



# WESTERN COUNTIES BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

*Promoters of Clean Organized Baseball*

*Founded in 1900*

## **Constitution And Bylaws**

**(Last Revised: March 27, 2019)**

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The Constitution of Baseball Ontario plus the Playing Rules and Regulations issued each year by Baseball Ontario will govern the Western Counties Baseball Association.

These will be limited by the following, which will apply only to the Western Counties Baseball Association. Convenor

**1) Membership:**

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- a) Membership in this Association shall be composed of clubs who agree to abide by and comply with the Constitution of the Association.
- b) Every member in this association must be in good standing and approved by the majority of the Executive.
- c) Every player in this association must be in good standing and approved by the Registrar before being allowed to play.
- d) The Executive shall have the power to accept individual clubs where they are unable to secure grouping in any W.C.B.A. leagues.
- e) The Executive shall have the power to grant permission to any club within the association boundary line to play baseball in any other league which is affiliated with Baseball Ontario. Such permission is granted on an annual basis.

**2) Officers:**

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- a) The Officers of the Association shall be the President, 1st Vice-President, Immediate Past President and Executive Officers. All positions except Immediate Past President will be elected at the Annual Meeting. The Officers of the Association are defined to be the Executive.
- b) A 60% vote of the Executive is required to remove an elected Officer of the Association.
- c) The Secretary/Treasurer and Registrar are appointed annually and paid a fee determined by the elected officers.
- d) The WCBA Representative to Baseball Ontario shall be appointed annually.
- e) The Umpire in Chief and Supervisor of Coaching shall be appointed annually.
- f) The Executive shall have control of the affairs of the Association and shall have power to fill vacancies which may occur in its number, to amend or alter the regulations or championship competition, to issue or revoke certificates in case of change of residence of players, to handle league business of an immediate nature.
- g) The Past Presidents of the association shall be an advisory body to the association executive. The presence and advice of Past Presidents shall always be welcome at meetings of the Association. Past Presidents shall have power to vote at all meetings of the Association.

h) Members attending the Baseball Ontario Annual Convention shall be selected in order from those noted below up to a maximum of 5:

- W.C.B.A. Rep to Baseball Ontario
- President
- Immediate Past President
- Series Convenors
- Secretary-Treasurer
- Registrar
- Supervisor of Umpires
- Supervisor of Coaches

If any of the above are not able to attend the Executive shall appoint alternates as required to provide sufficient attendees to vote all votes allocated to WCBA.

### **3) Duties of Officers:**

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- a) The President shall preside at all the meetings of the association and Executive with the usual privileges of the office. Should the President, and Vice-President be unable to preside at the Annual or Special General Meetings, they shall advise the Executive Committee prior to the meeting, and the Executive Committee shall nominate a chairperson.
- b) The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his absence. The Vice-President shall also be the overall Series Chairperson.
- c) The elected Executive Officers will hold the position of Rookieball, Mosquito, PeeWee, Bantam, Midget, Junior, and Senior Convenors
- d) The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Association and Executive. He shall keep an accurate record of all money received and disbursed by him and report at any time desired by the President. He shall conduct all correspondence and shall have the authority to co-operate with the President in managing the affairs of the Association in accordance with the Association Constitution and the expressed policy of the Executive.
- e) The Registrar shall be responsible for all playing certificates, change of residence reinstatement forms, also the registration of all birth certificates.
- f) The Umpire-in-Chief shall chair the Technical Committee of the Western Counties Baseball Association. This person shall also assist the President in any matters pertaining to the Constitution of the Western Counties Baseball Association.

### **4) Sub-Committee:**

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A sub-committee of three Executive members, plus any others deemed necessary by the President (who also shall be an ex-officio member of the committee) shall be convened to consider questions of re-instatement, suspension and all matters which might be dealt with by the Executive Committee at its regular meeting, except in cases which, in the opinion of the President, are of such emergency, as to require a special Executive meeting to be called.

**5) Meetings:**

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- a) At all general meetings each club shall appoint one (1) voting representative for that meeting.
- b) A quorum at all meetings shall consist of three (3) of the Executive members.
- c) The Convenors may call meetings at any time for the purpose of organizing leagues, and at the request of one team, which has problems that concern them and the league that they belong to. If no settlement is made at such meetings, they will be brought up at a full Association Executive meeting.
- d) The Annual Meeting shall be held in March and the Semi-Annual Meeting shall be held in Sept (date to be determined by the Executive), including any other scheduled meetings. The Local Associations shall be notified of the time and place of the meetings at least two (2) weeks in advance of the planned meeting date. Each Local Association is allowed up to two (2) votes, one vote per person. Each executive member is allowed one vote.
- e) No Local Association in arrears shall be entitled to vote.
- f) At the Annual Meeting, Semi-Annual and any other scheduled meetings, ONE (1) member from each Local Association in Western Counties MUST be present. At the Classification Meeting held in July each year ONE (1) coach or manager from each TEAM MUST be present. The penalty for not having representation at these meetings will be a fine not to exceed \$100 per offence.

