

WINTHROP PARK BASEBALL INC. BYLAWS

(Revised January 2026)

SECTION A: GENERAL RULES

GENERAL RULES GOVERNING PLAY: Except where specifically altered by these By-Laws, Winthrop Park Baseball Program (the “Program”) will be conducted in accordance with the rules of the Official Rules of Dizzy Dean Baseball (hereafter “Dizzy Dean”) as promulgated for the year of play and the following rules as drafted, voted on, and adopted by the officers and managers of the Winthrop Park Baseball, Inc., a Florida non-profit corporation (“Program”). In the event a rule or ruling is in dispute, the rules of baseball will be consulted and used to settle issues not covered by a Game Specific local or Dizzy Dean rule. The President(s) will appoint a Rules and Disciplinary Sub-Committee that will be in charge of ruling on Player, Manager, Coach, or fan conduct violations and the penalty for such conduct. Any conflict between the Official Rules of Dizzy Dean Baseball and these By-Laws shall be interpreted in favor of these By-Laws.

PHILOSOPHY: Every person eligible to participate in the Winthrop Park Baseball Program (“Program”) shall be afforded the opportunity to play the game of baseball. It is the responsibility of all officials, players, parents, and fans to promote, encourage, and support good sportsmanship and behavior.

ADMINISTRATION: The Program shall be governed by a Board consisting of the President, Vice Presidents, and no fewer than three volunteer members of the Board to be appointed by the President. No one expressing a desire to be a member of the Board shall be denied the opportunity to serve unless there are serious moral or legal prohibitions against the person volunteering for the Board in the unfettered determination of sixty-six percent (66%) of the Board of Directors. Matters of policy and operations shall be brought before the Board and voted upon by its members each January. The President and the Board of Directors shall serve from June 1 through May 31 which shall be the Program Year. (the “Program Year”). The Board of Directors shall select the President and Board of Directors for the next Program Year. Any person who is nominated to serve as the President or member of the Board of Directors shall recuse themselves from the vote.

SELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The selection of the President and the Board of Directors of the Program for the next Program Year shall be made by May 1 preceding the end of the Program Year. To qualify as the President, a nominee for President shall be a sitting member of the Board of Directors or has served on the Board of Directors in a prior Program Year. If no sitting member of the Board or previous member of the Board is willing or able to serve as President, then any person with a relationship to the Winthrop Park Baseball Program may be nominated to be the President.

Any person with a relationship to the Winthrop Park Baseball Program may be nominated by the sitting Board of Directors to serve on the Board of Directors for the next Program Year. All members of the Board of Directors shall complete the City of Tallahassee Parks and Recreation Volunteer Background Check.

PRESIDENT: The President will serve as the chief executive of the Program and will be responsible for all administrative and daily operational functions. The President is ultimately responsible for the satisfactory completion of the overall goal of providing the best possible experience for the children, coaches, and parent in the Program. The President shall delegate to the Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and any member of the Board and, if appropriate to various members of the public all responsibilities to ensure the smooth, fair, and rewarding experience for the children, coaches, and parents participating in the program. Exhibit "A" to these By-Laws shall provide a non-comprehensive list of actions needing to be taken to ensure the running of Winthrop Park Baseball Program. It shall also be a goal of the President to create and/or maintain and increase the size of a scholarship program for children of lesser financial means so that the barriers to participation are removed. The scholarship program would be intended to promote both the recreational league and any All-Star Team that the child may be selected.

The President, with the advice and consent of the Board, shall appoint a Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary and is additionally authorized to appoint other officers, as needed.

VICE PRESIDENT: The Vice President will be responsible for all the administrative and daily operational functions which the President cannot complete due to incapacity, conflict of interest or lack of time. In any situation where the President is unavailable to perform any duties outlined herein, the Vice President shall operate as the President. The Vice President shall be responsible for any of the responsibilities of the President delegated by the President to the Vice President.

TREASURER: Treasurer will be responsible for coordinating all financial matters of the Program. In conjunction with the President, the Treasurer will ensure that COLP fees, Dizzy Dean or other tournament fees, all authorized bills are paid, and Florida Sales Tax Returns are filed in a timely manner. The Treasurer will also prepare a financial statement at the end of each season and one for the year. The Treasurer is also responsible for obtaining the insurance for the park and coordinating with the President(s) regarding the player uniforms. The Treasurer will be responsible for any of the responsibilities of the President delegated to the Treasurer by the President.

