



Cairns Baseball League Inc.

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BY- LAWS

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RULE 1. COMMENCEMENT AND APPLICATION

- a. These By-Laws of the CBL are made pursuant to the CBL Inc. Constitution and Rules and will come into operation following their acceptance at a duly constituted meeting of the CBL.
- b. These By-Laws are to be read in conjunction with the Official Rules of Baseball and the accepted interpretation of those rules and define the Official Rules to be applied to all official games played under the auspices of the CBL.
- c. (1) These By-Laws are to be formally reviewed pre-season each year by a By-Laws committee appointed by the CBL Management Committee. Amendments arising from that review are to be incorporated in these By-Laws on the formal approval of the CBL.
- (2) Further amendments to these By-Laws may be made at any time. Such amendments are only to be made after suggested changes have been considered by the By-Laws Committee and on the formal approval of the CBL Management Committee. The proposed changes shall be incorporated into these By-Laws.
- (3) Amendments will take effect seven (7) days after the CBL Management approval with clubs being notified accordingly.
- (4) Interpretation of the By-Laws is vested in the CBL Management Committee on advice from the By-Laws Committee

RULE 2. APPLICATION OF THE OFFICIAL RULES OF BASEBALL

- a. All official games of baseball played under the auspices of the CBL will be played strictly in accordance with the Official Rules of Baseball and these By-Laws.
- b. The accepted interpretations of the Official Rules of Baseball are to be:
 - (1) those interpretations explained in the Official Rules; and
 - (2) those interpretations as defined or re-defined by the National Director of Umpires and accepted by the Australian Baseball Federation (ABF); or
 - (3) where sub-sections (1) and (2) of this section do not apply, as interpreted by the Director of Umpires, QBUA..
- c. In regard to Rule 2.b.(2) above, the Cairns Baseball Umpires Association will advise the CBL and individual clubs at an appropriate forum of changes to rule interpretations and the date from which the interpretations are to apply.

RULE 3. DEFINITIONS

- a. **Club** A club shall be that group of persons affiliated with the CBL Inc. in accordance with its Constitution and Rules. A Club of more than one team must be compliant with the Incorporated associations Act.
- b. **Registered Player** A registered player is a person who:
 - (1) the CBL has a record of as being registered in the current season's competition by an affiliated club on the required form; or in the case where there is no current competition, in the most recently concluded competition
 - (2) turns 15 years of age or older in the calendar year of the current competition. Under 16 and Under 18 players may be registered **ONLY with the written permission of the Regional Director of Coaching and their parents/guardians. Junior players may not be approached by Senior Clubs to play senior baseball. Any approach must be made to the player's Junior Club.**
 - (3) is not a defaulter, as defined in the CBL Constitution; and
 - (4) is not awaiting a clearance to play from another Club, League or Association.
- c. **Umpire** An umpire is: (1) a person appointed as an Official Umpire by the CBL
(2) a person who is nominated by a Club rostered by the CBL to fulfil the duties of an umpire at a game of baseball held under the auspices of the CBL
- d. **Grade** Grade is a ranking for a group of teams that play each other during the course of a season of play.
- e. **Competition Round** A competition round is that number of games grouped together in the CBL official season draw under a unique number, where each and every team in a grade is involved in either one game or a bye.
- f. **Registrar** The registrar is: (1) required to keep precise records of the results and particulars of each game
(2) required to inform the CBL of any breaches of these by-laws at the next CBL meeting
(3) required to keep precise records of player registration and participation.
(4) required to inform the CBL Chairperson of any cautions or ejections in accordance with Rule 17A c.(1).
- g. **Scorer** (1) Each team taking the field for a game is required to supply their own scorer to officiate at that game.
(2) Scorers of both teams are required to sit together and accurately record all particulars of that game.
(3) The scorers will ensure that the official scorecard is fully completed and correct.
(4) The scorers will ensure all records of that game are passed on to the registrar.
- h. **Clearance** A Clearance is required when a player seeks to register with a club when he/she last played with a different club during the past three (3) years.
- i. **Tribunal Panel** is that group of people nominated by the CBL Management Committee to adjudicate when an umpire reports a team member.

RULE 4. UMPIRES

- a. (1) Notwithstanding that a CBL official may be present at a particular game, an official umpire appointed by the CBL, or a rostered Club, will be the official representative of the CBL Chairperson for all matters pertaining to the conduct of the game.
(2) An official Umpire will be deemed to be the official representative of the CBL Chairperson 30 minute before the scheduled commencement of a game, the duration of the game and for 30 minutes after the completion of the game.
(3) Where more than one official umpire is present the Plate Umpire will be the CBL Chairperson's representative.
(4) Each umpire must be suitably attired in colours that are in no way similar to either playing team.
(5) **PENALTY: A team failing to supply a Plate Umpire when rostered to do so will incur a \$50 fine and the loss of 3 points. If No Base Umpire is supplied: First Time – loss of 1 point; Second Time – loss of 2 points**
- b. (1) Umpires will ensure that the line-up sheets have been handed to the scorers ten (10) minutes prior to the start of the game and all substitutions and changes etc. are recorded.
(2) At the completion of the game all umpires must complete, check and sign the official scorecard.
- c. Where an official umpire has adjudicated on behalf of the CBL the umpire will verbally notify the CBL Chairperson of that fact as soon as possible and in writing no later than the day after the game.

