

Gardendale Youth Baseball Association

2021 By-Laws

In Service for the Youth of Gardendale

"These by-laws were approved at the General Meeting of the Gardendale Youth Baseball Association held August 29th, 2021."

ARTICLE I NAME AND LOCATION

Section 1

The name of the organization shall be the Gardendale Boys Youth Baseball Association.

Section 2

"The Association's mailing address is PO Box 1394, Gardendale, Alabama 35071."

Section 3

The principal offices for the transaction of business shall be located at such place as determined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II OBJECTIVES

"The primary objective of the Association shall be to provide the best possible organized youth program for the promotion of Baseball year round, authorized by the Board of Directors."

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Association shall be all of the individuals who are interested in developing attitudes of good sportsmanship and athletic ability in the youth of the Gardendale area.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS AND CHAPTER MANAGEMENT

Section 1

"The membership shall, the last week of the season, elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Commissioner, Five (5) League Directors, Equipment Director & Ladies Auxiliary Director."

Section 2

Vacancies occurring during the year shall be filled by the Board of Directors. Said vacancies can either be filled by an existing board member, who will take on the additional responsibilities of the vacant role, or by a new board member that is recommended and voted on by the Board of Directors. Positions filled due to a vacancy during the year, will be an interim role until the next election during the last week of the season.

Section 3

A. Management of the Association shall be vested in a Board of Directors comprised of the officers outlined in Article IV, Section 1.

B. Seven (7) voting members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

C. In a Board meeting called by the President where all voting members have been notified; business may be transacted by voting members present if a quorum is not called for.

D. The Board of Directors shall cause the books of GYBA to be made available to Association members upon request. A copy of a compiled Financial Statement shall be provided to the Park and Recreation Department of Gardendale on the monthly meetings by the President or Treasurer. The meetings occur on the 2nd Monday of each month.

E. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once a month and at such other times and intervals as they deem necessary.

F. All bills, with the exception of monthly utilities, are to be approved at quarterly board meetings.

G. Each year the Board of Directors will appoint a person or persons to serve as the Webmaster for the Gardendale Youth Baseball website. Each League Director will be responsible for updating their Leagues information on the website.

H. Board Members are required to pay only the uniform cost portion of the registration fees for their children during the Spring or Fall Seasons. The Equipment Director will provide uniform cost information to the Treasurer to be used in calculating the cost to each Board Member. This exemption does not include all-star fees.

Section 4

A. Election of the Officers for the Association will be held the last week of regular season play, with these positions being effective August 1 of the current year.

B. Officers shall be elected by secret ballot at the park after nominations have been posted for a period of time no less than two (2) weeks.

C. Nominations will be accepted as follows:

i. By recommendation from a qualified voter, in writing, no less than two (2) weeks before the election. This nomination will be subject to the approval of the person nominated."

ii. A "Nomination for the Board of Directors" form must be completed and turned into the President to be considered for election.

iii. To be eligible to be a nominee for the Board of Directors you must already have a child or grandchild enrolled in the park.

D. After the advertisement of those nominated for positions has been posted at the Concession Stand for a period of no less than two (2) weeks, voting will be done by ballot at the Concession Stand, for a period of time to allow all leagues ample opportunity to vote.

Section 5

A. Voting will be restricted to parents and grandparents of registered children in the program and will be limited to six votes per family. Votes are limited on a family basis and not by the number of children in the program.

B. All voters will be required to sign in at the time of vote and each qualified voter will be allowed to vote only once.

C. Election results will be posted as soon as practical after election days, and, as stated in Article IV, Section 4, newly elected officials will take office August 1 of the same year."

Section 6

All General Meetings must be posted and announced two (2) weeks in advance of meeting date.

Section 7

Any By-Law changes must be made and passed by a simple majority at a General Meeting.

Section 8

The Board of Directors, in its discretion, may remove any board member for any reason upon the affirmative vote of a two thirds majority. The Board of Directors may fill any vacancies at any regular meeting with a simple majority vote.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS DUTIES

Section 1

The **President** shall preside over all General Membership Meetings and Board Meetings. He shall be an Ex Officio Member of all standing and appointed committees. The President is charged with overall administration of the Association and ensuring that all elected officials are doing their jobs as outlined in the Article. The President will also be responsible for coordinating all aspects of Board Voting. The President will review the monthly bank statements along with the financial statements.

