



# **Bendigo Baseball Association**

**Governing Document #1**

**Administration of Baseball**

## Contents

### Sect #

1.0	General Administration
1.1	Preamble
1.2	Objectives
1.3	Rules
1.4	Matters Other than Covered by Governing Documents
1.5	Communication
1.6	Interpretations
1.7	Other Terms
2.0	Affiliation
2.1	Affiliation for the First Time
2.2	Uniform – Club
2.3	Reaffiliation of Clubs
2.4	Review of Affiliation
2.5	Team Nominations
3.0	Financial
3.1	Special levies
3.2	Liability of the BBA
3.3	Non Payment of Monies Due to the BBA
3.4	Due Date for Payment of Accounts
3.5	Membership, Entry Fee and Subscriptions
3.6	Calendar of Events – Administration
4.0	Registration of Players
4.1	Requirement to Register
4.2	Junior Players
4.3	Active Player List
5.0	Administration of the Competition
5.1	Responsibility
5.2	Disputes (Disagreement with BBA Committee)
5.3	Protests (Disagreement with Technical Game Rules)
5.4	Right of Appeal
5.5	Breaches of Governing Documents/Rules
5.6	Suspension, Disqualification, Deregistration and Penalties
6.0	Transfer of Players
6.1	Clearance
6.2	Clearance Not Required
6.3	Clearance Procedure
7.0	Authority for Match Play
7.1	Within Victoria
7.2	Outside Victoria
7.3	Penalties
7.4	Inter-Association Games
8.0	Association Uniform

8.1	Association Colours
8.2	Security of Association Uniform
8.3	Penalty for Non-Return of Association Uniform
9.0	Defunct Clubs
9.1	Declaration
10.0	Determining Ladder and Play-off Positions

## **1.0 General Administration**

### **1.1 Preamble**

1.1.1 The Bendigo Baseball Association (BBA) competition is administered and managed by the BBA Committee.

1.1.2 The BBA is affiliated with Baseball Victoria (BV). The BBA committee operates through the auspices of the BBA Rules, Statement of Purposes and Governing Documents which are available from the BBA Secretary.

1.1.3 This Governing Document shall be called the BBA Governing Document #1 – Administration of Baseball.

### **1.2 Objectives**

1.2.1 The objectives of the BBA are -

- a) To ensure that BBA competitions are conducted with the highest degree of integrity, fairness, transparency and common sense;
- b) To provide a fair and balanced competition structure for all Grades of baseball within the BBA Competition;
- c) To provide suitable competition pathways for all players to reach their playing goals;
- d) To provide an enjoyable and fulfilling experience for all participants; and
- e) To maintain a safe playing environment for all participants.

### **1.3 Rules**

1.3.1 All affiliated BBA clubs are bound by the BBA Rules of Association, BBA Governing Documents and the Official Baseball Rules. Where this Governing Document and the Official Baseball Rules are inconsistent, the Governing Document will apply to the extent of any inconsistency.

### **1.4 Matters Other Than Covered By Governing Documents**

1.4.1 Any matter of any kind whatsoever not dealt with or provided for in this Governing Document may be dealt with in such manner as the BBA Committee may deem fit.

### **1.5 Communication**

1.5.1 All communications to the BBA regarding or required by this document are to be forwarded to the BBA Secretary via email to [bendigobaseball.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:bendigobaseball.secretary@gmail.com)

1.5.2 Any notification forwarded by email shall be deemed to have been received by the addressee 24 hours after being sent.

1.5.3 All payments to the BBA must be deposited electronically into the BBA's account.

1.5.4 Where this Governing Document require communication from a Club Secretary, the Club

President, Vice President or Treasurer (as listed on the BBA Club Form) any of those listed may send the communication on their behalf. Clubs must advise the BBA Secretary of any person temporarily filling any of these positions if they are not listed on the BBA Club Form.