**6) Order of Business:**

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- a) At General or special meetings the order of business shall be:
  - 1. Reading of Minutes
  - 2. Reading and consideration of communications and notices
  - 3. Reports of standing and special committees
  - 4. Reception of any application of admission
  - 5. Consideration of deferred business
  - 6. Consideration of current business
  - 7. Good and welfare of the association.
- b) At the Annual Meeting, the order of business shall be:
  - 1. Reading of the minutes
  - 2. Reading and consideration of communications and notices.
  - 3. Annual Report of the Secretary/Treasurer, Financial Report.
  - 4. Report of the standing and special committees
  - 5. Consideration of constitution, by-law and rules and amendments thereof.
  - 6. General Business
  - 7. Election of Officers
  - 8. Good and welfare of the Association

**7) Amendments:**

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Any change in the Constitution, By-Laws or Rules and election to various offices of the Association, can only be made at the Annual Meeting, and only by 60% majority of the votes cast. Such changes and nominations can be proposed by an affiliated club in good standing or by an officer of the Association. These changes to be submitted to the Secretary in writing two (2) weeks prior to the annual meeting.

**8) General:**

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The Constitution as shown in this book is intended as a general guide and cannot specifically cover each situation that may arise. Therefore, the President in regular or special meetings, with a quorum of the elected and/or appointed executive, will have the authority to interpret and decide to the best of their judgement with regard to all these circumstances of any specific case, any matters pertaining to any and all clauses contained herein and that their decision shall be final.

**9) Fees:**

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- a) The annual fees for each club shall be determined by the Executive.
- b) A club will be said to be in arrears if the Treasurer has not received their payment(s) within seven (7) days of the date of a letter from the Treasurer advising the amount of any debt.
- c) No club which is in arrears in whole or in part in the fees, certificate tax, deposits for certificate tax, or in any other respect, shall be entitled to vote upon any question at any association, group or series meeting, and any club so in arrears shall forfeit all rights and privileges of protesting any games played while in arrears, or of requesting a special meeting of the association group or series
- d) Any team needing Player Rosters for tournament and/or any other deadlines, and a courier service is used for delivery, must pay a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.) IN ADVANCE of the rosters being sent.
- e) All appeal requests will be accompanied by a cheque made payable to WCBA for \$100. The panel hearing the appeal will determine if the fee is kept by WCBA or returned, depending on the merit of the appeal.
- f) Local Associations with at least one OBA rostered team will be required to provide an annual performance bond of \$500 at the beginning of the playing season. This will be paid at the time of payment for insurance and team registration. The performance bond will be returned at the end of the season, net of any outstanding unpaid fines. Should the outstanding fines exceed the performance bond amount, the unpaid portion of the fines, will be added to the performance bond requirement for the following season. The bond will be provided by means of a post-dated cheque that will be returned at the September WCBA meeting (if it was unused).

**10) Membership:**

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- a) Every club or Local Association desiring to join or renew membership in WCBA, shall complete an application form and return such application form in duplicate to the Convenor within seven (7) days and agree to abide by the rules and By-Laws of Association Executive as the final judge in any matter of dispute. All applications for membership must be forwarded in duplicate, also with a certified cheque or money order covering the necessary fees.
- b) The membership of any club shall be forfeited:
  - 1. By voluntary withdrawal;
  - 2. By disbandment;
  - 3. By offering, agreeing, conspiring or attempting to lose any game of ball;
  - 4. By failing to immediately suspend any player who shall have been proven guilty of offering, agreeing, conspiring or attempting to lose any game of ball, or being interested in any pool or wager against his own team;
  - 5. By refusing to play or continue a game.
  - 6. By refusing to comply with any written instructions directed by the Executive through the league Secretary.
  - 7. Upon the forfeit of 3 games in any season.
- c) Any club which shall forfeit its membership in the association shall be subject to a fine determined by the Executive and payable before the WCBA Annual Meeting.

**11) Player Registration and Release Processes:**

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- a) For each playing season, each Local Association will assign a Local Registrar on or before January 31. The Local Association Registrar will be responsible for gathering, verifying and disseminating all roster information and approved rosters within their Local Associations.
- b) If a Local Association plans to field any competitive teams for the coming playing season, they must declare such intent in detail to the WCBA Registrar on or before January 31. The Registrar will distribute a summary to the Local Association Registrars by the AGM.
- c) All players wishing to play competitive baseball as a member of an OBA rostered team must register with their home Local Association for the upcoming season prior to the date noted in Section 11 h).
- d) Players with valid releases from the prior year may choose to register with the Local Association they played with last season.
- e) A player may return to his/her home Local Association at the beginning of any season without a release.
- f) If a player has played two consecutive seasons with another Local Association, as a result of Section 11 d) and h), and wishes to remain with that team he/she will be considered released.



- g) If a Local Association is unsure as to whether they will be fielding a team, a player may apply for a **Permission To Practice** form from the Local Association that would allow the player the opportunity to work-out with another specific team within WCBA, until a decision is made by the Local Association, at which point this form expires.
- h) Local Associations must determine the age categories in which they will be fielding teams by April 1st. After this date, players registered in categories where no team is to be fielded or are unsuccessful in making the team in his/her age group are free to seek a position with a team in another centre within WCBA.