Section 2

The **Vice-President** shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President and other duties as assigned by the President. The Vice President will assist the commissioner with scheduling and any other field requirements. The Vice President will assist the equipment manager with all uniform and equipment responsibilities as deemed necessary.

Section 3

The **Secretary** shall keep minutes of all General and all Board meetings. The Secretary shall also handle all official correspondence for the registration of players. After registration, the Secretary will prepare an official league roster prior to the player selection process. Once player selection is completed, the Secretary shall prepare the official team rosters. At every General Membership Meeting and every Board Meeting, the Secretary will read the minutes of the last meeting. The Secretary shall be responsible for completing and mailing all forms relating to USSSA. The Secretary or Treasurer shall check the mail (a minimum of once a month during off season and a minimum of once a week during playing season) and distribute it to the proper board member.

Section 4

The **Treasurer** shall receive all monies, disperse all funds as approved by the Board of Directors and shall maintain a current, accurate record of all receipts and expenditures. The Treasurer shall have a general knowledge of basic accounting procedures. The Treasurer shall present a written financial report of the General Account and Concession Account at all General Meetings and Board Meetings. The Treasurer must also submit a financial statement to the Park and Recreation Board by their specific deadline. All Association monies shall be maintained in a checking account under the name Gardendale Youth Baseball Association. (Exception - Concession Supervisor - See Section 5) All checks \$300.00 or more, with the exception of monthly utilities, shall be signed by the Treasurer and approved by one of the following - President, Commissioner or Secretary. A general ledger accounting of all incomes/expenses incurred during each Board of Directors term (August 1st to July 31st) is to be finalized and provided no later than August 15th for the incoming Board. The Treasurer shall post a current & accurate financial statement on the bulletin board at the Concession stand the 15th of every month during playing season including all stars and fall ball.

Section 5

The concession supervisor shall be responsible for the concession stand, to include supervision and coordination of the work forces. The Concession Supervisor shall maintain a current and accurate ledger of receipts and expenditures. The concession supervisor shall be accountable to the Treasurer. The Concession Supervisor shall also be accountable to the Board for all other concession transactions. This is not a board position.

Section 6

The **Equipment/Uniform Director** shall develop an equipment list. This list shall then be used to secure the most beneficial price to the park from a minimum of three (3) bidders pre-determined (by the

Equipment/Uniform Director) for the equipment or uniforms. The Equipment/Uniform Director shall be the only individual authorized to purchase equipment for the Association. A complete accounting of equipment purchased and inventoried must be completed within thirty (30) days of the last All-Star game each season. This is to reflect by league; Beginning Inventory, Ending Inventory and Detailed Purchases.

Section 7

The **Commissioner** shall be responsible for preparing practice schedules and game schedules for all leagues, rule interpretation, and scheduling of umpires. The commissioner will be main point of contact with other parks for interleague play.

Section 8

The **League Directors** shall coordinate official scorekeeping and announcing requirements. League Directors shall coordinate tryouts for their respective leagues. League Directors will not be allowed to be a head coach in the same league they are the director of. If applicable and agreed upon, League Directors can be shifted to accommodate the conflict of interest.

Section 9

The **Ladies Auxiliary/Publicity Director** shall see that all teams have Team Mothers and shall oversee Opening Day events, Park Day, Bar-B-Que, and all fundraising. The Ladies Auxiliary/{Publicity Director will partner with Secretary to oversee sign sales, all aspects of pictures and all advertisement (Registration, Opening Day, Park Day, and General Meetings).

Section 10

The **Website Director** shall oversee all aspects of www.gardendalebaseball.com including but not limited to registration, content, pictures, league standings, practice schedules, game schedules, tournament schedules.

ARTICLE VI TEAM MANAGEMENT

Section 1

This Article shall apply to all leagues, except Farm League, unless it conflicts with higher-level league rules.

Section 2

Each team shall have one (1) adult Head Coach and may have two (2) adult Assistant Coaches and one (1) adult Scorekeeper.

