

**PARKLAND MINOR
BASEBALL ASSOCIATION
CONSTITUTION**

REVISED May 2024

Article 1 Name

The name of this association shall be the Parkland Minor Baseball Association (PMBA)

Article 2 Objectives

- A. To encourage and foster amongst its members sportsmanship and good citizenship.
- B. To maintain and increase an interest in minor baseball.
- C. To control and operate minor baseball in the Parkland region of Manitoba.

Article 3 Membership

- A. Membership in the PMBA shall be of two types:
 - i. Charter Member - a member who has been in the PMBA for two consecutive years, and who has met the requirements of the league in the team's first two years.
 - ii. Probation Member - a member who is accepted into the PMBA by a vote of the charter members, but who has not yet gained charter membership because they have not spent two consecutive years in the PMBA. A probation member does not have voting privileges.
- B. If a community requests a year's leave of absence from the PMBA, this will not affect the team's charter status. If a community is out of the PMBA for two consecutive years, the community will have to make application to the PMBA for probationary status.
- C. Communities and teams wishing to gain entry into the PMBA must attend the PMBA's annual meeting, and must also contact the current President prior to the annual meeting stating their intentions.
- D. Members of the PMBA must have a representative at the annual spring and fall meetings of the Association. There will be a penalty of \$50.00 levied to offending members. The penalty will come out of their performance bond.
- E. All communities attending the annual spring meeting must provide a registration amount equal to previous year's total. First time communities' payment is to be based on current enrollment. If payment is not made within 2 weeks of said meeting community teams not paid will not be allowed to compete in league games until fees are paid in full. Any scheduled games prior to payment will be considered forfeited.

Article 4 Officers and Executive

- A. The PMBA Executive will be rotated amongst three communities, with each on 2-year terms. Each year one new community will supply at least one representative to the PMBA Executive, and one community will have fulfilled its' 2-year term. The rotation will be in the order indicated in Article 5A of the PMBA Constitution. Any community not supplying a representative will be subject to a \$250 fine per year. Specific Officer positions, such as President, will be determined by this executive committee. All 2-year terms will begin and end at the Fall Meeting. President and Sec/Registrar positions are to rotate during odd years while Treasurer and Vice President positions are to rotate during even years. Communities responsible for supplying a representative must have these positions filled prior to the second week in December after the fall meeting. When more than one community passes on their responsibility to supply a representative the membership shall vote on how to award or distribute the accumulated fines and how these positions shall be filled.

B. PMBA Executive and Officers shall consist of:

- i. President
- ii. Vice-President
- iii. Secretary-Registrar
- iv. Treasurer
- v. Statistician-Commissioner
 - to be appointed for each age group at the annual meeting
- vi. Umpire-in-Chief
 - to be appointed by voting board members

C. Duties of Officers

- i. President - shall preside at all meetings of the PMBA.
- ii. Vice-President - shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence, or tasks as delegated by the President.
- iii. Secretary-Registrar - shall be responsible for keeping accurate minutes of PMBA meetings and shall ensure that these are distributed one week after each meeting to all members.
 - shall be responsible for collection and verification of all registrations (player's eligibility) and forwarding the same to Baseball Manitoba(MBA).
 - An annual honorarium of \$500.00 will be given to the Secretary-Registrar.
 - Shall update the constitution of PMBA and forward same to the chairperson in each center that is a member of PMBA
 - Shall forward the names of all "pick ups" for various teams from PMBA to MBA.
- iv. Treasurer - shall keep accurate records of PMBA funds
 - shall prepare a detailed financial report for the PMBA, which shall be presented at the Annual Meeting and the regular Fall Meeting.
- v. Signing Officers - the signing officers of the PMBA shall be the President or Vice-President and the Secretary-Registrar or Treasurer
- vi. Grievance Committee - the league executive (President and Vice-President) shall also serve as the Grievance Committee. One other person nominated at large shall also serve on this committee.
 - Any decision reached by the league or this committee is subject to an appeal. An appeal can be lodged with the President in writing.
- vii. Umpire in Chief - Shall arrange Umpire Clinics for the region
 - Make recommendations to the Board on baseball rules for PMBA.
 - Assure umpires can advance, and provide opportunities for education and improvement.

