

## **Greater Niagara Baseball Association**

### **BY-LAWS**

#### **BY-LAW 1: LEAGUE ORGANIZATION**

A) The Greater Niagara Baseball Association Inc. shall be the primary unit of the organization. B) The GNBA shall enter travel teams into the Niagara District Baseball Association at any age classification as determined by the executive and directors. C) The GNBA shall establish and manage house league teams at any age classification as determined by the executive and directors.

#### **BY-LAW 2: CLASSIFICATION OF LEAGUES**

\*\*Age determined by year of birth JUNIOR ROOKIE BALL Age 6 - 7 SENIOR ROOKIE BALL Age 8 - 9 MOSQUITO Age 10 - 11 PEEWEE Age 12 - 13 BANTAM Age 14 - 15 MIDGET Age 16 - 17 - 18 JUNIOR Age 19 - 20 - 21

In the case of major and minor teams, all ages are determined by the year of birth. A minor team classification is the first year - Minor Mosquito - age 10; Minor Peewee - age 12; Minor Bantam - age 14; Minor Midget - age 16. A major team classification is the second year - Major Mosquito - age 11; Major Peewee - age 13; Major Bantam - age 15; Major Midget - age 17 and 18.

A player must play in his/her age classification, any exceptions must be passed by a majority at a GNBA Executive & Directors meeting. All requests must be submitted in writing and passed by the majority of the executive.

**BY-LAW 3: HOUSE LEAGUE PLAYOFFS** Play off structures for all house league age classifications - Junior Rookie Ball through Bantam, inclusive - will be at the discretion of the respective house league convenor.

**BY-LAW 4: PLAYER ELIGIBILITY** All GNBA players engaged in travel team competition in the Niagara District Baseball Association must complete an Ontario Baseball Association (OBA) player registration form on or before the date requested by the OBA. Any player,

without executive approval, travel team or GNBA house league, found guilty of playing in a league for which he/she is too old shall be suspended for a period not to exceed 12 (twelve) months from the date of the charge being laid. Any team found guilty of knowingly using a player over the legal age or not registered with the GNBA shall forfeit all games in which the player participated. The convenor is considered responsible for the eligibility of his age group.

**BY-LAW 5: SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS** Any team, player, coach, manager or member of the Association that fails to abide by the constitution, by-laws, rules and regulations or requests of the GNBA executive and directors may be suspended or expelled. If the President feels justified, he may indefinitely suspend any person or team. The suspended individual or team has the right to ask for a hearing before a Disciplinary Committee. Hearing to be held within 15 days from the requested date. The GNBA President will appoint at least 3 members from the present executive to the Disciplinary Committee. No member appointed should be directly involved with disciplined individual. The committee should have a recommendation to the GNBA executive at their next scheduled meeting. The executive has the final say on all discipline. For an individual or team to be expelled it must pass by majority of all GNBA executive and directors.

**BY-LAW 6: PROTESTS** All protests pertaining to games played in the GNBA must be submitted in writing within 24 (twenty-four) hours after the completion of the disputed game. A copy of the protest must be in the hands of the GNBA Vice-President. The Vice-President shall then call a meeting, comprising the Junior Rookie Ball House League Convenor, the Mosquito House League Convenor and the Bantam House League Convenor, chaired by the Vice-President of the GNBA, at the earliest possible time. Any decisions of the committee are final. Any protest based on an umpire's judgement will not be allowed.

**BY-LAW 7: SPECIAL GAMES** Permission must be obtained from the house league convenor for all games other than official GNBA games. Special games for travel teams, other than GNBA or NDBA sanctioned, must be approved by the GNBA executive and directors and the NDBA.

**BY-LAW 8: PLAYER TRANSACTIONS** All players moving to a lower or higher age category must have the approval of the GNBA Executive and Directors. Player trades within a House League division must be approved by the Convenor.

**BY-LAW 9: SONS AND BROTHERS** One manager and two coaches only may wish to designate players who are son/daughter, to a maximum of three players per team. All requests for designation to a house league team must be approved by the respective house league convenor.

**BY-LAW 10: ADMISSIONS** No admission shall be charged for any games or activities unless written permission is obtained from the GNBA executive and directors. Voluntary contributions are permitted.

**BY-LAW 11: FUND RAISING** Teams under the jurisdiction of the GNBA shall not raise funds through any form of public subscription or without the permission of the GNBA executive and directors. No team shall solicit any financial support from the GNBA Ladies Auxiliary without concurrence from the GNBA executive and directors.

**BY-LAW 12: PLAYER RELEASES** Players requesting a release from the GNBA must submit in writing a letter to the executive of the GNBA. The party requesting the release will be invited to the next GNBA executive meeting to present their case and the decision of the GNBA will be final.

**BY-LAW 13: OUT OF TOWN PLAYERS** A) Any out of town player(s) wishing to try out for a travel team must be registered with the GNBA. The player(s) name will be brought to the GNBA executive for discussion regarding the number of players trying out for each group. The executive will decide on an individual team basis whether to allow any out of town players on the GNBA team. B) An out of town player coming from an organization that has a travel team for his/her age division is not eligible to play on a GNBA travel team, even if the player is cut by the out of town centre, except as noted in By-Law 13 C.

C) An out of town player that has played in the G.N.B.A., the previous year is eligible to play on any G.N.B.A. team. D) An out of town player coming from an organization that does not field a travel team for his/her age division is eligible to play on G.N.B.A. travel team for his/ her age division.

E) In all cases, the out of town player eligibility must be accordance with the OBA and NDBA rules and by-laws.

F) The executive reserves the right to override the above provisions where there is a shortage of Niagara Falls players trying out for a particular age group