



Diana Baseball Association Constitution and Bylaws

January 1, 2024

Section 1

ARTICLE 1 - Name

The organization will be known as Diana Baseball Association, inc. hereinafter referred to as the "Association." The Association's mailing address is P.O. Box 103, Diana, Texas 75640.

ARTICLE 2 - Objective

The objective of the Association will be to implant firmly in the children of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority, so that they may be well adjusted, stronger and happier children and will grow to be good, decent, healthy and trustworthy citizens.

All adult volunteers associated with Diana Baseball Association should be aware that this program is designed as a recreational outlet solely intended for the enjoyment of children and young adult's age fourteen (14) and under. Its purpose is to provide an enjoyable recreational experience with emphasis on participation, sportsmanship and developing the basic playing skills of all players.

To achieve this objective, the Association will provide children a supervised program under the Rules and Regulations of Diamond Youth Baseball, Inc. (formally Dixie Youth Baseball), which is age twelve (12) and under Ranger Youth Baseball, which is age (13) and up. All Officers and members will bear in mind that the attainment of exceptional future citizens is of prime importance. In accordance with the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, the Association will operate as a non-profit educational organization providing a supervised program of competitive youth baseball games. No part of the net earnings will go to the benefit of any private individual; no substantial part of the activities shall be used to carry on propaganda to influence legislation, participation, or intervention in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE 3 – Definitions

1. A constitution is the fundamental principles by which an organization is governed.
2. By-Laws are rules that are made by the organization to regulate its own affairs.
3. An annual meeting is held once a year.
4. A special meeting is to help to act on a specific item.
5. A regular meeting is one held to discuss additions to or deletions from the constitution and by-laws as well as to conduct any business as determined by the Board of Directors.
6. The manager is the Head coach of a given team. The terms are interchangeable.
7. Rules concerning and associated with playing the game should not be construed as by-laws but rather are defined in the Dixie Youth Baseball Inc. and Dixie Boys Baseball Inc. rulebooks.
8. The Board of Directors will determine the difference between definitions #2 and #7.

ARTICLE 4 - Membership

1. The Association shall have one class of members.
2. Natural persons may be admitted to the membership in the corporation by the Board of Directors. An affirmative vote of the majority of the directors present and voting shall be required for admission of any applicant who meets the membership qualifications then in effect.
3. The membership will consist of adult natural persons within the family structure of the children registered to participate in the activities of the Association.
4. For voting purposes only, the family structure of the child or children registered in the Association shall have two votes. One vote per parent or legal guardian, as the family structure dictates. These designations must be made at the time of registration. Any other person wanting to vote must go through the procedure outlined in Section 1 Article 4.2. No more than one vote per person shall be counted.
5. Membership may be terminated by resignation or by action of the Board of Directors. The Board of Director, by two-thirds votes, will have the authority to discipline, suspend, or terminate the membership of any member when the conduct of such person is considered to be detrimental to the best interest of the Association. The member should be notified of such meeting, informed of the general nature of the charges and given the opportunity to appear at the meeting to answer said charges.
6. Each member will receive a copy of the by-laws.

ARTICLE 5 - Meetings

1. The annual meeting of the members of the Association will be held in September of each year for the purpose of electing the Officers and/or new Members of the Board of Directors, receiving reports, and for the transaction of conducting other business brought forward by members of the Association.
2. Notice of the annual meeting of the members of the Association will be made by public announcement in advance of such meetings. Announcement will include the place, time, and purpose of the meeting. Or in lieu thereof, notice may be given in such form as authorized by the Officers of the Board.
3. Special meetings of the members may be called by the Board of Directors or by the Officers of the Board of Directors at their discretion. No business other than that specified in the notice of the meeting will be transacted at any special meeting of the members of the Association.