## 1.6 Interpretations

In this Governing Document, unless contrary intention appears:

Term	Means
ABL	Australian Baseball League
BBA	Bendigo Baseball Association Inc.
BBA Committee	The Committee appointed by the Clubs responsible for running the administration and financial matters of the BBA in addition to the BBA Competition.
BBA Player	Any player in a BBA Affiliated Club
Calendar of Events	Schedule "A" in Section 3.8
Club	An incorporated club affiliated in with this Governing Document
Club President	Individual named as President of a club as declared on BBA Club form
Club Secretary	Individual named as Secretary of a club as declared on BBA Club form
Finals Series	The post regular season games to determine the winner of the season
Grand Final	The final game(s) in the Finals series

## 1.7 Other Terms

Terms and rules not defined within this document shall take the same meaning as in the Official Baseball Rules or otherwise in a recognised dictionary of the English language.

## 2.0 Affiliation

### 2.1 Affiliation for the First Time

Applications from Clubs affiliating with BBA for the first time must include:

- a) a covering letter signed by the Club President or nominated head of the proposed organisation as well as BBA Form #1 Affiliation with BBA for 1<sup>st</sup> Time;
- b) a certified copy of the Certificate of Incorporation;
- d) a submission for approval of the Club's uniform colours, design and sponsorship logos; and

2.1.1 Notwithstanding 2.1 above, a group of interested players may seek to enter a team under the auspices of the BBA and its Certificate of Incorporation. Approval for this arrangement would be for a maximum of one season only and is at the discretion of the BBA Committee.

## 2.2 Uniform - Club

2.2.1 Applications from Clubs renewing their affiliation must include the Club uniforms if they propose to change their authorised uniform colours, design or sponsorship logos. Clubs must also submit this if they wish to change their uniform or introduce new logos during the season. From 2023, all Club sponsor logos should be restricted to the right sleeve and back of undershirts and/or playing tops.

## 2.3 Re-Affiliation of Clubs

Clubs wishing to re-affiliate for the coming season must complete BBA Form 3 and return the same to the Secretary of the BBA. BBA Form 3 provides current Club Information and a covering letter requesting affiliation with the BBA signed by the Club President.

## 2.4 Review of Affiliation

2.4.1 The BBA Secretary and Competition Coordinator shall review all affiliations, which shall be valid for the ensuing twelve (12) months.

2.4.2 The BBA Committee may use its discretion to cancel or suspend the affiliation of any Club at any time.

## 2.5 Team Nominations

2.5.1 Clubs and/or the BBA may nominate teams in any competition, subject to Clause 2.3 (Div 1, 2 and 3 (If required)). Nominations must be sent to the BBA Secretary in writing on the prescribed form – BBA Senior Team Nomination Form – BBA Form #5 (available from the BBA Secretary) - by the date stipulated in the Calendar of Events in Section 3.8

2.5.2 The BBA Committee may use its discretion to reject team nominations where a Club has insufficient registered players on the approved database to field the relevant team.

2.5.3 The BBA Committee shall be notified via the forwarding of the relevant BBA Club Form of the request by the relevant club

2.5.6 The BBA Committee shall determine the number of grades and teams in each competition based on Club nominations.

2.5.7 The BBA Committee may use its discretion to promote or relegate any team before or during the season where it is appropriate to do so having regard to the competitiveness or structure of the relevant competition.

2.5.8 If teams are withdrawn after the date for Final Team Nominations stipulated in Section 2.5, the Club will be penalised in accordance with Clause 5.6.1.2.

2.5.9 The BBA Committee may use its discretion to accept or reject team nominations made after the date for Final Team Nominations stipulated in Section 2.5.

### **3.0 Financial**

#### **3.1 Special Levies**

All special levies and / or other monies set aside by the BBA for a specific purpose(s) shall be recorded in separate entries and shall be utilised only for such specific purpose(s).

#### **3.2 Liability of the BBA**

The BBA shall not be responsible for any debts incurred by constituent members, clubs, teams or officials unless endorsed by the Committee of the BBA. No person shall incur any expense to the BBA unless with written consent of the BBA or as herein provided.