SECRETARY: The Secretary will be responsible for all correspondence, minutes, reports, and will ensure the distribution of all information, including rules, announcements, and special events. The Secretary will collect and maintain the Manager's Background check, certification of age of each player. The Secretary will be responsible for any of the responsibilities of the President delegated to the Secretary by the President.

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS: The other Board Members shall be responsible for any of the responsibilities of the President delegated to the specific Board Member by the President.

REGISTRATION FEES: The City of Tallahassee Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Affairs (“PRNA”) will set the registration fee. This fee is intended to defray the cost of the player’s hat, shirt, lettering/numbering, shoulder patch (if required), baseballs, and insurance coverage.

The registration fee must be paid by the Opening Day. Any player for whom the fee has not been paid will be ineligible to participate in any other aspect of the Program until the fee is paid. In the case of financial hardship, however, the President and Board may grant a waiver to this policy.

MANAGER RESPONSIBILITIES: All Managers will be appointed by the President upon consulting with other Board members. Managerial appointments will be made at a prospective Managers/Coaches meeting which will be held within seven days prior to player evaluations. All Managers must successfully complete the National Youth Sports Coaches Association (NYSCA) or Dizzy Dean online coaching clinic for managers and coaches. The President will look for these qualifications first when appointing a manager. The Manager of each team shall always conduct himself or herself in a positive and professional manner. Each Manager will submit to and pass a coach’s background check commissioned by the Program at the potential coach’s expense.

After the primary registration date, the Manager of each team will be responsible for collecting and turning in to the Secretary all unpaid registration fees prior to the Opening Day, along with certification of ages, which is part of the official registration form provided by PRNA. It will be the responsibility of each Manager to ensure that each player meets the eligibility requirements established by the Program. Any game in which an ineligible player is used will be forfeited, and the Manager must explain in writing to team parents and the Board the circumstances involved.

Managers will be responsible for selecting their assistant coaches and will be responsible for the conduct of those coaches on the field. Following the completion of the draft, each team will be allowed up to three assistant coaches. No more than three out of the possible four (manager and/or) coaches will be allowed on the field of play at any one time. The objective of this rule is to allow each team a sufficient number of responsible adults to handle absences by one or more (manager and/or) coaches and to allow the presence of a fourth adult to supervise player behavior in the dugout, while keeping a watchful eye over the team’s equipment and the players’ personal belongings. Assistant coaches are encouraged but not required to have a uniform. An assistant coach is considered to be any adult in the dugout area. Managers are responsible for making sure each assistant has filled out the proper volunteer forms each season and submit to the Secretary the background check certification for each Assistant Coach.

Managers will protect the assets of the Program assigned to them and ensure that each item is properly accounted for at all times. Damaged, lost, or stolen equipment should be reported immediately to the President(s) or the delegated member of the Board of Directors. All equipment will be returned to the Program at the end of the season.

The Manager shall present to the Official Scorekeeper his or her starting lineup no less than 10 minutes prior to the official starting time of each game. The Manager or his designee may confer with the Official Scorekeeper after each game regarding information in the score book and scoring interpretations.

THE LEAGUE'S SEASON: The season will consist of a minimum of a six-week regular season and a Final Tournament in the Fall and a minimum seven-week regular season and a Final Tournament in the Spring.

DETERMINING THE LEAGUE CHAMPION: The League Champion will be determined in a post-season tournament which shall be conducted using a double elimination format or a round robin. All efforts will be made to play the post season tournament in its entirety. If weather postpones a game(s), the Board may decide by way of majority vote to make the Championship game a single elimination game. The double elimination tournament shall be favored if there are more than four teams and fewer than nine teams. The single-elimination tournament shall be favored otherwise. The President shall declare the form of tournament prior to the first game of the season. If the tournament proceeds to a championship game where both teams have one loss; the home team will be determined by a coin toss, and the game will be a six-inning game or two hours in length. Otherwise, all playoff games will proceed in the same manner as regular season games except that no game may end in a tie. Seeding for the tournament shall be made by the President based on the following criteria:

- 1) Winning Percentage;
- 2) If two teams have the same winning percentage, then head-to-head between the two teams;
- 3) If more than two teams have the same winning percentage, or the two teams have the same record against each other, then average runs allowed per game played during the entire regular season;
- 4) If two or more teams are still tied, then average run differential during the entire regular season; and
- 5) If two or more teams are still tied then flip of a coin.