4. The total number of three (3) members represented at said meeting will constitute a quorum.
5. All issues will be decided upon by a simple majority vote at annual or special meeting unless specified otherwise in this constitution and by-laws of the Association.
6. Items coming to a vote that concern the affiliation with Dixie Baseball, the possibility of affiliation with another national organization, consolidation with other local programs, dissolution of the Association or division of the Association, drastic organizational changes, major construction or reconstruction of complex, any long-term indebtedness, or the well-being of the future of the Association, will require a vote of at least two-thirds of the voting members present at the meeting.
7. Items that concern local league rules within the Association will be voted on by the Board of Directors. The board will have authority to determine whether an item is a local league rule or a by-law. Local league rules will be accepted on a majority vote of the Board Members present.
8. At regular meetings, only members of the Board of Directors present will be allowed to vote on items requiring a vote. (Refer to Section I Article 3.5 for regular meeting)

ARTICLE 6 - Board of Directors

1. The management of the property and affairs of the Association shall be vested in the Board of Directors under the guidance of the elected and appointed members of the Board of Directors. The member of directors shall not be less than four (4). The director shall, upon election immediately enter upon the performance of their duties and shall continue in office until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified.
2. The required members of the Board of Directors shall be the four (4) elected officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
3. The elected members of the Board of Directors will vary annually based on parental interest and needs of the Association. Any and all suggested positions may be increased or decreased in any manner that will continue to provide the players of the Association with the services that are essential to their safety, enjoyment and continued participation.
4. At each annual meeting, the members shall determine the number of officers and members to be elected to serve on the Board of Directors. All elections of Officers shall be by majority vote of the members present at the time of the meeting. No proxy votes may be cast. You must be present to vote.
5. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held immediately following the annual election and such days thereafter as determined by the Board. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer may issue a call for a special meeting of the Board. Notice of the regular meeting or special meeting

shall be given by the Secretary to each board member by telephone or personal notice forty-eight hours (48) preceding the meeting, or by mail at least five (5) days before the appointed time of the meeting to the last recorded address of each Board of Director.

6. In case of special meetings, such notice shall include the purpose of the meeting and no matters other than those stated shall be acted upon at that meeting.
7. The Board of Directors shall have the power to appoint such standing committees as it shall determine and to delegate such powers to them as the Board shall deem advisable and which it may properly delegate. The Board shall have the power by a two-thirds vote of those present at any regular or special meeting to discipline, suspend, or remove any officer or member of the Association. An annual financial statement will be furnished by the President and Treasurer to those in attendance at the Annual Meeting.
8. Failure of a Board Member to attend two consecutive board meetings without an acceptable reason shall create a vacancy in that position.
9. Vacancies on the board shall be appointed by the President and then the membership shall vote by a 2/3 majority vote to approve the position.

ARTICLE 7 - Financial and Accounting

1. The Board of Directors shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of the Association and it shall place all income, including auxiliary funds, in a common league treasury. The Board shall also direct the expenditure of same in such manner and will give no individual or team an advantage over those in competition with such individual or team.
2. The Board of Director shall permit the contribution of funds or property to individual teams and shall encourage the solicitation of funds for the common treasury of the Association.
3. The Board of Directors shall not permit the solicitation of funds in the name of the Association unless all funds so raised are placed in the common treasury of the Association.
4. The Board shall not permit the disbursement of Association funds for anything other than the conduct of the Association's activities.
5. No Director, Officer or member of the Association shall receive directly or indirectly, any salary or compensation, except as provided by the Laws of the State of Texas, in accordance with the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act.
6. All monies received including auxiliary funds, shall be deposited to the credit of the Association.

7. The fiscal year of the Association shall be a length of time congruent to the term of office, beginning September 1 and ending August 31.

ARTICLE 8 - Record-Keeping, Inspection and Copying and Auditing

1. The Board of Directors shall keep correct and complete books and records pertaining to the Association. They shall include financial records, by-laws, and minutes of meetings. Amendments thereof and any other documents pertinent to the good welfare of the Association, as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors. Any member may inspect the books and records of the Association.
2. Any member may request copies of these books and records. The member will be charged mileage @ 35 cents per mile for travel to location to have records copied, copy fees, and postage fees. The inspection of or request for books and records must be submitted in writing by certified mail to the Board of Directors or the Diana Baseball Association, Inc. (Article 1 contains address). Action must be taken within thirty (30) days of receipt of request.

