

Official Statement of Policy, Dixie youth Baseball 2020 Rule Book

“Dixie Youth Baseball is a non-discriminatory community-based organization which aims to promote fair play for all participants through the uniform adherence to DYB Official Rules, Policies and Regulations. DYB is fully committed to equal opportunity and abides by all applicable federal, state and local laws pertaining to non-discrimination and fair practices. Dixie Youth Baseball does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ethnicity or disability. *(Pg 1 of DYB Official Rules & Regulations)*

It is the policy of DYB to promote the development of strong character, a right attitude, a sense of responsibility, and citizenship in youngsters, using the game of baseball as a vehicle. It is the purpose of DYB to achieve this goal through fair play, good sportsmanship, and congenial fellowship, with adult leaders providing the example while attempting to limit injury caused by overexertion. It is strictly against the policy of DYB for any person, either as a participant or a spectator, to engage in arguments, to use abusive language, to harass umpires, or to exhibit any behavior not in concert with the general intention of this policy statement. Team coaches are required to abide by this policy statement, and all parents and other adults are strongly encouraged to do so.” *(Pg 1 of DYB Official Rules & Regulations)*

Dixie Youth Baseball inc. Code of ethics

Per the Dixie Youth Baseball inc.

CODE OF ETHICS In accepting the office of a DeSoto County Youth Baseball League Board Member and Coach, each official shall pledge to observe, practice and maintain the following ethical standards and recognize the responsibility incumbent upon them to carry out their duties as a member of the Board of Directors:

- **Section 1.** Encourage all officials, workers and youth of the league to abide by the rules of good sportsmanship;
- **Section 2.** Promote and help build a program that will result in obedient, patriotic and God-fearing youngsters;
- **Section 3.** Respect and adhere to the principle that Dixie Youth Baseball is a "fun" program, and that it is designed for the enjoyment of youngsters and is not meant to be a hobby for adults;
- **Section 4.** Recognize and support the main purpose of Dixie Youth Baseball which is to provide a recreation outlet for as many as possible with emphasis being on local league play rather than tournament play;
- **Section 5.** Periodically evaluate and review all present and proposed Dixie Youth Baseball rules and regulations to assure that they match the guiding principles of our program: the physical development of the growing youth, full participation for all playing baseball and the safety factor as it involves youngsters playing baseball;
- **Section 6.** Refrain from participating in an official capacity in any other organized youth baseball program with the exception of school leagues or the Dixie Boys Baseball program;

- **Section 7.** Demonstrate and persuade others in the program to accept the moral principles of Youth Baseball by not participating in activities or using products that are detrimental to the welfare of youth;
- **Section 8.** Develop and promote a spirit of cooperative teamwork among Dixie Youth officials, sponsors or any other person connected with the program;
- **Section 9.** Accept no remuneration of personal services performed from the Dixie Youth program or from any sponsor or other person connected with the program;
- **Section 10.** Refrain from undignified electioneering when running for election to the Board of DCYB. This includes making promises of benefit or threat of reprisal to local leagues who vote in the election;
- **Section 11.** Refrain from encouraging election or defeat of other candidates who are running for the Board;
- **Section 12.** Never use Dixie Youth Baseball for purposes other than those which further the objectives of the program.

BY-LAWS for DeSoto County Youth Baseball, revised 08-14-2024

Section I:

1. These By-laws are subject to changes made by the Board of Directors.
2. Purchases over \$100.00 must be approved by the DCYB Board, as a majority vote, Concession Stand purchases are the exception. DCYB Board must approve any Concession Stand non-food purchases that exceed \$100.00. The Chair of the Concession Stand Committee makes all food purchases for the season.
3. Age Limits are set forth in Dixie Youth and Dixie Boys/Majors Rules and Regulations. Please refer to the Dixie Youth Rule Book for Age Requirements.
 1. Exception – No 15 year olds unless they are in the 8th grade during the school year of the season (Note: 15 year olds are not eligible to attend All-Stars)
4. All Board Members, coaches, umpires and volunteers associated with DeSoto County Youth Baseball must complete a National Background Check Form. For more information, please see Child Abuse/Molestation Policy.
5. No coach automatically coaches a team. Coaches will be invited to coach at DCYB's discretion. The following factors will be considered: knowledge of the game, motivation, experience, character and the ability to get along with others.
6. Parents are encouraged to work all field day and help with fundraisers. Parents will be required to volunteer at least one night of the season in the concession stand.
7. All coaches, committee members and board members of DCYB are volunteers, parents are strongly encouraged to be aware of the time practices and games are over. If there is a problem with transportation, please notify your coach.

