



POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL

Mission: To provide a safe and fun sporting environment for all Marble Falls area youth to enjoy the games.

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1 INTRODUCTION

This document contains information, which will assist League Administrators, Managers, Coaches, and Umpires in performing their duties. It supplements Official Regulations and Playing Rules of all the leagues affiliations and provides local administrative procedures and practices. All league personnel should become familiar with the material contained herein.

The procedures contained in this document cover all divisions of Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball competition. These procedures apply to both spring and fall baseball programs, as identified herein. The Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association Board of Directors has approved these guidelines.

As an organization that strives to continually make the best possible experience for all, this document is considered a continuous work of progress. As such, conflicts and other circumstances may arise that are not covered by this document and shall be handled in the best interest of the League on a case by case basis. Such occurrences should be brought to the attention of the League President.

THIS DOCUMENT SHALL ONLY BE MODIFIED WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MARBLE FALLS YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

This document can be found online at the mfybsa.com website.

2 THE LEAGUE

The Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association operates baseball and softball leagues for boys and girls in the spring. These leagues are broken into divisions based largely off of local rules using PONY and CENTEX as guidelines.

2.1 Tee/Wee Ball Division

The Tee/Wee Ball division has been established for boys and girls (co-ed) to learn basic skills while emphasizing the fun aspects of playing team sports. Wee Ball will be instructional only while Tee Ball will begin the focus of competition by playing games. All players should rotate continuously and should play at least one inning of infield and one inning of outfield for a basic understanding of position. The batting order will consist of all present players. ***See Tee Ball rules for more local information on this division.***

2.2 Fall Ball

Fall baseball is recommended that players move up to the next division in the fall and then play a spring season at the same level before moving to the next division. Playing up in a division in the fall does not guarantee play in the same division in the spring. The Fall Baseball program utilizes the same breakdowns as the spring league, only is considered more for instructional purposes only. Some teams may participate in tournaments or other competitive play as the season allows.

2.3 League Cutoff ages

A player's league age will be determined at the time of player registration due to various changes proposed with the league's affiliations, but generally speaking the softball age will be 12/31 and baseball age will be 4/30.

2.4 Board of Directors & Executive Committee

Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball operates under a single Board of Directors, comprised of volunteers, that is responsible for governing the baseball and softball programs that operates under the bylaws as defined in Appendix H of this document. Please see the mfybsa.com website for board members, their positions, and how they can be contacted.

An Executive Committee should consist of the President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and other board members as selected each season. This committee will be responsible for oversight of development, disciplinary concerns regarding players, coaches, parents, umpires, etc. and will report their findings to the Board during an executive session. The Executive Committee will make recommendations on action to take according to the MFYBSA bylaws.

Other Committees may be formed by the Board or Executive Committee as deemed necessary or as needs arise.

All Committees will have at least one voting member of the Board to represent them.

All Committees will present progress reports to the Board at the regular scheduled Board meetings.

2.5 Volunteers

Marble Falls Baseball & Softball Association is an all-volunteer organization. Anyone wishing to volunteer may do so by filling out a volunteer application that agrees to a background check on the mfybsa.com website. See appendix A for more information about volunteering.

2.6 Selection of Managers / Coaches

Manager/Coach candidates must submit a volunteer application during the registration period for the upcoming season. Manager (head coach) and assistant coach candidates must also indicate their desire to volunteer as part of the registration process. The positions of Manager and Coach are among the most important in the Baseball and Softball Programs, and the selections shall be based on the ability of the individual in the following areas:

Safety: The Manager must provide a safe environment for all practices and games. They should routinely inspect the fields, equipment, and player gear to make sure the environment is always in a safe state.

Sportsmanship/Fun: The Manager must be able and willing to stress the importance of good sportsmanship and to lead by setting a good example. Additionally, the Manager must be able to create an environment in which the players can have fun.

Fundamentals: The Manager must be able to teach the fundamentals of baseball / softball and have the time to work with the players to enable them to improve their baseball / softball skills.

League Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines: The Manager must adhere to the policies, procedures, and guidelines of the League. Managers must attend the seasonal manager meeting(s) and coaching certification clinics offered by the League and sign the Coaches Code of Conduct.

PONY, CENTEX & Local Rules & Regulations: Managers and Coaches must understand and adhere to the rules and regulations set forth by the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association.

Other specific information pertaining to Manager / Coach selection is found in Appendix A of this document.

2.7 Conduct

Proper conduct is an absolute must in a program of this kind. League officials, managers, coaches, parents, and spectators must set a good example for the players and help mold the atmosphere of the game.

Similarly, parents and players must also set a good example. Parents' behavior may directly or indirectly affect players' conduct. For this reason, a Parent Code of Conduct and a Player Code of Conduct have been included as Appendix B. Both parents and players are expected to adhere to these principals when attending or participating in any Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association activity.

- Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated on the part of any manager, coach, player, league official, parent, or spectator. Managers and coaches should only speak to their own ball players. A high quality standard must be upheld in conduct. Comments like, but not limited to, "He can't hit," should not be used by any manager, coach, player, league official, parent, or spectator. Taunting of opposing pitchers and opposing teams will not be tolerated. This rule will be strictly enforced. Failure to comply could result in disciplinary action, which may include suspension, temporary or permanent, from the Baseball Program.
- Managers and coaches must assume responsibility for the conduct of their teams and spectators supporting their team. Unruly spectator behavior may result in suspension of play of the game.
- Team discipline is left to the discretion of the team manager, but must remain within the parameters of suitable conduct of the manager, player, and the rules specified by the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association. In developing situations, which have the potential for significant consequences, all managers must maintain written records of events and consult with the League Vice President for additional guidance, notification, etc. DO NOT wait until a serious situation has developed or is out of control. The League President and Player Agent must be notified, through the League Vice President, of any player suspension prior to the action.
- When a manager, coach, or player is disqualified from a game for reason of conduct, the umpire shall forward a full report in writing through the Umpire in Chief to the League President within 24 hours of the incident. That person will be suspended for the remainder of the game and the next game.
- Any player failing to attend at least 50% of team activities, specifically team practice sessions, may forfeit league eligibility unless an excuse is accepted by the League President and approved by the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association Board of Directors.
- There must be one approved adult coach present at all times in the dugout.
- No spectators or players are allowed to stand directly behind the backstop at any time.
- No one except the uniformed players, appointed team manager, and two appointed team coaches shall be in the dugout or on the field during the game.
- No player will be allowed to leave the dugout after the game starts except to play the game, use toilet facilities, or in the case of injury or emergency. *Players leaving the dugout to visit the restroom should have manager or assistant coach approval and be accompanied by another player or adult.* Players that leave (they or their parents feel they have played their share of the game) may be suspended for the next game. Suspension must be cleared with the League Vice President and President.
- Only a manager may request a conference with an umpire for the purpose of discussing a rule interpretation (not a judgment call). Time must be requested by the manager and granted by an umpire prior to any discussion.
- At the completion of each game, each team, including coaches, will shake hands with the other team and the game umpires.

- All managers and coaches must sign and adhere to the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association Coaches Code of Conduct, included as Appendix B of this document.
- All parents and players are expected to abide by the Parent and Player Codes of Conduct included as Appendix B of this document.
- Violations of these conduct guidelines will result in possible disciplinary action. Appendix C outlines the process that the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association follows in the investigation of possible conduct issues.

2.8 Uniforms and Equipment

The Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association Equipment Manager is responsible for the maintenance and distribution of all Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association equipment and team uniforms.

- The Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association Equipment Manager will issue team equipment and uniforms to team managers.
- Team managers will sign for and be held accountable for all equipment and uniforms issued.
- Managers may exchange defective equipment at a time established by the Equipment Manager.
- At the conclusion of the season, all equipment shall be turned in at a time and location established by the Equipment Manager.
- The equipment must be returned in good and *clean* condition.
- Any individual not properly returning equipment will be required to reimburse the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association. Additionally, any individual that has not returned all equipment will be prohibited from further registration.

2.9 League Insurance

All registered Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association participants are covered under a master MFYBSA insurance policy. It supplements insurance carried under a family policy or provided by the parents' employer. If there is no other coverage, MFYBSA insurance, which is purchased by MFYBSA, not the parent, takes over and pays all injury treatment costs up to the maximum stated benefits.

This unique plan makes it possible for MFYBSA to offer unmatched low cost protection with assurance to parents that adequate coverage is in force at all times during the season.

The approved Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association Safety Plan outlines the procedures to be followed if a participant sustains an injury while taking part in Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association activities. The approved Safety Plan can be found on the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association website. At a minimum, the following should be done:

- File a claim initially under insurance carried by the family.
- Should the family's insurance plan not fully cover the injury treatment, a claim is filed with Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association, and the CYA policy will pay the difference up to the maximum stated benefits of the policy. This includes any deductibles or exclusions.
- If a child is not covered by any family insurance, the CYA policy becomes primary and covers all injury treatment costs up to the maximum benefits of the policy.
- Notification of claims must be filed with Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association/CYA within 120 days of the incident, but not later than November 1st of the current season.
- Immediately notify the League Vice President, Player Agent, and Safety Officer of the incident no more than 24 hours after it occurs.

Any problems or questions should be referred to the Vice President or President. It is the responsibility of the individual manager to educate their players' parents about the insurance program and to initiate action in the event of injury.

3 SAFETY

The safety and well-being of all participants is the most important factor in the conduct of the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association Program.

Should an injury occur, **immediately** notify the League Vice President and President of the incident.

3.1 Unsafe Conditions, Including Weather

All members of Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association have an inherent responsibility to assist in eliminating unsafe conditions within the supervised program. It is the specific responsibility of the game umpire(s) to verify that all playing equipment and the playing field itself are suitable and safe for play before starting a game. Managers, coaches, and parents may assist the game umpire(s) in performing specific inspections of team equipment, properly marking the field, and inspecting the game site, including spectator seating areas, to assist in eliminating unsafe conditions.

It is the responsibility of the managers, coaches, and umpires (if applicable) to determine when a game in progress should be suspended due to unsafe playing conditions, such as slippery footing, insufficient light, lightning or thunder, or other hazardous conditions. When a game has been suspended because of lightning or thunder, the game shall not be resumed until at least 30 minutes have passed without more lightning strikes being sighted or thunder heard in the vicinity of the game field.