**Note:** This is not a release. The player must register with his/her home centre the following year.

- i) If player resides within the boundary of a Local Association that is not currently active, the player is free to play for any other team within WCBA (however the player must notify the WCBA Registrar). Once the player registers with a Local Association, that Local Association is deemed to hold the playing rights of the player as it relates to release rules and subsequent player movement (treated as if the player was playing with the Local Association on the basis of a valid release).
- j) The WCBA Executive will not entertain release requests or appeals between Labour Day and April 1st of the following year, unless a Local Association has declared which teams they will have for the upcoming playing season as defined in Section 11 h). A player must be registered with their Local Association before a release request will be accepted for consideration by the WCBA Registrar. The Registrar will not consider release requests for players that have failed to register with their Local Association prior to the deadline date noted earlier in this clause.
- k) The WCBA Executive will not entertain any request for permission to register with a US based program unless the player has first registered with their Local Association.
- l) If a player wishes to obtain a release to play with another Local Association, a written request must be submitted to his/her Local Association and to the WCBA Registrar. If the Local Association fails to provide a ruling within 14 days of receipt of the request, the player may appeal, in writing, to the WCBA Registrar. WCBA will convene a hearing within 14 days of the appeal at which the player and the Local Association will be allowed in person to present their case. If the release is denied by WCBA the player may then appeal to the OBA for a final decision.
- m) If a player wishes to play with a Local Association outside of WCBA, the player must first obtain a release from the Local Association holding the player's playing rights. Once the Local Association release is obtained, the player must obtain a release from applicable higher level programs within WCBA (the Executive decides which are applicable). Once applicable higher level releases have been obtained, the player will need to obtain a WCBA Affiliate release. All required releases must be obtained before a player can practice or play with a team other than the Local Association that currently holds the player's playing rights.



- n) All completed and verified rosters are to be submitted to the WCBA registrar prior to the WCBA roster deadline date. The WCBA roster deadline date will nominally be 15 days prior to the OBA deadline date. This date will be communicated by the WCBA Registrar at least annually at the AGM and Coach's Meeting(s). Local Associations will pay a fine of \$100 for each roster received by the Registrar after the above deadline.

## **12) Team Permission to Play Games Outside of WCBA**

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- a) Any team wishing to play in a league schedule outside of WCBA must request permission from WCBA in writing. The request is to be forwarded to the Secretary/Treasurer at least two weeks prior to the Coaches Meeting held in April.
- b) Any team that has been granted permission to play in a league outside of WCBA must meet all of the requirements set out in Appendix 1 to be eligible for classification to play in Baseball Ontario provincial championships.
- c) Any team wishing to play games outside of Ontario must submit a request to the Secretary/Treasurer. The Secretary/Treasurer shall seek permission from Baseball Ontario. Baseball Ontario permission is required prior to playing any games outside the province.

## **13) Classification of Leagues or Clubs:**

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- a) Classification of Western Counties will be revised after the Baseball Ontario Annual Meeting held in November. At the W.C.B.A. Classification Meeting held in July, when teams are classified, only changes made by 8:00 p.m. on that night will be accepted. The Secretary and Convenor must be notified so that proper documentation of the change is submitted to Baseball Ontario.
- b) Teams will not be classified (at the discretion of the Convenor):
  - If they have not completed at least 5 scheduled WCBA league games prior to July 1 of the playing season.
  - If League and Tournament results are not in to Convenors seven (7) days in advance of the Classification Meeting
  - If fines or fees are in arrears.
  - If a team has not met their "WCBA commitment" as defined in Appendix 1 where applicable, due to the team playing a schedule outside of WCBA.
- c) To be eligible for classification, teams must have played 80% of their games scheduled to date by the classification meeting.

- d) If a River League team wishes to be considered for OBA classification to attend OBA Provincial Championships, they must notify their Series Convenor before June 1 of the playing season. They must play a schedule of games against the OBA teams in their series, prior to the classification date (this will consist of at least no less than 5 games, and must be against different opponents). The team must submit a completed roster to the WCBA Registrar by the WCBA roster deadline (refer to Section 11 n). The players on the roster will be subject to applicable WCBA and OBA release rules. The coaches on the roster must meet the applicable OBA coaching certification requirements.