Section II:

1. A written record will be kept of all equipment issued to each head coach. Unsafe or unusable equipment will be replaced upon return of the unsafe or unusable equipment. Baseball are excluded from this requirement. Each head coach is responsible for their team's equipment.
2. By parent request, any league player may ask to move up the next league early.
3. The head coaches in all leagues may choose to pick assistants prior to the draft. The Commissioner will verify that the assistants agree to this and DCYB Board must approve all assistant coaches.
4. Siblings will be assigned to the same team when one is drafted or chosen as a core player for a coach. If a player is drafted and has a sibling in that league/division that player's sibling will be drafted and will count as a draft pick for the following round. That coach may not draft another player until all coaches have the same number of players as that coach.
5. Core Players Guideline: Coaches and Assistant Coaches per league coach amount, will get to pick their children first for their team and then all other children will be placed in the draft for tryouts.
6. All players must be registered before try-outs. If a player registers following the player draft established by DCYB Board, the player may, if an open roster position(s) exist in that league/division, be placed on a team per Dixie Youth Baseball Rules & Regulations, which states all teams with the fewest number of players shall have the right to draw for the player. Registering late does not grant the player an automatic position on any team.
7. Any player not participating in the try-outs automatically enter the draft. Unless that player is part of a head coaches core group of players. All core group players do not have to try-out or enter the draft.
8. All players will be re-drafted each year with the exception of core group players. Each league/division head coaches will conduct try-outs for that league/division. Parents desiring to be assistant coaches will also be listed, if they have not already been assigned to a team. Team selection order will be determined by a blind draw. Player selection sequence shall be in the predetermined order alternating ascending to descending (1,2,3,4...4,3,2,1). Exception: If there is only one team with a draw in any given round, draft order will not reverse. This is to maintain equitable order. This is the draft procedure followed by Coach Pitch, Minors and Ozone. All TBall teams will be drafted by DCYB Board. All head coaches and assistant coaches are allowed to be present at the draft.

Section III:

1. Schedules will be set so that all Dixie Youth and Dixie Boys/Majors requirements are met. Any changes that are made to the schedules have to be approved by the DCYB Board.
2. All Leagues/Divisions: If the game is not tied, no new inning will be started after 1 hour and 30 minutes of play. In case of a tie, 1 additional inning will be played. If the game remains in a tie, the game will be completed at a later date.

3. The following light schedule was made at the request of Brewer Park. Lights at Brewer Park will be turned off at 8:00 pm Monday through Thursday games. The lights will be turned off at 10:00 pm on Friday. Brewer Park allows DCYB to play all at Brewer Park and DCYB encourages parents to follow all rules within Brewer Park. The home team scorebook will be designated as the official record of the game. Scorekeepers are encouraged to sit in the press box. There is to be no coaching or negative comments made from the press boxes. Scorekeepers and the head umpire need to sign each scorebook at the completion of each game. Both head coaches (Minors, Ozone and Juniors) must sign the pitching Log at the completion of each game.
4. At the end of the season, a division/league winner will be decided by the best win/loss record. If a tie occurs between two teams with identical records, a single game play-off will be held on the next available day to play a game. The play-off game(s) will follow regular season rules. If more than two teams are tied for first, a drawing will be held with the coaches and Commissioner to determine a playing order. If three teams are tied, the first team drawn will get a bye and the other two teams will play each other. A coin flip will determine home/away team.
5. DCYB Board will consider the head coach of each division/league's first place team to be the head coach of the All-Star team for that division/league. All Allstar head coaches must be invited to coach the Allstar team for that division/league by DCYB Board. The head coach for Juniors, Ozone and Minors may select two assistant coaches. The head coach of TBall and Coach Pitch may select 3 assistant coaches. All assistant coaches for all divisions/leagues must be approved by DCYB Board.
6. All Star Selection: The head coach for each Allstar team will not be approved by DCYB until after regular season games are completed. Players may not be selected to an Allstar team until all games for that league/division have been completed. The head coach for the Allstar team will pick twelve players that have played in the required amount of game to be eligible for the Allstar Tournament. Players who have not play in the regular season may not be selected to an Allstar team.
7. Regular season head coaches for Ozone, Minors and Juniors may pick two assistant coaches. Regular season head coaches for Coach Pitch and T-Ball may pick three assistant coaches.
8. Any complaint about a coach abusing any child mentally, verbally or physically will be investigated. If so warranted, DCYB Board will review the situation. Action will be taken if necessary.
9. Any complaint about a spectator towards any child mentally, verbally or physically will be investigated. If so warranted, DCYB will review the situation and take action. If harassment continues DCYB Board will remove the child and/or parent from the team or field. The playing field is no place for complaints please find or contact a DCYB Board Member.
10. If a discharged coach coaches a game after he has been discharged, the team he is coaching will forfeit the game. In case of absence or discharge of the head coach, the assistant coach is to replace the head coach with DCYB Board's approval.