Article 5. Association Office

A. The Association shall rotate amongst Charter Members according to the following order:

1. Ste Rose
2. Dauphin
3. Grandview
4. McCreary
5. Swan Valley
6. Roblin

B. Members in the league who feel they have no personnel to handle their league duties may make an agreement with another Charter Member. A \$250 fee per year will be payable to the community agreeing to handle their league duties.

Article 6. Meetings

- A. The Annual Meeting of the PMBA shall be held at the call of the President no later than the third week of April. The Fall Meeting of the PMBA shall be held at the call of the President no later than the second week of September.
- B. Special Meetings shall be at the call of the President.

Article 7. Voting

- A. All centers of the PMBA shall be entitled to one vote at all meetings.
- B. The President shall have the deciding vote in case of a tie.
- C. Voting shall be by show of hands or secret ballot, depending on the wish of the membership.
- D. Members of PMBA executive who represent the same at the Baseball Manitoba level will have voting rights on PMBA.

Article 8. Amendments

Amendments or changes to the Constitution may be made at either the Annual or Fall Meeting and such amendments shall require a majority vote. Amendment proposals are to be in the President's possession one week prior to the meeting.

Article 9. Awards

Recommendations of worthy candidates from the Parkland will be sent forward for Provincial Award consideration.

Article 10. Umpires

- A. Each member of the PMBA shall use a Baseball Manitoba certified umpires for all league games. Use of plate umpire and base umpire is recommended. League playoff games will have two Baseball Manitoba certified umpires officiating.
- B. Payment of officials is the responsibility of the individual team or community for all league games, including playoffs.
- C. League umpires are responsible for knowing the rules and regulations utilized by the league. Disputes will be handled by the Grievance Committee.
- D. Protests cannot be made on judgment calls made by the umpire. Protests will not be recognized unless the umpires are notified at the time the play under protest occurs and before the next pitch is made or the runner is retired. The umpire will advise the scorekeeper and both teams that the game is being played under protest.
- E. That each certified umpire working league and playoff games for the PMBA will receive an updated copy of the PMBA Constitution & Bylaws.
- F. Home club associations will be fined for using uncertified umpires. The fine will be double the senior level 3 alone umpire fee for using uncertified umpires for league or playoff games.

Article 11 Special Association Rules

A. Performance Bonds

- i. Each centre must post a \$200.00 bond to be sent to league office prior to entry into the league.
 - a) This is a performance bond and will be lost by a member for not meeting PMBA requirements. If a PMBA member loses all or part of the bond, it must be replaced before any team from that community participates in its next game.
 - b) If the infraction involves another team, the non-offending team will receive the amount of the penalty set by the league executive.
- ii. Letters of grievance must be forwarded to the President within 5 days of the infraction.

B. Postponed Games

- i. For rain-outs or other weather-related cancellations, the home team will give the visiting team reasonable notice in order for them to contact all of their players.
- ii. For non-weather related cancellations, the team postponing the game must do so at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled start time.
- iii. Any team that does not give adequate notice of a cancellation and does not show at a scheduled game is to be levied a \$50 fine plus umpire expenses. Any team that forfeits a regional playoff game is to be levied a \$250 fine plus umpire expenses. The executive will rule based on circumstance prior to any fines being levied.
- i. Games must be rescheduled within 48 hours of the postponement.
- ii. If a problem arises as to rescheduling, the President is to be contacted immediately to come up with a solution. Teams canceling a game will be given two possible dates to play the rescheduled game, and these two dates must not conflict with current league schedule. For any games that end up not being played, the canceling team will forfeit the game while the non-canceling team will not be penalized. Any team not willing to fulfill obligations as far as playing a league game is to be levied a \$50 fine.
- iii. Rescheduled games must be played prior to the end of the regular season league schedule. All teams must play at least 75% of regular season games in order to be eligible to participate in league playoffs.

