

Gardendale Youth Baseball Association

2023 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
February 2, 2023

ARTICLE I

NAME AND LOCATION

Section 1

The name of the organization shall be the Gardendale 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, Director of Operations, and Five (5) League Commissioners.

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 above.

B. Five (5) 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.
- E. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once a month, virtually or in person, and at such other times and intervals as they deem necessary.
- F. Board Members are required to pay only the uniform cost portion of the registration fees for their children during the Spring or Fall Seasons. 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 those 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:
 - 1. 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.
 - i. A "Nomination for the Board of Directors" form must be completed and turned into the President to be considered for election.
 - ii. 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 the election, and, as stated above 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 the overall administration of the Association, including but not limited to, the day to day operations and communication of the Association. The President should ensure that all elected officials are doing their jobs as outlined in this Article, and all aspects of Board Voting. The President will also be the liaison between any third party vendors associated with park management. .

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 shall be responsible for preparing practice and game schedules for all leagues, rule interpretation, scheduling of umpires, and any other field requirements. The Vice President will be the main point of contact with other parks for interleague play. The Vice President will also preside over the All Star selection process in conjunction with the respective League Commissioner and President.

Section 3

The **Secretary** shall keep minutes of all General and Board meetings. At every General Membership Meeting and every Board Meeting, the Secretary will read the minutes of the last meeting for approval. The Secretary shall also handle all official correspondence for the registration of players. After player registration ends, the Secretary will prepare an official league roster, for each league, to be used in the player selection process. The Secretary shall also certify to the Gardendale Parks and Recreation Board that all coaches are in compliance with the background check and safety course requirement prior to the start of each baseball season. Furthermore, the Secretary shall submit any expenses incurred by GYBA to the Sports Management Company for payment/reimbursement. Lastly, the Secretary 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 Director of Operations will handle and coordinate all uniform orders for the league; the team mom program; the planning and management of opening day events; the planning and management of Park Day, sign sales and advertisement for the league, league pictures, all social media, and all aspects of the Spring Baseball Program sold at Park Day. The Director of Operations will also be the board liaison for Strike Out Cancer.

Section 5

The **League Commissioners** shall coordinate evaluations, draft, official scorekeeping, announcing requirements, and equipment allocation in their respective league. League Commissioners shall also be the first point of contact for any coaching issues in their respective league and shall try their best to resolve any such issues unless Board involvement is warranted. League Commissioners will not be allowed to be a head coach in the same league they are the Commissioner of. If applicable, and agreed upon, League Commissioners can be shifted to accommodate the conflict of interest.

**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 request to coach must be submitted to the Board of Directors via the registration process or e-mail no later than the last day of registration to be considered for the current year. Passing a (coach funded) background check and completing the Prepare safety course is considered part of the application process and will be required once a preliminary offer to coach has been extended to said applicant. A final offer to coach will be contingent on the applicant passing both the background check and Prepare safety course.

Section 2

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

Section 3

Gardendale Youth Baseball Association will consider multiple factors when selecting coaches for both our Regular and All-Star season. Some, but not all, of the factors considered are:

1. Current and past standing with the league
2. Character on and off the field
3. Knowledge of baseball fundamentals
4. Prior coaching experience
5. Communication Skills
6. Availability for practices and games
7. Availability for coaches' meetings

Section 4

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

Section 5

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 6

A request to coach, as described in Section 1(A) above, 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 via e-mail.

ARTICLE VIII

ASSIGNMENT OF PLAYERS TO TEAMS AND AWARDING 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. However, if a child moves into the area from out of town or if extenuating circumstances arise, the board will review each case on an individual basis 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 may be dropped before the average is calculated (depending on the # of scores available). This determination will be made by the respective League Commissioner. The League Commissioners shall average the scores and each child will be placed in numerical order for drafting purposes.

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. Coaches may trade their spot in the draft order as long as the following stipulations are met: (1) the trade is made prior to the beginning of the draft, and (2) no contingencies, monetary or non-monetary, are agreed upon for the trade.

Section 4

The order of the draft shall be in a snake format, i.e. the first round is in a predetermined numerical order and once that round is over, the following round is in the reverse order of the previous round. The coaches will take turns drafting players in the snake format until all players are drafted (Example: Round One 1-10, Round Two 10-1, Round Three 1-10, Round Four 10-1, etc.).

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 League.