Section 3

Both the Head Coach and the Assistant Coach(es) must be active in the management of the team.

Section 4

Only the Offensive Head Coach and one (1) Assistant or their designated adult agents shall represent a team on the field and be allowed inside the playing area fence. This limits the number representing an Offensive team on the field to two (2), except for Farm League and they may have three (3) offensive coaches and two (2) defensive coaches.

Section 5

The Scorekeeper is not allowed inside the playing area fence.

ARTICLE VII SELECTION OF COACHES

Section 1

A "Coaching Application" must be submitted to the Board of Directors no later than the last day of registration to be considered for the current year. Passing a (coach funded) background check is considered part of the application process.

Section 2

Incoming Board of Directors shall elect coaches for the coming season, excluding any member of the Board who turns in a letter for a coaching position in the league he/she is applying for.

Section 3

Any coach not chosen has a right to meet with the Board to discuss the reasons for the Board's decision.

Section 4

A coach will be assigned a team for only one (1) season. Each season coaches must make a new request for a team and those from the previous year shall be given first consideration but previous involvement will not be an overriding factor or ensure the position.

Section 5

It is desirable, but not necessary, that a coach is knowledgeable in baseball, but, it is absolutely necessary that the coach be of high moral character and that he exemplifies that character in dealing with his team.

Section 6

A "Coaching Application" must be submitted and approved by the Board prior to an individual being permitted to assume coaching duties in the Gardendale Youth Baseball Association.

Section 7

All coaches petitioning for a Head Coaching position, selected or not, will be notified of their status within three (3) days of the selection process.

ARTICLE VIII ASSIGNMENT OF PLAYERS TO TEAMS AND AWARDED OF TEAMS TO COACHES

Effective with the 1987 season and each season thereafter, all children participating as players and adults participating as coaches in the baseball program governed by the Gardendale Youth Baseball Association shall be assigned to teams in accordance with this Article. Every child will be put back into the draft each year.

Section 1

A tryout will be held each year for all league ages. In order to be eligible for draft, it is mandatory that every child registered must attend scheduled tryouts and be in paid status. Should tryouts be scheduled at an inopportune time, arrangements must be made with either the President or Commissioner to tryout at another time before the draft. If a child does not tryout, he/she will not be in the draft listing and therefore will not be eligible to play. However, if a child moves into the area from out of town or if extenuating circumstances arise, the board will review each such case to determine if the child will be eligible to participate in Gardendale Youth Baseball. Exception – If the pony league numbers are low and cannot play within the park, the board will determine a suitable method to determine the teams.

Section 2

At tryouts, all coaches and directors will be supplied a list of players. Each player will have a number corresponding with that list. Each child will be graded by every coach present utilizing a 1-10 rating system in the areas of catching, throwing, running and hitting. Each player's highest and lowest score will be dropped before the average is calculated (depending on the # of scores available). After these tryouts, those children who are judged as possible pitchers by the coaches will return to be rated as pitchers (for coach's benefit only). This does not apply to Farm League and Pee Wee. The Directors shall average the scores and each child will be placed in numerical order.

Section 3

Coaches will draft in order determined by luck of the draw. The coach drawing number one will have first choice of the first round and the last choice of the second round. The coach drawing the last draft choice will choose last in the first round and first in the second round, etc., until all eligible players have been drafted.

Section 4

The order of the draft shall be as follows:

Section 5

The draft list will be denoted in increments per the number of teams in the league. Any child may be selected from the entire list. Coaches will choose their child in the respective round that corresponds to the increment their child is within. If siblings are rated within the same round; one child will be selected from that particular round and the sibling will be selected in the next following round. The coach will then resume his normal, luck of the draw, selection slot. Any coach found manipulating the draft or tryouts, in any way; will be subject to the removal of their coaching position.

Section 6

The coaches will determine team names in reverse order of the draft position within the first round of the draft. The coach that has last draft choice in the first round will get first choice of team name. ,

ARTICLE IX ALL-STAR SELECTION

Section 1

This article shall apply to Farm League through Major Leagues.