C. Player Eligibility

- i. Each team must register with Baseball Manitoba. Any players and teams wanting to take part in PMBA League Playoffs must play within the PMBA League.
- ii. Team rosters must be input in RAMP by the deadline set by Baseball Manitoba according to their rules and bylaws. A fine of \$50, plus any fines charged by Baseball Manitoba shall be levied for each late roster. The fine shall be deducted from the performance bond.
- iii. A \$150 fee shall be paid to the PMBA for each team 11U and up.
- iv. Centres having more than one team in an age category may transfer up to 2 players to make a roster of 10 to enable that team to meet its league obligations. Pick-ups must

- v. Each member community of the PMBA must have their own registrar that administers all player registrations for the centre. This simplifies getting all registrations together for our league registrar.
- vi. Communities shall be responsible for any Baseball Manitoba fines incurred by the league on their behalf. Failure to reimburse the league shall result in suspension of the community from the league for the following baseball season.

D. Special Rules (everything else must follow Baseball Manitoba Handbook)

- i. Game starting times will be agreed upon by the coaches in each division at their scheduling meeting.
- ii. Length of Games - shall follow Baseball Manitoba Handbook (Appendix 1)
- For regular season league play, it is recommended that there be no mercy rule. This will allow for the players to get more playing time regardless of the score.
- iii. Line up cards will be used for games at 11U and older. Official Game Summary Sheets will be completed by the home team, signed by both managers and the Head Official and a copy will be sent to the League Commissioner (Regional Host) within 48 hours. Infractions will be reviewed at the fall meeting. Fines set if necessary.
- iv. In the event of a protest during a game, a protest fee of \$10.00 will be paid by the team protesting. If the protesting team has won the game, the protest filed will be dropped and the money refunded. If the protesting team has lost the game but the protest committee decides in their favor, the money will be refunded. If the protest is not in the favor of the disgruntled team, then the money stays with the League and the protest is dropped. In all protested games, the decision of the Grievance Committee is final.

E. Tie Games

Ties during league play for 11U, 13U, 15U and 18U divisions are to be dealt with according to Baseball Manitoba Handbook rule 4.06.08. One extra inning is played with each half inning starting with a runner on first and second. The third out of the last played inning goes to first base and the second out goes to second base. The next batter in the order after the runner on first base will lead off for their respective team. Only one extra inning will be played in league play. Play will continue until a winner is declared in league playoffs.

F. Playoffs

- i. League Playoff dates shall be decided at the Annual Meeting.
- ii. All League Playoff hosts, including the 9U(GrandSlam) Jamboree host, will not be reimbursed by PMBA for any expenses
- iii. Communities hosting League Playoffs must have the draw ready and must inform participating teams a minimum of one week prior to the competition. Teams must not be scheduled to play more than two games in one day.
- iv. Teams that have decided not to participate in the League Playoffs must let the host of their age division know at least two weeks prior to their league playoff date as set during the PMBA spring scheduling meeting. Failure to notify will result in a \$100 fine taken out of the performance bond.
- v. All playoff formats to follow Appendix 1 - PMBA League Playoff Format.
- i. All playoff games are to use Baseball Manitoba and Baseball Canada regulations.

Line-up cards are to be used for all League Playoff games.

- i. All participating playoff teams will submit \$150 to help pay for expenses incurred by the host community.
- i. AP's (Alternate Players) from younger divisions will be allowed from the same community, up to a roster maximum of 11 players, for the League Playoffs. AP's would be eligible to play any position, but must adhere to pitch count rules for their own age category. AP's can play in their own League Playoff and one other. All AP's are to be reported to the PMBA Registrar.
- ii. Pick-ups from other teams in the same age division will not be allowed for the League Playoffs.
- iii. Centres hosting A or AA provincials will be reimbursed up to \$300 if incurring a deficit. (Moved from Article 12 AAA)
- i. All PMBA Regional Playoffs will follow the Provincial Host Guidelines in the Baseball Manitoba Handbook.