ARTICLE 9 - Amendments to By-Laws Procedures

1. The by-laws may be altered, amended or repealed and new by-laws may be adopted either by the membership or the Board of Directors. New or amended by-laws must be adopted by majority vote.

SECTION 2

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Rules and regulations herein shall be followed by those concerned. These rules and regulations shall be supplemented by directives by the Board as necessary.
2. The Board of Directors has adopted the "Diamond Youth Baseball – Official Rules & Regulations" for the Coaches and Players unless different than the items below. Copies of these rules will be given to all coaches and to any member who so shall request a copy of said rules.
3. The actions of players, coaches, umpires, and league officials must be above reproach.

4. The Head Coach of the team will have full responsibility of the actions of all concerned with his team. The Board will look only to him for responsibility. Violation of rules of the Association can result in suspension of said head coach. The coach would then have five (5) days to appeal his suspension by requesting a hearing before the Board. If the parties involved are on the Board of Directors, they shall not be allowed to vote on the matter.
5. Any coach ejected from a game by an umpire shall be suspended for the following two games and shall not participate in such games.
6. If a protest has been brought before the Board of Directors and a member of the Board has a conflict of interest as coach or assistant coach of said team, then that board member shall excuse himself from any decisions made regarding the protest issue.
7. Solicitations of any kind, for or during the activities of the Association must be approved by the Board of Directors by the majority vote.
8. A fee schedule shall be established to use the facilities to help offset the cost of Electricity and Waste Deposal Fees for any team outside of the Association.
9. No Alcohol or intoxication shall be allowed on the premises of Diana Sports Complex. Smoking shall be allowed in designated areas only.
 - a. It is the responsibility of the coaches and all other members of the association to uphold the league's policy on smoking and other tobacco use. There will be two (2) designated areas that tobacco use will be allowed. (1) The main parking lot on Hwy 154. (2) Outside the fence on Baseball Loop by the 7/8 field. Tobacco use will not be allowed anywhere else on the premises.
10. Head Coaches will be elected by a majority vote of the membership. The legal parent or guardian of a player is the only candidate for Head Coach unless there are more teams than parent/guardian volunteers. In this case, a qualified adult may be placed on the ballot for Head Coach Election.
 - a. Head coaches will be responsible for maintaining their fields before and after every game, including but not limited to: making sure all gates are shut and locked, all buildings are secure, and all lights are off on the fields.
 - b. Head coaches will be responsible for their team's jerseys.
 - c. Head coaches will be responsible for obtaining their own sponsorships for their team's jerseys. Sponsorship checks must be made payable to Diana Baseball Association.
 - d. Upon final invoice, DBA will cut a check made payable to the vendor for the invoice with sponsorship money allocated first, and THEN up to a max of \$20 per player and 3 coaches on that team.
 - e. Head coaches will be responsible for all parent and team shirts outside of DBA.

- f. Head coaches will be responsible for finding their own practice facility or rotate use of fields. Any conflicts between coaches will be decided by the Board.
- g. Head coaches will be responsible for signing out all equipment owned by the Association, and if not signed back in, will owe \$200 at the end of season to the DBA.

11. Pitch Counts will be enforced for all Age Groups:

- a. 12U and below: 75 Pitches per week with a maximum of 85 pitches for a weekend tournament.
- b. 13U and up: 95 Pitches per week with a maximum of 105 pitches for a weekend tournament.
- c. Coaches are required to keep track of the pitch counts of both their own pitchers and their opponent's pitchers. It is inherent that both teams work with each other and check pitch counts during the game. Scorekeepers from the pitching team are to inform the umpire behind the plate and the opposing team scorekeeper when a pitcher reaches 60 pitches. The batting team is required to bring notice to the umpire if they have a discrepancy in pitch count. The umpire's determination will be final. Any Manager/Coach that violates this rule will be subject to ejection from the game by the umpire and suspension from future games by the Diana Baseball Association Board. These rules are designed to protect our athletes from overuse issues. Violations of this rule are to be reported to a Diana Baseball Association Board Member by the plate umpire upon conclusion of the day.