Section 2

All-Stars shall be selected at the end of the regular season with a meeting of the Head Coaches in conference with the League Director, Commissioner and President. All three members – League Director, Commissioner and President – shall be present during the tabulation process. If any member cannot be present then the appropriate substitutions will take place (i.e. 1st Vice President would fill in for the President).

Section 3

Discussion of All-Stars nominees prior to voting by coaches is required by head coaches before All Stars are selected.

Section 4

Coaches may vote for players from their team.

Section 5

The number of All-Stars selected from any team will not be restricted.

Section 6

Voting by the Head Coaches shall be on secret, written ballot. The tally and results shall be determined by the League Director and Commissioner. Should the first vote tally result in a tie, the method to break the tie will be as follows: Only the players involved in the tie will be voted on in order to determine who will make the team. If a tie cannot be broken after three (3) attempts, the final vote will be decided by the league director, commissioner, and head coach of the team. If the child involved in the tie breaker belongs to one of the deciding votes, another board member will be asked to assist.

Section 7

The All-Stars team will be restricted to no more than twelve (12) players in Farm, PeeWee, Major and Minor Leagues. Head coaches will notify team members as soon as possible prior to the beginning of All-star practice.

Section 8

The All-Stars coach will be the winning coach in his or her child's age division, if applicable, of the regular season and progressing to next in line. The All-Star coach may choose his assistant coaches.

Section 9

- 1.) The parents/guardian of all players in all leagues will be required to sign an "All-Star Form of Acceptance" by the last regular season game of each season. In addition, the parent/guardian of every child nominated will be contacted by the regular season coach prior to voting. Once this final verbal commitment is made you may not withdraw without penalty. Any player in any league who declines to accept an all-Star position on either the White or Maroon shall automatically be ineligible for the All-Star selection the following year. Any and all exceptions to this article of rule will be only by a full vote of the Board of Directors.
- 2.) Each selected all-star must attend all practices and games unless excused by the head coach of the respective team. Violations of this article of rule will result in the player being removed from the current year all-star roster and automatically being ineligible for selection to an all-star team the following year.
- 3.) Should a head coach or assistant coach be found in violation of enforcing any part of this article of rule, he will be removed as coach of the current year all-star team and automatically become ineligible for consideration as an all-star coach the following year.
- 4.) Each all-star head coach is required to play each player on the all-star roster a minimum of one (1) inning of each ballgame in Farm League League, one (1) of each ballgame in Pee Wee League and a minimum of one (1) inning in both Major and Minor Leagues. This will apply to both a scheduled practice game and all tournament games. If a game is called early due to score, weather, etc. then if the player that did not play at least one inning will start the next game and get to play a minimum of 3 outs and bat once. Violation of this rule by any all-star coach will result in the removal of the coach from the current year all-star team and automatically make them ineligible for consideration as an all-star coach the following year.
- 5.) Players will be selected and play within their particular, individual age group during All-Stars if USSSA offers All-Star Tournaments by individual age groups.

Section 10

Failure to pay All-Star fee by uniform disbursement eliminates a child from further participation. The child will be ineligible for All-Stars the following year. Uncollected fees will be collected prior to acceptance of application for the following year.

Section 11

Any fundraisers held at the park must be approved by the Board of Directors prior to the sanctioned event. Fundraising activities that compete with the concession stand will not be allowed at the park. No fundraisers/donations for any all-star team shall begin prior to June 1st of the current year. Any person in violation of this stated Section shall be subject to their child being ineligible for the current season All-Stars.

Section 12

Any monies collected from Allstar fundraising activities and expenses related thereof shall be the explicit responsibility of the Allstar Head Coach and Team Mom. All Allstar parents and coaches must agree in writing to indemnify and hold the GYBA harmless for any and all Allstar fundraising activities. Board will meet with Allstar Head Coaches and Team Moms prior to the beginning of the Allstar season to explain their responsibilities.

Section 13

All Allstar Tournaments will be managed by the GYBA Board. All revenues and expenses related to those tournaments are the responsibility of the GYBA. The Board shall vote and appoint a tournament director for each Allstar Tournament.

ARTICLE X DETERMINATION OF LOCAL LEAGUE CHAMPION

Section 1

This Article shall apply to all USSSA Leagues. Teams playing under USSSA Program will adhere to District requirements on determination of champion.