With thunder or lightning, all players must vacate the field area and dugouts into and into a vehicle (at a minimum) for safety and remain there until **at least 30 minutes** have passed as noted above. Teams will be given ample time to warm-up prior to resuming play.

All parents, coaches, and managers are encouraged to acquire the free WeatherBug mobile app. WeatherBug's exclusive Spark lightning alerts, real-time weather from local stations across the nation, and weather alerts help coaches, parents, friends, and fans Know Before™ and better ensures safety during severe weather – including high heat and humidity, thunderstorms, and lightning.

3.2 Manager's Responsibility

All team managers and assistant coaches shall complete safety training as required by the League and scheduled by the League within the past two calendar years. Certification of attending this training by the League is a requirement before the manager or assistant coach is allowed on the playing field in a coaching role during scheduled games/practices.

Managers shall report all injuries or accidents to the League President and League Vice President.

If a player is unable to participate for seven or more consecutive days due to injury or illness, or a player is suspected of having a concussion, a physician or other accredited medical provider must give written permission for the player to return to practice/game.

3.3 Team Responsibilities

All teams shall emphasize safety in practice and scheduled play. Parents are encouraged to assist in this emphasis.

In the event of weather and/or field condition problems, both teams are responsible for adhering to safety decisions and for trying to make the field playable, if possible. However, if the game cannot be started within time limits established, the game shall not be played but shall be referred to the League President.

3.4 Wearing of Casts

Players with casts will be subject to a Doctors order, Parent consent, the PONY, CENTEX and/or local Official Regulations and Playing Rules. A coach with a cast is restricted to the dugout if the coach is limited in mobility. The restriction with regards to a cast also applies to practices.

3.5 On Deck Batters

On deck batters may move to a position in the on deck circle behind the current batter.

4 LEAGUE BOUNDARIES

See the boundaries on the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association website.

5 TEAMS

The number of teams in each division and league is dependent upon the number of registrants as we try to limit team rosters to 12 players.

6 PLAYERS

See the Local Playing Rules and Policies for more detail on this section, the mfybsa.com website and/or Appendix F of this document.

6.1 Player Registration

All players shall be registered with Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association. Each parent shall provide an original birth record or suitable proof of age documentation (for a list of acceptable age documentation, refer to the PONY Regulations and Playing Rules) upon request to verify the league age of any child upon request of a league official.

6.2 Opportunity to Play

It is the intent of Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association that any child who desires and qualifies by age shall be given the opportunity to participate in the supervised program and shall be placed, as accurately as possible, in the level of play which most nearly matches his/her age and/or ability.

6.3 Waiting List

The Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association is determined to have every child that registers play on a team. If someone registers after teams are formed that child will be placed on a team on a space available basis. A waiting list, if necessary, will be maintained by the League Player Agent.

7 SELECTION OF PLAYERS

See Appendix F, Appendix G, and other policies and procedures throughout this document that also pertain to this section.

7.1 Player Draft / Assignment

All players registered players will be drafted. If someone registers after teams are formed that child will be assigned to a team on a space available basis.

7.1.1 Assessments / Tryouts

Try outs (skills assessments) are only held for the Spring season. All players, including those wishing to “play up” (above their age group), with approval, must attend a tryout. Should the need arise, tryouts may be held for the Fall season.

- All Managers shall be invited to observe the ability of each of the candidates.
- Managers shall grade the candidates on the player list for their own reference and reference by the others in support of the draft.
- The League will appoint a representative to assess players should there not be enough managers or coaches present. The appointee will not be associated with the division being assessed.
- Assessments shall be conducted with candidates having a similar league age.
- Players wishing to move up to a division outside of the designated definition must obtain approval from League Officials and attend the scheduled tryout/assessment to be eligible for the higher-level draft.

7.1.2 Draft – All Divisions Excluding Tee/Wee Ball

7.1.2.1 Spring Season

The draft should occur within seven (7) days of the final assessment / tryout.

- Only Managers and League Officials may be present at the draft.
- All players will be assigned to a team based on a draft system.
- Managers will select their order in the draft by random drawing such as selecting a number out of a hat. The Manager that selects #1 drafts first, #2 drafts second, and so on.
- Players must attend the spring tryout in order to be candidate for the draft.

- Managers shall be appointed prior to the draft.
- Siblings will be placed on the same team unless requested otherwise in writing. The sibling of the player selected will be placed in a draft spot according to their ability.
- Each manager may designate 3 players as “keepers”. These selections may only be players related to or under legal guardianship of the manager, a managers assistant coach or a player from his previous season team should there be less than 3 managers/coaches at the time of the draft.
- The goal will be to place not more than 12 players on each team. However, other factors such as the number of available managers may dictate a higher number. In no case, shall the number of players per team exceed 14.

7.1.2.2 Fall Season

With no player assessments to determine the players’ abilities, the previous season’s evaluations may be used. The draft will be a collaborative process utilizing coach and league official knowledge of players’ skills to rate and rank players to evenly distribute talent across all teams. A matrix of teams and player slots will be drawn with no manager assigned to a team until the end of the player selection process. To populate the matrix, all managers within a division will determine the first round players and evenly distribute across all teams. The number of players per round is based on the total number of teams in the respective league. The second round will follow with all managers agreeing to the second round players, distributing them evenly across all teams. This style draft will continue until all players are placed on a team and/or all teams reach their maximum number of players. With respect to managers/assistant coach’s sons/daughters, they will be placed on teams in their appropriate slot level (1st round, 2nd round, 3rd round, etc.) with proper adjustments made to evenly distribute talent. The goal is to provide all teams with an even level of talent so that the season’s success is not determined on draft night. Assistant coach requests/desires **must** not adversely affect the even distribution of talent.

7.1.3 Trading

The trading of players is allowed and shall adhere to the following requirements:

- Following the draft, the managers may trade players with the approval of the League. All trading of players must be completed immediately following the draft. Both managers must state their intent to trade players.
- Trades involving players for draft choices are not permitted.

7.1.4 Notification

The Manager will notify parents/ guardians of those children drafted within two days following the draft.

7.1.5 Confidentiality

The position in which a player has been drafted shall not be disclosed.

7.1.6 Tee/Wee Ball

These players are not subject to a draft. Players are assigned on a team by team basis.

7.1.7 Requests

For consideration by the Board or a committee, any parent that requests to play or not play with a specific manager/coach must be received in writing and signed by the parent at time of Registration. Hearsay will not be factored into decisions on these special requests.

7.2 Replacement of Players

From time to time, in the course of a season, the replacement of players may be required. The following rules outline the process and requirements for the replacement of players:

- Any manager losing a player due to injury, relocation, discontinued participation, etc., must notify the League Vice President within 24 hours of notification of such loss.
- The vacancy may be filled by the League Vice President who will be the only channel used for the request of players. Managers should never contact a player, his/her parents, or the present manager until approval to do so is received from the League Vice President. Any manager found to be interfering with the movement of players will face disciplinary action (i.e. suspend from one game to the entire season and/or loss of manager appointment).

7.2.1 Temporary Replacement Players

If a manager realizes that he cannot field a team of 9 players for a scheduled game due to school or any other function or circumstances, the following process should be followed:

- (a) Notify the League Vice President and attempt to get the game rescheduled in advance, if time permits.
- (b) Player Pools: Temporary replacement players will be selected to fulfill a vacancy based on a player pool. All currently rostered players are eligible for the replacement player pool. The order of replacement players from within a pool will be randomly sorted.
- (c) Players will be selected from the replacement pools as follows:
 - 1) Players will be selected within the randomly ordered pool starting with the first player in the list.
 - A player may not miss their team's game to play as a pool player.
 - A player may miss their team's practice to play in a game as a pool player, with approval of their rostered team's manager.
 - 2) In the event that a selected player is playing for a team in a game for which the temporary replacement player is needed, that player will be skipped and the next player down on the list will be selected.
 - 3) In the event that a selected player cannot participate due to other (i.e. family) circumstances, next player down on the list will be selected.
 - 4) The Player Agent shall continue with the selection and subsequent notification of replacement players in accordance with the above until a 9-player roster is fulfilled for the selected game.
 - 5) Each time the replacement pool is used to fulfill a temporary vacancy, the Vice President picks up on the list where it was last left off.
- (d) The Replacement Player Pool will only be used during the Regular Season.
- (e) Temporary replacement pool players are to only play in the outfield and should be placed at the bottom of the batting order.***

All players that were eligible for the draft, but not selected in the draft are considered part of the Permanent Replacement Pool. Replacement pools will be established for each division. The order of replacement players from within the replacement pool will be randomly sorted.

Players will be selected from the replacement pool as follows:

- 1) Players will be selected within the randomly ordered pool starting with the first player in the list.
- 2) In the event that a selected player cannot participate due to other (i.e. family) circumstances, next player down on the list will be selected.
- 3) Each time the Permanent Replacement Pool is used to call-up a player, the Vice President picks-up on the list where it was last left off.

8 ALL-STAR TOURNAMENT TEAMS

The Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association will sponsor one team per division for baseball and softball. Tee/Wee Ball will not participate in All-Star tournaments. In the event there are no volunteers to manage and coach an all star team in a division, there will be no “post” season All-Star play in that division.

8.1 Manager Selection

The all-star Managers shall be nominated by a majority vote of head coaches/appointed assistant coaches in each division (one vote per team). Meetings may be held for each division that will be attended by the respective head coaches, a Vice President, and 1 other Board member. The Vice President of Softball will oversee the divisional meetings for baseball and the Vice President of Baseball will oversee the divisional meetings for softball. In the event of a tie, the list of nominees will be forwarded to the Board. The full Board will then vote on the nominees and the all-star Manager will be determined by majority vote. In the case this manager either declines or is not approved by the Board, the next manager in order of votes shall be nominated.

8.2 Coach Selection

All-Star managers may select any manager or coach within the Marble Falls League to assist them, with approval by the Board. A team may have 1 Manager and 2 Coaches. Pinto teams may have 1 Manager and 3 Coaches. Any Coach who received disciplinary action for knowingly violating the playing rules during the regular season will not be associated with the All-Star team in any way. All-Star Coaches must commit to the team as the players and should be available for the entire All-Star season.

8.3 Rosters

All-Star teams will consist of a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 12 players. Additional players may be considered as alternates with approval by the Board. Players selected to the All-Star team should be available for the entire All-Star season. In the event the player cannot be available for the entire All-Star season, the player receiving the next most votes may be on the team.

