



PBGYAA BASEBALL TRAVEL POLICY GUIDELINES

These rules shall govern the PBGYAA's Baseball Travel Baseball Program and shall remain in full force and effect until such time as they are modified or amended by the Board of Directors (the "Board" of the PBGYAA's Baseball, and shall not be modified or amended except upon approval of the Board.

The Travel Baseball Program will be governed and managed by the Board, under rules and policies established by the Board. The Travel Baseball Program shall be operated by volunteers, and no one associated with the travel program including Board Members, Managers, and Assistant Coaches – shall be paid. The Travel Baseball Program exists as an extension of and to complement the recreational baseball program. As such, the PBGYAA Baseball must schedule travel activities to co-exist with the recreational baseball program, which is its first priority. The purpose of the Travel Baseball Program is to provide the Community's youth in the area the opportunity to compete on a statewide and national level and to provide talented young athletes the opportunity to develop their athletic skills and sportsmanship-like attitudes in a more competitive atmosphere.

FOR ALL AGE DIVISIONS: Rules and regulations instituted by the PBGYAA Baseball, as stated herein, and the rules and regulations of any other organizations or under which the Travel Baseball Program may be sanctioned (e.g., AAU, USSSA, etc.)

NATIONAL BASEBALL CONGRESS: In the event a particular subject or issue is not covered in the Babe Ruth Rules or Pony or Little League Rules, or otherwise in the league, division, or fall rules, then reference will be made to the National Baseball Congress Rules.

1. GENERAL POLICY

An objective of the PBGYAA Baseball is to develop good citizens as well as good athletes. Although the Travel Baseball Program is a more competitive program, with an increased emphasis on winning; the emphasis shall not be on "win at all cost". Managers, coaches, players, & parents that demonstrate "win at all cost" behavior are not wanted in the PBGYAA Baseball Program, including the Travel Program. The Code of Conduct adopted for our Rec Program also applies to travel. Travel Managers and coaches shall report to the Board any violation of the Creed or General Regulations by a manager, coach, player, or anyone officially connected with the PBGYAA Baseball Program. The violation of these rules and guidelines may result in ejection, suspension, or such other penalty as the Board in its discretion may prescribe.

The Board of the PBGYAA Baseball shall develop and maintain policies, regarding the operation and administration of its Travel Baseball Program. These policies, and any subsequent revisions, shall be governed by the overall PBGYAA Baseball policy and shall be submitted to the Board for approval.

- 2. NON-BURDENING OF PBGYAA BASEBALL RECREATIONAL PROGRAM** Every player, coach, manager, and team registered with the Travel Baseball Program shall give priority to the recreational program during the Spring Season. While every effort will be made by the Travel Director and the PBGYAA Baseball to coordinate the Rec & Travel programs, there will undoubtedly be instances where it is difficult, if not impossible, to do so. In such instances, priority will be given to the Rec Program, but all reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate the Travel program as well.

3. **TRAVEL DIRECTOR:** The Travel Director, who shall be appointed by the President of the PBGYAA Baseball Board, shall have responsibility for coordinating with the Scheduling Director, Director of Umpires, Field Director, and Director of Concessions for administering the participation in any inter-league or local travel leagues or tournaments.

4. **TEAM SELECTION:** Travel teams managers will be selected by the PBGYAA Baseball Board. Prior to the start of the travel season, the Travel Managers selected by the Board will conduct tryouts for the creation of travel teams in any such age divisions as it may determine appropriate. Any tryouts for travel teams must be open to all eligible players in the applicable age division. The following general guidelines shall apply.
 1. a) All players in each division shall be evaluated by the approved Manager of the Travel team. Once the tryout has been completed, the travel team manager shall select the players that, in his discretion, enable the PBGYAA Baseball to field the most competitive travel team reasonably possible. While the presumption will be that the highest scores and rankings will determine the makeup of the travel team in each age division, such presumption shall be dispensed with if, in the discretion of the manager, such departure is necessary to field the most competitive and well-rounded team, which includes pitching, catching, running, hitting, and middle infielders.

 - b) Players not selected for the travel team may play outside of the Gardens Travel Program. If a travel team is not organized for a specific age division, interested players are allowed to play travel outside the Gardens program for that year. If a team is organized the following year, the player is expected to tryout for the newly organized team.

 - c) The Board may decide to field a second travel team in the division if they feel there are enough interested talented players remaining and an approvable manager can be determined to lead the team.

5. **ELIGIBILITY FOR TRAVEL TEAM PARTICIPATION:** All eligible players who are selected to play on a Sponsored Travel Team must be registered in the upcoming Spring Recreational baseball program. In addition, all players selected to a Sponsored Travel team are highly encouraged to register for participation in the Palm Beach Gardens Baseball All Star Program that begins at the conclusion of the Spring Rec regular season. Rostered PBG Baseball Travel team players may not participate with any other travel baseball organization during the Travel & All-Star Seasons. Participation on a travel team NOT sponsored by PGB Baseball during these seasons will result in the player being ineligible for participation on a future PBG Baseball sponsored travel team unless the PBG Baseball Board is petitioned by the player's family and approved for an exception waiver.

