

REP-TEAM MANUAL

GFWMBA



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THE REP-TEAM PROGRAM

The Rep-Team Program shall be governed by the Executive Members of Grand Falls-Windsor Minor Baseball Association. The executive will appoint a Rep-Team Committee (*the Committee*) each year – prior to Rep-Team selections. The Rep-Team Committee will oversee the Rep Program.

REP-TEAM COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Committee shall be responsible to implement and enforce the rules, regulations, and policies applicable to the Rep-Team program. The committee shall:

- Committee membership will include president (or designate), Director at Large, and two other executive members (who are voted on by the executive).
- The Committee will provide an avenue for players, coaches and parents to provide input, voice concerns, and register complaints related to Rep-Team issues.
- The Committee will select Rep-Team Coaches.
- Oversee the Rep-Team selection process.

COACH SELECTION / APPOINTMENT

HEAD COACH AND ASSISTANT COACHES

- The committee will appoint the Head Coach of each Rep-Team
- The Director at Large will then meet with the Head Coach to discuss Assistant Coaches and Managers.
- All coaches and managers should complete a Coaching Application.

CRITERIA AND POLICY RELEVANT TO THE SELECTION OF COACHES:

The Committee will review all applications for Head Coaching positions and make appointments for each position taking in consideration the following:

Criteria:

- Coaching Application received by GFWMBA.
- Coaching levels obtained, as per Baseball NL Requirements.
- Technical experience and previous coaching appointments (include all sports)
- Must be able to plan and deliver your own rep practices each week (min. 1 practice per week)

NOTE: The Head Coach, barring extreme circumstances, must be able to attend all tournaments.

Policy:

- All selected coaches **MUST** obtain the appropriate certification level for the team they are coaching, as required by Baseball NL.
- Once selected, all coaches will require a Certificate of Conduct and Vulnerable Sector Check from the RCMP.

COACH RESPONSIBILITIES

General:

By accepting a Rep-Team coaching position, the individual agrees to the terms of our Rep-Team Manual. The Director at Large will ensure that all coaches/managers receive a copy of the Manual.

PLAYER SELECTION PROCESS

Player Selection:

Note: Rep-Team Try-Out process will be communicated to all members of the GFWMBA in advance of player evaluations.

The GFWMBA will conduct the evaluation process and submit the results to the rep team Committee to finalize the teams. All players who are trying out will be evaluated and ranked based on ability. From these rankings, Rep-Teams will be created. The Rep-Committee will determine the appropriate number of players for each Rep Team (usually 12 players).

GFWMBA will then make public (social media and email) the team selections.

In order to be eligible for selection to a Rep-Team a player must:

- Be registered for Rep-Team tryouts with the GFWMBA for the current season (insurance requirement);
- Must be available to participate in most practices, tournaments and Provincials;
- Be in good standing with the GFWMBA;
- Paid the applicable Rep-Team tryout fee (if applicable);
- Only those players who attend at least one tryout are permitted to participate on one of GFWMBA Rep-Teams. The Committee will consider appeals from those players unable to attend one or more of the tryout sessions. Appeals should be sent to the Director at Large with a detailed explanation

re: the reasons for missing the scheduled try-out. Each appeal will be adjudicated on its own merits;

- The Director at Large will submit a Baseball Newfoundland-Labrador (BNL) roster sheet to the coaching staff for review and confirmation before submitting it to BNL.
- All players selected to a Rep-Team are required to pay a Rep-Team Participation Fee. These fees are in addition to the normal registration fees paid to the Association. Fees for the 2023 season are \$150.
- For the 2024 season, an honorarium of \$200 may be given to each coach to help alleviate the cost of clinics and upgrades to their certification, provided that they are in fact on the coaching roster for 2024. This honorarium is based on BNL regulations to ensure ALL coached are properly certified.

*In special circumstances, consideration will be given to players outside our association.