8.4 Player Selection, Team Formation, Guidelines and Rules

Managers within each division will be responsible for selecting the All-Star team from their division only. Other coaches within the division may be asked their opinion but only the votes from the Managers will be considered. Specifics to the process are as follows:

- All players must have been registered with the division they are planning to play for in All Stars for the spring season of the current year. They must have played for a league recreational team during the spring season and must have participated in at least half of their team events during that spring season.
- If a player has played for an open, select or tournament team in a sanctioned tournament like Nations, Super Series, USSSA, Triple Crowne or other between March 1st and June 1st they are may not be eligible to be placed on a All Star team.
- 14 days prior to last regular season game, the League Vice Presidents will send ballots to all Managers.
- Ballots should contain the names of all players within the division.
- Managers are encouraged to nominate players from all teams but all league teams are not required to have representation on the All-Star team.
- League Vice Presidents will gather ballots and return tallies to Managers.
- Players receiving the maximum number of votes are automatically on the All-Star team.
- Players not receiving the maximum number of votes should be discussed at a Manager only meeting where Managers can deliberate the abilities, personalities and characteristics of each player. These conversations are to remain confidential.
- The Manager only meeting should be held 7 days prior to the final regular season game.
- The All-Star Manager may be the determining voice on the final roster as it relates to players not receiving the maximum number of votes.
- Each All-Star team will be approved by the Board of Directors.
- All-Star teams should be announced and players notified at the last regular season game for each league team.

9 SCHEDULES, STANDINGS, AND PRACTICES

See the Local Playing Rules, and Policies for more detail on this section.

9.0 Scheduling

- MFYBSA will make every effort to schedule 12 regular season games in the spring.
- MFYBSA will make every effort to schedule a minimum of eight intra-league games per team in the spring.
- In an effort to help grow our youth into district play, MFYBSA may also schedule (and travel to) regular season games with surrounding Hill Country communities such as Blanco, Burnet, Johnson City, Kingsland, Lago Vista, Lampasas, Liberty Hill, Llano, etc.

9.1 Rescheduling of Games

Should the rescheduling of a game become necessary, the following process will be followed:

- Because of the need to reschedule umpires and assign fields, only the League Scheduler will reschedule games.
- Effort will be made to reschedule games as soon as possible and in the same week originally scheduled. However, there shall not be more than two games played on consecutive days by any one team without at least one day's rest, with a maximum of 3 games in one week.
- In the event that a team has multiple games to reschedule, the games will be scheduled in the order they were cancelled, with the oldest game to be made up first. Exceptions to this rule will be on a case by case basis, determined by the League Vice President and/or scheduler.
- Managers and league umpire coordinators will be given two days' notice of a rescheduled game, if possible.
- Any team that does not show up for a rescheduled game will be declared the loser by forfeit, upon review by the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association Board of Directors.
- The League Vice Presidents have the discretion to determine outcomes of games that are not rescheduled by the two teams. This discretion will be used if the League Vice President determines the make-up of the game is to change standings (if kept) and tournament pairings. Teams refusing to play, could be assigned a loss with the other team being assigned a win, or both teams being assigned a loss.

9.2 League Standings

Standings will be kept for all divisions except Tee/Wee Ball. Only games against MFYBSA teams will count towards the standings unless that number of games is not equal to or greater than eight.

9.3 Ties In Standings

Ties will be broken using the following criteria and in this order:

- Overall wins
- Points earned (2 for a win, 1 for ties, 0 for loss)
- Head to Head (thrown out if more than two teams are involved in the tie)
- Runs Allowed
- Runs Scored
- Coin Flip.

9.4 Practices

- Each Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association team will be allowed to schedule a practice time and field during the course of a season (weather and field availability allowing). During the course of the season, a team typically plays two games per week. Practice schedules are maintained by the League and access is provided to all managers.
- Practices may only occur on the day of a scheduled game once the final game has been completed. If a game is rained out, a team may practice based on limits noted in this section.
- Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association will not reimburse nor otherwise pay for the use of private facilities by individual teams.
- Practices shall last no longer than 1 hour and 30 minutes. For scrimmages no new inning after 2 hours.
- When teams hold scheduled practices on playing fields, catchers shall be used for all pitched batting practice. No batting practice shall be conducted against any backstop or fence on any field at any time. No short toss or soft toss shall be allowed against any fence at any field at any time using regular baseballs or softballs; however, wiffle balls, or a similar type plastic ball may be used. Overall wins

10 FIELD CLOSURES

The Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association makes every attempt to update field status by 3 pm on weekdays and by 7 am on weekends. The latest field status can be found on the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association website and/or the Marble Falls Baseball & Softball Facebook page, if applicable. If either site shows a field as “closed” - please stay off the field.

All managers are encouraged to assess field conditions upon arrival at any open field. You should not play on a baseball field if any of the following conditions exist:

- There is standing water on any portion of the field.
- The sound of a footstep (squish-squish) can be heard while walking on the field.
- While standing on the field, water can be observed gathering around the sole of the shoe.
- While walking (not running) across a grass portion of the field, a footprint is left in the soil (not just the grass bending over).
- While walking (not running) on any dirt portion of the field, an impression ½” or deeper is made in the soil.

11 GAME TIME LIMITS AND CURFEW

For the purpose of calculating the time for which no new inning may begin, the new/next inning starts as soon as the third out is made in the bottom half of an inning.

For specific time limits and mandatory stoppage information, please see the MFYBSA Local Rules located on the mfybsa.com website or Appendix F of this document.

12 FIELD MAINTENANCE

Work days will be scheduled prior to each season in order to prepare, upgrade and maintain the fields. Managers, coaches and other volunteers are necessary to keep things in shape and safe. All field equipment (rakes, drags, etc) must be kept outside the dugout and off of the field. Equipment should be returned to the proper storage area and locked away before departing the field. Both the Home and Visiting teams are responsible for clearing trash from dugouts, fields and spectator areas.

For specific areas of responsibilities, please see the MFYBSA Local Rules located on the mfybsa.com website or Appendix F of this document.

13 PROTESTS

There are no formal protests allowed, any rules issues must be addressed on the field before play continues. There will be no protest of any judgment calls, only protests of pitching violations or rule interpretations. In the event of a protest the head coach and only the head coach will notify the plate umpire before the next pitch is thrown of their protest and must provide a copy of the rule being protested. If the plate umpire is unable to resolve the issue he will request the assistance of the designated onsite Centex committee member and the committee member will make the final decision. All protests will be resolved on the field between only the head coaches, umpires, and Centex committee member. No protests can be made after a game has been completed.

Should a protest not be resolved during the game, those may be submitted in writing to the League President through the appropriate League Vice President within 24 hours of the completion of the game. This does not alter the on field procedures detailed by the local or series rules governing. These written protests will be submitted to a committee established for each league to rule on such protests and make decisions concerning rule interpretation, any superseding rules, administrative actions required, etc. The committees are to consist of the President, League Vice Presidents, Chief Umpire (or representative), and one or more members of the Baseball Board of Directors. Committee members shall disqualify themselves if they have a relative (son, daughter, cousin, etc.) on a team involved in a protest or incident requiring administrative action or if they are working (manager, coach, etc.) with a team involved in a protest or action requiring administrative action.

14 DELAYS

There should be no unnecessary delays of any kind.

14.1 Game Delays

Unnecessary game delays shall be the call of the game Umpire and may result in directed strikes, balls, outs, warnings, restrictions or ejections.

14.2 Player Delays

Unnecessary delay by a pitcher is defined as not delivering the next pitch to the batter or making a throw to a teammate in an attempt to retire a runner within 20 seconds of receiving the ball from the catcher.

Unnecessary delay by a catcher is defined as not returning the ball to the pitcher nor making a throw to a teammate in an attempt to retire a runner within 5 seconds of catching the pitch from the pitcher or securing the ball if not caught.

Unnecessary delay by a runner is defined as not making an attempt to advance to the next base or return to the last achieved base in a timely manner. Bating a throw or bating a delay from a defensive player is prohibited.

The Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association requires a batter to keep one foot in the batter's box during an at-bat.

14.3 Manager / Coach Delays

Unnecessary delay is normally caused or influenced by adult managers or coaches. Unnecessary delay by a manager or coach includes not having their team ready to take the field when on defense, a batter not ready to step to the plate while on offense, and/or asking for "time" without basis.

14.4 Other Delays

If pitches are called by a manager or coach, the pitch must be called/signaled into the catcher for relaying to the pitcher.

In addition to the specified penalty of called ball or strike, an additional penalty for unnecessary delay may be enforced against the team manager or specific individual in charge of the team at the moment of penalty as follows:

- 1st violation in a game: Individual warning to the manager of the team.
- 2nd violation in a game: Restriction of the manager to the bench in the dugout for the remainder of the game.
- 3rd violation in a game: Ejection of the manager.
- Additional violations in a game: Forfeiture of the game in accordance with MFYBSA and other affiliated sanctioning bodies.

15 LOCAL PLAYING RULES

Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association follows specific rules for each division. The Local Playing Rules are located in Appendix F of this document.

16 PITCHING

MFYBSA uses the MLB Pitch Smart Guidelines as adopted almost entirely by all national youth baseball organizations. Those guidelines can be found in the MFYBSA Local Rules located on the mfybsa.com website or Appendix F of this document.

17 UMPIRES

The Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association is fortunate to have a group of umpires to work our games. They are all members of the Marble Falls Baseball & Softball Association. Umpires are assigned to games based on availability, skill level and experience in the division.

If only one umpire arrives for a game scheduled for two umpires, the umpire may, at his/her discretion, decide to umpire the game alone or choose to utilize assistance. If assistance is available, the umpire may choose in this order of preference, another umpire, impartial adult (no player in game), home team parent, and visiting team parent.

Each team is encouraged to have someone with knowledge of the game and divisional rules available at each game in the event that an umpire is not available for a game.

If no trained umpire is available, the Home and Away managers must quickly reach out to spectators for a volunteer umpire, or assign assistant coaches to umpire. The last option should be managers umpiring their own game.

APPENDIX A: Volunteers

Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association follows a formal process for the selection of all volunteers.

Volunteer Requirements

Anyone interested in volunteering, becoming a board member, commissioner, filling official crucial roles in operations, managing or coaching must apply by completing an online application that agrees/consents to a background check. All applicants must be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age. Applications shall be completed within the established deadline. All applications shall be reviewed by a Selection Committee that should consist of the following: President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer, however all Board Members are encouraged to provide input. All volunteers must approved by the Board. The Selection Committee shall employ a “selection process” approved by the Board for determining each volunteer. The selection process may take into consideration a variety of factors (e.g. review of coach’s applications, end-of-season parent surveys, written complaints, feedback received through the league e-mail address).