SECTION B: PARK CONDUCT RULES

PLAYER, MANAGER, COACH, AND FAN CONDUCT: The Board Members by majority vote, will have the right, responsibility, and authority to suspend or remove any player, manager, coach, or official for any action, misconduct, drunkenness, or blatant violation of any of the rules established herein.

Each Manager will be held responsible for his or her players' and fans' conduct at games. If a parent or fan comes onto the field to protest a call or otherwise becomes a nuisance, the Umpire-in-Chief has the right to rule any game a forfeit. This ruling will be at the discretion of the Umpire-in-Chief and cannot be disputed or appealed.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE: In compliance with TPRD Rules and Regulations, there will be no use of tobacco products, vaping products, alcoholic beverages, or illegal drugs permitted on or in the immediate vicinity of Winthrop Park, during practice or games or any Program event. Anyone found in violation of this rule will be asked to leave the park. Violators may be suspended or removed by law enforcement authorities. Tobacco products are prohibited on the field and in the dugouts. Any Winthrop Park manager, coach or League official who comes to the park under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol or who, while at the park, uses illegal drugs or alcohol will be immediately suspended from his or her position and may not hold any position for the remainder of the Program Year.

DAMAGE TO OR MISAPPROPRIATION OF LEAGUE/PARK PROPERTY: Any player, manager, or coach willfully and/or maliciously damaging and/or misappropriating any Program or Winthrop Park property is subject to immediate suspension for no less than two games. Expulsion from the League or the pursuit of legal action is within the authority of the President with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. Batting practice involving hitting baseballs into any of the park's fences is strictly prohibited; however, tennis or wiffle balls will be allowed.

OTHER MISCONDUCT RULES: **The Umpire-in-Chief will have total control of the game while it is in progress.** He or she has the right to rule any game a forfeit due to unsportsmanlike conduct by players, managers, coaches, or fans. He or she may eject any player, manager, coach, or fan for behavior he or she feels is not in the best interest of Winthrop Park or the Baseball Program. The Umpire-in-Chief (of the game in which an incident occurs) can file a formal charge against the offending party and recommend action(s) to be taken. Any action taken will be the responsibility of the League President(s). He or she may, if needed, defer any decision to an open meeting of the Board of Directors. Actions may include suspension or expulsion.

SECTION C: PLAYER SELECTION RULES

REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS AND EVALUATIONS: Registration will be available online at <http://www.winthroparkbaseball.org> using the SportsEngine platform. The President and Board of Directors may change the registration process without changing these By-Laws so long as the registration process is readily available to all potential players. All players must provide proof of age prior to Opening Day.

Evaluations are held on the official date established by PRNA. New and returning players wishing to return into the draft will have the opportunity to field, throw, run and hit and players that are interested will have the opportunity to pitch and catch at the end of evaluations.

A Manager's child (children) playing in the league is (are) automatically assigned to the Manager's team (if they so choose). The child of an Assistant Coach may be assigned to the Manager's team roster prior to the draft. If a manager does not have a child playing in the league and either two of his assistant coaches each have a child playing, or one of his assistants have two children playing, those players may be assigned to the Manager's team. These players are required to participate in evaluations so that they may obtain a rating like all other players. Under no circumstances (except in the two situations described below) will more than two players be assigned to a manager before the draft.

If a manager has two children playing in the league and selects an Assistant Coach that has a child in the league, the three players are permitted to be assigned to the Manager's team. The same would apply if an Assistant Coach had two children in the league and a manager had one child participating. The Park President (or a vote of the Board of Directors in the event the Park President is a manager or assistant coach), must approve the manager/assistant coach pairing.

To accommodate coaching staffs that are new to Winthrop Park, if a manager registers his/her child as a new player to the park and requests to select two Assistant Coaches that each have a registered player that are also new to the park, these two players may be assigned to the Manager's team. This exception is only permitted if all three players are in their age 10 or age 11 program year/league age. Coaching staffs may join the Park in the Fall or Spring and are permitted to remain together throughout their players' Little Major League eligibility as long as they participate each Spring season (not required to play in the Fall to maintain standing as a coaching staff).

Under no circumstances will four players be assigned to a manager before the draft.

The Park President with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors may allow special consideration to be given in the assignment of players in varying familial situations.

Special consideration is given to siblings (and other domestic relationships) at the discretion of the President where these players are placed on the same team.

