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## Discipline Policy

### Introduction:

This policy applies to all discipline issues related to the operation of the Baseball Ontario Board of Management, the Rep Council, the Select Council and the members of the Rep Division and Select Division.

Discipline issues can arise as a result of the;

- 1) actions of the members of the Board of Management, the Rep Council and the Select Council.
- 2) actions of the members of the Rep Division and Select Division (i.e. actions of Affiliated Associations and Local Associations).
- 3) non-game related actions of individuals registered with Baseball Ontario (i.e. coaches, managers, players, and umpires).
- 4) actions of individuals during game situations (i.e. the umpires of the game will deal with on field situations. Further action may be taken by a Local Association, an Affiliated Association or Baseball Ontario depending on the type/severity of the on field infraction).

The Constitution and Bylaws specify the approach to discipline taken with respect to the above categories of infractions. The following provides an overview of the discipline processes of the OBA. The OBA Constitution and Bylaws would need to be consulted for the complete list.

### **Detrimental Conduct of the Board of Management – Section 1.04 f)**

f) Any member of the OBA Management Board may be removed from office for conduct detrimental to the OBA at a meeting of the OBA Board of Management upon a resolution approved by 3/4 of the votes cast in respect of such resolution. Notice must be given at least 7 calendar days prior to the meeting to all members of the OBA Board of Management of the intention to bring such a resolution before the meeting.

### **Detrimental Conduct of Affiliated Associations and Select Member Associations – Section 1.09 b)**

b) Any Affiliated Association or Select member association and/or officers of same, which fails to uphold the rulings and enforce the decisions of the OBA will leave said Affiliated Association, Select member association, and/or officers open to suspension by the OBA.

### **Detrimental Conduct of Affiliated Associations – Section R1.09 b)**

b) Any Affiliated Association and/or officers of same, which fails to uphold the rulings and enforce the decisions of the OBA or the Rep Council will leave said Affiliated Association, and/or officers open to suspension by the OBA.

#### **Detrimental Conduct of the Members - Section 4.01 Discipline**

- a) Any member of the OBA violating the OBA Constitution and By-Laws, the Rep Constitution and By-Laws or the Select Constitution and By-Laws, as applicable, or refusing to abide by the decisions of the OBA Board of Management, Rep Council or Select Council or its committee(s) may be expelled or suspended.
- b) Any Associate Member violating the OBA Constitution and By-Laws or the agreement which governs their membership in OBA may be expelled or suspended. In the case of the PBLO, any PBLO Franchise violating the PBLO Agreement may be expelled or suspended.

#### **Detrimental Conduct of the Rep Members - Section R6.02 Discipline**

- c) Teams, officers or players may be suspended by the OBA Management Board for knowingly:
  - i) Permitting betting or improper conduct by players or officers at OBA games.
  - ii) Offering, agreeing, conspiring or attempting to lose any OBA game or being interested in any pool or wager thereon.
  - iii) Playing with a team, Direct Entry, Local Association, Affiliated Association or Select Association that has been suspended or expelled.
  - iv) Having on its list of signed players any disqualified players.
  - v) Permitting officers to conduct business of Direct Entries, Local Associations, Affiliated Associations or Select Associations against the best interests of baseball.
- d) Any team or player which shall play under an assumed name shall be suspended from the OBA and any coach or manager knowingly permitting a player to play under an assumed name shall be suspended from the OBA, subject to appeal.
- e) Any player found guilty of playing over the age limit permitted in the series in which he/she is participating shall automatically be suspended along with the manager of the team.
- f) Any team found guilty of playing a player over the age limit permitted in the series in which he/she is participating, shall automatically be suspended along with the manager of the team.
- g) Any manager or coach using an ineligible player in a Rep or Select Tournament or a Rep or Select Play-Offs shall be automatically suspended indefinitely. Any further penalty shall be decided by the Rep Council or Select Council, as applicable.

Any player, coach or manager making physical contact with an umpire will be immediately suspended indefinitely, subject to appeal.

#### **Rep Division Special Playing Rules – Section P 2.13 Penalties**

- a) The following Progressive Penalties shall apply at all levels of baseball on minor offenses/infractions by a coach or manager:
  - i. On a first minor violation, the coach or manager shall receive a warning from the umpire.
  - ii. If the coach/manager continues after being warned, or on any second minor violation in that game, the umpire shall order the coach/manager be restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the game.
  - iii. On any subsequent minor violation in that game, or refusal to remain in the dugout after restriction, the umpire shall eject the coach/manager from the game.
  - iv. The umpire in his/her sole discretion may elect to eject any coach, manager or player from the game without warning or progressive penalties.