The “selection process” may be reviewed and changed from time-to-time. However, the Board reserves the right to make the final selection of all applications.

A manager, coach or any other volunteer may be suspended pending removal from his/her position at any time during the year by a majority vote of the Board. In such matters, any manager, coach or any other volunteer who:

- Has a background check that identifies any felony conviction related to children, drug abuse, or violence (i.e. battery, assault, rape), he/she will be automatically excluded from participation in the League. Misdemeanor convictions will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will not be automatically exclusionary.
- Is found inflicting abusive actions (including physical and/or verbal) on League players, parents of players, umpires, or other interested persons connected directly or indirectly with the League, shall be suspended pending removal from the League on confirmation of the allegation. The Board shall be the sole determinant in defining abusive actions. Any physical abuse by a manager towards a player or any other person involved will result in immediate suspension and removal from the ballpark. Law enforcement will be notified. Investigation by the Board and law enforcement will take place.
- Relinquishes his/her position during a League season, without good cause and approval of the Board, shall not be considered for re-entering the League at that position within that same season.
- Is charged and arrested for misdemeanor or felony altercations related to children, alcohol or drug abuse, violence or other high crimes will be removed from the league immediately and banned from any form of volunteering.
- The Board will review all cases that wish to be challenged with good cause by a written appeal.

Manager Requirements

Selection of managers is a critical to the integrity of Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association. In addition to those who have volunteered for manager/coach positions, Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association will actively seek out those who will reinforce the goals, objectives, playing rules, sportsmanship and philosophy of Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association. The process of selecting managers is and should be competitive. Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association is committed to instituting a formal procedure that contains both objective criteria and subjective evaluations.

Evaluation Process

- The League Vice President is responsible for compiling a list of candidates by playing level.
- The submitted forms shall be evaluated by the Board of Directors.
- As determined by the Board of Directors, candidates may be asked to attend an interview. During the interview, the Board of Directors and others as appropriate as determined by the Board of Directors, will ask questions of the candidate(s) as to their coaching and managerial philosophy, coaching background, etc. to better understand the candidates’ qualifications for a managerial position. The League Vice President shall notify the respective candidate(s) of the interview requirement, including the coordination of a suitable location and time for the interview to take place.

Ranking and Evaluating the Candidates

All candidates will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Good Sportsmanship and the ability to teach players the same
- Desire and ability to develop skills in all players
- Knowledge of baseball rules and strategy
- Ability to organize practice sessions to maximize instruction
- Availability for all/nearly all games and practices

- Whether the candidate is also a manager, or candidate for manager of another managerial job at a different level. If other qualified candidates exist to manage at the level being considered, the candidate may be asked to remove his/her name from consideration at those other levels in order to remain a candidate for the level being considered
- Interpersonal skills that foster a positive relationship with team parents, umpires, and opposing players and managers
- Prior experience managing and coaching baseball on all levels
- The desire to improve one's coaching skills by attending Baseball clinics, camps, and seminars.

Additionally, any incidents involving the candidate for whom the candidate received an official reprimand or other punishment will be considered. *No manager will be "grand fathered" and all managers are subject to reevaluation before every season.*

Selection of Candidates

Based on the criteria above, the Board of Directors will review the list of recommended appointees for approval. All discussions on candidates shall be kept confidential. Failure to do so will result in sanctions as determined by the Board of Directors.

Notification of Candidates

The League Vice Presidents will notify the selected respective candidates. It is important that candidates that were selected are notified first to confirm that they still want the job.

Non-Selection of Candidates

The League Vice Presidents will notify those candidates which were not selected.

APPENDIX B: Codes of Conduct Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association

COACHES CODE of CONDUCT

PURPOSE

This Coaches Code of Conduct has been developed to clarify and define standards of professional, ethical, and moral behavior from coaches affiliated with Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association.

ARTICLE I - RESPONSIBILITIES TO PLAYERS

1. Coaches shall not place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players.
2. Coaches shall instruct players to play within the rules and regulations of the league in which the team is participating and within the spirit of the game at all times.
3. Coaches shall not teach nor allow unsportsmanlike behavior to/by players.
4. Coaches shall not encourage, condone, nor tolerate inappropriate behavior from players regardless of the situation.
5. Coaches shall not encourage, condone, nor permit any player to engage in conduct with the intent of causing injury to a teammate.
6. Coaches shall not encourage, condone, nor permit any player to violate any bylaw, rule, regulation, or policy of the league in which the team is participating; including those established by other sanctioning bodies affiliated Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association.
7. Coaches shall direct and assist players in seeking proper medical attention for injuries and to follow instructions received from health care professionals regarding treatment and rehabilitation.

ARTICLE II - RESPONSIBILITY TO OPPONENTS

1. Coaches shall demonstrate respect to their opponents and adhere to the spirit of Chantilly Baseball/Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association competition.
2. Coaches shall not encourage, condone, nor permit any player to engage in conduct with the intent of causing injury to an opponent.
3. Coaches shall not engage in any physical or verbal confrontation with any opposing player, coach, or supporter.

ARTICLE III - RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE GAME

1. Coaches shall be aware and adhere to the rules and regulations of the league in which the team is participating, including those established by other sanctioning bodies affiliated Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association and shall adhere to the letter and spirit of those rules and regulations.
2. Coaches shall provide instruction to players on the meaning and application of the rules and regulations of the league in which the team is participating, including those established by other sanctioning bodies affiliated Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association.
3. Coaches shall accept the responsibilities of team leadership and shall be accountable for the conduct of the players, team officials, and spectators affiliated with their teams.
4. Coaches shall not engage in any physical or verbal confrontation with any spectator, umpire, or league official.
5. Coaches shall not engage in verbal or non-verbal profanity nor any language or actions considered inappropriate. Use of profanity or any other inappropriate language or behavior will not be accepted or tolerated.

ARTICLE IV - RESPONSIBILITY TO OFFICIALS

1. Coaches shall extend respect and courtesy to league officials and umpires.
2. Coaches shall not incite players, team officials, or spectators into conduct towards officials that is contrary to the rules and regulations of Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association and their respective affiliations.
3. Coaches shall not make demeaning, derogatory, or profane comments or gestures directed towards any official, coach, player, or spectator.
4. Coaches shall use their influence and authority to deter inappropriate conduct by spectators towards officials and opponents.
5. Coaches shall employ only methods authorized by the league in which the team is participating; including those established by other sanctioning bodies affiliated Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association., as well as the policies of MFYBSA, to pursue review of decisions by league officials or umpires.

ARTICLE V - RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING RECRUITING

1. Coaches shall comply with rules, guidelines, and policies pertaining to registration, player recruitment, and team formation.
2. Coaches shall not engage in any recruiting activity intended to move Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association players to another team, club, or organization.
3. Coaches shall not recruit for, nor coach, another team outside of Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association without the expressed written consent of the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association.
4. Coaches shall not solicit nor encourage the transfer of a Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association team to another club.
5. Coaches shall not knowingly, recklessly, or negligently misrepresent, nor defame Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association Baseball and Softball programs.
6. Coaches shall refrain from any and all recruiting activity directed toward a player upon request from the player or the player's legal guardian.
7. Coaches shall immediately report any surrogate engaging in recruiting activities prohibited by this Code of Coaching Ethics (including parents, players, friends, etc.).

All coaches, including managers and assistants, participating in a Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association Baseball or Softball program **AGREE TO THESE CODES OF CONDUCT BY SUBMITTING THE ONLINE VOLUNTEER APPLICATION.**

PARENT CODE of CONDUCT

PURPOSE

Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association has adopted the following Parent Code of Conduct for the important message that it holds about the proper role of parents in supporting the youth of our community and their child in sports.

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are the foundations of sportsmanship and are demonstrated by the core principles of respect, responsibility, fairness, and good citizenship.

As a Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association Parent, I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for each child participating in Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association by adhering to the following code of conduct:

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support at all times.
- I will remember that children participate to have fun, and that the game is for youth, not adults.
- I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player or parent such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language.
- I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning.
- I will respect the officials and their authority during games.
- I will not confront coaches or managers at any time during games.
- I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games.
- I will not attend a game or practice under the influence of alcohol.
- I will not use tobacco products during practices or games.

PLAYER CODE of CONDUCT

PURPOSE

Player's responsibilities are simple; be respectful of others, be responsible, play fair, always do your best, and always exhibit good sportsmanship.

As a Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association participant I hereby pledge that I will:

- Encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials, and parents.
- Be a team player and support my teammates.
- Be on time and attend every practice and game that I can, and will notify my coaches if I cannot.
- Work hard to improve my skills.
- Do my best to listen and learn from my coaches.
- Encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity.
- Congratulate the other team after each game as a demonstration of sportsmanship.
- Refrain from using violence, unfriendly language, or insults to others.
- Be generous when I win and gracious when I lose.
- Obey the rules of the game and always work for the good of the team.
- Accept the decisions of the officials with grace and never challenge or question calls. Refrain from challenging or questioning on-field calls by officials and/or managers and coaches.
- Conduct myself with honor and dignity.
- Applaud the efforts of my teammates and opponents.

APPENDIX C: Complaint Process

This policy involves the disciplinary procedures regarding aggressive or inappropriate behavior from a Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association participant, including managers, coaches, umpires, parents, and spectators. Aggressive and inappropriate behavior includes but is not limited to use of abusive or foul language, berating a player or umpire, and/or encouraging poor sportsmanship or any other violation of a Code of Conduct.

This policy outlines procedures to register complaints, how complaints are handled, and the sanctions associated with policy violations. Complaints concerning League volunteers will be considered if the following procedures are adhered to.

Registering a Complaint

A complaint of aggressive or inappropriate behavior may be registered by any means. This includes but is not limited to verbal discussion with an official of Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association, a hand-written note to a Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association Official, or via email. Any complaint received by a Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association official shall be forwarded to the appropriate League Vice President for distribution to the appropriate league officials, including, but not limited to the League President, Chief Umpire, and/or League Designee.