It is the responsibility of the Manager and Assistant Coach(es) to evaluate each player (including the children/players of the other Managers/Assistant Coaches) on the basis of baseball skills, athleticism, attitude and hustle, using a form to be distributed at evaluations. Additional consideration in the skills assessment is typically given based on abilities as a pitcher and/or catcher.

After evaluations are complete (and prior to the Draft) each Manager is to submit their skill score for each player to the President or the President's designee who will be facilitating the Draft. The skill scores will be summed and sorted in descending rank order. This rank order is used to determine what draft round a manager and assistant coach(es) players will be placed on their team in the draft round consistent with their ranking(s). For example, if there are 6 teams, a manager or assistant coach's player ranked in the top 6, they will be a first-round pick. If a manager or assistant coach's player is ranked 15th, they will be placed in the third round of the draft. If a manager or assistant coach(es) player are ranked in the same round, they will be placed on their team in that round and the next round(s), in order. Skill scores and rankings will be kept confidential. Players that are not in attendance at evaluations will be discussed at the draft and will be eligible to be drafted. All players will be placed on a team.

DRAFT: The actual player selection proceedings will be held by the Board at a site to be decided shortly after evaluations and at a time available to all Managers. In the event a Manager cannot attend the draft, the Manager shall appoint a representative to act on his or her behalf. It is the responsibility of the Manager to email/call/message the players on their roster shortly following the draft.

Given the importance and typical scarcity of players with experience as a catcher, if the Park President (or Board Member designee) has concerns following evaluations that each team may not be able to secure a catcher during the usual draft process, a discussion with the managers will be held prior to the draft starting to determine how each team will successfully be able to obtain a catcher.

The draft order will be determined by random draw following the conclusion of evaluations. This establishes a serpentine "snake method" order throughout the draft (first round: 1,2,3,4,5,6; second round 6,5,4,3,2,1, etc.). Teams at each end of the order effectively have two consecutive picks straddling the end and beginning of consecutive rounds. The manager and assistant coach(es) players need to be drafted in the draft round consistent with their ranking(s) (or in an earlier round than their ranking if desired). All teams must select a player in every round.

Siblings (and other domestic relationships as approved by the President) will be announced prior to evaluations. Once one sibling is drafted, the other sibling must be drafted onto the same team in the draft round based on their ranking from the skill evaluations. If siblings are ranked in the same round, they will be assigned to their corresponding draft round and the next round(s), in order. If the sibling that received a lower corresponding draft round is drafted before the sibling that received a higher draft round ranking, the sibling will be placed on their team in the next round in order.

POST-DRAFT SITUATIONS: Any problem that occurs after the player selection draft, such as late sign ups, transportation problems, injured players, players ineligible due to age, etc., will be handled by the League President(s) in the following manner:

A) Players who signed up after the draft is completed will be assigned by the President to the team with the fewest players. If more than one team has fewer players than the other teams, the team with the fewest skills points will get that player. Random draw will be utilized if both situations occur.

After each team has the same number of players (typically 11 or 12) late sign-ups will only be allowed and assigned to teams if a space is available due to injury, withdrawal of an existing player, or a player that is discovered to be ineligible due to age.

B) The League President(s) will make decisions on all other problems after considering what effect it will have on the league balance and what effect it will have on the player in question. The basic intent of these rules is to ensure that all players have a chance to play baseball and have a good time. At the same time, player/team changes after the draft must be kept to a minimum.

SECTION D: GAME-RELATED RULES

The Rules of Dizzy Dean regarding pitch count and rest shall be strictly adhered too for the safety and well-being of the players. The pitch limits and required rest is posted on the Dizzy Dean web site and in the Common Rules of Dizzy Dean Baseball. Local rule exception to the rules of Dizzy Dean Baseball pertaining to the required rest threshold is described herein under Item 6.02.

Teams often take too long to clear the field and warm up between innings. It is expected that teams will take two minutes between innings to come on and off the field and warm up. Pitchers are permitted to throw eight warm up pitches before their first inning of work and five warm up pitches before every other inning that they pitch in the game. If a catcher is still putting on equipment, a manager, coach or another player (wearing a mask) should be ready to warm up the pitcher. This will allow more games to go to completion rather than force a time limit cutting the game short.

For example:

Team A and Team B both average 3.5 minutes between innings. At the end of the third inning, the game has reached 1 hour and 34 minutes meaning that the game is over due to the time limit. To complete four innings there are seven “changes” that occur. If both teams averaged two minutes in between innings, they would have completed the three innings in one hour and 24 minutes meaning they could start and complete the fourth inning.