#### **3.3 Non Payment of Monies Due to the BBA**

Any Member or person failing to pay fees, subscription levies or other monies properly payable on or before the due date shall be liable to a late payment penalty fine as determined by the Committee. Affiliated Clubs shall forfeit their rights of representation at Committee meetings and their team or teams shall be debarred from taking part in any BBA final competition until all outstanding monies have been paid.

#### **3.4 Due Date for Payment of Accounts**

3.4.1 As per the BBA Rules of Association Clause 7.2 the affiliation fee of a new or existing affiliated club(s) is due within 30 days of being invoiced by the BBA Treasurer. The timing of any such invoice is at the discretion of the Executive.

3.4.2 Team Nomination fees are due and payable within 30 days of being invoiced by the BBA Treasurer, the timing of any such invoice is at the discretion of the BBA Executive.

3.4.3 Notwithstanding Clause 3.4.1 and 3.4.2, any account for fees, subscriptions, levies and other amounts due by each club, shall be rendered to the respective Clubs by the Honorary Treasurer on or about the first of each month during the competition. In accordance with common trading practice accounts are payable within 30 days from the date of the invoice. Accounts thirty-one (31) days past the due date of invoice will be considered overdue.

#### **3.5 Membership, Entry Fee and Subscriptions**

3.5.1 Team Nomination fees shall be set at the first BBA Committee Meeting following the Annual General Meeting of the BBA and clubs will be invoiced at the discretion of the Executive.

3.5.2 All Clubs are to pay invoices issued by the BBA and/or Baseball Vic within thirty (30) days of receipt of invoice, or they shall be deemed unfinancial.

3.5.3 Any Club that is unfinancial under this Section shall not receive trophies or awards until the Club becomes financial.

#### **3.6 Calendar of Administration Requirements**

The following Calendar of Requirements nominates the key requirements for the administration of the League competitions. Timely completion and/or submission of these requirements by Clubs shall allow the BBA administration to develop and communicate specific details regarding the

upcoming season in enough time for Clubs to recruit, register and nominate players and teams for the season.

Note – Days prior means number of days prior to the start of the relevant season.

Requirement	Days Required (of any year)
Affiliation documents (BBA Form #1)	42 days prior
Club Information Form (BBA Form #2)	28 days prior
Re-affiliation documents (BBA Form #3)	28 days prior
Availability of Grounds and condition report (BBA Form #4)	28 days prior
Senior Competition nominations (BBA Form #5)	21 days prior
Junior Competition nominations (BBA Form #5)	21 days prior
Top 6 list. List is active document & updated monthly (BBA Form #8)	Prior to Round 3

#### **4.0 Registration of Players**

##### **4.1 Requirement to Register**

Whether an existing player, a new player or as a 'fill in' for the day, the player is required to register by entering their details on the approved Baseball Victoria online database prior to that player taking the ground for the first time.

##### **4.2 Junior players**

The relevant club official must be satisfied that the date of birth provided is correct.

##### **4.3 Active Player List**

During any season of the BBA, Clubs are to check on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month that their active player list is accurate.

#### **5.0 Administration of the Competition**

##### **5.1 Responsibility**

The BBA Committee is responsible for:

5.1.1 the administration of the BBA competition(s) including draws, ground clearance and conditions;

5.1.2 hearing administrative disputes and game protests arising under the BBA Governing Documents;

##### **5.2 Disputes (Disagreement with the BBA Committee)**



5.2.1 A Club Secretary or President may refer a dispute relating to the administration of the competition and this Governing Document to the Complaints Administration Panel by completing and forwarding a BBA Dispute Form to the BBA Secretary.

5.2.2 The Club must pay a deposit of \$100.00 which will be refunded if the dispute is upheld, or otherwise, at the discretion of the BBA Committee if it is not considered frivolous or vexatious. The protest will not be heard until after a confirmation of transfer of the deposit has been forwarded to the BBA Secretary.