Processing a Complaint

The League Vice President will follow up on the complaint and draft a memo outlining the results of that fact finding for filing with the League. The Vice President shall then contact the volunteer in question and discuss the complaint (note: if the complaint is on an Assistant Coach or parent of a player, the team's manager must be contacted as the process begins). After discussing the complaint with the volunteer in question, the League Vice President will file a memo with the League. League Officials, including, but not limited to, the League Vice President, Umpire-in-Chief (if applicable), and League President, will then address the issue, including implementing a recommended solution to resolve the complaint, and report their action, to the Board of Directors. If the complaint is considered to be serious enough for Board action, or the League Officials do not agree on the solution, the Board of Directors shall vote on an action to address the complaint.

Complaints resulting in no follow-up action will be documented and maintained on file. These complaints will be reviewed with the individual(s) noted in the complaint by the league Vice President.

Note that any individual that receives three complaints within a season will be considered for further investigation and potential sanction.

The goal of all investigations is to determine if the complainant's actions violated the sanctity of Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association code of conduct. In all cases, investigations will follow the Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association disciplinary procedures.

Upon completion of the investigation, the League President, League Vice Presidents, and Chief Umpire, if appropriate, will render a final decision on the complaint. Sanctions shall be imposed in accordance to the guidelines below. The complaint will be documented and maintained on file.

Possible Sanctions

First Offense: minimum 1 one game suspension if offense towards an adult; minimum of 2 game suspension if offense towards a minor (under the age of 18)

Second Offense: minimum discipline will be, but not be limited to, double the first offense

Third Offense: expulsion from volunteer position for the remainder of the season. If the third offense is rendered within 3 games of the end of the regular season, the volunteer may be removed from consideration for post season activities or the following season.

Depending on the severity of the offense, Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association may impose any or all of the above not matter the occurrence of the offense, including removing the offender from all Marble Falls Youth Baseball & Softball Association activities for the remainder of the season.

If events during the course of the game dictate, an umpire may ask a manager/coach to quiet his side of the stands because of continued comments. If an umpire has to ask a second time, the umpire has the right to clear the field of players and coaches until the situation is remedied. Only then will play continue. If the situation does not get resolved, the league (Chief Umpire and league President and Vice Presidents) will be contacted for next steps.

APPENDIX D:

Safety

No player shall ever be left alone after a practice or game. The manager, coach, or a designated adult is responsible for remaining with the child until the parent or guardian arrives.

Play is stopped immediately in the event of thunder and/or lightning. A game or practice may resume if no thunder and/or lightning occurs for thirty minutes after the last instance of thunder and/or lightning. Use extreme caution when dealing with inclement weather!

For practices, players may only swing bats with adult supervision in designated batting areas.

For games, on deck batters may go to the on deck circle behind the player at bat. This includes the on deck circle in front of the opponent's dugout.

Everyone must keep off the backstops, batting cages, fences, and equipment boxes.

Each team will have one batter and one player on deck. Other players must stay on the bench.

The bench is for players only. No siblings are allowed.

It is suggested that the coach seat their players in hitting order for Shetland and Pinto divisions.

The batter, on-deck hitter and all base runners are required to wear a helmet.

The catcher is required to wear protective gear and a helmet.

All protective gear must be checked before game time to make sure it is in good condition.

During all games and practices, players must wear protective batting helmets while at bat and when running the bases.

Personal protective equipment (protective cup) must be worn by all catchers and is highly recommended for all players.

APPENDIX E: Game Management Fundamentals

In order to ensure the speed of play, Managers must ensure the following:

1. Be on time, Manager/Umpire conference will start 5 minutes prior to game time.
 - a. Have lineups ready, copies given to opposing team and another to give to plate umpire at conference (if requested); with ineligible pitchers identified
 - b. Home and Visiting teams should point out their scorekeeper to the umpires
2. Post your line up and defensive assignments in the dugout; your players need to know their place in the lineup and fielding assignments **before** each inning.
3. Per Rule, only a minute is suggested between the 3rd out and 1st pitch of the next half inning, so hustle on and off the field.
4. Warm up pitches between innings are optional; how a team uses its minute on the field is up to them; umpires are encouraged to keep the game moving along.
5. Designated sitting players **in the lineup** to warm up the pitcher (if the assigned catcher is not ready – needs a mask with throat protector and a catcher’s mitt) and the outfield.
6. When on offense, the dugout coach should be organizing the next batter; who is getting the bat and who is going to warm up the pitcher.
7. Coaches, players and managers request time; Umpires grant it. Do NOT assume that because you asked for time, you immediately are granted it. Wait for the umpire to call ‘TIME’. If an umpire does not grant you time, it’s either because your request wasn’t heard or because play is still ongoing. It’s only when play has ceased that an umpire should grant time.
8. The game and field are for the players; do not get bats or balls. Let them get the exercise.
9. If you wish to discuss something with an umpire, usually limited to rule interpretations, after you get time, approach the calling umpire and have a civilized conversation, i.e. do not shout across the field or from the dugout.
10. When going on offense, have coaches stay on their side of the field until the ball is ‘thrown down.’
11. Returning baseballs that have gone out of play: if on your side and you are batting, send them up with the next batter to hand to the umpire; otherwise wait for a break in the action to throw them to the catcher who will hand them to the umpire.
12. Catchers should be trained to leave shin guards on while the team is batting, until ready to bat.
13. A player should be assigned to clear all equipment from the field left from the offensive inning.
14. Base coaches should be assigned prior to the start of the offensive inning to avoid safety/delay problems at the start of the half-inning.
15. All managers are expected to prepare a defensive lineup for the entire game prior to the game in order to help speed up play and have it posted in the dugout. A manager still has the prerogative to deviate from this lineup as necessary, but within playing guidelines as noted within each playing level.
16. If a homerun is hit, the team hitting the homerun is responsible for providing a replacement baseball.

APPENDIX F: Local Rules

LOCAL RULES

A. FIELDS & CONCESSIONS

- For home games with two teams from Marble Falls, both teams' parents and players complete the following steps. If playing an out of town team, the hosting Marble Falls home team parents and players complete these steps:
- Prepare the field: Home Team**
Drag or rake till smooth
Line boxes, base lines & pitchers circle
Place bases
Lights: upstairs/bathroom/field
Turn on scoreboard & PA
Provide scorekeeper & PA
- Prepare the concession stand:**
Unlock stand and restrooms
Restock bathroom toilet paper
- AFTER THE GAME: Visitor Team**
Clean up the field: After last game of day
Remove bases
Drag/rake field
Water down infield dirt
Clean dugouts/fan areas
Empty trashcans
Put away all equipment/LOCK
- Clean up the concessions:**
Follow steps on refrigerator

Field Specifications: Softball

PINTO	55' bases	11" ball	40' pitching rubber	8' radius pitching circle
MUSTANG	60' bases	11" ball	35' pitching rubber	8' radius pitching circle
BRONCO	60' bases	12" ball	40' pitching rubber	8' radius pitching circle
PONY	60' bases	12" ball	43' pitching rubber	8' radius pitching circle

Field Specifications: Baseball

SHETLAND	50' bases	9" t-ball	38' pitching rubber
PINTO	60' bases	9" ball	38' pitching rubber
MUSTANG	60' bases	9" ball	46' pitching rubber
BRONCO	70' bases	9" ball	50' pitching rubber
PONY	80' bases	9" ball	54' pitching rubber

B. GAME TIME

- Scheduled game time is the game start time whether the game actually begins then or not. The chief umpire will keep the official time. Each age division will not begin a new inning beyond their time limit. (A new inning begins when the home team has made its third out.) The **Umpire** shall never allow pre-game warm up to delay the start of a game beyond the scheduled game time.
- MFYBSA REGULATION GAME TIMES are as follows:**
Shetland - (Tee/Wee Ball) - 6 innings or no new inning after 60 minutes
Pinto – (Softball & Baseball) - 6 innings or no new inning after 60 minutes
Mustang (Softball) - 6 innings or no new inning after 1 hour, 15 minutes
Mustang (Baseball) - 6 innings or no new inning after 1 hour, 15 minutes
Bronco (Softball) - 7 innings or no new inning after 1 hour, 30 minutes
Bronco (Baseball) - 7 innings or no new innings after 1 hour, 30 minutes
Pony (Softball) - 7 innings or no new inning after 1 hour, 45 minutes
Pony (Baseball) - 7 innings or no new inning after 1 hour, 45 minutes
- TIE GAMES WILL BE ALLOWED.** Any completed regulation game, by time limit or innings, that ends in a tie game will be considered a tie game for official win/loss records. In **no case** will there be extra innings played to break a tie.
- HOME TEAM** will occupy the third base dugout.

C. RUN RULES

SOFTBALL

- **Pinto: 5 runs per inning, No open inning**
- **Mustang: 5 runs per inning, No open inning**
- **Bronco: 5 runs per inning, No open inning**
- **Pony: 5 runs per inning, No open inning**
- For Bronco and Pony, Ten (10) run rule is in effect after five (5) innings or 4-1/2 innings if the home team is ahead.
- For Pinto and Mustang, Ten (10) run rule is in effect after four (4) innings or 3-1/2 innings if the home team is ahead.
- **For ALL AGES:** Fifteen (15) run Mercy Rule is in effect after three (3) complete innings, or anytime the home team is ahead by Fifteen (15) runs before the Ten (10) run rule is in effect.

BASEBALL

- **Shetland: 5 runs per inning, No open inning**
- **Pinto: 5 runs per inning, No open inning**
- **Mustang: 5 runs per inning for the first 3 innings, 4th inning and above open**
- **Bronco: No limits**
- **Pony: No limits**
- For Bronco and Pony, Ten (10) run rule is in effect after five (5) innings or 4-1/2 innings if home team is ahead.
- For Pinto and Mustang, Ten (10) run rule is in effect after four (4) innings or 3-1/2 innings if home team is ahead.
- **For ALL AGES:** Fifteen (15) run Mercy Rule is in effect after three (3) complete innings, or anytime the home team is ahead by Fifteen (15) runs before the Ten (10) run rule is in effect.

D. FORFEIT TIME

- A team must field eight (8) players to begin a game or they forfeit the game. No exceptions. If a team is not present and ready to begin the game within 10 minutes after scheduled start time, they shall forfeit the game.
- A team is allowed to play a complete game with (8) players. There will be no penalty out for the 9th batter.

E. WARM UP TIME

- Teams will have one (1) minute between half innings to take the field and complete warm-up.
- Pitchers are allowed only 5 warm up pitches.