When a second game is scheduled on the same night, the waiting teams will warm up outside the field and be ready to start their game on time. Infield practice may or may not be permitted, depending on availability of time. This will be at the Umpire-in-Chief’s discretion.

EXCEPTIONS AND PENALTIES: Injury or other delays - If a manager or his team appears, in the judgment of the Umpire-in-Chief, to be purposely delaying a game, one warning will be issued. If a second warning becomes necessary, the game will be forfeited to the opposing team.

GAME OFFICIALS: The Umpire-in-Chief will have total control of the field and will be responsible for ensuring the game is played within the spirit of good sportsmanship. He or she will have the final decision on all matters of rules but should attempt to apply the rules of these By-Laws and the Common Rules of Dizzy Dean Baseball as supplements by the Freshmen Specific Rules.

The Official Scorekeeper will be appointed by the President for each game and will keep all records of the game. The Official Scorekeeper must have a good understanding of concepts of scoring for baseball and knowledge of Dizzy Dean rules and have these available to provide the Umpire-in-Chief or Manager should questions arise. Disputes over scoring between the Official Scorekeeper and the Manager shall be resolved by the Umpire-in-Chief.

ON-DECK BATTER RULE: The on-deck batter shall always be in the on-deck circle that is to the back of the batter.

SPORTSMANSHIP RULES:

- (1) If a team is leading its opponent by at least 15 runs at the end of the third inning or 10 runs at the end of the fourth inning the game shall be terminated and the team in front declared the winner.
- (2) If a team is leading its opponent by 10 runs or more in the fourth inning or later (or 15 runs or more at any time), base runners may not steal or advance on a passed ball.

WEATHER DELAYS: All Managers will be required to sign up for and adhere to the text message directions of the SkyGuard Lightning Alert System (or successor lightning detection system) which is provided by the City of Tallahassee. If a lightning warning is issued, all baseball activities (games/practices) shall be halted immediately, and players and coaches will need to seek shelter. If a game is stopped due to lightning, the Park President (or in attendance Board Member designee), will meet with the Umpire-in-Chief and the Head Coaches to discuss the system required duration of the lightning warning and the length of time (typically 30 minutes) before a delayed game is called.

INTERFERENCE RULE: Although no manager, coach, or player from the same team may interfere with a base runner, the base runner, if touched by a manager, player or coach is not automatically out. The discretion of the Umpire-in-Chief shall be invoked to determine if the touching results in interference.

BALKS:

For the first two weeks of the season, balks will be called and addressed by the umpire to the pitcher, but not enforced. Balks will be considered a dead ball play; base runners will not be declared out and the runner(s) shall return to the base they occupied. Beginning with the third week of the season all balks will be called and enforced.

LOCAL RULE EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULES OF DIZZY DEAN BASEBALL: The specific Dizzy Dean Baseball Rulebook sections are modified as indicated below to create the local rule for the Program:

1:01 – The Winthrop Park Baseball Field with the dimensions, pitching mound and other permanent conditions shall be the official playing field.

2:12 – A leather mitt may be worn at any position and will not be limited to the first (1st) baseman or catcher.

3:01 – 3:04 – Each Player present will be included in the team's batting order. Players will bat through the entire roster consecutively through the game. A Manager may change the batting order at the start of every game. Late arriving players can be added to the bottom of the line-up at any time. The Manager is responsible for notifying the official scorekeeper of absences

and late-arrivals. Each player will be entered and/or re-entered defensively in the game anytime provided that he/she meets the requirements of mandatory play. Note: If a player is injured, becomes ill or must leave the game site after the start of the game, the team will skip over him/her when his/her at bat comes up in the order without penalty. If the injured, ill or absent player returns, he/she is merely re-inserted into the original spot in the batting order. In accordance with the Winthrop Park Baseball Program stated objective - to provide every child who wants to participate in the baseball program an opportunity to do so - the following player participation rules and penalties will be followed: Every player on each participating team must play defensively at least every other inning and each team will bat through the roster presented to the Scorekeeper.