Call-ups:

When one of our rep-teams requires a call-up due to injury, vacations, etc., the Head Coach will take the following steps.

Invitational Tournaments Only

- Contact the Head Coach of the respective rep-team of the desired player.
- The Head Coach of that team can refuse to release the player for that particular invitational tournament if the player is also playing that weekend.
- The player may also refuse the invitation to play.
- In the event that the player does not play on another Rep-Team, consideration should be given to a player who tried out for a Rep-Team in that division but was unsuccessful. The Rep-Team Committee will then select the most appropriate replacement.

Permanent Replacement or Additions to Rep-Teams

- The Head Coach of the rep team will contact the Director at Large to explain details of request before approaching any player or coach.
- The Director at Large will discuss the request with the Rep-Team Committee.
- The Rep-Team Committee will approve the most appropriate player pick-up.
- If applicable, The Director at Large will communicate the request to the departing players Head Coach. The head coach is not permitted to block the request.
- The player may refuse the invitation to play. In which case the next appropriate player will be invited by the Rep-Team Committee.
- With permission from the Rep-Team Committee, our A teams will select the most appropriate replacement. This could include reaching out to other associations if players are not available from within our association.
- In special circumstances the rep-team committee will consider player pick-up after team selections have occurred.

Practices

- Rep-teams will submit requests for practice time through to the Director at Large will allocate fields and resources.
- All coaches will submit their tournament plans to the Director at Large for approval. The Rep-Team Committee must endorse all tournament activity by Rep-Team.
- All coaches are encouraged to upgrade their coaching qualifications. GFWMBA will reimburse coaches for all reasonable expenses re: upgrading. See list of required coaching clinics for the Rep-Team you are coaching on BNL website.

- Coaches are responsible for team and coaching staff conduct and equipment return.

EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS

- Each head coach will be assigned equipment which must be signed out. The equipment must be returned within seven days following completion of the team's final tournament.
- Each Rep-Team team will be issued the following equipment (if required):
 - 2 dozen (24) baseballs for batting practice
 - 2 bats
 - 4 batting helmets
 - 1 set of catcher's shin guards
 - 1 catcher's helmet
 - 1 catching mitt
 - 1 chest pad
- Head coaches/managers will pick up uniforms for players and ensure that all are returned at the end of the season. Any players who fail to return the jersey will have a charge of \$50 placed on their account.

FAIR PLAY

Fair play does not mean equal play.

All coaches, parents and players should be familiar with the sections of Baseball NL's Fair Play Policies that are applicable to Rep-Team play (they are specific to the Division and AAA/AA/A teams). If there is any question as to what applies to Rep-Teams, please contact the Director at Large.

While we encourage equal play in house league play, there is no expectation of equal play in Rep-Team games (Invitationals, Provincials or Atlantics). However, Baseball NL dictates fair play rules that include the number of defensive innings a

player must play and rules about batting lineups (this is different depending on the division). For more details, please see the Baseball NL Handbook on their website.

NOTE: Fair Play does not account for time at more preferential positions like pitching, catching, etc.

CONDUCT

- The head coach has the responsibility to ensure that team members, and coaching staff:
 - Obey the rules of the game while on the field
 - Observe acceptable standards of behaviour both during the tournament and while traveling to and from tournaments (this includes all team functions)
 - Make every effort to attend all official and social functions organized by the host committee of any Provincial, Atlantic, or National Tournaments in which they are participating.
- The coach has the authority and responsibility for appropriate discipline of players. This could include game suspensions.
- Coaches must support the ideals of the association and provide an inclusive, welcoming environment for players to grow and develop.
- Parents should also follow acceptable standards of behaviour. Parents who display negative behaviors may be asked to leave the field.
- Parents must understand that coaches are volunteers and should be treated accordingly. Parents should not be approaching coaches during or after a game to air grievances.
- **We highly recommend a 24-hour cooling off period before contacting a coach with any issues.**