Section 2

Local Regular Season League Champion shall be the team having won the most games in scheduled league play. The season will consist of a minimum of twelve (12) regular season games required by USSSA for All-Star participation and a maximum to be determined by the Board.

Section 3

In the event of a tie at the end of scheduled league play; one (1) game between the teams tied for first place shall be played to determine the local regular season league champion. League Director will set dates and times.

Section 4

The championship game shall be played on the next respective game night for that league.

Section 5

This game shall not be considered a "Tournament Game" and therefore will not be played under Tournament rules.

Section 6

League and Tournament Championship and Runner-Up awards will be given to each player on the championship and runner-up teams by the Association.

ARTICLE XI SEASON LENGTH

Section 1

Teams playing under the USSSA program will play a season of the number of games specified by the USSSA Rec League. All Leagues must play twelve (12) or more games. This pertains to all leagues.

Section 2

The number of games to be played by teams in the Farm League program will be based on the number of teams in the League. The number of games to be played shall be determined by the Commissioner.

Section 3

All scheduled games must be played. EXCEPTION: Forfeited games.

**ARTICLE XII
MAKE-UP GAMES****Section 1**

In the event a game is not played to completion as defined by USSSA rules or is "called" before play begins, the game will be made up on the next date as deemed by the Commissioner and League Director.

Section 2

All pitching rules and required rest periods will apply.

Section 3

The time of the make-up games will be determined by the Commissioner and League Director.

Section 4

Should conditions prevent the make-up games as required in Section 1 of this Article, then the game shall be scheduled on a date determined by the Commissioner.

**ARTICLE XIII
EQUIPMENT****Section 1**

Team equipment will be issued to the Head Coach each year by the Equipment Director. The coach will sign a list of equipment received and will return the equipment to the Equipment Director after teams last game of post season tournament. Failure to return equipment in required time is or can be grounds for suspension of coaching for the following year.

Section 2

Equipment breakages during the season shall be reported to the League Director and he will coordinate the replacement with the Equipment Director.

**ARTICLE XIV
BASE COACHES****Section 1**

Farm League through Minor Leagues - Adult Coaches listed on team roster or a team member.

**ARTICLE XV
FINANCIAL****Section 1**

The Gardendale Youth Baseball Association is a non-profit organization. All monies collected shall be used to further the aims of the Association.

Section 2

No Officer or Director shall receive any compensation for services rendered as such Officer or Director.

Section 3

No person, Officer, or Board Member may purchase on credit or cash, in the name of the Gardendale Youth Baseball Association, any item for use in the program unless they have been approved to do so by the Board.

Section 4

No person shall be reimbursed for any purchase in the name of this Association unless authorized by the Board.

Section 5

The duly elected Equipment Director shall be the only person authorized to purchase any item of sporting equipment to be used in this program.

Section 6

Return check fee will be \$35.00.

ARTICLE XVI SPECIAL RULES

Section 1

Coaches and Players on one team shall not be guilty of any action designed to upset, disrupt, or discredit the players and activities of the opposing team. Should this occur, it could result in ejection from the game. Any coach or player using any manner of profanity or abusive language toward anyone in the area of the playing fields, dugouts, stands, press-boxes or batting cages will be required to leave the Park immediately. Any coach/player that is ejected from a game and/or the Park for any of the reasons listed above will have an opportunity to meet with a minimum of five (5) board members prior to the said coach/player's next game so that a decision can be made in regards to the severity of the punishment. The board will hear from the coach/player and a decision will be made. If the coach or player does not attend the scheduled meeting, an automatic one (1) game suspension will apply. The ineligible coach must remain in the press-box during this next scheduled game and will not be allowed to coach in any way. Players will not be allowed to play any during this next scheduled game. Continued problems from the same coach/player may result in an expulsion for the remainder of the season. Any such offense should be reported to the President or Commissioner immediately using a "Grievance Form".

Section 2

Spectators shall remain courteous and refrain from interfering with any activities on the playing field and shall not be allowed to criticize coaches, players or umpires. Should this occur, it could result in ejection from the park. Zero tolerance will be in effect.