EXCEPTIONS: The only exceptions to this rule will be if:

- 1) A player is injured before he completes his innings.
- 2) A player arrives at the game after two complete innings of play.
- 3) A player has missed more than half (50%) of the team's scheduled practices. In the event a manager is using this exception, he must tell the opposing manager, the League President, and the Official Scorekeeper which player(s) will not be playing, and he must tell the player and his parents why the player will not be playing.
- 4) At the manager's discretion, a player may be removed and/or sit out for a game for disciplinary reasons. In the event a manager is using this exception, he must tell the player and parents why the player will not be playing. The opposing Manager, League President, and Scorekeeper must also be informed of the removal and its circumstances.

THE PENALTY for violating the player participation rule is:

- 1) The first offense will result in the Manager being given a warning concerning the violation.
- 2) The second offense will be referred to the Board of Directors for action.

4:06 – To speed up the pace of play, coaches will be limited to calling time out to speak with a batter during an at bat to one time per inning.

5:02 – The game clock will start upon the signal of the home plate umpire.

6.02 – If a pitcher reaches the day(s) of rest threshold while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any of the following conditions occur and the additional pitches will not count towards the "Required Rest" threshold:

- a) The batter reaches base;
- b) The batter is put out;
- c) The third out is made to complete the half-inning

7:02 – If a team cannot field at least eight players at the game's starting time or within a ten-minute grace period, the Umpire-in-Chief will declare the game a forfeit to the team that has at least eight players present. The teams involved in the forfeit can elect to play a practice game. However, the umpire(s) assigned are under no obligation to officiate the practice game. Participation on their part is totally voluntary. If neither team can field eight players, then the

game is considered a loss to each team.

In the event a team can only field eight players for a game due to injuries or player availability, the team will be permitted to borrow a player from the opposing team when on defense to have nine position players. The borrowed player is limited to playing an outfield position only. The borrowed player will be the last player in the opposing team's lineup at the start of the game, or the last out of the previous inning. The team with only eight players may opt to play with only eight players in the field. When the ninth player comes up to bat, an out will not be recorded.

7:03 – Does not apply.

7:07 – Any protest made in accordance with Dizzy Dean Rules will be accompanied by a fee of \$50.00.

7:12 – If possible, all rain out and postponed games will be made up the on the next mutually agreeable rain out slot. The President will reschedule all postponed games. Any team not showing up for a rescheduled game will be given a forfeit. If neither team can field a team, it will be counted as a loss for both teams and the season continues. Back-to-back games will be avoided wherever possible. Teams involved in first to fourth place races in the last two weeks of the regular season will take preference in rescheduling.

8:01 – 8:02 – Games will be scheduled by the President(s) in consultation with the PRNA. Except for make-up games and tournament games, every effort will be made not to schedule for more than two games in any calendar week (Monday through Sunday). On weeknights, the early game is scheduled to start at 6:00 P.M., and the late game will be scheduled to start at 7:45 P.M. If only one game is played in a night, the game will be scheduled to start at 6:30 PM. Any team not able to field a team (at least eight players) within 10 minutes of the Umpire-in-Chief announcing "Play ball" will forfeit the game.

All regular season games are scheduled to last six innings, but a new inning will not start after one hour and 30 minutes. Additionally, no inning will commence after 10 P.M. Finally, no inning shall commence if there are 3:00 minutes or less left on the scoreboard and one team is leading by five runs or more. The time will be started and kept on the scoreboard. If the scoreboard is unavailable, the time will be kept by the Official Scorekeeper. During the regular season, tied games will stand if the time limit has expired; but extra inning(s) will be played if a game is tied after six innings and is still within the time limit.

9:15 – A courtesy runner is allowed for the catcher. The courtesy runner must be the player who made the last out. If that is not possible, the provision does not apply for that instance.

9:17 – If a batter squares to bunt and then swings, he will be called out (umpire's decision). Rule 9.17 applies to Farm and Minor League Rules but is not a special Freshman League Rule (Ages 11-12).

SECTION E: ALL-STAR SELECTION RULES AND PROCEDURES

ALL-STAR OVERVIEW: The Winthrop Park Baseball Program is authorized to choose two 11 or 12- and-under All-Star Teams, to participate in the Dizzy Dean A and B tournaments, other youth baseball association tournaments or “travel ball” youth baseball tournaments available to All-Star Teams. At least one team will represent Winthrop Park Baseball, and the Board shall determine the team(s) to be chosen.

Winthrop Park Baseball strives to field the most competitive All-Star team(s) possible and will be comprised of players and coaches that represent the attitude and character we desire. With this in mind, we wish to involve players who are committed to the hard work and practice time that is required to participate at this level of competition and best represent Winthrop Park Baseball in competition, sportsmanship, integrity and character.