- b) Any player, coach or manager ejected by an umpire from any Rep Play-off or Tournament (Elimination, Play-off or other sanctioned tournament) game is suspended for 1 game, and this to be the next scheduled game in that tournament or Play-off. The player, coach or manager may be subject to further suspension depending on the severity of the circumstances leading to the ejection at the discretion of the tournament host's protest and discipline committee.
- c) The umpires, who umpire a game where an ejection occurs, shall file an ejection report with the convenor of the tournament within 2 days of the completion of the tournament. Failure to submit an ejection report shall result in the suspension of the umpire(s) until the report is filed.

### **Rep Division Playing Rules – Section Coaches & Managers**

- a) Managers and coaches will be responsible for the conduct of their players both on and off the field until departure from the park. An infraction may result in a suspension for the next scheduled game in that Rep Play-off or to further suspension depending on the severity of the circumstances of the incident at the discretion of the tournament host's protest and discipline committee. Nothing in this paragraph limits the application of P2-13.
- b) In Junior and below, at least one certified coach or manager listed in the Helpers Roster of the Local Association must be present and on the bench for each game. If there is no coach/manager present or the only coach/manager present is ejected, then the game is forfeited.
- c) All coaches and managers come under the jurisdiction of the umpires during games and are subject to penalties. The umpires shall see that the rules governing coaches and managers in all games are strictly enforced.

### **Rep Division Playing Rules – Section P1.7 Offences**

- a) Where a player participates in a practice, game, tryout, evaluation or other baseball activity with a team that does not currently hold the player's playing rights without the authorization(s) required by P1.5, the player is subject to suspension by OBA.
- b) Any coach or manager, who allows a player to participate in any practice, game, tryout, evaluation or other baseball activity with a team that does not currently hold the player's playing rights without the authorization(s) required by P1.5, is subject to suspension by OBA.
- c) No player, coach or manager may approach any player for whom their Local Association or Direct Entry does not hold the playing rights with the intention of securing said player for their Local Association or Direct Entry. Violation of this rule will leave the player, coach or manager subject to suspension by OBA.
- d) Where a director, officer, employee or other member of a Local Association or Direct Entry (who is not a player, coach and/or manager) approaches any player for whom their Local Association or Direct Entry does not hold the playing rights with the intention of securing said player for their Local Association or Direct Entry, then such violation will leave the Local Association or Direct Entry open to a fine of up to \$1000.
- e) In addition to or in place of any suspension authorized by this section P1.7, any person or organization violating any of the provisions of section P1.7 may be subject to fine or other sanction as determined appropriate by the Technical Committee.

All decisions of the OBA can be appealed through application of the following appeal procedure.

**Section 1.10 Appeal Procedure**

- b) Any decisions made by the OBA (other than a protested game, which is governed by P2-14 and classifications which are governed by R2.04 e) and Appeal of Fines governed by 3.02) may be appealed to the President, in writing, with a deposit of \$100.00. The appeal must be made within 14 days of the decision being appealed.
- c) When the President receives an appeal in writing, the President shall review the appeal and determine whether, in the President's discretion, the appeal either (i) presents new information not available or presented to the board or committee which made the decision appealed from or (ii) represents an important and compelling matter which justifies the holding of an appeal. Where the President determines that either (i) or (ii) applies, the President shall name a committee of at least 3 members of the OBA Board of Management who shall hear the appeal. The decision of the committee shall be final. The committee shall also rule on the disposition of the deposit.
- d) The President shall establish the time and place of the appeal hearing. The hearing must be held within 45 days of receiving the written appeal. The 45 days shall begin the day following the receipt of the written appeal.
- e) The appellant must be present in person at the hearing. Failure to appear will result in a default decision and no further appeal shall be allowed.

**Suspension Related to Criminal Charges**

In the situation whereby a member becomes subject to criminal charges, such member may be suspended from participation in any Baseball Ontario related activity. This suspension will remain in effect until all related criminal proceedings have been completed. Once criminal proceedings have been completed, the suspended member is eligible to appeal the suspension to the Baseball Ontario Dispute Resolution Committee.

**Reviewed by:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Comments</b>
9-Feb-17	Allan Ebert	Technical Chair	Bi-annual review
06-Dec-19	Allan Ebert	Board of Management	General update