant Coach must be willing to attend an approved Coaching Certification Program, and a coaching clinic, and agree to a personal background check. The cost of the background check will be the responsibility of the coach unless otherwise provided for by MABA. Coaches will also be required to attend all coach's meetings called as "Mandatory Coaches Meeting."

11.7
All Head Coaches and Asst. Coaches must be 18 years of age or older. Younger participants may assist, but can not be considered for these positions unless special approval by the board is granted.

11.8
Each Head Coach or Asst. Coach, is requested to coach (one) team, in (one) division, unless authorized by the Board of Directors of MABA. Coaching on more than one team is allowed, but may result in scheduling conflicts surrounding practices, tournaments and games.

11.9
Home team Coaches will be responsible for obtaining the bases and marking the field prior to their game and raking the field after the game, unless provisions have been made by MABA or the city/parks dept.

11.10
The Home team Coaches, in the last game played, will be responsible for returning the bases to the equipment box directly after the game. This also includes rain-shortened games. Failure to do so will result in a fine of \$20.00 if deemed appropriate by MABA Board of Directors. (Unless provisions from XI.11.9 require otherwise.)

11.11
Any Head Coach or Asst. Coach having (MABA related), uncollected monies and or equipment that has not been returned, will not be eligible to participate in any part of MABA, until all monies due are paid in full to the satisfaction of the MABA Board of Directors.

11.12
All Head Coaches will be required to have a Coach's book at all games. The Coach's book must contain the following updated information for his/her team.

- A. Copy of each player's Birth Certificate
- B. Copy of each player's Registration/medical release.
- C. Certificate of each Coach's certification.
- D. Proof of insurance.
- E. Up to date pitching log for his/her team. (10U, 12U, 14U, 16U)
- F. Up to date copy of the MABA Bylaws & General Rules of ~~USSA~~ Little League International.

11.13
If a Coach is asked to present his/her book at game time, during the game or upon completion of a game and does not have it, his/her team will automatically forfeit the game.

ARTICLE XII (UMPIRES AUTHORITY)

12.1
The Umpires of the game will have complete and absolute control of the game. The site director/tournament director may be called upon at the umpires request or in the event that an umpire may become biased toward rulings.

12.2
Each Umpire has the authority to eject any Coach, or player during the game, for any reason they deem necessary.

12.3
Any Coach or Player who has been ejected from a game shall automatically be suspended from their next scheduled game.

12.4
An Umpire Ejection/Suspension cannot be appealed.

12.5
In the event a parent or a spectator is deemed uncontrollable by an Umpire of the game, the Head Coach of said person(s) team shall be warned of such problem. After such warning has been issued and the problem continues to occur, the Umpire shall have the authority to eject, (the parent(s), and the Head Coach of said team), from the playing field, dugout, and/or bleachers.

- A. If a parent, Head Coach or spectator who has been ejected from the game refuses to leave, the Umpire shall have the authority to stop and forfeit the game to the opposing team.
- B. Any Head Coach or Player, spectator or parent, that has been ejected from the game will not be allowed to direct his or her team in any manner during the entire game.
- C. Any Coach, Player, spectator or parent who is ejected from a game must leave the ballpark for the remainder of the game.

ARTICLE XIII (PRACTICING)

13.1

All coaches should use good judgment when selecting a practice location.

13.2

No team involved with MABA will be allowed to practice anyone who is not properly registered with MABA.

13.3

All players must be notified of their team's practices and allowed to participate.

13.4

No recreational team shall practice more than six (6) hours each week. This does not include scheduled games.

13.5

All safety equipment must be used in practice as required during actual league games.

13.6

Any violation of the practice rules will be punishable as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors and/or a disciplinary committee.

ARTICLE XIV (DRAFTING PROCEDURES)

14.1.1

All new players in the Recreational league and all players who abandoned their old team will be placed in a draft.

14.1.2

Drafting Sequence

1. The sequence of teams drafting will be determined by a draw for each age pool.
2. Teams will draft from player pool until all players are drafted.
3. Order will be as follows:

EXAMPLE: Team X has = 0 players

Team Y has = 2 players

Team Z has = 4 players

ROUND ONE = Team X will draft

ROUND TWO = Team X will draft

ROUND THREE = Team X & Team Y will draft

ROUND FOUR = Team X & Team Y will draft

ROUND FIVE = Team X, Team Y & Team Z will draft

14.3 One representative for each team will be allowed to be present at the draft.

14.4 Teams participating in MABA Fall Leagues will have the opportunity to bring their teams forward from the previous spring season to play in the Fall. Due to consideration that needs to be given going forward into the next Spring Season, the following rules have been established as Fall Ball Draft Rules and cannot be changed without the express consent of the MABA Board.

14.5 Players may sign up to join MABA Fall Ball and, at the request of parent/legal guardian, returning players will be placed on the same team they played for in the previous spring season. Players who do not request to be placed on the same team will be placed into the draft. Coaches cannot draft players who have requested not to return to their team.

14.6 Players who wish to participate in Fall Ball and did not play on a MABA team will be placed into the draft for the upcoming Fall Season. Players wishing to participate in the Fall Season who played for the league last spring and whose team is not participating in the Fall Season will also be placed into the draft.

14.70 The Fall draft procedures will be as follows:

14.70a Regular MABA Draft procedures (above) apply.

14.70b Returning teams from the previous spring season that have enough players to play without drafting additional players have the option to not participate in the draft.

14.70c Players who wish to leave their previous team to return to the draft may do so by indicating on the player registration form that they wish to ~~be dropped by the previous team~~ re-enter the draft. This registration form must be signed by the player's parent/legal guardian or be submitted through electronic means using a password protected account.

