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Constitution

1. Name

- 1.1. The organization shall be called “Fredericton Minor Baseball Association Inc.” and is hereinafter referred to as “the Association”.

2. Affiliation

- 2.1. The Association shall be a member of “Baseball New Brunswick”.

3. Jurisdiction

- 3.1. The geographical jurisdiction of the Association shall be the greater Fredericton area with the exception of the Village of New Maryland.
- 3.2. The Association shall not normally accept any players who reside in geographical area outside the boundaries as defined in 3.1. unless the Association is the closest baseball organization to the player(s).

4. Objective

The objectives of the Association shall be:

- 4.1. To promote and encourage the playing of baseball in a wholesome, enjoyable, and entertaining manner.
- 4.2. To develop the skill level of players and challenge them to develop to their full potential.
- 4.3. To establish and operate minor baseball leagues and teams within our jurisdiction.
- 4.4. To establish, regulate, and supervise the Association during the regular season and playoffs and to coordinate the participation in Zone, Provincial, Atlantic, and National play.
- 4.5. To maintain high standards of conduct among leagues, teams, players, coaches, parents/guardians and officials.
- 4.6. To apply discipline for violation of the rules of baseball or for conduct not in the best interest of the game.

5. Membership

- 5.1. The membership shall include parents/guardians of players registered with the Association and active volunteers such as Board members, coaches, coordinators, etc, recognized by the Board of Directors.

6. Participation

- 6.1. All players are eligible to participate in any division according to their age and/or ability without discrimination with respect to race, gender, or religion.
- 6.2. The Association will have a fair play policy.
- 6.3. No player making application to the Association shall be turned away due to lack of playing ability or financial resources.

7. Directors

- 7.1. The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors and is hereinafter to as “the Board”.
- 7.2. The number of directors shall not be less than six or more than twenty.
- 7.3. The Annual Meeting is the forum by which the 10 Board members will be selected.
- 7.4. The following Officers and directors shall be elected, or in the case of the Director of Umpires appointed, at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

President

Vice-president

Secretary

Treasurer

Past-President (appointed to board upon retirement as President)

Director of Umpires

- 7.5. The following officers and Directors will be determined at the first meeting of the Board after the Annual General Meeting.

Coaching Coordinator

Equipment Coordinator

Registration Coordinator

Public Relations and Fundraising Coordinator

Rally Cap Coordinator/Board Liaison

Rookie Coordinator/Board Liaison

Mosquito Coordinator/Board Liaison

Pewee Coordinator/Board Liaison

Bantam Coordinator/Board Liaison

Midget Coordinator/Board Liaison

At Large (maximum 4)

- 7.6. The immediate Past President of the Association shall, automatically on retiring as President, be appointed as a Director of the Association.
- 7.7. The Board of Directors may replace the Executive or a member of the Executive if the Board feels that it is in the best interest of baseball.
- 7.8. The Zone Chairman of Umpires or their designate shall be the Director of Umpires and shall sit and be a voting Member on the Board of Directors.
- 7.9. In case of an addition to the Board or to fill a vacancy (for whatever reason), the remaining members of the Board shall have the power to appoint Director(s) until the next Annual General Meeting.
- 7.10. Five members of the Board, present in person, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any duly called meeting of the Directors of the Association. For an emergency meeting of the Board of Directors a conference call shall be equivalent to being "present in person".
- 7.11. The Board will meet at least quarterly with a minimum of six meetings during the tenure of the Board.

8. Executive

- 8.1. The Association's Executive shall be composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- 8.2. Three members of the Executive, present in person, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at an Executive meeting.
- 8.3. Meetings of the Executive shall be held as often as the business of the Association may require and shall be called by the President or by any two members of the Executive. The Executive may act on behalf of the Board.
- 8.4. The President/Chair shall:
 - a) Be the Chief Officer and spokesperson for the Association;
 - b) Chair all meetings of the Association, the Board, and the Executive;
 - c) Table an Annual Report for presentation at the Annual Meeting;
 - d) Be a signing officer; and
 - e) Approve a Report to be published on the Association website.
- 8.5. The Vice President shall assist the President in performance of his duties and perform the duties of the President during the absence, illness or incapacity of the President such period as the President may request him to do so.
- 8.6. The Secretary shall:

- a) Prepare notices of meetings and with the President, the agenda for the same;
- b) Prepare the minutes of all meetings;
- c) Be a signing officer; and
- d) Prepare an Annual Report for the Board's approval.

8.7. The Treasurer shall:

- a) Maintain a bank account in an accredited financial institution;
- b) Receive all moneys;
- c) Pay all accounts authorized in the approved budget or by the Board;
- d) Keep an accurate and detailed record of receipts and disbursements;
- e) Be a signing officer;
- f) Prepare a financial report for the Annual General Meeting; and
- g) Prepare and present financial reports when requested to do so by the Board.

9. Coaching

9.1. All coaches for the Association shall be approved by the Board.

9.2. All coaches will be encouraged to obtain appropriate NCCP accreditation. **No coach will be assigned a AAA, AA or A team without having NCCP initiation coach training as a minimum.**

10. Meetings

10.1. The Annual General Meeting shall be held the third week of October, where practical.

10.2. Voting members include parents/guardians of players registered with the Association and active volunteers such as Board members, coaches, coordinators, etc, recognized by the Board of Directors.