Section 3

No Coach, Player or Spectator shall argue unduly with the umpires. Questions directed to the umpire for the manager's information, which are not argumentative in nature, are not to be considered as undue argument. Zero tolerance will be in effect.

Section 4

- A.) Players not showing an adequate interest in the team effort by failing to report for called practice sessions and scheduled games may be dropped from the team; but only after the approval of the Board of Directors.
- B.) Players deciding not to play after being selected during the draft should notify his coach or the President or Commissioner of the Gardendale Youth Baseball Association. If uniforms have not been ordered, the child will be eligible to receive the registration fee returned.
- C.) If Coach of resigning player does not notify GYB Board, coach will be removed of his/her duties.
- D.) If the team that selected the resigning player would then have two less players than the team selecting the last player in the draft, the last player selected in the draft would then be given the option to join team of resigning player. This process would continue until each player, in reverse order of final complete draft

round, is given the option or the final complete draft round is exhausted. This could only occur with the approval of the parents involved.

E.) Any Board Member not showing an active interest in the Board of Directors by missing three (3) consecutive called Board Meetings, shall be removed from the Board by a vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 5

Only the batter, batter on deck, first and third base coaches will be permitted to remain outside the dugout in Minor and Major Leagues.

Section 6

The first day of the week for all questions relating to player's eligibility shall be Monday and the last day shall be Sunday.

Section 7

The official rulebook of USSSA shall govern the rules of play; except where otherwise specifically set forth in these rules. Any rules in this part inconsistent with the USSSA Rules shall not apply to the major leagues.

Section 8

A.) In Pee Wee and Farm leagues, after two (2) complete innings, all subs must be inserted in the ball game and play two (2) complete innings. If the game ends prior to the subs playing two (2) complete innings, they must start the next game and play the first two complete innings of that game prior to being substituted. Failure to comply with this will cause the game to be forfeited.

B.) In Minor and Major leagues, after two (2) complete innings, all subs must be inserted in the ball game. The sub must start the next game. Failure to comply with this will cause the game to be forfeited.

Section 9

Any team holding a ten (10) run lead after the required innings, as stated in their league, shall be declared the winner:

Minor & Major "6 innings, 10 runs after 4 innings or 15 runs after 3 innings."

Section 10

Substitution rules must be followed as set forth in the USSSA Rule Book with the exception of free defensive substitutions.

Section 11

A.) Game starting time and player entrance into the game and pitchers and innings worked must be recorded by the official scorer in the official record book. The official scorekeeper's book is the only score book to be used by the league. It is up to the Manager to determine the accuracy of the entries and sign the scorebook after each game. Official game time starts when the umpire calls ""Play Ball"".

B.) Each pitcher will be restricted to the following number of innings per week. This includes forfeited games and/or travel team games:

Minor USSSA Rules

Major USSSA Rules

Section 12

Where practical, all games shall be played to completion and any game continuing beyond time limits will be at the discretion of the Commissioner and the League Director with the exception of a tie game. The time limits are as follows:

Farm & Pee-Wee 1:30 minutes

Minor & Major 1:45 minutes

Section 13

The defensive coach may call two (2) time-outs per inning. On the second time-out called, the pitcher must be substituted. Offensively, there will only be two (2) time-outs, also.

Section 14

Any coach/player displaying poor sportsmanship, such as mutilating equipment or using abusive language shall be suspended for the remainder of the game. This suspension is at the discretion of the umpire. Any additional discipline will be determined by the Commissioner with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 15

The use of any tobacco product shall be used in the paved parking areas at least 100 feet away from the concession stand, press boxes, bleachers and playground.

Section 16

The coaches shall not allow eating on the playing field or in the dugouts.

Section 17

Any dissatisfaction with the program, coaches, players, or parents shall be reported to the League Director. If the League Director cannot resolve the problem within 48 hours, a Grievance Form should be filed in accordance with Section 24. If the proper steps are not followed, the problem will not be handled.