F. PLAY FOR ALL AGES (Softball)

1. Bunting is allowed in all age groups except Pinto.
2. Players may be stationed defensively anywhere in fair territory except pitcher and catcher.
3. If a batter swings on the third strike and the ball hits her, she is out. The ball is dead.
4. If the ball leaves the playing field as a result of an overthrow during a play, the runner is awarded the base she would have made as a result of the overthrow plus one base.
5. A fair-batted ball that bounces over or through the outfield fence will be a ground rule double.
6. Runners must avoid contact with a defensive player at any base who has possession of the ball and is attempting to make a play. Failure to avoid contact will result in the runner being called out. If a base runner intentionally tries to run forcefully through the fielder, the base runner is out even if the defensive player is not in possession of the ball. If a fielder intentionally interferes with a base runner causing an out, the play is dead the runner's advance to the base they were going to. If, in the umpire's opinion, the contact in any of the above situations is intentional, the player will be ejected from the game. The ejected player will also be reported to the Softball Board for further disciplinary action.
7. All players must remain in the dugout at all times during the game. If a player must leave the dugout (bathroom), they must first get the Managers/Coach's approval.
8. Mouth guards are highly recommended for all positions offensively and defensively.

G. SOFTBALL PLAY FOR ALL AGES EXCEPT PINTO (Softball)

1. The ball is live on a third strike and after a walk. If a pitch hits a batter, the ball is dead.
2. The dropped 3rd strike rule is in effect unless 1st base is occupied. It is in effect when there are two outs even if 1st is occupied. (A bounced pitch is considered a dropped ball)
3. If a batter is hit by a pitch, or the ball hits the ground and then hits the batter, the batter is awarded first base and the ball is dead.
4. Infield Fly rule may be called by the umpire with runners on 1st and 2nd or 1st, 2nd and 3rd with less than 2 outs, when a fly ball is hit into the infield and can be caught with ordinary effort by an infielder. If called, the batter is out and runners may advance at their own risk to be put out.
5. Attempts to steal a base may be made by any runner after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. If a runner leaves too early, she is out. Stealing home is allowed. Runners must make an immediate decision to advance or return once the pitcher has the ball inside the circle. Hesitation is an out. (See rule 9 sec 8t)
6. There are no limits on innings a pitcher may pitch.

H. PLAY FOR PINTO (Baseball & Softball)

1. The player pitcher will be stationed beside or behind the coach pitcher. No fielders may be positioned in front of the coach pitcher.
2. When a ball is hit, the coach must make every attempt to move away from the play.
3. If a batted ball hits the coach, it is a dead ball and the batter hits again. If it is the 6th pitch (baseball), 4th pitch (softball), the batter will get 1 more pitch.
4. The coach that is pitching cannot talk to the batter or runners and can only communicate with the other coaches when a dead ball or time out is called. Base runners shall not leave the base until the ball is hit.
5. Home team provides the home plate umpire and the defensive team coach will umpire the bases.
6. Players must make every attempt to throw the ball to get an out. If a ball is hit and it is a normal play to tag the runner out, that is OK. Example: Ball hit to pitcher standing in the circle, it is a normal play to throw the ball to first base not run the batter down and make the play. When the ball is in the possession of the infielder and in the umpire's judgment all play on runners has ceased, the umpire shall call time.
7. All players must remain in the dugout at all times during the game. If a player must leave the dugout (bathroom), they must first get the Managers/Coach's approval.
8. Safety Helmets with face guards will be provided by the league and **are recommended to be used** by infielders at all times.

Baseball only

9. Coach from offensive team pitches 5 pitches to batter with unlimited fouls on the 5th pitch. Coaches pitch from 38'. The coach-pitcher must remain in contact with the pitching rubber while pitching. Baseball must pitch over hand; no kneeling or pitching from the knee is permitted. **NO BUNTING.**
10. No base on balls, walks, or hit batsmen. **The strike count is kept on swings only, and 3rd strike is an out.** If a batter has not hit the ball after 5 pitches, the batter is out.

Softball only

11. Coach from the offensive team pitches 5 pitches to the batter with unlimited foul balls on the 5th pitch. Coaches pitch from 40' rubber for softball. The coach-pitcher must remain in contact with the pitching rubber while pitching. Softball must pitch under hand; no kneeling or pitching from the knee is permitted. **NO BUNTING.**
12. No base on balls, walks, or hit batsmen. The strike count is kept on swings only, and 3rd strike is an out. If a batter fouls the 5th pitch she is entitled another pitch until she either hits the ball fair or swings and misses.
13. The League will provide an Umpire when playing out of town teams.

I. PLAY FOR SHETLAND

1. There will be no paid umpires in the T-Ball division. A parent or coach from each team may be used to call "outs" at the bases. These volunteers will also be responsible for determining when the play is dead and if a player should proceed to the next base or return to the previous base.
2. Defensive Coaches – Two adults may be stationed in the outfield during their team's turn in the field to instruct and position their players. The defensive coaches may not touch the ball or the players during the course of play in the field. **(While the ball is in play.)**
3. Offensive Coaches - Two coaches for the offensive team may be stationed in the coach's boxes, one at first and one at third base. Offensive coaches may not touch the base runners to assist them during the course of play. **(While the ball is in**

play.) A third coach shall be the home plate coach. This coach will position the tee and place the ball on the tee. The home plate coach will also be responsible for removing the tee from home plate as soon as the batter has hit the ball and started to first base.

4. All players will be in the field while playing defense. Pitcher and catcher must be in their proper position at the time the ball is hit.
5. Four outfielders may be used on defense; players cannot be stacked and must be behind the white lines in the outfield.
6. All players must remain in their dugout while their team is at bat. There is no on-deck position in T-Ball.
7. A regulation game is four innings or one hour, whichever comes first. An inning begins immediately after the third out or fifth run is scored.
8. An inning is completed when a team has scored **five runs** or has made **three outs**.
9. Plays made at first base must be made by throwing the ball. Chasing a runner with the ball in hand is not allowed.
10. As long as the ball remains inside the playing field, the base runner may continue to run until the ball is returned to within the six-foot circle and is in possession of a player, or the lead runner is stopped.
11. If the ball is thrown out of the playing field, each runner is allowed one base.
12. There are no walks or strikeouts. No stealing. Players stay on base until the ball has been hit.
13. Safety Helmets **must** be worn at all times while the child is at bat or running the bases.
14. Safety Helmets with face guards will be provided by the league and **SHOULD BE WORN** by infielders at all times.
15. Game balls will be official PONY/USSSA hardballs that are also used in Pinto.

J. PLAY FOR Pony AND Colt (Baseball)

See Marble Falls Pony Baseball or Colt Baseball Rules

K. PLAYERS (Softball, Baseball Pinto and Mustang)

- All players in the dugout must play a minimum of 3 defensive outs and one at bat during each game. We will bat the entire lineup in every age group and have unlimited substitution. This means that all players can play defense in any manner they wish except the pitcher. The starting pitcher can return to pitch **ONCE** after being pulled from the pitching position, if she remains in the game in another defensive position (Softball). A substitute pitcher cannot return to pitch after leaving the pitching position (Softball).
- The batting order must be turned in prior to the game, with late arrivals being added to the bottom of the roster. Any player batting out of order will be declared out. All batters and base runners must wear helmets.
- All players must be in uniform. Any headgear worn must be alike – same color and style. May not mix visors and hats (Softball). No jewelry, barrettes, hair bands with balls, hats worn correctly, etc...
- All players must have a birth certificate on file with the league by the 1st game of the season.

L. PLAYERS (Baseball Mustang)

- Mustang pitchers during League play will be able to pitch a maximum of 2 innings per game and no more than 75 pitches per day – whichever comes first.
- Open bases and dropped third strike are in effect.
- Runners may lead off, however may not advance until the pitched ball has reached home plate. Once the pitcher has stepped on the rubber with possession of the ball, runners who advance prior to the pitched ball reaching home plate will be called out and the pitch will be considered a dead ball.

M. PLAYERS (Baseball Bronco)

- It will be Managers choice at game time and declared with Umpire prior to the beginning of the game how they wish to play that game. Choice are:
- Bat only 9 players and play as per MFYBSA rules concerning substitution. Each player on the roster for that game will bat at least once or play 3 defensive outs.
- Bat entire roster, which will entitle Manager to free substitution defensively. As each player is batting the Manager does not have to play every player defensively.

N. OTHER PLAYER PROTECTION

Protective cups are required for all catchers in Mustang and up and are recommended for all infielders. Mouth guards are also highly recommended for all positions offensively and defensively.

BASEBALL PITCHING:

Pitchers reaching their maximum number of pitches in a day, while pitching to a batter, may finish pitching to that batter before being removed. A pitcher is charged with the number of pitches in the specific calendar day and week in which they are pitched, regardless of whether they are local organization league games, the playoff of postponed games or suspended games, tie games, or exhibition games.

Rest is calculated as per calendar day. No pitcher shall appear in a game as a pitcher for three consecutive days, regardless of pitch count.

Official scorekeeper for each game shall track pitch counts. In the absence of an official scorekeeper, the home team book shall be the official record of games statistics including pitch count. Electronic scoring devices are recommended in order to ensure accurate pitch count.

<u>AGE</u>	<u>DAILY MAX PITCHES</u>	<u>REQUIRED REST (PITCHES)</u>					
		<u>0 DAYS</u>	<u>1 DAY</u>	<u>2 DAYS</u>	<u>3 DAYS</u>	<u>4 DAYS</u>	<u>5 DAYS</u>
7-8	50	1-20	21-35	36-50	N/A	N/A	N/A
9-10	75	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
11-12	85	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
13-14	95	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
15-16	95	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+	N/A
17-18	105	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81+	N/A
19-22	120	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81-105	106+

O. COACHES

- A maximum of 3 adult coaches (4 for Pinto) are permitted in the dugout during games. Both base coaches on the field must be adults. Coaches must have the umpire's permission to be on the field at any time during play. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action, except in case of injury to a player and then time must still be called.
- Coaches may not touch a base runner except when time is called. This will result in the runner being called out.
- Judgment calls may not be questioned, however, a coach may ask for a rule interpretation if done in an orderly, calm, and timely manner. No Coach will charge-out of the dugout when questioning an umpire's decision. A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY has been adopted. Disciplinary action in the above case may be a warning, or ejection from the game and park, and/or an appearance before the league officials and/or league board as deemed necessary in the umpire's judgment.