14.70d Players who are assigned to new teams in the fall ~~will~~ can return to their previous spring team if that team returns the next spring season ~~even if the player would like to stay with the Fall Ball team going forward. This is done to keep our teams classified as Class "A" Recreational teams. USSSA states that teams may not be combined and players may not be placed on teams as this would result in a "Select" or "AA" team classification.~~

14.71 If a previous year's spring team does not return the next spring season, and the player would like to stay on the team he played for in the fall – then the following rules would apply:

14.71a Returning teams must take back all returning players who sign up for the upcoming Spring Season. The only exception is when a player's parents or guardian wishes to place their child back in to the draft. If the player played on a new fall ball team, then he can stay with that team, once the other considerations below are met.

14.71b During the draft, the teams with the least amount of players will choose players until all teams are equal. If a fall ball team has picked up players, and returns in the spring with their original team plus additional players from fall and their player count exceeds the number of players distributed equally amongst the teams, then the coach will place all excess players back into the draft in reverse order of adding them to the team (i.e. last player drafted will be the first player placed back into the draft and so on until the team is now equal in number to the other teams.

Returning Teams: A returning team is any team made up of 6 or more players from the previous Spring or Fall season. ~~This is based on USSSA classification guidelines.~~ If a coach leaves the team, then ~~either~~ any of the 2 listed assistant coaches can take over as head coach. If all three coaches leave the team, but 6 or more players remain together, the team will remain the same. The team may change names and head coaches, ~~but USSSA will track the stats as the SAME team. Any returning team will have their outside "picks" used as long as those players are still with the "returning team." Each team is given 2 outside picks per the MABA Spring Draft Rules.~~ If 5 or fewer players return to the league to play and wish to play together, accommodations will attempt to be made to keep these players together. This may be done by adding them to an existing team that has room to add them to the roster, or a new team can be formed. The league's intent is to keep players playing together.

The MABA Board will oversee the placement of players not returning to their original teams to ensure no team is "stacking" its roster.

New Teams: There will be limitations on "full" teams joining MABA to reduce the chances of "select" teams joining league play. Any new teams at the 8U level and below will be able to "lock" up to 4 players on their roster and will need to fill the remainder of their team from the draft. Any new teams at the 9U-12U majors division will be able to "lock" up to 3 players on their roster and will need to fill the remainder of their team from the draft. The 11/12 Intermediate and the 13/14 Juniors divisions will have no limitations. The MABA Board of Directors reserves the right to grant the ability to bring in full-teams under certain conditions, primarily surrounding those teams that have no involvement in "select" level play outside of league play.

Scenarios:

Player is new to Midlothian and wants to play baseball in the fall. *Player will be placed into draft, and may stay with that team as long as the team does not have too many returning players in the Spring season, otherwise that player will return to the spring draft.*

Player's team is not playing fall ball. *Player will be placed in the draft for the fall season. That player ~~will~~ can then return to his Spring team if that team returns to MABA. If the Spring team does not return, then that player may stay with the Fall team as long as the Fall team does not have too many returning players in the Spring season. Otherwise that player will return to the spring draft.*

If a player wants to leave his previous team returning in the fall. *The player will be placed into the fall draft, and may stay with that team as long as the team does not have too many returning players in the Spring season, otherwise that player will return to the spring draft.*

Team Coaches move to Select: ~~*If a coach and some of the players for a team moves to select, then any remaining players can stay together and be placed on a returning team that has room on their roster, or a new team can be created with the players staying together.*~~

ARTICLE XV (INSURANCE)

15.1 MABA shall provide Insurance for every player involved in this Association.

15.2 Insurance coverage shall be in place no later than February of each year.

15.3 The minimal insurance coverage shall be as follows:

1) General Liability = \$1,000,000.00

ARTICLE XVI (TOURNAMENTS)

16.1 MABA any time throughout the year may host tournaments open to teams outside the recreational ~~and/or SWCB~~ leagues to be used for Association fundraisers. All events must go through the special events coordinator as per the facility usage agreement and city ordinances.

16.2 The President will have the duty of staffing all open tournaments with the appropriate number of facilitators.

16.3 The Board of Directors may approve reasonable compensation to MABA Board Members or any other individual to facilitate any tournament. ~~open to teams outside the recreational and/or SWCB leagues.~~

16.4 The total dollar amount of compensation that may be paid to all tournament facilitators will not be more than 50% of the gate fees collected unless otherwise approved by the MABA Board of Directors, per event.

ARTICLE XVII (COMPENSATION)

17.1 At no point should any member of the MABA Board of Directors use the influence of the board or it's resources to acquire excess monetary gains.

17.2 It is the decision of the MABA board that board members are eligible to receive one compensated registration per season.

17.3 Upon prior board approval, members are eligible to receive compensation for presiding as a director of a special event hosted on behalf of the association.

17.4 It is the decision of the board that board members are eligible to receive reasonable (equal to that if the service was provided by another entity) compensation for services provided to the association. These include but are not limited to field marking, field repairs, fence repairs, scheduling, structural or mechanical repairs.

ARTICLE XVIII (AWARDS)

The MABA Board of Directors will determine all awards as deemed appropriate for that season.

ARTICLE XIV (AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS)

The Bylaws of this Association may be amended at any Regular or Special Meeting of the MABA Board of Directors after the proposed amendments have been presented at a Regular or Special Meeting of the MABA Board of Directors and tabled for a period of not less than seven days. After the seven-day waiting period, these Bylaws may be amended at any Regular or Special meeting of the MABA Board of Directors after such amendments receive a two-thirds affirmative vote of all MABA Board members.

ARTICLE XX (DISSOLUTION)

Upon the dissolution of this corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future tax code), or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any assets not so disposed of shall be disposed by the district court of the county in which the registered 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.