Article 12 Parkland “AAA” Category Teams

- A. Coaches interested in organizing “AAA” teams should indicate this at the Fall Meeting.
- B. Parkland “AAA” teams entered in provincial competition are eligible for a \$300.00 per team grant from this Association, provided they supply a post-event financial report as to how the money was used. Money will be dispersed only after the post-event report is received and evaluated by the executive. Requests must be submitted by the fall meeting.
- C. Any PMBA Community hosting a Provincial AAA Qualifying Tournament, or AAA Provincials is eligible to apply to PMBA for a maximum \$300.00 reimbursement.
- D. Guidelines for “AAA” Regional Teams
 1. Skill Development and Tryout Camp to be held in May.
 2. Coordinator to provide all the Community coaches with an information sheet outlining dates, times, place, contact name and phone number, and player registration sheet for the AAA try-out camps as well as a proposed season schedule. Community Coaches to distribute to all players on their team and coordinate return of registrations to AAA coordinator.
 3. Minimum of 3 coaches to run the camp concentrating on skill development Including:
 - throwing mechanics, infield, outfield
 - infield ground balls, base coverage, players positioning, cutoffs, rundowns
 - outfield fly balls, hit coverage, player positioning, cutoffs
 - pitching mechanics, field coverage, situations, pick-offs
 - hitting mechanics, bunting, hit & run, protecting the runner
 - backcatching setup, blocking, situations, signals
 - coaches signals
 - base running
 4. Minimum of 3 coaches to evaluate players on the above skills. Evaluations to be written for each of the above skills and for each player individually. Charts to be set up to carry out evaluations for each of the skills listed above as well as “team skills” exhibited by each player.
 5. All 3 coaches carry out evaluations as a group and rank players for choosing the team.
 6. Minimum of 12 players to be chosen for the team with a mix of first and second year players.
 7. All 3 coaches meet with each player individually to go over the player evaluation forms focusing on the 8 skills listed plus “team skills”. Importance of communicating the positives as well as skills which the player needs to improve upon and suggestions as to how they can improve.
 8. Written letter goes to each player after the camp including positives and skills they need to develop further. For players who are selected to the AAA Team, the letter will include where possible the dates for AAA team practices, AAA tournaments, and AAA Provincials. For players not selected, they will be thanked for coming out and encouraged to try out again next year.

9. AAA Teams should not interfere with the individual community PMBA Teams.
10. AAA coaches should bring the team together to practice in early June. Community coaches and AAA coordinators will agree to a AAA season schedule. Regular league will schedule around the agreed upon AAA schedule.
11. All players are given the opportunity to participate in playing during AAA Games, with the understanding that playing time will not be equal and that coaches have the final decision on what position and how often each player plays.
12. Each player to be evaluated on all AAA games on pitching, fielding, and Hitting. (# of at bats, walks, strikeouts, hits, on base %, batting average).
13. Players receive a written summary of the above at the end of the AAA season, as well as skills they need to work on.
14. A financial summary of the season outlining all expenses and income to be given to each player as well as the PMBA.
15. There shall be no cost to try out for AAA team, but all players making the team are charged a registration fee to cover tournament entry fees and other miscellaneous expenses. This registration fee is payable to the AAA team Manager upon making the team.
16. All preparation games played by AAA teams shall be officiated by certified umpires..

E. PARKLAND AAA TEAM COACH SELECTION CRITERIA:

1. Certification completed as per Baseball Manitoba requirements
2. Experience coaching league baseball
3. Experience coaching AAA baseball
4. Experience coaching other sports
5. Track record in coaching baseball - provincial medals
6. Track record coaching other sports - provincial medals
7. Willingness to fulfill AAA guidelines
8. Experience playing high level baseball

- F. PMBA executive will make AAA head coach selection and notify the successful candidate by January 1st. If there is a perceived conflict of interest with applicants each voting member community will vote on selection.

Article 13 Funding assistance for Coaches, Umpires, and Player Development.