10.3. The agenda for the Annual General Meeting shall be:

- a) Minutes of preceding Annual General Meeting, including business arising from those minutes
- b) President's Report
- c) Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements
- d) Coordinator's Reports
- e) Election of Officers and Directors
- f) New Business
- g) Adjournment

10.4. Special meetings may be called by the Executive and/or at the request of at least twenty members in a good standing of the Association.

10.5. All members of the Board will be notified 5 days in advance of any Board meeting.

11. Disputes, Protests and Discipline

11.1. The Executive or a committee appointed by the Executive shall act as a forum for hearing disputes and protests and makes recommendations to the Board in accordance with the objectives and policies of the Association.

11.2. The Board after hearing the recommendations put forward has the power to take whatever action(s) may be deemed appropriate.

12. Amendments

12.1. Proposed amendments to the by-laws must be forwarded to the secretary at least twenty days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

12.2. By-laws may be amended at any Annual General Meeting or at a special meeting of the Board called for that purpose by a majority vote.

12.3. The By-laws are available upon request from the Secretary and shall be posted on the FMBA website.

By-Laws

1. General

1.1. Commitment to balancing teams and leagues in terms of skill level.

1.2. Commitment to equality and fair treatment, consistent with the fair play policy.

1.3. Commitment to providing all players in the Association with adequate uniforms, safe team equipment, and the opportunity to play in at least one tournament.

1.4. Competitive teams will be formed at the “AAA”, “AA”, and “A” levels where interest warrants and qualified NCCP certified coach is available.

1.5. Recreational teams shall be formed on the basis of geographical areas within their jurisdictions and balanced as much as possible.

1.6. A late payment charge shall apply for a player registering after May 1st. While every effort will be made to assign this player, the Association reserves the right to accept players after the late registration date.

2. Coaches

- 2.1. Coaches shall foster and promote the spirit of good sportsmanship in attitudes toward fellow players, umpires and opposing players.
- 2.2. Coaches shall provide proper baseball instruction so as to develop fundamental skills which will increase the player's ability and enjoyment of the sport.
- 2.3. Coaches shall instruct players using positive reinforcement techniques only.
Encouragement in a friendly, understanding manner cultivates within players both the desire to learn and to enjoy their sport.

3. Tryouts

- 3.1. All players who wish to play competitive baseball shall be given the opportunity to try out. Players should indicate on their registration forms their desire to play competitive baseball.
- 3.2. Competitive tryouts shall follow a prescribed formal tryout format provided by the Association.
- 3.3. Coaches shall select competitive players based on skill levels as determined by tryout scores, attitude and special skill requirements such as pitching and catching.
- 3.4. All completed tryout forms shall be signed by the scoring coaches and filed in confidence with the divisional Coordinator and should remain the exclusive property of the Association.
- 3.5. All competitive tryouts within a division shall occur, where practical, at the same time with the coaches from each level participating in the selection process. This rule is designed to facilitate the selection of "AAA", "AA", and "A" level players at the same time.
- 3.6. Competitive player selections should be finalized no later than May 20th of each year.
- 3.7. House league teams should be formed no later than June 1st of each year.
- 3.8. Coaches at all levels just prior to the final cut of players and parents to discuss the amount of commitment necessary for each player. At the same time, any other summer commitment should be resolved between coaches, players, and parents.
- 3.9. Where possible recreational players should be evaluated at the same time as the competitive tryouts, so that the recreational teams can be formed and on the field as soon as possible.

- 3.10. All players, competitive and recreational, should be provided an opportunity to be evaluated a minimum of three times before teams are finalized. Divisional coordinators and the Board liaison are responsible for assigning 3 field times for each player. Failure to attend one of these field times is not reason to delay picking teams.

4. Coaches Selection Process

Competitive

- 4.1. The Coaching Selection Committee shall consist of a minimum of three people:
- 4.2. The Coaching Selection Committee shall consider all prospective coaches and the committee's recommendations shall be forwarded to the Board for approval.
- 4.3. The Coaching selection committee shall select competitive coaches each year in the following manner:
- a) Should advertise in the local media by February 15th
 - b) Contact known potential candidates.
 - c) A letter of application must be filled out by candidates and submitted to the Committee by the published deadline date.
 - d) The Committee will interview candidates
 - e) The Committee shall consider the applicants coaching experience, certification level, competitive experience, ability to instruct, knowledge of baseball, ability to work with others, and any other criteria which the committee may feel is relevant.
 - f) All candidates should be notified of the Board's decision by April 1st.

Recreational

- 4.4. Recreational coaches should be appointed by the Divisional Coordinator in cooperation with the Board's Divisional Liaison person and approved by the Board.

Mission Statement

The Fredericton Minor Baseball Association is dedicated to the promotion of baseball as a competitive and recreational sport by stressing fair play, good sportsmanship and skill development.

Fair Play Policy

The objective of the fair play policy is to ensure that all players receive fair treatment in such matters as quality playing time and instruction.

- Players should have the opportunity to try a variety of positions. (The first rule is safety and safety must be a consideration in allowing players, particularly in the younger categories, to play positions such as first base or catcher).
- Players may be taught to specialize in certain positions.
- Players should know and understand their role(s) on the team.
- In tournaments, coaches may decide to play some players more than others, although everyone should have the opportunity for significant playing time.
- Every effort should be made by the coaches to balance playing time over the course of the season.

Discretion is left to the coach to deviate from this policy based on normal discipline procedures as well as such factors as a player's general attitude and commitment.