5.2.3 All administration disputes will be conducted in the same format as a BBA Tribunal Hearing.

### 5.3 Protests (Disagreement with Technical Game Rules)

5.3.1 During a game, any team's head coach may protest a ruling associated with a game on the grounds that the ruling is contrary to the Official Baseball Rules and/or the Governing Documents. At no time can a judgement decision be protested.

5.3.2 At the time the protest arises, the protesting head coach must advise the umpire in-chief of the nature of the protest and:

- a) the umpire-in-chief must inform the scorers that the game is being played under protest;
- b) the umpire-in-chief must inform the head coach of the opposing team of the nature of the protest; and
- c) the scorers must record the time of the protest and the details of the protest on the game card and in the appropriate section of the scorebooks.

5.3.3 After the game, the protesting Club Secretary or President must email a BBA Dispute Form to the BBA Secretary no later than 4 pm on the next business day (Monday to Friday).

5.3.4 The Club must pay a deposit of \$100.00 which will be refunded if the protest is upheld or otherwise at the discretion of the BBA Committee if the dispute is not considered frivolous or vexatious. The protest will not be heard until after a confirmation of transfer has been forwarded to the BBA Committee.

5.3.5 No protest pertaining to an umpire's technical game ruling (excluding game-ending plays) can be made after the game has been completed. All protests must be made at the time the play occurs and before the next pitch, play or attempted play.

5.3.6 Protests relating to game-ending plays or breaches which arise after completion of the game that are not recorded on the game card must be reported in accordance with the procedure outlined in 5.3 of this Governing Document.

5.3.7 The BBA Secretary shall refer the protest to the BBA Committee to be resolved as soon as practicable. If the above protest format is not followed, then the protest may be dismissed.

5.3.8 All game protest disputes will be conducted in the same format as a BBA Tribunal Hearing with a quorum being the same as that for a normal BBA Committee meeting.

**NOTE: Official Baseball Rule 7.04 Protesting Games**

Even if it is held that the protested decision violated the rules, no replay of the game will be ordered unless in the opinion of the [BBA] the violation adversely affected the protesting team's chances of winning the game.

#### **5.4 Right of Appeal**

5.4.1 There is no right of appeal from a decision of the BBA Committee in relation to a game protest.

5.4.2 There is a right of appeal against a decision of the BBA Tribunal as per Governing Document #8, however, there is no right of appeal from a decision of the BBA Appeal Tribunal.

5.4.3 There is a right of appeal against matters in relation to Clause 5.5.2 and/or Clause 5.6, which are imposed by the BBA Committee.

5.4.4 Appeals against decisions of the BBA Committee pursuant to Clause 5.4.3 will be heard by an Appeal Panel of three approved BBA Tribunal members and will be conducted in the same format as a BBA Tribunal Hearing.

5.4.4.1 The appeal must be lodged, in writing (either hardcopy or via email), with the Secretary of the BBA within 14 days of any suspension.

5.4.4.2 The decision of the BBA Appeal Tribunal shall be final and binding, subject to any right of appeal which may exist, to any authority for the time being controlling baseball in Victoria or, any part thereof.

5.4.4.3 The Appeal Tribunal shall have the right on any such appeal to increase or reduce any penalty previously imposed.

#### **5.5 Breaches of Governing Documents/Rules**

5.5.1 The BBA Committee shall forward to the relevant Club Secretary an invoice, or notification of penalty, for each breach incurred. The notification shall detail all breaches applicable.