12. Run Limit per Inning – The following run limits are the maximum amount of runs any team may score in their half of the inning. Once the final run has crossed the plate the half inning will end

- a. Tball: Seven (7) runs per half inning
- b. 7/8: Seven (7) runs per half inning
- c. 9/10: None
- d. 11/12: None
- e. 13/14: None

13. **15 Run Rule** – A game shall be considered a regulation game when a team is ahead by fifteen (15) runs after both teams have batted four (4) times or in the case of the home team when it is leading, three times. Pitchers shall be charged for innings actually pitched.

14. **10 Run Rule** - A game shall be considered a regulation game when a team is ahead by ten (10) runs after both teams have batted five (5) times or in the case of the home team when it is leading, three times. Pitchers shall be charged for innings actually pitched.

15. Time Limits – The following time limits will be imposed per age group. A game is complete regardless of the inning, once the home team has batted and the time limit has been reached. The umpire will notify both score keepers of the actual start time of a game. The umpire is the final say on time.

- a. WeeBall and Tball Divisions: 1 hour
- b. 7/8 Division: 1 hour 15 minutes
- c. 9/10 Division: 1 hour 15 minutes

- d. 11/12 Division: 1 hour 30 minutes
- e. 13/14 Division: 1 hour 30 minutes

16. Drafting:

- a. Draft Schedule - A player draft will be conducted by the Board at a time and place designated by the DBA President. Draft order and player draft selection is CONFIDENTIAL and must not be discussed with anyone outside of the draft, or at any time after the draft.
- b. Annual Draft - Each team will draft a new roster of players every season.
- c. Draft Participation - All designated managers must be notified of their player draft and be in attendance. In his or her absence, they may have a representative attend, and this person will have the authority to speak for the manager. Only listed manager or representative (approved by the Board of Directors) for each team may attend the draft. A minimum of (2) Executive Board members must be available at the draft location.
- d. Draft Attendance Exclusion - Other than the listed manager, or designated representative, no person may attend a draft in which his/her child is being considered.
 - i. Exception – Board members may attend a draft in which his/her child is being considered in an official board capacity ONLY. Board members will make NO attempt to influence or sway any draft.
- e. Draft Absences - Should there not be enough managers in attendance at the draft (one for each team to be drafted) a designated board member (who does not have a player in that draft) will draft the team(s) for the absent manager(s).
- f. Players per Team - The number of players that constitute a full roster will be determined and set prior to the draft (based on the number of players and coaches available) with approval by the board and may vary by division. Unless approved by the board of directors, there shall be no more than 13 players per team.
- g. Pre-Draft Issues - All special situations regarding the league must be addressed prior to the draft. These situations include but are not limited to: brothers/sisters separate team availability, league structure, and playoff formats.
- h. Draft Order - The order of draft will be decided by random drawing.
- i. Snake Process - Teams will draft in snake order. The snake process will continue until rosters are full. Team A drafts first, then drafts 8th, etc. Team B drafts second, then 7th, etc., and so forth until all rosters are full. Below is an example of the snake method using a four-team division.

	1 st pick	2 nd pick	3 rd pick	4 th pick
Round 1	A	B	C	D
Round 2	D	C	B	A

- j. **Manager's Sons and Daughters** – Each team will consist of 1 Head Coach and 1 Assistant Coach for the official roster. The child(ren) of the official Head Coach and Assistant Coach (no more than 2 players per household) are automatically drafted to the assigned team before the start of the draft. No more than a max of 4 players living in the same household as the Head or Assistant coach will be allowed on the pre-draft team roster.
 - i. **Exceptions** – Any exception request (player requested and reason for request) must be provided to the board before the draft begins. Any and All exceptions MUST be approved in writing by every member of the Board present AND all Head coaches in the age group. If any Board member or Head coach disagrees with the request, the exception will be denied and the player in question will be drafted as normal.
 - ii. All rosters in an age group must start with an even number of players per team. If teams are uneven due to pre-draft players, then the Snake draft will begin with the team(s) with the least amount of pre-draft players and continue until all teams have the same number of players. The Snake Draft will then continue as designed.
- k. **Siblings** - Brothers or sisters registered in the same league will be drafted on the same team roster unless the parent(s) requests, in writing at the time of registration to the League Director that they may be drafted on different teams. Once the first sibling is drafted by a manager, the second sibling is automatically drafted next pick.
- l. **Trades** - Trades will only be allowed for a fifteen-minute period immediately following the draft. The Board President must approve all trades.
 - i. **Manager Exclusion** - A parent may request at the time of registration that their player not be drafted by a certain coach, only if that player has played at least one full season, either spring or fall, with that manager or coach. This rule does not apply to the selection of the tournament team.