Section 2

All-Stars shall be selected by the end of the regular season with a meeting of the Head Coaches in conference with the respective League Commissioner, Vice President and President. The President, Vice President and respective League Commissioner shall be present during the tabulation process for each league. No Board Member may tabulate votes if they have a player(s) in the respective league that the votes are being tabulated for. If any of the members named above (President, Vice President and respective League Commissioner) cannot be present for tabulation of the vote, due to unforeseen circumstances or being excluded for the reason stated above, any member of the Board is a suitable substitution. All substitutions will be made by 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 President, Vice President, and respective League Commissioner per Article IX Section 2. 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 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, but not later than two (2) days after selection.

Section 8

The All-Stars coach will be the winning coach in his or her child's age division, subject to him/her being in good standing with the league per the discretion of the board at the end of the regular season. The All-Stars coach will progress to next in line for age divisions needed. The All-Stars 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 withdraws after accepting an All-Star position on either the White or Maroon team 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.) Each All-Star team is expected to play in all regional and state tournaments, and the World Series, if they receive a whole or partial bid, as a representative of Gardendale.
- 4.) 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.
- 5.) 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, 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.
- 6.) 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 the 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. 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 All-Star fundraising activities and expenses related thereof shall be the explicit responsibility of the All-Star Head Coach and Team Mom. All All-Star parents and coaches must agree in writing to indemnify and hold the GYBA harmless for any and all All-Star fundraising activities. Board will meet with All-Star Head Coaches and Team Moms prior to the beginning of the All-Star season to explain their responsibilities.

Section 13

All All-Star 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 All-Star 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 Commissioners 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, with the exception of Rag Ball.

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 Vice President

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 Vice President and League Commissioner.

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 respective League Commissioner. The coach will sign a list of equipment received and will return the equipment to the respective League Commissioner after the team's last game of post season play. Failure to return equipment in the required time can be grounds for suspension of coaching for the following year.

Section 2

Equipment breakages during the season shall be reported to the respective League Commissioner and he or she will coordinate the replacement.

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

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. Any such offense of this nature should be reported to the President or Vice President immediately using a "Grievance Form" or via e-mail. Should this type of behavior 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 playing field immediately. Once a coach/player is ejected from the game, they must exit the field immediately and may be asked to proceed to another area of the Park away from the playing field. Coaches ejected may not coach whatsoever, or speak to any players, coaches or officials. Any coach/player that is ejected from a game and/or the Park for any of the reasons listed above will have an automatic one (1) game suspension for the team he/she is playing with or coaching at time of ejection. Any coach/player that is ejected a second time from a game and/or the Park for any of the reasons listed above will have another automatic game suspension from the team he/she is playing with or coaching at time of ejection, in addition to a meeting with a minimum of five (5) board members prior to the said coach's/player's next game. This meeting will determine the coach's/player's future with GYBA. If the coach or player does not attend the scheduled meeting, another automatic one (1) game suspension will apply, in addition to the one above. Continued problems from the same coach/player may result in an expulsion for the remainder of the season. During the games where the coach/player is suspended, the suspended coach must remain in the press-box during the game and will not be allowed to coach in any way and the player(s) will not be allowed to play or participate with the team in any capacity.

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 Vice President 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 the Coach of a resigning player does not notify GYB Board, the coach will be removed of his/her duties.
- D.) If the team that selected the resigning player has two less players, due to the resigning the player, 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 Commissioner. If the League Commissioner cannot resolve the problem within 48 hours, a Grievance Form should be filed in accordance with Section 20. 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. Respective age groups are as follows:

- Rag Ball – 3 and 4 year olds
 - Rag Ball players must turn 3 by January 1 of the current season to play in the Rag Ball league and must not turn 5 by May 1 of the current season without special approval of the Board.
- Farm League – 5 and 6 year olds
- Pee-Wee League – 7 and 8 year olds
- Minor League – 9 and 10 year olds
- Major League – 11 and 12 year olds

Players in Farm League, Pee-Wee, Minor and Major must reach the respective ages noted above before May 1st of the current year.

A.) Four Year old Exception Rule: A player that is 4 years old by January 1 of the current season 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 an unanimous vote of the coaches, and 3) approved by the Board after reviewing the grades awarded during the try-out. If the player is allowed to participate in Farm League, 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.

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 on our website) can be filed with the League Commissioner 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 the respective League Commissioner) 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 the 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.