5.5.2 Minimum penalties for breaches of this Governing Document are as follows (repeated or deliberate breaches of the Governing Documents may be penalised at the discretion of the BBA Committee):

Infringement / Breach	Fine / Penalty
General	
Non- attendance of club at any scheduled BBA meeting	1 <sup>st</sup> offence - \$30 2 <sup>nd</sup> offence – Loss of match point to highest grade team 3 <sup>rd</sup> offence - Loss of match point to highest grade team and \$100

Late return of Match / Vote Card within 48 hours (excludes T Ball)	\$10
Forfeiture of a game	1 <sup>st</sup> / 2nd offence – loss of game and both official umpires' fees as fine; 3rd offence – loss of game plus official umpires' fees and MUST show cause why the team should not be removed from the competition.
Withdrawal of team after Senior Team Nomination date	Club fined \$200
Illegal player, including breach of player eligibility, registration and suspended player	\$50 per player and loss of game.
Underage player	\$30 and loss of game
Prohibited substances e.g. drugs, cigarettes, alcohol	\$200 per person and ejection.
Player out of uniform	\$50 per player.
Player failure to return Association Uniform, after Invoice issued	See Clause 5.6.1 of this Governing Document: Failure to carry out direction
Exceed pitch count	1 <sup>st</sup> offence -\$100 and loss of game 2 <sup>nd</sup> or Finals offences - \$200 and loss of game
Late start to game – against offending team Umpire not present 10 minutes before scheduled start of game.	\$20 Forfeiture of umpire fees to BBA
Unsigned or incomplete Match Cards	\$20 – each team or Umpire
Ground or Playing Conditions	
No bases and/or home plate and/or painted pitching mat and/or lines provided and/or painted batting boxes	1 <sup>st</sup> offence - \$20 each 2 <sup>nd</sup> and subsequent offence - \$50 each
Diamond marking incomplete (includes home run line or cones etc)	\$20
Incomplete clean-up of diamond whilst home team at neutral venue	\$50

Umpire	
Non attendance of BBA or BBUA appointed umpire	\$50
Club umpire not provided	1 <sup>st</sup> offence - \$20 2 <sup>nd</sup> and subsequent offence - \$40
No umpire supplied at Junior Match	1 <sup>st</sup> offence - \$10 2 <sup>nd</sup> and subsequent offence - \$20

## 5.6 Suspension, Disqualification, Deregistration and Penalties

### 5.6.1 Failure to carry out direction

Any club, team or affiliated or associate Association or player or member thereof, failing to carry out any lawful direction of the BBA Committee shall be liable to suspension, disqualification or other appropriate penalty at the discretion of the BBA Committee.

### 5.6.2 Endorsement of Suspensions

The BBA Committee shall have power to endorse any suspension, disqualification or penalty imposed by any body controlling baseball, either within or outside Victoria provided that the BBA shall have received notification in writing of such suspension, disqualification or penalty.

### 5.6.3 Forfeiture of Rights and Privileges

5.6.3.1 Any person or entity which is under suspension or disqualification by the BBA Committee in accordance with Clause 5.6.1 or 5.6.2 of this Governing Document shall forfeit all rights and privileges held under or in the BBA or in its property.

5.6.3.2 Its delegates shall cease to act for and shall not be entitled to attend any meetings of the Association.

### 5.6.4 Persons Under Suspension Debarred from Taking Part in Matches.

(1) Any person or entity under suspension or disqualification by the BBA Committee in accordance with Clause 5.6.1 or 5.6.2 of this Governing Document shall be debarred from playing or taking part in any match under the control of the BBA.

(2) Any member of any Club, team or association knowingly playing or taking part in any match in which a suspended or disqualified person plays or takes part shall be liable to suspension or disqualification or such other penalty as the BBA Committee may determine.

(3) Any registered player, club member or official of the BBA who has been suspended by the BBA Tribunal must abide by the most current Australian Baseball Rules and Umpire Manual as regards their presence at competition matches:

*Rule 6.04(d) Comment: If a manager, coach or player is under suspension he may be in uniform and may participate in the regular pre-game routines of the Club. At game time, however, suspended personnel must be out of uniform, may not be in the dugout, and must be away from areas where players are expected to be during a game. Suspended personnel also are not*

*permitted in the press box or any broadcast areas during the course of a game, but are permitted to watch the game from the stands or suite level. (Official Baseball Rules, 2021)*

The BBA further stipulates that a suspended person(s) must be out of sight and cannot be heard by the attending umpires. They are not to have any interaction with the umpires before, during or after the game. Any person breaching this provision is liable to further suspension, monetary penalty or deregistration by the BBA Committee. Any person so sanctioned may appeal, via the Secretary of the BBA, to the Tribunal of the BBA against being so sanctioned.