11. All head coaches may create their own practice schedule that is within Dixie Youth Baseball Rules.
12. All games in every league/division will be played with a continuous batting order. Player participation requirements on defense are six defensive outs for Juniors, Ozone, Minors and Coach Pitch. All player will play defensive position during Bail games.
13. Juniors, Ozone, Minors and Coach Pitch teams may pull a second-year player up next division/league to complete a nine-player roster for that team. A fill in player must bat last and play outfield. A list of fill in players should be created by the Commissioner, with each coach submitting a list of players that are capable of playing at the next division/league as a fill in player.
14. Umpires will enforce run rules according to Dixie Youth Baseball Rule Book.
15. DCYB will follow Dixie Youth Regular Season Pitch Count Rules with player 9-12 years old. Players that are league age 8 years old will follow Pitch Smart guideline: 1-20 pitches = 0 day rest, 21-35 pitches = 1 day rest, 36-50 pitches = 2 days rest. A pitcher 8 years old may not exceed 50 pitches in a game and a player less than league age 8 may not pitch in a game.
16. Weather: The President will make all decisions to cancel or postpone games due to weather prior to the scheduled time of the game(s). Severe weather policy for DCYB is monitored by the lighting detector at Brewer Park. If the alarm for the lightening detector sounds everyone will be instructed to take shelter in vehicies until the lightening detector determines it is safe to resume play.
17. All make up games will be played the week after regular season games are completed.
18. All Brewer Park Rules must be followed.
19. T-Ball division/league must use 2 ¼" bats. Coach Pitch, Minors and Ozone must use 25/8" bats.
20. Facemasks on batting helmets are required for all T-Ball division/league. Player playing the pitcher position in T-Ball and Coach Pitch must wear a helmet with a facemask.

Section IV:

Board Member Positions

1. Vice President
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Commissioner
 - a. Assistant Commissioner only when Commissioner is not present
5. Equipment Manager
6. Juniors Commissioner
7. Concession Manager

8. Player Agent

Position Responsibilities

1. President (Duties include but not limited to the following)
 - a. Presides as Chairperson over League Meetings.
 - b. Charged with enforcing the provisions of the By-Laws.
 - c. Appointing all committee members and committee chairman to special and standing committees and specify the number of committee members.
 - d. Presides as Chairman of all meetings of Ethics Committee, unless he/she is accused of a violation of the Code of Ethics.
 - e. Ensuring the By-Laws of the League is not in conflict with the Florida Dixie Youth Rules and Regulations.
 - f. Shall make the final decision to cancel or postpone games due to weather prior to the scheduled time of the game(s).
 - g. Representing DCYB at all official functions which they may attend.
 - h. Shall perform all such duties incidental to this office and any other duties as may be placed upon them by the Board of DCYB.
2. Vice-President
 - a. Shall perform the duties of the President in the absence or disability of the President or when the office of President is Vacant.
 - b. Shall serve as Chair Person of the ethics committee in cases where the president is accused of a violation of the Code of Ethics.
 - c. Shall act as the “tie” vote, when the President is not in attendance to a meeting.
 - d. Shall perform all such duties incidental to this office and any other duties as may be placed upon them by the Board of DCYB.
3. Secretary
 - a. Shall have charge of all Board Books, records, meeting minutes, and papers.
 - b. Shall maintain the minutes at each meeting.
 - c. Shall perform all such duties incidental to this office and any other duties as may be placed upon them by the Board of DCYB.
4. Treasurer
 - a. Shall serve as the Chief Administrative Officer of the League
 - b. Shall maintain a general investment fund and have custody of all money, certificates of deposit and other securities of the League for the general operating fund.
 - c. They are authorized to sign checks, transfer funds and receive funds for donations and sponsorships.
 - d. Shall require the Concession Manager and Equipment Manager to keep regular books of accounts and shall submit them, with all vouchers, receipts, records and other papers, to the Board for their examination and approval.