If selected as an All-Star, there are no guarantees of playing time nor playing position. An All-Star team is a competitive team so playing time may not be distributed evenly and games will be managed to maximize the chance of victory. All decisions are solely at the discretion of the All-Star Head Coach.

A player must have played at Winthrop Park in the current Spring season and participated in at least 75% of the regular season games to be eligible for consideration as an All-Star. Exemptions to the 75% game participation requirement may be granted if a player has a valid hardship cause and a majority of the Board of Directors elects to waive the requirement.

Proof of residency will be re-verified for players selected to the All-Star team. Any player that is not zoned for Winthrop Park will not be permitted to play in the Dizzy Dean District Tournament (or any subsequent Dizzy Dean sanctioned tournaments) but will be permitted to practice fully with the team and participate in any non-Dizzy Dean sanctioned tournaments the All-Star team participates in.

ROSTER SIZE: An All-Star Team will consist of a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 15 players, with 13 or 14 players being most typical. The roster size is determined by the All-Star Head Coach.

ALL-STAR COMMITMENT LETTER AND AGREEMENT: To be eligible for consideration as an All-Star, families must complete and return the All-Star Commitment Letter outlining the expected player and parent commitment level for All-Star participation. Commitment Letters will typically be sent via email after the second week of the Spring regular season schedule to the email address(es) provided by the parent(s)/guardian(s) of each player provided at registration.

All families are asked to return the Commitment Letter, even if the family declines to participate in All-Stars. A deadline to return the Commitment Letter will be provided which will not be later

than three weeks before the end of the Spring regular season. Please understand, completing a Commitment Letter does not guarantee selection as an All-Star.

ALL-STAR HEAD COACH AND ASSISTANT COACH SELECTION: The selection of the All-Star Head Coach will take place during a meeting of all Head Coaches from the Spring Season and Board Members from the current program year to be held not later than three weeks before the end of the Spring regular season. All Head Coaches from the Spring regular season as well as current Board Members are eligible to be nominated to be the Head Coach of the All-Star Team.

Each Head Coach from the current Spring season will have the opportunity to nominate an All-Star Head Coach. The nominee receiving the majority vote from a vote of all Spring season head coaches will be the Head Coach of the All-Star Team (with the Board of Directors breaking any ties). A Head Coach is not permitted to vote for themselves.

The selected All-Star Head Coach shall have the sole responsibility to select their own Assistant Coaches with a maximum of three assistant coaches (who do not have to currently be associated with Winthrop Park Baseball, but it is recommended).

All Assistant Coaches are required to be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. If the All-Star Head Coach is also a Board Member, he/she will be required to recuse themselves from the Board vote.

ALL-STAR PLAYER SELECTION PROCESS: Once the deadline for completing the All-Star Commitment and Agreement has passed, each head coach will be provided with a ballot listing all players that are eligible to be selected to the All-Star Team. Ballots shall be prepared, distributed and tabulated by a Board Member of the Park President's choosing.

All Head Coaches from the Spring Season and Board Members from the current program year will meet for All-Star player selection not sooner than two weeks before the end of the Spring regular season and not later than one week before the end of the Spring regular season.

The selection process will start with each Spring Season Head Coach submitting their private ballot to the appointed Board Member, nominating their top three league-wide players (not on their team) who he/she feels have demonstrated a high skill level, positive attitude, good character and sportsmanship during the season. The votes are tabulated and announced. The players nominated forms the potential player pool for the remainder of the voting process.

Next, each Head Coach confidentially sends their next two league-wide selections (not on their team) to the appointed Board Member who adds these votes to the total for the players in the player pool and announces the total. A Head Coach cannot vote for a player they selected in the previous voting round.

Lastly, each Head Coach confidentially sends one final league-wide selection to the appointed Board Member who adds these votes to the total for the players in the player pool and announces the total. A Head Coach cannot vote for the same player they voted for any time previously (but may vote for a player from their team).

The 10 players that receive the most votes at the end of this process will comprise the All-Star team. In the event of a tie at a specific vote total, each head coach will confidentially send their rank order selections for all players that are tied at the same vote total (with the highest number representing their top choice) to the appointed Board Member. The player(s) with the highest point values will complete the 10 players. If a tie remains after the above process, the Board of Directors will break any remaining ties.