#### **5.6.5 Misconduct On or Off the Field**

Should any registered player, Club member or official conduct himself/herself in a disorderly manner whilst participating in baseball related activities conducted by a club or Association, the BBA Committee may suspend or otherwise deal with the offender, parent/guardian in such manner as it may deem appropriate.

#### **5.6.6 General Powers of the BBA Committee**

The BBA Committee shall have the power to fine, suspend or otherwise deal with a registered player, Club member or official for any act or misdemeanour not provided for in this Governing Document or Rules of the BBA. Any person so sanctioned may appeal, via the Secretary of the BBA, to the Complaints Administration Panel of the BBA against being so sanctioned.

#### **5.6.7 BBA Player and Official Deregistration Policy**

5.6.7.1 The purpose of this section allows for players and officials with a poor tribunal record to be deregistered from playing or being involved with baseball for life.

5.6.7.2 The deregistration is automatically applied to any player or official who, since the age of 16, has been suspended for a cumulative total of 16 games or more in any Australian suburban, country or state league or association that plays baseball.

5.6.7.3 The process will be administered by the BBA Committee. The BBA Secretary will maintain a register of Tribunal appearances and penalties and will notify the BBA Committee once a player or registered official reaches a cumulative total of 12 match suspensions. The BBA Committee will notify the player/official in writing of their deregistration when the player/official reaches a cumulative total of 16 games.

5.6.7.4 Players/officials may appeal, to the BBA Committee, for re registration, but if successful a further suspension will result in deregistration without the right to a further appeal. It should be noted that the deregistration will be noted to all relevant baseball bodies within Australia.

### **6.0 Transfer of Players**

#### **6.1 Clearance**

6.1.1 Any player registered with the BBA shall have the right to transfer from one Club to another within the BBA, to an interstate Club or a Club of an affiliated body, provided that the appropriate Registration/Clearance Form is completed and endorsed by the player's parent Club.

6.1.2 Between 1 July and the completion of the final round in any season there shall be no transfer of players between Clubs of the Association except if the clearance procedure required by this Governing Document has been commenced, but not completed by 1 July.

6.1.3 The transfer of players from a Club of the BBA to an interstate club or the club of an affiliated body may be carried out at any time. The completed Registration/Clearance Form for all such transfers must be endorsed by the BBA Competition Coordinator before the transfer can be considered finalised.

6.1.4 The transfer of players from an interstate club to a club of the Association may be carried out at any time provided that:

6.1.4.1 A clearance in writing is obtained by the player from the parent interstate club and the administration officer (or equivalent) endorses it in that State.

6.1.4.2 The BBA Competition Coordinator further endorses the clearance.

6.1.4.3 If the clearance is received by the Competition Coordinator on or after the 1 July, evidence satisfactory to the Competition Coordinator that the player has been domiciled continuously in Victoria for a period no less than 14 consecutive days.

6.1.4.4 That the player submitting the clearance from an interstate club has not participated in any competition match, in any state, during the period referred to in 6.1.4.3.

## 6.2 Clearance not Required

Any player who is not under suspension or disqualified by any Club or Association and has not played with a club or been registered as a Coach of a Club at any time during the four preceding years shall be deemed not to be registered with any Club.

## 6.3 Clearance Procedure

### 6.3.1 Letter of Approach

6.3.1.1 Any Club desiring to approach a player from another club with a view of seeking a transfer of membership shall write to the player's parent club stating their intention to interview that player.

6.3.1.2 A copy of such letter of approach shall be lodged with the BBA Competition Coordinator.

6.3.1.3 Players shall not be approached between 1 July and the completion of the final round in any season.

6.3.1.4 The provisions of Clauses 6.3.1.1, 6.3.1.2 and 6.3.1.3 shall be adhered to if a player approaches another Club with a view to obtaining a clearance to that Club.