P. BEHAVIOR

MFYBSA strives to implant in the youth of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and reverence so that they may be finer, stronger and happier young people who will grow to be good, clean, healthy adults. Therefore:

The League has a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY concerning the following:

1. Harassing of umpires, opposing players, or opposing coaches by coaches, parents or players will not be permitted for any reason. Any inappropriate action or behavior including profanity by Coaches on or off the field, during games or practices will not be tolerated for any reason. COACHES will be responsible for the acts of their parents. This also includes the harassment of their own child or his/her teammates. Players may chant or shout encouragement to their teammates, but they will not be allowed to direct negative comments to opposing players, coaches, or their own teammates. Dismissal from the game and the ballpark will be the penalty for violations of this rule. In extreme cases, the penalty may include the game being called forfeit.
2. Players are expected to be respectful to all parents, coaches, volunteers and league officials. Any player that is unsportsmanlike, in uncontrolled mischief or misbehaving, unwilling to participate, unwilling to follow rules or instructions and/or being disrespectful shall be sent home and reported to league officials. A second occurrence will result in a one week (7 day) suspension from all league activity. A third offense will result in automatic suspension of the season and the parents will be refunded registration fees. In extreme cases players may be banned from the league entirely.
3. Drugs or Alcoholic use by any coach, manager, umpire, league official, parent, fan, player, etc... will not be permitted at any MFYBSA venue. Anyone considered being under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be required to leave the game and the ballpark or the police may be called.
4. Smoking will not be allowed within the boundaries of any MFYBSA venue. **THIS INCLUDES E-CIG'S.** Dugout's or dugout area, bleachers, concessions, bathrooms, sheds or around any other structures are no exceptions.
5. Misuse of equipment for any reason will not be tolerated; this includes throwing bats, helmets, catcher's gear, etc., in anger. At the Umpire's discretion the first offense will result in a Warning, with the second offense resulting in ejection from the game with possible disciplinary action by the League Board.
6. **Managers/Coaches must know and follow the MFYBSA Local Rules. No modifications of these rules by managers and/or coaches for MFYBSA Regular Season League Play is allowed.**
7. Disciplinary Action for Managers and Coaches
 - A. First Warning: Verbal from Umpires or League Officials/Board
 - B. Second Warning: 7 day suspension and possible removal from All Star participation
 - C. Third Warning: One year exclusion from any Baseball/Softball participation
8. Appeals may be brought in all cases to a neutral committee, however all disciplinary actions will be in effect unless a reversal is presented by the committee and accepted by the league.

Q. WEATHER

- If inclement weather is imminent, and close lightning is seen or heard, an umpire will call the game because of rain/weather. If in both coaches opinion the weather becomes too bad or unsafe, they can by mutual agreement inform the umpire that the game is called because of weather. A game called because of weather will be continued from the stopping point and finished the next available day if four (4) innings have not been completed. If four innings have been finished, the game is considered a completed game and the score at the end of the last complete inning will be listed as the final score.
- The League will post information for bad weather days on our website at: www.leaguelineup.com/mfybsa

R. PARTICIPATION/REGISTRATION FEES

- A registration/participation fee of \$100.00 per player shall be assessed; however, there is a maximum of \$240.00 per family. At no time should payment of fee be a prerequisite for participation in the MFYBSA league as there are scholarship opportunities available.
- Fall Ball participation fee of \$50.00 per player, shall be assessed, however there is a maximum of \$120.00 per family. At no time should payment of fee be a prerequisite for participation in the MFYBSA league as there are scholarship opportunities available.
- There is a \$50.00 per child Concession Opt-Out fee that is available for those that do not wish to work concessions. Scholarship recipient's parents cannot opt out of concession stand duties.
- A late fee of \$25.00 may be applied for registrations after posted registration dates.

S. LEAGUE DIVISIONS

- According to their league age players will be divided into leagues or divisions as follows.

BASEBALL (Boys)—Age as of April 30th, of the current year:

Shetland (t-ball)	ages 6 and under (Boys & Girls)
Pinto	ages 8 and under
Mustang	ages 10 and under
Bronco	ages 12 and under
Pony	ages 14 and under
Colt	ages 16 and under

SOFTBALL (Girls)—Age as of January 1, of the current year:

Pinto	ages 8 and under
Mustang	ages 10 and under
Bronco	ages 12 and under
Pony	ages 14 and under

MFYBSA Rules allow for girls & boys to play up in the next age group.

Any girl or boy who wishes to play up must meet the following criteria, first there must be an available spot in the next age group, girls playing up will not take a spot for a girl who is the right age, second they must attend the tryouts for the age they are wishing to play and the Managers in that age group must agree that she or he is skilled enough to play in that age group.

T. TRYOUTS & DRAFTING

- See MFYBSA Draft Guidelines

U. PLAYERS PER TEAM

- Maximum rosters will be capped at 12 players except Pony divisions and above will be 14. Some exceptions may be allowed with league approval.
- All teams in the same age division will carry the same number of players, when possible.

V. ALL-STAR PLAYER SELECTION

- All-Star players are selected as described in Section 8 on page 12.

W. ALL-STAR MANAGER SELECTION

- All-Star managers are selected as described in Section 8 on page 12.

X. EQUIPMENT

- When equipment is dispensed to each team manager, a list of that equipment will be kept. Each manager is responsible for the care and upkeep of the equipment for the season. The manager will sign an Equipment Check-out sheet.
- All equipment will be turned in to a League Official immediately after the last regular season game. A check-in will be performed to account for all the equipment.
- Metal cleats will not be allowed during the regular Spring or Fall season games for games played in Marble Falls or games played at out of town venues.

Y. OFFICIAL SCORE BOOKS

- Each league (age division) must have an official score book at each field where they play. Each book must stay at that field and be used to officially record the games for that league (age division) only. At each game, one adult representative from the Home Team shall act as the official scorekeeper, and shall record the events of the game according to the directions in the scorebook, especially concerning the pitchers of record. Scorekeepers must sign their name on the pages the complete, and have the umpires sign the same. The visiting team should provide help with the scoreboard and P.A. announcements.
- Each coach after the game should check the scorebook for accuracy and make sure scores for each team are clearly marked and a winning team listed. Each coach should then sign the book verifying the accuracy.

Z. MFYBSA, CENTEX & PONY RULES

- The league will follow all rules as listed above. Where conflicts arise, Official CENTEX (for Baseball) and PONY Rules as listed in the Official PONY Rule Book (for Softball) will supersede.

The rules were approved by the Marble Falls Youth Baseball/Softball Association Board on Feb. 19, 2003

Amendments were approved by the MFYBSA Board on October 15, 2003

Amendments were approved by the MFYBSA Board on January 9, 2006

Amendments were approved by the MFYBSA Board on January 23, 2007

Amendments were approved by the MFYBSA Board on December 19, 2007

Amendments were approved by the MFYBSA Board on January 07, 2009

No changes to the rules for 2010.

Amendments were approved by the MFYBSA Board on March 17, 2011

Amendments were approved by the MFYBSA Board on January 30, 2012

Amendments were approved by the MFYBSA Board on February 11, 2013

Amendments were approved by the MFYBSA Board on July 25, 2013

Amendments were approved by the MFYBSA Board on March 9, 2016

Amendments were approved by the MFYBSA Board on February 17, 2018

Marble Falls Youth Baseball/Softball Association, Inc.

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APPENDIX G: DRAFT GUIDELINES PERTAINING TO BASEBALL/SOFTBALL PLAYERS, MANAGERS & TRYOUTS

PLAYERS

All players should play in the age level that is appropriate for their birth date. The league will use the birth date cutoff of 4/30 for both boys and 12/31 for girls. Any player wishing to play up an age level must attend the try-outs for that age level and have board approval prior to draft.

All players who will be moving up to the next age group/division will automatically go in the draft and be required to go through try-outs. No team will be allowed to stay together when moving to the next age level.

All players will be required to attend tryouts and enter into the draft including coach's kids. This applies to all age groups except T-Ball (Shetland). T-Ball will be selected without a draft. T-ball is also the only Division where the players can request to be on a specific team with specific players and/or coaches. These requests will be honored on a first come, first serve basis until the team is full.

A returning player who does not wish to play for the same team must submit a Team Re-Assignment Request in writing. In all Divisions, except T-Ball (Shetland), a Team Re-Assignment Request can only be submitted to request removal from their prior year's team and not to choose which team they want to play on. All Team Assignment Requests will be brought up at the respective Division Draft. All efforts will be made to ensure that the Player requesting re-assignment is traded to another team. If all efforts fail, the Player will have the right to either stay on the same team or withdraw their registration from the league within ten days of the draft. If any Player decides to withdraw, player will receive a full refund of their Registration Fee.

MANAGERS AND COACHES

RETURNING MANAGERS: Managers returning to the league in the same age group shall retain first rights to manage that team and may retain up to 3 players that were previously on that team. Manager's kid(s) will count toward those three returning players.

MANAGERS MOVING UP: A manager that is moving up a division in the league will have the options to: join an existing team provided assistants are needed and approved by the manager; replace a manager that has left a team or the division or; manage an expansion team. In the event a manager is moving up into a disbanded team, an entirely vacant coaching staff or managing an expansion team, that manager and up to two assistant coaches of his or her choice may utilize their kids to comprise up to 3 roster spots for that team.

ASSISTANT COACHES: Assistant coaches are selected by the Managers or league VP should circumstances require it. All assistant coaches should be selected by the managers prior to draft. Assistant coach's kids will count towards any teams 3 retained players as stated in the players section above. Assistant coaches returning to the league from a prior year to his or her team that has lost its manager may apply to the league VP about assuming that vacant managers spot. This should be done prior to tryouts and draft day. It will be at the leagues discretion which manager applicants will fill vacated spots.

TRYOUTS & DRAFT

Try outs will be held at any number of MFYBSA venues, scheduled and coordinated each year with the managers, coaches and participants. Tryouts should last at least 45-60 minutes per division. Tryouts should at a minimum consist of batting, fielding and throwing. All managers are encouraged to either attend all tryouts scheduled or have an assistant coach attend although a representative from each team is not mandatory. Managers and coaches unable to attend the tryouts will be provided only with draft selection sheets and must obtain any assessments from others prior to draft day.

Try-Outs will be held for all players. If a player fails to attend the try-outs, that players name will be placed in a "blind draw". At any time during the draft, coaches will have the right to select any remaining players or request a name be drawn from the blind draw.