RULE 5. COMPETITION ORGANISATION

- a. **Grading and Schedules Committee**
A Grading and Schedules Committee may be appointed by the CBL each pre-season. This committee will be responsible for arranging a draw and timings for all games of baseball played under the auspices of the CBL. This function may be undertaken by the Management Committee
- b. **Grades**
The competition will be organised into three (3) grades - A Grade, B Grade and Masters. A Nightball series may also be conducted.
- c. **Competition Draw**
Competition draws for all levels of competition are to be arranged so that a given number of rounds are played. (The number of rounds will depend on the number of teams entered into the competition and the period over which the season is to be played.) The Draw will be displayed on the CBL website.
- d. **Points System**
Points will be allocated as follows: **Win**.....3 points
Draw..... 2 points
Loss.....1 point
Forfeit..... 0 points
- (1) At the completion of the competition the team ranked first on the points table will be declared the Minor Premiers.
(2) Where two (2) or more teams are ranked equally on points their final position shall be determined by
(i) the highest percentage of runs FOR divided by runs AGAINST
(ii) if still equal the head to head results between the teams.

RULE 6. CLUB NOMINATIONS AND FINANCE

- a. A local club shall nominate in writing on an Official Club Registration form to the CBL Secretary by the date set by the CBL Management Committee. The Official Registration form is to be fully completed and correct prior to the date of the commencement of the official season. This form is available on the CBL website.
- b. Each local club accepted to membership of the CBL shall remit fees to the CBL Treasurer as set by the CBL. Payments are due as set by the CBL.
PENALTY: Unfinancial teams will FORFEIT any games played while unfinancial.

RULE 7. PLAYER CONTROL

- a. **Player registration**
- (1) Any player who is not registered with BQI and the CBL may not take part in any game held under the auspices of the CBL.
(2) Registration shall only be effective when:
(i) **All Player details are entered on the MyClub computer database** at the Baseball Queensland website. The League shall forward appropriate payments to BQI.
(ii) **Prior to the commencement of the season** player details are included on the Club Player Registration Form and submitted with the appropriate payment to the League Treasurer / Secretary. This form is available on the CBL website.
(iii) **After the season commences** new players must submit the required registration payment **AND** either a Player Registration Form **OR** be recorded on the Official Scorecard **before the commencement of the game.**
(3) **PENALTY: FORFEIT for fielding an unregistered player. Should both teams field an unregistered player - NO GAME.**
(4) To avoid a forfeit a player may be registered as a **VISITOR** on the back of the Official Scorecard before the game without payment of a registration fee. A player may play only **one (1) game** as a VISITOR and may not participate as a Visitor for more than one team during the season..
(5) A player may only be registered and play with one given club at any one time **EXCEPT** that to avoid a forfeit Masters players may play with any other team during fixture games i.e. NOT in Finals.
- b. **Clearances**
- (1) Between seasons a registered player may transfer from one club to one other club with the approval of his/her former club's executive on a **Clearance form**. Forms available on the CBL website.
(2) Clearance forms must be lodged with the CBL Registrar 24 hours prior to the player taking part in a game.
(3) In the case of a player last having played with another Queensland competition during the last three (3) years the Club must seek Clearance from the BQI blacklist.
(4) Once the season has commenced a registered player may transfer from one club to one other **up to and including the 4th last round of the A Grade Fixture Competition** with the approval of his/her former club's executive. A player may transfer any number of times during a season. However each transfer must be duly authorised and approved.
NOTE: Should such approval not be forthcoming without valid reason the matter can be referred to the CBL Management Committee. The decision of that Committee shall be final notwithstanding any appeal to BQI then ABF.
(5) When a player transfers to another club during a competition, game statistics and innings credits from his/ her previous club shall be transferred with him/her.
PENALTY: Playing an uncleared player will result in a FORFEIT.