#### 14) Games:

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- a) All games shall start on the official starting times as laid down at the series schedule meetings, however the starting time of any game may be changed by mutual agreement of the two clubs, or failing agreement, by order of the Executive.
- b) A fine of fifty (\$50) dollars shall be imposed on any team which does not have nine (9) properly signed and registered players on the field and prepared to play within 1/2hr of the advertised time, unless for some unavoidable delay, and the fine shall be imposed and collected by the W.C.B.A. Secretary on or before the date of the offending team's next game, the offending team having the right to appeal to the W.C.B.A. Executive. The team management shall notify the W.C.B.A. Secretary by personal report immediately after such an occurrence. The game shall be forfeited.
- c) It is the obligation of the Home Team to reschedule any un-played/cancelled game within seven (7) days with the other team.
- d) If there are two out, and the catcher is on base, a runner may be put in for catcher and he must be the last out.
- e) In 7 inning games, if after 3 or more innings a team is ahead by 18 or more runs, or if after 5 or more innings a team is ahead by 10 runs or more then the game shall be called.
- f) Game Reports must be submitted to the series convenor by the home team within 48 hours of the game. The game report must contain the score and report any ejections or injuries. Failure to submit the report will result in a warning for the first offence, a \$50 fine for the second and \$100 for each subsequent event.
- g) OBA playing rules apply to all league games, including pitch count requirements. This includes the requirement to use OBA carded umpires.
- h) At ages less than Minor Bantam, a maximum of 7 runs per inning will be allowed for league play. Once seven runs have been scored in an inning, that half of the inning will come to an end.
- i) At ages less than Midget, all players will be included in the hitting line-up.

**15) Protests and Appeals:**

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- a) All protests arising out of league games must be filed with the WCBA Secretary, accompanied by 50 dollars, within 48 hours after the said game. A copy must also be filed with the protested club within 48 hours. The protested club will have 36 hours to file a defense with the WCBA Secretary and the protesting club. The President of WCBA will appoint a committee to resolve the protest within 5 days from the time the Secretary receives the protest. Each club may be represented at the hearing. Any appeals must be filed within 48 hours after the handing down of the decision by the committee and accompanied by 100 dollars. Disposition of fees shall be at the discretion of the President.
- b) Once a protest and/or appeal has been dealt with by the W.C.B.A. or a committee delegated to act in such matters by the W.C.B.A. that any ruling handed down must be considered FINAL by the W.C.B.A. No further action will be taken under the heading "Protests and Appeals".
- c) In play-offs, due to the Baseball Ontario time factor, emergency decisions will be made by the Convenor in consultation with the executive within twenty-four (24) hours.
- d) Protests or appeals on questions of fact will not be considered, as umpires decision in such matters is final.
- e) Decisions made by Series Convenors as it relates to classification and fines may be appealed to the WCBA Executive. The written appeal must be filed with the WCBA Secretary, accompanied by 100 dollars, within 48 hours of the WCBA annual classification meeting at which all classification decisions are finalized. The President of WCBA will appoint a committee to resolve the protest within 5 days from the time the Secretary receives the appeal. Any fine remaining outstanding after the appeal is complete, must be paid to the Treasurer of the WCBA within 7 calendar days of the date of the appeal decision.

## 16) Suspensions and Expulsions:

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- a) Any Local Association or club, a member of this association violating the Constitution or By-Laws or refusing to abide by the decision of the Executive or Sub-Committee may be expelled or suspended.
- b) Local Associations, clubs, officers or players may be suspended by the Executive Committee for knowingly:
  - 1) Permitting betting or improper conduct by players or officers at league or play-off games;
  - 2) Offering, agreeing, conspiring or attempting to lose any league or play-off game or being interested in any pool or wager thereon;
  - 3) Playing with a league that has been suspended or expelled;
  - 4) Knowingly having on its list of signed players any disqualified players;
  - 5) Any club or player who shall play under an assumed name shall be suspended from the association;
  - 6) Using of Tobacco Products During a Game - Players, coaches and umpires in uniform must refrain from using any tobacco products during all games. Penalty for this will be immediate ejection for players or coaches and may result in the loss of accreditation for umpires.
  - 7) Players and officials ejected from League Games by an official Umpire are suspended for a game, to be the following respective League Game. The second ejection will be for three games and the third ejection to be for the balance of the season including all League and Playoff Games. Any serious infractions will be reviewed by the Executive accordingly. In playoff games, ejections will be dealt with by the Executive.

## 17) DISCIPLINE

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- a) All carded players and coaches who are members of the WCBA are subject to the discipline of the WCBA regardless of who they are, or where they play.
- b) Any player, coach, manager or team personal ejected from a game will be suspended for the next one or more WCBA games, to be served in a regularly scheduled, play-off, or O.B.A. game within the WCBA league. This suspension is to be above and beyond any suspension served at a tournament or non-WCBA game. The suspension will be set as follows;

### **WCBA Penalties Resulting from an Ejection:**

- i. **Disputing the Call of an Official or Harassment of an Official or Unsportsmanlike Conduct of a Player / Coach / Manager***
  - 1st incident, current game plus a minimum of 1 game
  - 2nd incident, current game plus a minimum of 2 games
  - 3rd incident, suspended until reviewed by the WCBA executive

**ii. Verbal Abuse of an Official**

- 1st incident, current game plus a minimum of 2 games
- 2nd incident, suspended until reviewed by the WCBA executive

**iii. Trash Talking or Obscene Gesture**

- 1st incident, current game plus a minimum of 1 game
- 2nd incident, suspended until reviewed by the WCBA executive