The All-Star Head Coach will have the opportunity to challenge up to two of the player selections for discussion with the Board. Challenges will typically be due to concerns over discipline, character, sportsmanship, work ethic, etc. The Board will review and discuss the challenge (soliciting input as needed from Spring Season Head Coaches) to determine if a player(s) will be removed from All-Star consideration. If by majority vote the Board accepts the challenge of a player(s), the All-Star Head Coach will be required to replace the player(s) that was challenged with a player(s) from the previously formed selection process potential player pool and this player(s) will be added to the All-Star team.

In the unlikely event the player pool is comprised of less than 10 players, the players that were nominated automatically make the All-Star team and the All-Star Head Coach will have the ability and sole responsibility to select the number of additional players needed to reach 10 players from the pool of eligible players (those who have completed the All-Star Commitment and Agreement).

Following the Voting Process, the All-Star Head Coach will have the ability and sole responsibility to select a minimum of two, but not more than five eligible players to the All-Star team that have completed the All-Star Commitment and Agreement. This selection needs to be provided to the Board for review and approval by majority vote not later than 48 hours after completion of the All-Star selection process.

The All-Star Player Selection Process is facilitated by the Board of Directors of Winthrop Park Baseball. All voting results, discussions involving Head Coaches and Board Members and All-Star Head Coach player selections will remain confidential and will not be shared.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ALL-STAR ROSTERS AND PROCEDURE TIMING: All-Star rosters will be announced via email to all parents of current players and posted to the Winthrop Park Baseball website following the last week of the Spring regular season.

All-Star practices will begin organizationally in early May and will commence fully in mid-May, immediately following the completion of the Spring regular season playoffs. The All-Star season will typically end in mid-July.

ALL-STAR TEAM ADMINISTRATION: Participating in fundraising activities and opportunities to support All-Star expenses is required of all players and families. We cannot experience a successful All-Star season without the support and assistance of every family.

Two (or more) “Team Moms” will be chosen at or prior to the first organizational practice who will coordinate with the All-Star Head Coach and work closely with All-Star player families to create a fundraising plan and budget to establish a fundraising goal to cover all expenses to be incurred during the All-Star season to include (but not limited to): uniforms, tournament entry fees and travel costs.

If an All-Star player fails to meet the Commitment Letter and Agreement requirements, the All-Star Head Coach must inform the Board of Directors of the circumstances, and the Board reserves the right to take action as appropriate and necessary, including dismissal of a player.

The All-Star Head Coach and the Board of Directors will deal with any circumstances that arise that are beyond the control of the player such as illness, injury or family emergency in an appropriate manner.

The Board of Directors reserves the right to limit participation or dismiss a player, Head Coach, Assistant Coach and parents/guardians of All-Star players for actions the Board deems inappropriate or unbecoming an All-Star player, coach or parent/guardian.

SECTION F: MISCELLANEOUS

TEAM SPONSOR: The team sponsor's fee will be \$600 per team. Each team player will be furnished a hat and a jersey with the team sponsor's name on the front. The team sponsor shall get a banner placed prominently at Winthrop Park. If a sponsor, parent, manager, or coach elects to purchase additional items for the team, it will be permitted as long as the items fall within the confines of these rules. At no time, however, shall a manager or coach request a sponsor or require a player or parent to purchase additional items.

PARK SPONSOR: A park sponsor's fee will be \$300.00. A park sponsor shall get a banner placed prominently at Winthrop Park.

UNIFORMS: The Program will purchase a hat, and jersey, for each player, plus a hat and jersey for each Manager and up to two assistant coaches per team. The lettering for the sponsor's name on the jersey and the type of jersey used will be standard for the league and cannot be altered, changed, or substantially different from any other team. The President will be responsible for coordinating the purchase of the uniforms. Where possible, the color selection, etc., will be to the sponsor's liking; however, when recruiting sponsors for Winthrop Park, a color, jersey style, or lettering cannot be promised.

If a team elects to purchase items such as stripes for pants, practice jerseys, or colored pants, the League will not guarantee matching colors. The uniforms given to the team will be used during play of all league games; no manager, coach, sponsor, or league official has the right to reject.

Players will be required to furnish their own pants, belt, and socks. **All players on a team must wear the same color pants.** If a team wants to have all players in a color other than white or grey, all players must agree. However, if all players/parents do not agree, then the required color is white. No uniform will be issued to a player until the registration fee is paid, unless approved by the President.