### 6.3.2 Formal Interview

The formal interview with the player will not take place until the parent club has received the Letter of Approach, which is assumed to be after a period of 24 hours if sent by email.

### 6.3.3 Clearance Processing by Parent Club

6.3.3.1 A Registration/Clearance Form must be submitted to the parent club not earlier than 2 full days after the Letter of Approach has been sent. Upon receipt of a properly completed Registration/Clearance Form the parent club, shall, if there is a possibility that the clearance may be refused, arrange to meet the player at a properly constituted Committee meeting of the Club.

6.3.3.2 The timing of this meeting shall be as follows:

- (1) Within fourteen days (14) of the date of receipt for a clearance received between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> July in any one year.
- (2) The next scheduled Committee meeting for a clearance received between the completion of the final round and 1<sup>st</sup> March.

6.3.3.3 After due consideration of the reasons put forward by the player, the Club shall decide at that meeting to grant or refuse the clearance.

6.3.3.4 The Registration/Clearance Form shall be endorsed accordingly, and hand delivered to the player immediately.

6.3.3.5 If after proper notification of the meeting and acknowledgment by the player, the player fails to attend the meeting, the club may decide the matter in the player's absence.

### 6.3.4 Grounds for Automatic Refusal of Clearance

6.3.4.1 A clearance may be refused by a Club without the player being invited to a meeting if:

- (1) The player is un-financial – details of a player's un-financial status shall be furnished with the refused Registration/Clearance Form and shall be made available to the Club Committee.
- (2) A letter of approach in accordance with Clause 6.3.1 has not been received by the Club or the BBA Competition Coordinator.

### 6.3.5 Registration Procedures for Cleared Players.

6.3.5.1 A cleared player does not become a registered player with the new club and cannot participate in a competition match for the new club, until the properly endorsed Registration / Clearance Form has been received by the Competition Coordinator of the Association.

6.3.5.2 A player participating in a competition match in contravention of the Governing Document shall be an illegal player and the club shall be subject to the penalty prescribed in Clause 5.5.2.

### 6.3.6 Right of Appeal by Player

6.3.6.1 A player whose clearance application has been refused by the parent club may appeal to the BBA Committee, via the Competition Coordinator, against the refusal.

- (1) The appeal shall be made in writing and shall be accompanied by the refused Registration/Clearance Form.
- (2) Reasons for making the appeal shall be included within the letter and shall be relevant to matters discussed at the meeting with the Club required in Clause 6.3.3.1

6.3.6.2 The Competition Coordinator shall direct all such appeals to the BBA Committee. The Club refusing the clearance shall, upon receipt of notice from the BBA Secretary appear before the BBA Committee to show cause why the Clearance was refused. Should a representative of the Club not attend, the BBA Committee shall have the right to decide the appeal.

6.3.6.3 A player shall be allowed two (2) appeals against the refusal of a clearance in any one (1) season providing that in the judgment of any two members of the BBA Committee (provided neither of these persons are members or affiliated with either club involved), the reasons for requesting the second appeal are significantly different from the reasons of which the first appeal was based.

6.3.6.4 Appeal hearings shall be convened on a “needs basis.”

6.3.6.5 The procedures of hearing any appeal shall be decided on by the BBA Committee, provided that –

(1) only the player making the appeal; and

(2) the representative of the parent Club shall appear before the BBA Committee.

6.3.6.6 If the player making the appeal has not attained the age of 18 years, the player must be accompanied by a parent/guardian or person over the age of 18 years who will act as their Advocate and may speak on their behalf.

6.3.6.7 No appeal shall be considered by the BBA Committee where the clearance or permit has been refused on the proven ground that monies or materials remain owing by the player to the Club or the BBA.

6.3.6.8 The threat to “Stand out of baseball” will not be considered as a reason for a clearance.

## **7.0 Authority for Match Play**

### **7.1 Within Victoria**

No League or Club affiliated with the League nor any team or player, shall arrange or take part in any match with any team within the State of Victoria or outside the State of Victoria without first obtaining the consent of the BBA.