**iv. Player / Coach / Manager Fighting or Leaving the Dugout to Enter into a Fight (not trying to break up the fight)**

- 1st incident, current game plus suspended until reviewed by the WCBA executive

**v. Intent to Injure, Spitting in the Direction of, or Threatening a Player / Coach / Manager / Official**

- 1st incident, current game plus suspended until reviewed by the WCBA executive

**vi. Travesty of the Game (throwing items on the field, pulling out bases, not leaving the game when directed to, etc.)**

- 1st incident, current game plus a minimum of 2 games
- 2nd incident, suspended until reviewed by the WCBA executive

**vii. Coaching from the Sidelines after being Ejected from the Game**

- 1st incident, current game plus a minimum of 2 games
- 2nd incident, current game plus a minimum of 4 games
- 3rd incident, suspended until reviewed by the WCBA executive

**viii. Pitching Rule Infraction**

- 1st incident, game is forfeited, manager suspended current game plus 1 additional game
- 2nd incident, game is forfeited, manager suspended current game plus 3 additional games
- 3rd incident, game is forfeited, manager suspended until reviewed by the WCBA executive

**ix. Physical Contact with an Official**

- 1st incident, current game plus suspended until reviewed by the WCBA executive

**Example:** A Coach is ejected from game #1 of an out of town tournament. The coach serves a one game suspension at the tournament in game #2, and returns for the remaining games of the tournament. The coach is still subject to a one game suspension for the next WCBA game per section i. above.

**18) Code of Conduct General Provisions:**

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- a) This Code of Conduct identifies the standard of behaviour which is expected of all WCBA members and participants.
- b) Conduct within the spirit of this Code of Conduct is expected of players, assistant coaches, coaches, managers, umpires, parents, spectators, trainers and WCBA Executive.
- c) The dignity and spirit of all people - players, parents, assistant coaches, coaches, Convenors, managers, umpires and Club officials - is to be respected at all times.
- d) All those participating in the activities of the Club are to be treated fairly and equitably.
- e) Behaviour that frightens, embarrasses, demoralizes or negatively affects the self-esteem of anyone participating in the Club's activities will not be tolerated.
- f) A supportive, positive experience for the purposes of building confidence, developing or improving skills and having fun is expected.
- g) All members will promote positive behaviours that encourage participants and reduce the likelihood of disrespect and violence in our activities.
- h) Abusive or disrespectful language or actions by anyone will not be tolerated including verbal, emails, voice messages, text messages and social network postings
- i) Public property and the property of others and the Club will be respected.
- j) Failure to abide by any of the provisions herein may result in offenders being ejected from a game, being asked to leave the park, suspended and/or being called before a Discipline Committee at the discretion of the Series Convenor.
- k) The WCBA will neither tolerate the use of alcohol or drugs at any of its venues, nor the participation of anyone connected with a team who is under the influence of the above.
- l) Each Local Association with WCBA is expected to implement this Code of Conduct. Each participant will be expected to sign the appropriate Code of Conduct document. The Local Association will retain the signature sheet for a period of one year.
- m) Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the discipline policy of the WCBA. Such action may result in loss of privileges associated with membership.
- n) An individual's membership, or a specific role within WCBA may be revoked at any time if an individual has been deemed to be in contravention of the WCBA Constitution which includes this Code of Conduct.
- o) The WCBA reserves the right to reject membership in any case where a previous record of behaviour unbecoming a member of WCBA has been evident.

**19) WCBA Playoff Games:**

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**(i.e. playdown games to qualify for OBA Provincial Tournament)**

- a) Where there are two teams in a division, a 2 out of 3 series will be held, with the top team in the standings at the end of the league schedule having the extra game. The series must be completed within 14 days of notification.
- b) Where more than two teams are classified in the same division, a double knockout or round robin tournament will be held to determine the team(s) that will represent WCBA at the championship tournament. The team with the best record at the end of the schedule will be given the opportunity to host this tournament. A fee will be charged to each team to pay for umpires and baseballs. Choice of the tournament style will be at the discretion of the Series Convenor.
- c) Winning teams must notify W.C.B.A. Convenor and Secretary immediately after the final game. They must also notify the Convenor of the provincial championship tournament
- d) All clubs must notify their respective umpire-in-chiefs for umpires in league games and all playoff games.
- e) If a series Convenor resides in a location with a team playing in the series or tournament the WCBA Executive will appoint an alternate Convenor for the series.
- f) At least one Level 2 or higher OBA carded umpire is required for all playoff/playdown games. All umpires assigned to playoff/playdown games must be OBA carded. The umpires may not be family members or siblings of players of the teams involved.
- g) Pitch counts will be tracked and reported to the Series Convenor. Games will be treated as if games 1 and 2 are played on day 1, games 3 and 4 are played on day 2, games 5 and 6 are played on day 3 etc. (This causes pitching to be treated in a tournament style format and prevents a team winning their playdown based on only one or two pitchers pitching their count limits every game of the series).
- h) The OBA tie-breaker rule will apply to the results of any round robin series between any tied teams. To assess ties in the records of teams, a tie game result is considered to be superior to a loss.