Section 18

All players must play in their respective age groups during regular season and All Stars. All players must reach the following ages before May 1st of the current year:

Farm League	5 and 6 yrs
Pee-Wee	7 and 8 yrs
Minor	9 and 10 yrs
Major	11 and 12 yrs

A.) Four Year old Exception Rule: A player that reaches 5 years of age by July 31 will be allowed to participate in Farm League provided he/she meets all of the following criteria: 1) goes through the try-out process, and 2) is deemed "ready" to play by the coaches, and 3) this decision must be approved by the Board after reviewing the grades awarded during the try-out, and 4) the player's parent or legal guardian must sign a waiver releasing Gardendale Youth Baseball, the City of Gardendale and USSSA Baseball, Inc. from liability as a result of any injuries or harm incurred or caused during said participation in any activity involved with Farm League. Players participating under this exception will not be allowed to participate in 5 or 6 year old All-Stars as USSSA requires that a child reach age 5 prior to May 1st.

Section 19

Beginning in 1990/91 the Gardendale Park & Recreation Department appointed one of their Board members to the Gardendale Youth Baseball Association as a liaison between the two Boards. This is to become a permanent, voting position on the Gardendale Youth Baseball Association Board and is to remain an appointed position by the Gardendale Park & Recreation Department. The Park Board member is TBD.

Section 20

A "Grievance Form" (located at the Concession Stand) can be filed with the league director and a copy to the President. This must be completed within three (3) days of the incident involved. The Board of Directors will meet within forty-eight (48) hours to resolve the matter. A copy of the Board's decision will be posted on the bulletin board of the Concession Stand for three (3) days. The form will include the following information: League involved, date grievance was filed, date the board met regarding the grievance, and the decision made by the board.

Section 21

Any team that does not have enough players to play may pick up a player(s) drafted after the absent player. For example, the player drafted 5th in the first round may be replaced by any player drafted with the 6th pick of the first round and below. This process will be followed up to an absent player being a 5th round draft player(s). If the player(s) that is absent is 6th round or lower, then any player(s) equal to or below 6th round draft pick may be picked up. The minimum number of players available to pick up must be 20. If the minimum player status is not met, then the team may move up one round or more to meet the minimum available player rule. The player(s) may play any position other than pitching (in Minor or Major League) and must bat last. The amount of players borrowed may not exceed two. Any team that loses a player for 2 or more consecutive games due to an illness, injury or player quitting the team, the coach of that team may bat the substitute at any location in the order. The replacement player must be approved in writing by a board member (Preferably League Director) prior to entering the game. The Board will reserve broad authority to deny any such request should a coach intentionally manipulate the system to gain an advantage.

Section 22

All-Star funding guidelines will be handed out prior to the start of each all-star season

Section 23

Any player can request to play up with his or her classmates when deciding what league to play. This request must be made prior to draft. If request is granted, the player in question will remain with that age group for the duration of his or her tenure at Gardendale Youth Baseball.

A.) Exclusion: Players participating in Farm League under the Four Year Old Exception Rule are excluded from this rule.

Section 24

GYB adheres to the Inclement Weather Policy prescribed by the Park and Recreation Department of the City of Gardendale. The policy is included in the attached addendum.

Addendum 1:

Gardendale Parks and Recreation Department Inclement Weather Policy

Given that the first priority must always be the safety and well-being of our children, and there will invariably be differences in judgment regarding the safety of playing a game under impending inclement weather, the Gardendale Parks and Recreation Department has issued these guidelines in the case of inclement weather during any game or event at any municipal park.

If lightning or thunder is observed by parents, coaches, or umpires, all players must be immediately removed from the field and re-located to a safe area with their parents or guardians, for 15 minutes. With each and every observed lightning flash or thunderclap, a new 15 minute delay will begin. After 15 minutes without lightning, or thunder, the game may begin or resume with the approval of an umpire or a member of the particular youth association. If an umpire or a member of the particular youth association believes that it is unsafe to continue play, the game should be suspended and rescheduled.

Different situations prevail for each individual in threatening weather situations. Therefore, coaches, parents, and umpires must exercise their own best judgment while considering a function or activity at the park. Each association shall always take the action that is deemed to be in the best interest of all families. In the end, the decision to attend or participate in an activity during inclement weather has to be an individual one based on each person's circumstances. At any time, a parent may remove their child from the game due to weather-related safety concerns without penalty to the parent or the child. There will not be any penalty assessed to the effected team and the coach may not discipline the child as a result of this instance.