17. ALL-STAR Selection:

- a. **All-Star Selection Schedule** – The All-Star selection process will be conducted by each coach in the designated age group at a time and place agreed upon by all coaches. All-Star selection is CONFIDENTIAL and must not be discussed with anyone outside selection, or at any time after the selection.
- b. The head coach of the All-Star team is decided by the head coach with the best regular season record against the other DBA teams in their age division.
 - i. ALL games scheduled for league team v league team MUST be played in order to fairly determine the end-of-season standings. If a coach cancels or reschedules a game but does not make up the game in a timely manner during the regular season, that game will be counted as a loss to the team that cancelled. If a game is cancelled due to circumstances beyond control (i.e. weather), best efforts should be made to reschedule the game. If a game cannot be rescheduled, the game will not be counted towards the end-of-season standings.

- ii. In the event of a tie, a playoff game will be played to determine the winner. If a playoff game cannot be played due to weather or scheduling conflicts, the decision will be decided by a 2/3 majority vote of the board.
 - iii. The winning head coach can decide to opt out of the All-Star season, in which case the 2nd place team's head coach will be selected.
 - c. The head coach of the All-Star team will be allowed to select two (2) or three (3) assistant coaches, in accordance with DYB rules and regulations for the age group in which they are participating.
 - d. The head coach of the All-Star team must take the seven (7) players with the most number of votes to be on the All-Star team as voted upon by the managers and assistants as directed above.
 - e. The remaining 3-5 players are chosen solely at the discretion of the head coach of the All-Star team in order to complete the All-Star roster.
 - f. The head coach of the All-Star team is encouraged to select the players that will give the team the best chance to advance the farthest in order to represent the DBA appropriately.
 - g. Any and all protests of the selections made shall be taken to the Board. The Board will determine if the protest is valid. If the protest is considered to be valid, the DBA board will make the final ruling on the protest. Any board members that are coaches, assistant coaches or parents of players in the particular age division will excuse themselves from the proceedings. All rulings made by the DBA board are final and not subject to further discussion.
18. Teams not associated with Diamond Youth Baseball and the Diana Baseball Association, but that consists of at least 80% players from Diana, will have access to the facilities as long as:
- a. DBA teams are always given priority over non-DBA teams to the fields and facilities.
 - b. Team pays a facility fee as agreed upon with the President and the DBA Board.
 - c. Team keeps the field in working order and cleans around the grounds.
 - d. Final terms for agreement will be decided on with President and DBA Board.
19. Any issues, questions, or rules not addressed by the DBA Bylaws or the Diamond Youth Baseball Rules and Regulations will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the DBA Board.

Revision Listing and Dates

Date Approved / Items Revised

02.07.13 / Added Items #13 - 17

02.11.13 / Added Items #18- 20

11.24.19 / Added Items: 12A-H; 17a, b, c; 19M revised wording; 21A revised

2.11.20 / 19B revise

12.5.23 / Added Items: Article 3.6, Section 2, 16d-i, 16j, 17bi-iii, 18a, 19; Removed Items: Section 2 #7, 11, 12c, 18, 19m, 20b (bylaws version 2020); Revised Items: Article 2, Article 4.3, Article 5.1, Article 6.2-6.7, Section 2 #2, 4, 8, 10, 16a,c,e,f,l, 17a,b,f, 18