**20) Baseball Ontario Playdowns**

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**(i.e. these are the games you play against another association such as Sun Parlour)**

- a) You must have an OBA Convenor at each home game
- b) You must have Baseball Ontario carded umpires.
- c) You must have your Baseball Ontario approved roster at each game.



**21) General:**

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- a) The association shall affiliate with Baseball Ontario.
- b) The association schedules must be drawn up so that winners will be declared in time to compete in the Baseball Ontario provincial championships.
- c) Except as provided by the Constitution and By-Laws, the management and control of each individual league shall be left entirely in the hands of the Series Convenors.

## **Appendix 1:**

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### **League Commitment Requirement Including Teams Playing Outside of WCBA**

WCBA Affiliate teams are exempt from the requirements of this process.

The following describes the process of defining a team's commitment to Western Counties league play when they have requested permission to play in leagues outside of their WCBA league.

The teams subject to this requirement (ie Sarnia, Chatham and others), are required to play a balanced schedule within WCBA in addition to their other league play outside of our affiliate. Thus, games will be scheduled as a home & away series with each team that wants to play them.

The commitment to WCBA will be determined at the Coaches Meeting in April and documented in writing.

#### **Process:**

- 1) The Series Convenor will poll the teams in the league to determine which teams want to play the teams playing outside of WCBA. This will determine how many teams want to schedule home & away series with the departing team(s).
- 2) Having completed the poll, the Convenor will determine how many home & away series the remaining teams will play to produce a schedule of at least 16 games to form the league play.
- 3) The league games will be scheduled, including the necessary home and away games with the teams playing outside of the WCBA league.
- 4) All teams playing outside of the WCBA league, must play at least one home & away series against each of the other teams playing outside of the WCBA league (if any). Each team must play no fewer than 5 games (either league or exhibition) against WCBA teams to qualify for WCBA classification for OBA Championships.
- 5) The games described in 3) and 4) must be played prior to the Classification Meeting held in July.
- 6) This schedule will form the league schedule, and WCBA commitment of the teams playing outside of WCBA.

WCBA scheduled games will take precedence over any games scheduled with another league. Conflicts will be resolved by playing the WCBA games as scheduled, and rescheduling the conflicts with the non-WCBA league(s).

For classification purposes, all league and tournament results are to be reported to the WCBA Series Convenor, including all games played in non-WCBA leagues.

For classification purposes, the team has met its "WCBA Commitment" if it has played 80% of the games scheduled in the process above.

## Appendix 2:

### OBA / Rep Local Association Boundaries

The boundaries of each Local Association are shown on the maps attached as part of this Appendix. The maps are split into North and South portions of WCBA.

The boundaries of each historical Local Association have been retained even though some of these Local Associations are not currently active. The Constitution describes how players from inactive Local Associations are to be handled.

These boundaries were adopted at a WCBA open meeting held January 31, 2011

Originals of the included maps are held by John Vasey.

#### **WCBA Boundaries:**

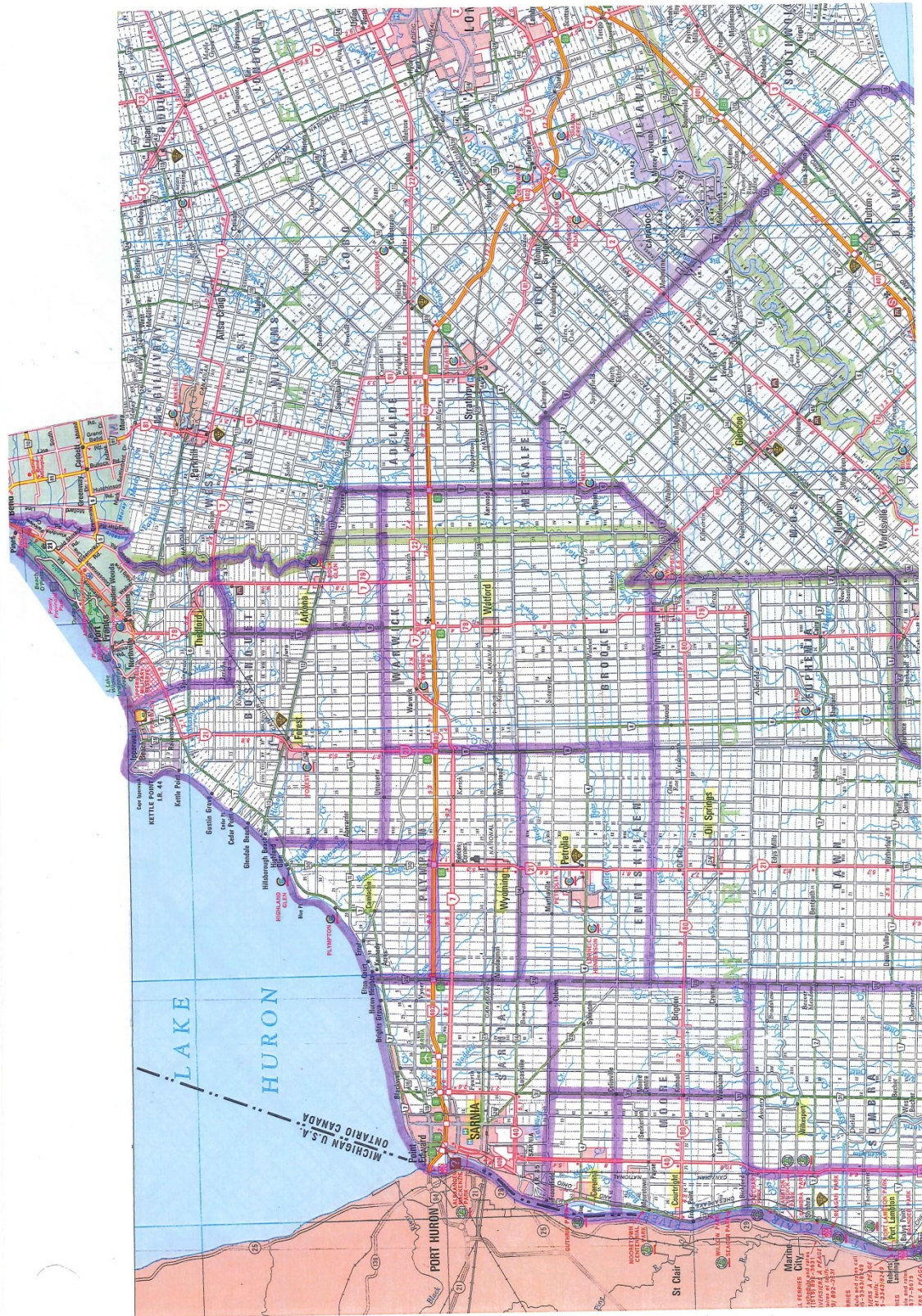
**East** – Starting at and excluding Port Talbot on Lake Erie, north on Elgin County Road 14 and Middlesex County Road 9 to Cairngorm, west on Metcalfe Township Road 77 to Middlesex County Road 6, north on Middlesex County Road 6 to Middlesex County Road 12, west on Middlesex County Road 12 to the Ausable River, north along the Ausable River (Lambton County Boundary) to Lake Huron.