### **7.2 Outside Victoria**

Where any match is proposed or intended to be played outside the State of Victoria consent shall not be granted by the BBA unless the controlling body of Baseball in the State in which the match is intended to be played has given its sanction to the same.

### **7.3 Penalties**

Any club or player infringing Clause 7.1 or 7.2 shall be fined as the Committee may determine, and in the case of the club, may be liable to expulsion from the Association.

### **7.4 Inter-Association Games**

7.4.1 Players for all such matches shall comply with the requirements of the Committee as to transport to and from such matches, accommodation and behaviour.



7.4.2 The expenses of any player or official selected to play in or officiate at such matches shall not be the responsibility of the BBA unless the Committee otherwise determines.

## **8.0 Association Uniform**

### **8.1 Association Colours**

The colours of the Association shall be primarily Royal Blue, Gold and Grey. Before issuing uniforms to player selected to participate in representative matches, the Secretary of the Association, Manager, or duly appointed representative, shall obtain from each player a receipt, for the uniforms as part of the agreement signed by players, mentioned in the Championships Plan accepting responsibility for the care and return of the uniform in good order and condition.

### **8.2 Security for Association Uniform**

Should it be deemed necessary, it shall be lawful for the Secretary to demand a security deposit as determined by the Committee. The security to be refunded on return of the uniform in a condition satisfactory to the Secretary or the manager of the team. Uniforms of the Association shall be returned to the Team Manager on completion of the relevant competition. It is the responsibility of the Team Manager to ensure all uniforms are returned to the Secretary of the Association.

### **8.3 Penalty for Non-Return of Association Uniform**

8.3.1 One warning to both player and player's Club, requesting return of uniform and advice of penalty if uniform not returned; and

8.3.2 If an item of uniform cannot be recovered within 14 days after issue of warning as per 8.3.1, the player responsible will be invoiced immediately for the value of uniform item and return time for payment will be 7 days from issue of invoice.

8.3.3 If the invoice as per Clause 8.3.2 remains unpaid after the set 7 days a penalty will be applied as per By Law 5.5.2.

## **9.0 Defunct Clubs**

### **9.1 Declaration**

The Committee may declare defunct:

9.1.1 Any Club which has not affiliated with the Association for a period of two (2) successive years; or

9.1.2 Any Club which makes an application to the BBA to be so declared.

9.1.3 The players of the teams of such club(s) shall, on the Club being declared defunct make application in writing for a clearance and must receive a permit from the Committee before transferring to another Club.

## **10.0 Determining Ladder and Play-off Positions**

10.1 For divisions where ladder and play-off positions are required, teams shall be ranked by WIN percentage, as follows:

10.1.1 The win percentage of each team is calculated using the equation specified below. Teams are ranked on the ladder in descending order.

Win Percentage=(Total Wins+Draws (half))/Total Games Played

10.2 Where two or more teams are equally ranked with the same WIN percentage, the “Head to Head” method will be used to separate them i.e. Where one team has an advantage in the games won against the others with the same win %, that team will be ranked the highest team.

10.3 If this fails to separate the teams, the following method will be used:

10.3.1 The fewest runs allowed in the game(s) contested by these teams will gain the highest ranking, and then the remaining teams will revert to “Head to Head”. If remaining teams are tied then the tiebreaker reverts to the fewest runs allowed in the games contested by those teams method and then back “Head to Head” and so forth.

10.3.2 If teams are still tied, go to the runs allowed by each of the tied teams against the highest ranked team in the competition, then the next highest team and so on. The team with the least runs allowed will be the higher ranking team, and then the remaining teams will revert to “Head to Head”. If remaining teams are still tied, then the tiebreaker reverts to the fewest runs allowed in the games contested by those teams method, then back to “Head to Head” and so forth.

10.3.3 The ranking of the final two teams in the above situation will be determined by the “Head to Head” process.