6. **TRAVEL/RECREATIONAL LEAGUE INTERACTION:** Spring recreation league activities, including practices, games, and team activities shall take priority over Travel. Out of town travel tournaments will not interfere with and will not conflict with the spring recreational baseball season or All Stars. During the fall recreational league, travel teams should compromise as much as possible to balance travel activities and rec league activities as well as other team sports that may be played in the fall by its players. Fall rec teams shall not penalize participating travel players for missing events assuming the travel players make a good faith effort to keep the rec league manager aware and apprised of travel league activities. Fall Travel Players will be treated no different than players in other sports having conflicts with the fall rec league.

When Travel Baseball hosts a tournament, the Travel teams provide the volunteer workers to ensure a successful administration of all facets of the tournament and these tournaments can be used as fundraising opportunities for the travel teams.

7. **PLAYING UP IN AGE:** Players may be permitted to play up in age, if in the sole discretion of the PBG Baseball Board of Directors such playing up is justified based on the size, skill, or experience of such player and is not prohibited by any organizations under which the travel program may be sanctioned.
8. **LATE REGISTRANTS:** Late registrants can be evaluated by the Travel Managers. Managers may pick up additional players after the team has been selected but may NOT cut players already on the roster.
9. **REGISTRATION FEES:** The Board shall establish each season the registration fees for participation in the Travel Baseball Program. Such registration fees shall be set an amount necessary to defray any costs and expenses associated with administering the Travel Baseball Program. The philosophy of the PBGYAA Baseball shall be that its travel program shall not burden the rec program. The fee structure for the 2008/2009 season is \$150 MINIMUM with team managers discretion to ask for additional funds if needed.
Each parent/guardian of player shall be required to sign a statement agreeing to the fees, understanding the NO MUST PLAY RULE, and no refund of fees after quitting during season. The refund of fees due to removal of player shall be based on the decision of the Travel Director.
10. **TEAM ROSTERS:** The maximum roster size for any Travel Team shall be 15 players and the minimum shall be 9 players. The roster form must contain the player's name, uniform #, date of birth, address, phone #, email address, and school currently attending. A team notebook shall be maintained by each team with a completed waiver and release form, team roster, and copy of each player's birth certificate.
11. **CHANGES IN ROSTER/PLAYERS DROPPING OUT/CHANGING TEAMS:** Each Manager shall notify the Travel Director within 24 hours of the addition or deletion to his or her team's official roster. In the absence of any rules to the contrary as specified by any inter-league, tournament, or other rules that may be applicable, roster changes may be made at any time during the travel season. As to Travel Teams, all roster changes must be approved by the Travel Director of the PBGYAA Baseball Program.
12. **PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION/RELEASE FORMS:** All players are required to have their parents execute a Parental Authorization/Release Form granting such player permission to play in the Travel Baseball Program and releasing the PBGYAA Baseball from any liability for injuries that may be sustained as a result of such participation. All Travel Teams are required to submit such forms with each player's registration and to keep a copy in the Team Notebook for review prior to the game. All visiting teams are required to maintain similar executed authorization/release forms in the Team Notebook for review by the PBGYA Baseball prior to any games being played on PBGYAA Baseball facilities.
13. **SELECTION OF MANAGERS:** Unless otherwise approved by the Board, all Managers or Coaches must be at least 18 years of age or older. Further, such managers or coaches must possess the maturity,

responsibility, character, and adherence to PBGYAA Baseball Rules and Regulations required to remain a manager or coach in good standing with PBGYAA Baseball. Travel Teams

The term for sponsored Travel Manager's will be 1 year beginning August 1 of the calendar year and ending July 31 of the following year. During this tenure, the Manager will facilitate selecting and managing during the fall & spring travel seasons, which will be created in an open tryout format before each fall season.

In order to be eligible for selection as a manager of a Sponsored Travel Team, such manager must apply in writing for the position of manager of such team to the Board no later than the date set by the Board each Spring and be an active Manager, Coach, Board, or other member of the PBGYAA Baseball during the concurrent Spring Rec Season. The Board, based on such applications and an oral interviewing process, shall select and determine all Managers of the Sponsored Travel Teams. There shall be no presumption that any particular person will be selected and all eligible member of the PBGYAA Baseball are encouraged to apply. The Manager appointed by the Board for each particular Sponsored Travel Team must select his or her own coaches from those who are actively coaching in the rec program during the spring season and who are otherwise eligible hereunder. All coaches selected by travel team managers must be submitted to the Board for approval. In addition, such managers and coaches must be certified by Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth or the PBGYAA Baseball.

14. MANAGER RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of any Travel Team Manager shall include:

1. Ensuring players and coaches reflect the ideals of the PBGYAA Baseball at all times. This includes maintaining a spirit of fair play and sportsmanship on and off the field.
2. Maintaining adequate supervision and control of all PBGYAA Baseball Travel Team players while in uniform before, during, and after the game while at the fields.
3. Immediately advising the Travel Director for the PBGYAA Baseball of any issues arising with respect to his or her travel team that may impact PBGYAA Baseball travel policy.

15. MUST PLAY RULE

There is no must play rule in effect.