**West** – Starting at Lake Erie, north on Kent County Road 6 to Kent County Road 14, west on Kent County Road 14 to Kent County Road 7, north on Kent County Road 7 and Pump Road to the Thames River, west along the Thames River to Lake St Clair.

#### **Local Association Postal Codes: (Req'd for Classification)**

<b>Association</b>	<b>Postal Codes</b>
Alvinston	N0N 1A0
Blenheim	N0P 1A0
Camlachie	N0N 1E0
Chatham	N7L, N7M
Corunna	N0N 1G0
Courtright	N0N 1H0
Dresden	N0P 1M0
Forest	N0N 1J0
Petrolia	N0N 1R0
Port Lambton	N0P 2B0, N0P 2H0, N0P 0B6
Sarnia	N7S, N7T, N7V, N7W, N7X, N0N 1C0
Wallaceburg	N8A
Wyoming	N0N 1T0









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**Appendix 3:**

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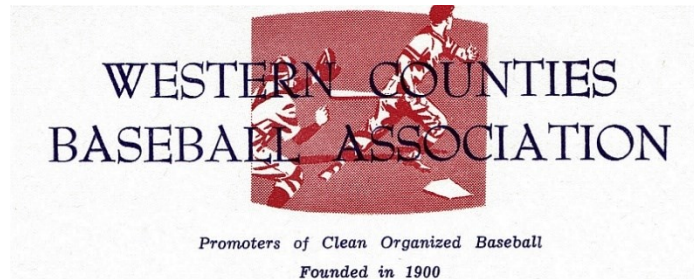
**Code of Conduct**

This appendix contains sample code of conduct documents that can be used directly by WCBA Local Associations, or they may use their own.

The forms are designed to be used as two part documents. The top portion is intended to remain with the coach, player, parent or umpire. The lower portion to be signed and dated by the individual can be cut off the sheet and retained by the Local Association as documentation to establish that the individual received and read the associated Code of Conduct document.

The Local Association should file these sheets for the current playing year then destroy them.





## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES

I will be reasonable when scheduling games and practices, remembering that young athletes have other interests and obligations.

I will teach my athletes to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials and opponents and encourage them to be good sports.

I will remind my athletes that winning a game or a trophy isn't the only measure of success.

I will ensure that ALL athletes get equal instruction, support and playing time.

I will not ridicule or yell at my athletes for making mistakes or for performing poorly. I will encourage my athletes, offer constructive criticism, and maintain a positive attitude. I will remember that athletes play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.

I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the athlete's ages and abilities.

I will remember that children need a coach they can respect.

I will remember to set a good example as actions speak louder than words. I will maintain a positive attitude and I will be generous with praise and set a good example.

I will not use bad language, nor will I harass or heckle athletes, coaches, umpires, other spectators, or Club officials by way of emails, voice messages, text messages (including "tweeting") and social network postings.

I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills.

I will respect and comply with the umpires' decisions and decisions of the Discipline Committee.

I have received and read the **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES**.