The PMBA encourages the development of coaches, umpires, and players. Centers within the Parkland, who host clinics, may apply for funding through the PMBA to a maximum of \$150.00 provided the clinic is advertised and available for all Parkland individuals. A post-event report should accompany the application.

Article 14 Provincial Play.

Teams which will represent the Parkland in each age category at Baseball Manitoba Provincials are able to select players from other PMBA teams which did not qualify, not including AAA players. All picks are one at a time up to four picks per team to a maximum of 18 players. The picking order is based on team ranking at league playoffs regardless of PMBA teams hosting provincials. Any player refusing to play with the first team contacting them may not be picked up by any other team.

Appendix 1 - PMBA League Playoff Format

- o New playoff formats for PMBA have been developed as a result of changes in how Baseball Manitoba determines representatives for the Provincials.
- o First Place in the League Playoffs advanced to AA Provincials to represent PMBA.
- o Second Place in the League Playoffs advance to A Provincials to represent PMBA.
- o See Article 11F of the PMBA Constitution for League Playoff Rules.
- o The following shows the scenarios for League Playoff Format based on the number of teams entered:
 - o Two Teams
 - Best of 3 series
 - Highest finisher in league play gets a second home game, if required
 - o Three Teams
 - Double Round-Robin, no finals
 - 1st to AA, 2nd to A
 - o Four Teams
 - Single Round-Robin
 - Top two teams play one game final
 - 1st to AA, 2nd to A
 - o Five Teams
 - Single Round-Robin, no finals
 - 1st to AA, 2nd to A
 - o Six teams
 - Pool A – 1st, 4th, 6th place finishers in league standings
 - Pool B – 2nd, 3rd, 5th place finishers
 - Both Pools to play single round-robin within their pool
 - Playoff Round
 - “AA” Finals - 1st place Pool A vs. 1st place Pool B – winner advances to “AA” Provincials. Loser to “A” Finals Game 2.
 - “A” Finals Game 1 - 2nd place Pool A vs. 2nd place Pool B – winner advances to “A” Finals Game 2.
 - “A” Finals Game 2 – Loser of “AA” Finals game vs Winner of “A” Finals Game 1 - winner advances to “A” Provincials.
 - o Seven Teams
 - Pool A – 1st, 4th, 5th & 7th place finishers in league standings. The two higher ranked teams will play a single round-robin against two lower ranked teams within their pool.
 - Pool B – 2nd, 3rd & 6th place finishers will play a single round-robin within their pool.
 - Playoff Round
 - “AA” Finals - 1st place Pool A vs. 1st place Pool B – winner advances to “AA” Provincials. Loser to “A” Finals Game 2.
 - “A” Finals Game 1 - 2nd place Pool A vs. 2nd place Pool B – winner advances to “A” Finals Game 2.
 - “A” Finals Game 2 – Loser of “AA” Finals game vs Winner of “A” Finals Game 1 - winner advances to “A” Provincials
 - o Eight Teams
 - Pool A – 1st, 4th, 5th, 8th place finishers in league standings
 - Pool B – 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 7th place finishers
 - Both Pools to play single round-robin within their pool
 - Playoff Round
 - “AA” Finals - 1st place Pool A vs. 1st place Pool B – winner advances to “AA” Provincials. Loser to “A” Finals Game 2.

- “A” Finals Game 1 - 2nd place Pool A vs. 2nd place Pool B – winner advances to “A” Finals Game 2.
- “A” Finals Game 2 – Loser of “AA” Finals game vs Winner of “A” Finals Game 1 - winner advances to “A” Provincials

o Nine Teams

Nine Team Draw

Round 1

Pool A		Pool B		Pool C	
Teams Ranked 1, 6, 7		Teams Ranked 2, 5, 8		Teams Ranked 3, 4, 9	
Away	Home	Away	Home	Away	Home
7	6	8	5	9	4
1	7	2	8	3	9
6	1	5	2	4	3

Round 2

Top Team From Each Pool

Away	Home
C	B
A	C
B	A

Top Team From Round 2 to AA, 2nd place to A