All efforts will be made to equalize the number of player on each team. However, the number of player registrations may not equally divide by the number of teams. If this situation exists, a blind draw at the beginning of the draft will determine the number of players on each team. Draft Order will be determined by blind draw.

The teams returning, retained or placed players will be placed in the first, second and third round of the draft. If the team's manager does not have a child on the team or no returning players at all, these rounds will be left open for a player "pick".

EXAMPLE A: If Team A has only one retained player, and all others retain three, Team A will select rounds two and three before all teams start round four. EXAMPLE B: Team B was approved to have four placed players prior to draft due to special circumstance (defined below) and all others retained three, Team B's fourth player counts as its fourth pick and all other teams would all select round four.

Once the Matrix has been filled with all the Returning Players from each team, the remaining open rounds will be picked by the teams' coach or authorized team representative in the order previously mentioned. All teams will continue drafting through the rounds until all players have been selected.

Teams will be limited to 12 players per team (14 for Pony). In the event that all teams are at the maximum number of players, any remaining players may be put on a waiting list to be placed on a team that has an opening at a later date. The waiting list will be in chronological order of the Registration Form with returning players having precedence in case of a tie. If it is determined, before the draft, that there will be 7 or more players left over at the end of the draft, every attempt will be made to start a new team prior to the draft taking place, but only if there is a qualified Team Manager signed up to take the additional team.

TRADES

Trades will be allowed to take place once the draft is complete. Both managers and the player agent for the respective Division (or Board Representative) must be in agreement, per signed Trade Request Form, and the rosters changed and verified prior to leaving the room.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

These must all be submitted to the league for review prior to draft day. These will be presented to the division managers and discussed before they are approved by the league. If there are situations during the draft that will affect two or more players like bothers, sisters, brother and sister, car pools from other towns, anticipated substitute coaching needs or other circumstances, those types of situations will define "SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES". EXAMPLE: Players, who are Brother(s) and/or Sister(s), if in the same age level, will automatically be placed on the same team. Therefore, if one of these players is chosen during the draft, that team will automatically lose the next draft choice to take the other player(s). Another example is if the situation involves two players of coaches or any other scenario where four players would have to be placed before the draft starts, one of those four players will be placed as the first round draft choice of that team. There will be no exceptions for more than four players being placed prior to draft.

Of course, the term "player" used above, also includes consent from their Parent or Guardian.

EXAMPLE "DRAFT MATRIX":

MFYBSA "Division Name" DRAFT		
"Team Name "		
Round	Player Name	
1		MGR
2		RET/AC-1
3		RET/AC-2
4		OPEN/SC
5		OPEN
6		OPEN
7		OPEN
8		OPEN
9		OPEN
10		OPEN
11		OPEN
12		OPEN

BYLAWS OF MARBLE FALLS YOUTH BASEBALL SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC.

These Bylaws (referred to as the “Bylaws”) govern the affairs of Marble Falls Youth Baseball Softball Association, Inc., a nonprofit corporation (referred to as the “Corporation”) organized under the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act (referred to as the “Act”).

ARTICLE 1 – OFFICES

The principal office of the Corporation in the State of Texas shall be located in Marble Falls, Texas. The Corporation may have such other offices, either in Texas or elsewhere, location of any office of the Corporation.

The Corporation shall comply with the requirements of the Act and maintain a registered office and registered agent in Texas. The registered office may, but need not, be identical with the corporation’s principal office in Texas. The Board of Directors may change the registered office and the registered agent as provided in the Act.

ARTICLE 2 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by the Board of Directors.

The number of Directors shall be a minimum of Three (03), and shall be set annually by the board. Each director shall serve for a minimum term of one year. The officers of the Corporation shall be a minimum of a President, Vice President and honorable past officer/director.

Directors shall exercise ordinary business judgment in managing the affairs of the Corporation. In acting in their official capacity as directors of this Corporation, directors shall act in good faith and take actions they reasonably believe to be in the best interest of the Corporation and that are not unlawful. In all other instances, the Board of Directors shall not take any action that they should reasonably believe would be opposed to the Corporation’s best interest or would be unlawful. A director shall not be liable if, in the exercise of ordinary care, the director’s acts in good faith relying on written financial and legal statements provided by an accountant or attorney retained by the Corporation.

All members shall comply with the Bylaws and current policies of the Corporation. Members who fail to comply shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, to be determined by the Executive Committee. The directors may vote to remove a director at any time, with good cause. A meeting to consider the removal of a director may be called and noticed following the procedures provided in the bylaws. The notice of the meeting shall state that the issue of possible removal of the director will be on the agenda. The director shall have the right to present evidence at the meeting as to why he or she should not be removed, and the director shall have the right to be represented by an attorney at and before the meeting. At the meeting, the Corporation shall consider possible arrangements for resolving the problems that are in the mutual interest of the Corporation and the director. A director may be removed by the affirmative vote of 51 percent of the board.

ARTICLE 3 – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

The officers of the Corporation shall be a President, Vice Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The Board of Directors may create additional officer positions, define the authority and duties of each such position, and elect or appoint persons to fill the positions. Any two or more offices may be held by the same person, except the offices of President and Secretary. The officers shall be ex officio members of the Board of Directors.

The officers of the Corporation shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors at the regular annual meeting of the Board of Directors. If the election of officers is not held at this meeting, the election shall be held as soon thereafter as conveniently possible. Each officer shall hold office until a successor is duly selected and qualified. An officer may be elected to succeed him or herself in the same office.

Any officer elected or appointed by the Board of Directors may be removed by the Board of Directors with or without good cause. The removal of an officer shall be without prejudice to the contract rights, if any, of the officer.

A vacancy in any office may be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the officer's term.

Directors shall not receive salaries for their services.

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation. The President shall supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the Corporation. The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors. The President may execute any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments that the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed. However, the President may not execute instruments on behalf of the Corporation if this power is expressly delegated to another officer or agent of the Corporation by the Board of Directors, the bylaws, or statute. The President shall perform other duties prescribed by the Board of Directors and all duties incident to the office of President.

The Vice President shall, when the President is absent, is unable to act, or refuses to act, perform the duties of the President. When a Vice President acts in place of the President, the Vice President shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President. If there is more than one Vice President, the Vice Presidents shall act in place of the President in the order of the votes received when elected. A Vice President shall perform other duties as assigned by the President or board of directors.

The Treasurer shall:

Have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the Corporation.

Received and give receipts for moneys due and payable to the Corporation from any source.

Deposit all moneys in the name of the Corporation in banks, trust companies, or other depositories as provided in the bylaws or as directed by the Board of Directors or President.

Write checks and disburse funds to discharge obligations of the Corporation. Funds may not be drawn from the Corporation or its accounts for amounts greater than \$500, without the signature of the President or a Vice President in addition to the signature of the Treasurer.

Maintain the financial books and records of the Corporation.

Prepare financial reports at least annually.

If required by the Board of Directors, give a bond for the faithful discharge of his or her duties in a sum and with surety as determined by the Board of Directors.

Perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer.

Perform other duties as assigned by the President or by the Board of Directors. Recommend to strike

The Secretary shall give all notices as provided in the bylaws or as required by law.

Take minutes of the meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors and keep the minutes as part of the corporate records.

Maintain custody of the corporate records and of the seal of the Corporation.

Keep a register of the mailing address of each director, officer, and employee of the Corporation.

Perform duties as assigned by the President or by the Board of Directors.

Perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary.

ARTICLE 4 – ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

At any meeting at which the election of directors occurs, a director may nominate a person with the second of any other such person. In addition to the nominations made at meetings, a nominating committee shall consider possible nominees and make nominations for each election of directors. The Secretary shall include the names nominated by the nomination committee, and any report of the committee, with the notice of the meeting at which the election occurs.

A person who meets any qualification requirements to be a director and who has been duly nominated may be elected as a director. Directors shall be elected by the vote of the board of directors of Marble Falls Youth Baseball Softball Association, Inc., a nonprofit corporation. Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors. Each director shall hold office until a successor is elected and qualified. A director may be elected to succeed himself or herself as director.

Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors, and any director position to be filled due to an increase in the number of directors, shall be filled by the Board of Directors. A vacancy is filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors, even if it is less than a quorum of the Board of Directors, or if it is a sole remaining director. A director elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term of the predecessor in office.

ARTICLE 5 – MEETINGS

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors may be held without notice other than these Bylaws. The annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held immediately after, and at the same place as, the annual meeting of members.

The Board of Directors may provide for regular meetings by resolution stating the time and place of such meetings. The meetings shall be held within the Corporation's service area and shall be held at the Corporation's registered office in Texas if the resolution does not specify the location of the meetings. No notice of regular meetings of the Board is required other than a resolution of the Board of Directors stating the time and place of the meetings.

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the President or any two directors. A person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board of Directors may fix any place within the service area as the place for holding a special meeting. The person or persons calling a special meeting shall notify the Secretary of the information required to be included in the notice of the meeting. The Secretary shall give notice to the directors as required in the Bylaws.

Written or printed notice of any special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be delivered to each director not less than 2 nor more than 20 days before the date of the meeting. The notice shall state the place, day and time of the meeting, who called the meeting, and the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called.

ARTICLE 6 – VOTING

A majority of the number of directors then in office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors. The directors present at a duly called or held meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to transact business even if enough directors leave the meeting so that less than a quorum remains. However, no action may be approved without the vote of at least a majority of the number of directors required to constitute a quorum. If a quorum is present at no time during a meeting, a majority of the directors present may adjourn and reconvene the meeting one time without further notice.

The Board of Directors shall try to act by consensus. However, the vote of a majority of directors present and voting at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be sufficient to constitute the act of the Board of Directors unless the act of a greater number is required by law or the bylaws. A director who is present at a meeting and abstains from a vote is not considered to be present and voting for the purpose of determining the decision of the Board of Directors.

A director may not vote by proxy.

ARTICLE 7 – RULES OF ORDER

Unless otherwise dictated in the Bylaws, all regular, special and called meetings of the Corporation shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised, unless suspended by majority vote of the eligible voting membership.

ARTICLE 8 – AMMENDMENT OF THE BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, provided a quorum has the opportunity to vote and that a copy of the proposed amendment(s) has (have) been submitted or made available to each active member at least fourteen (14) days prior.