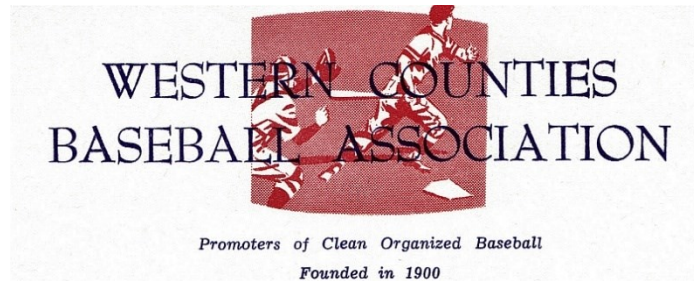
**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



(please print)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



### CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS

I will participate because I want to, not because my parents or coaches want me to.

I will play fairly and by the rules and in the spirit of the game and I will respect my opponents.

I will control my temper and NEVER argue with an umpire – “mouthing off” and fighting can spoil the activity for everybody. When a call is disputed, I will let the coach handle it.

I will not use bad language, nor will I harass athletes, coaches, umpires, other spectators, or Club officials by way of emails, voice messages, text messages (including “tweeting”) and social network postings.

I will work at achieving my personal best and not to get discouraged if it is not THE best.

I will do my best to be a true team player by being supportive of my team mates and by not criticizing or placing blame on others.

I will remember that winning isn’t everything – that having fun, improving skills, making friends and doing my best are also important.

I will acknowledge all good plays/performances – those of my team and my opponents.

I will remember that coaches and umpires are there to help me. I will accept their decisions and show them respect.

I will respect and comply with the decisions of the Discipline Committee

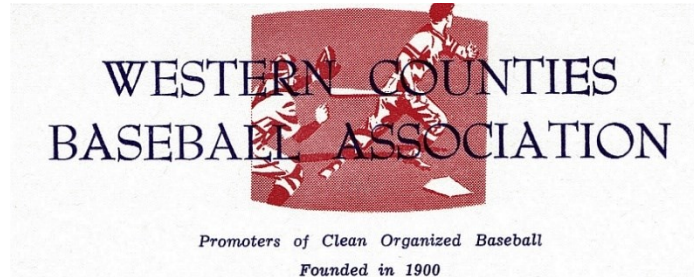
I have received and read the **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_



## **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS AND SPECTATORS**

I will remember that young athletes play sport for their enjoyment. They are not playing to entertain me.

I will not have unrealistic expectations. I will remember that young athletes are not miniature professionals and cannot be judged by professional standards.

I will respect and, where applicable, comply with the umpires' decisions and decisions of the Discipline Committee and I will encourage participants to do the same.

I will never ridicule an athlete for making a mistake during a competition. I will give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort.

I will condemn the use of violence in any form and will express my disapproval in an appropriate manner to coaches and Club officials.

I will show respect for my team's opponents and the umpires, because without them there would be no game.

I will not use bad language, nor will I harass or heckle athletes, coaches, umpires, other spectators, or Club officials by any means such as verbal, emails, voice messages, text messages (including "tweeting") and social network postings.

I will applaud the value and effort of volunteer coaches, assistant coaches, managers and Club officials.

I have received and read the **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS AND SPECTATORS**.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

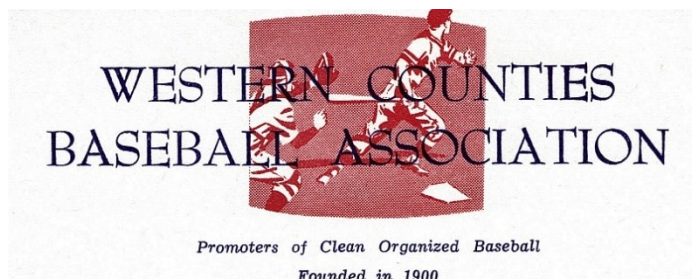
**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

(please print)

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR UMPIRES

I will officiate by the rules.

I will ensure that I am knowledgeable of the rules. I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my officiating skills.

I will be objective and consistent in officiating the game regardless of my feelings toward a player, a coach or a team.

I will handle all conflicts firmly and with dignity.

I will avoid, or put an end to any situation that threatens the safety of the players.

I will control my temper. Personal criticism of any person by word or gesture is unacceptable.

I will show respect for the participants and their skills.

I will not permit the intimidation of any participant either by word or by action. I will not tolerate unacceptable conduct toward myself, other officials, players, coaches or spectators.

I will refrain from profanity. Verbal abuse towards players, managers, coaches, officials or spectators will not be tolerated including emails, voice messages, text messages (as well as "tweeting") and social network postings.

I will not allow use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs (unless prescribed by a licensed physician) on the field or in the dug out or in the vicinity thereof.

I will be friendly to all participants and encourage players to ask me to clarify any call, whether it is a judgment call or a decision on the Rules.

I will generally warn players of unacceptable behaviour before taking further action for a second offence, although I reserve the right to cite or eject a player for a first offence.

I have received and read the **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR UMPIRES**.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**

**(please print)**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_