- e. Shall sign contracts and other legal documents executed on behalf of the DeSoto County Youth Baseball League.
 - f. Shall perform all such duties incidental to this office and any other duties as may be placed upon them by the Board of DCYB.
- 5. Commissioner
 - a. Charged with enforcing the rules and regulations under the league and teams play.
 - b. Serves as the ultimate arbiter in any dispute or protest concerning the rules and regulations of Dixie Youth Baseball and DeSoto County Youth Baseball.
 - c. Authorized all actions necessary to discharge the duties of their office.
 - d. Represents DCYB at all official functions they may attend.
 - e. Coordinating and promoting public relation activities for the DCYB program.
 - f. Shall perform all such duties incidental to this office and any other duties as may be placed upon them by the Board of DCYB.
- 6. Deputy Commissioner
 - a. Performing the duties of Commissioner in their absence or disability or when the office is vacant.
 - b. Representing DCYB at all official functions they may attend.
 - c. Shall perform all such duties incidental to this office and any other duties as may be placed upon them by the Board of DCYB.
- 7. Juniors Commissioner
 - a. Shall act as the liaison between the Board of DCYB and the Juniors league.
 - b. Charged with enforcing the rules and regulations under the Juniors league and team play.
 - c. Serves as the ultimate arbiter in any dispute or protest concerning the rules and regulations of the Juniors League.
 - d. Shall perform all such duties incidental to this office and any other duties as may be placed upon them by the Board of DCYB.
- 8. Equipment Manager (Make the Deputy Commissioner the Equipment Manager's primary function)
 - a. Shall ensure coaches are supplied with the minimum equipment needed to perform their duties.
 - i. Balls
 - ii. Catching gear (if needed by league)
 - iii. Tee
 - iv. League size helmets (1 of each size)
 - v. League size bat (1 of each size)
 - b. Shall inventory and ensure equipment is functional and accounted for at the end of every season.
 - c. Keep and maintain a written record of all equipment issued to each Head Coach.
 - d. Shall replace defective, worn and broken equipment.

- e. Shall work in conjunction with the Treasurer, to justify and purchase equipment needed for the league.
 - f. Shall perform all such duties incidental to this office and any other duties as may be placed upon them by the Board of DCYB.
9. Concession Manager
- a. Shall work in conjunction with the Treasurer for the funding of the stock for the Concession Stand.
 - b. Shall ensure the concession stand is staffed and managed at every DCYB official function.
 - c. Shall ensure that parents volunteer at least one night of the season in the concession stand.
 - d. Perform other such duties that may be placed upon them by the Board of DCYB.
 - e. Shall perform all such duties incidental to this office and any other duties as may be placed upon them by the Board of DCYB.
10. Player agent
- a. Shall be responsible for the development of the Selection of Players at the start of a Season.
 - b. Responsible for enforcing the selection process per the Dixie Youth Baseball Rules and Regulations, see PG. 70 & 71.
 - c. Shall ensure players are within the age requirements of their league.
 - d. Shall manage the sign-ups and tryouts for the league.
 - i. Selects coaches from each league to conduct the try-outs.
 - ii. Player agent is responsible for reviewing the try-out records for accuracy, fairness and equal opportunity.
 - e. Oversees and manages all draft meetings to ensure the player selection system is used and that all teams have an equal opportunity in the selection of all players.
 - f. Responsible for completing the background checks on all Head and Assistant Coaches.
 - g. Responsible for collecting all team rosters for season and all star play.
 - h. Shall perform all such duties incidental to this office and any other duties as may be placed upon them by the Board of DCYB.

Rules for Board Members

1. Each Board Member shall serve a term of two (2) years, at which time they may be re-elected by the Board or re-appointed by the Board.
2. Election of new members of the Board will be held at the time(s) designated by the Board.
 - a. The Board of DCYB shall announce the date and time for the election at least seven (7) days prior to the election.
3. Anyone being nominated for a position on the DCYB Board shall have attended at a minimum of two (2) Board Meetings prior to the nomination and voting date.

4. Board Members shall not miss two (2) or more consecutive meetings. Missing two (2) or more consecutive meetings will result in that member being dismissed from the Board.
 - a. Excused absences shall only include illness, family illness, work or an official DCYB game they are coaching.
 - b. At no time shall a practice be used as an excuse to miss a Board Meeting.
5. Board members can be active coaches.
 - a. Board members can **NOT** use their Board position during any game they are coaching or for the game they are coaching.
 - i. However if an event occurs off their field and has no connection to their team, coaches, players, and parents or the other team they are facing coaches, players and parents. Then they can act in the capacity as a Board Member.
 - b. Board members coaching shall have no voting power when a motion is made that is specific to the league they are coaching.
6. Board Members shall make every attempt possible to attend Board Meetings.
7. Board Meetings shall be held on the first or second wednesday of each month.
 - a. Board Meetings may be held at closer intervals if needed, ie: beginning of a season
8. Motions shall be conducted at Board meetings, unless an emergency requires immediate board action.
9. All Board Meetings and activity is subjected to Public Information.
 - a. Board Meeting dates shall be posted on social media and all coaches groups at least seven (7) days in advance.
10. At no time shall the public be requested to leave a meeting, unless they are acting against the Code of Ethics.
 - a. The Public has a right to view any motions, discussions and votes that occur during a Board Meeting and any communication on the DCYB Board Group Chat.

Committees within DCYB include the Concession Stand Committee and Umpire Committee. Board Members are expected to attend all meeting. Missing three consecutive meetings may result in dismissal from the Board.