- c. **Team Line Ups**
- (1) For all games of baseball played under the auspices of the CBL, the line up sheets submitted to the Plate Umpire at the commencement of the game are to include all starting players.
 - (2) Where a team wishes to use a Designated Hitter (DH) he/she is to be listed in the batting line up and the starting pitcher is to be listed below the starting batting line up
 - (3) **Masters teams** must have a minimum of **two (2) female players** on the field. If two female players are unavailable then teams may agree to allow only one (1) female player on the field. If no female players are in a team's line-up then that team must play with eight (8) players.
- d. **Player participation**
- (1) **After the completion of the first cycle of A Grade competition games** all A Grade teams must name **Seven (7) A Grade Players** who shall not be permitted to play in a lower grade after that date.
 - (2) **Clubs with two (2) teams in any one grade must name separate lists for each team and those players may not play in the Club's other team in that Grade**
 - (3) Players may only be regraded if written application is acceptable to the Grading and Schedules Committee or the Management Committee via the CBL Secretary no less than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled game in which the applicant intends to play.
 - (4) No regradings will be approved for play after **the 4th last round of the A Grade Fixture Competition.**
NOTE: Should a regraded player play an innings or part innings in the higher grade he must remain in the higher grade and may not seek further regrading.
 - (5) **PENALTY: Playing a player in a grade or team for which he/she is ineligible will result in a FORFEIT.**
 - (6) **Player under suspension**
 - (i) In regular competition or final series a player ejected from a game under the CBL jurisdiction may not participate in any further games for which he/she is eligible until a tribunal determines otherwise.
 - (ii) A player under suspension shall not be permitted to play in either normal competition rounds or the final series of any CBL administered competition unless the suspension is lifted through appeal.
- e. **Junior players (Under 16, Under 18 and Under 20)**
- (1) Junior players playing in the CBL are subject to the BQI rules governing the playing of baseball by junior players. U16 players must present to the scorers before the game a completed up-to-date **Log Book**.
 - (2) **Under 16 players** may participate **ONLY** with the written permission of the Regional Director of Coaching and their parents/guardians. This form is available on the CBL website.
 - (3) **Under 16 players** may play **A Grade Baseball ONLY in exceptional circumstances with special permission given by the Regional Director of Coaching.**
PENALTY: FORFEIT for any breach of Junior player participation or pitching/catching restrictions.

RULE 8. PLAYING EQUIPMENT

- a. **Balls**
- (1) Balls authorised for use in all games held under the auspices of the CBL shall be specified by the CBL Management Committee.
 - (2)
 - (i) At the commencement of each game the League will provide the Plate Umpire with two (2) new match balls.
 - (ii) At the conclusion of the game the Home Team will receive **one** game ball. The other ball to be retained by the CBL to accumulate a stock of spare used balls.
 - (iii) In addition the Home team will have available in reserve replacement balls.
 - (3) Balls for the Final Series will be supplied by the CBL.
- b. **Bats Senior players** including Masters must use **wooden bats** in both **A and B Grade. U16/ U18 players** may use **metal bats in B Grade only.** Any Senior players playing in a Masters game must use **wooden bats.**
- c. **Uniforms**
- (1) All Teams (including managers/coaches, players, bat boys/girls) shall be attired in uniforms registered with the CBL. Caps are part of the uniform and are to be of the same colour and design throughout a team as designated by that Club.
 - (i) In cases where Clubs are refitting with new uniforms Clubs will make application to the CBL for Rule 8.b.(1) (i) to be waived. Details of orders and payment dates must be included in such an application.
 - (2) The wearing of undershirts and numbers is optional, however, when undershirts are worn they are to be the uniform colour.
PENALTY: \$50 fine will be incurred by teams out of uniform.
- d. **Jackets**
- (1) Jackets will be in a uniform colour of that team's Club or a Representative jacket.
 - (i) Except for provisions detailed a player is not permitted to bat, run bases or field in a jacket.
 - (ii) Only a pitcher may wear a jacket while at bat or while running bases.
 - (iii) Where a pitcher is removed to a fielding position he may also continue to wear a jacket as a fielder.
 - (2) The Plate umpire may rule that any fielder may wear a jacket in times of inclement weather.
- e. **Helmets**
- (1) The wearing of double ear flap helmets whilst on-deck, batting and base running is compulsory.
 - (i) Cracked or damaged helmets may not be worn by any player while he/she is on-deck, at bat, base running or fielding.
 - (2) A Helmet must be worn by the catcher and may be worn by any fielder except the pitcher.
 - (3) A bat boy/girl employed in a game must wear a properly fitting batting helmet with two (2) ear protectors at all times.

- f. **Pitcher** The pitcher while pitching is not to wear:
 - (I) a batting glove under his/her fielder's glove
 - (II) sweat bands on the throwing arm and if worn on the non-throwing arm must not be white.
- g. Except for a wedding ring players will not wear any form of visible **jewellery**.

RULE 9. START OF GAME

- a. (1) All games are to start at the times in the draw. The actual time recorded in the score book will be when the umpire calls play.
 - (2) The Plate Umpire and the coaches of each team will inspect the fitness of the grounds and the Plate Umpire will be the sole judge for the commencement of the game and for the resumption of play after any suspension.
 - (3) Teams may start a game with eight (8) players and the ninth batter will be an automatic out.
- b. **Notified Forfeit**
 - (1) Any team that will be unable to field eight (8) players for any game is to notify the CBL Chairperson at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of the scheduled game.
 - (2) The CBL Chairperson will in turn advise the CBL Registrar, the opposing Club's Secretary and the Umpires Assoc.
 - (3) A team wishing to reschedule any game MUST apply in writing to the CBL stating the reasons for the rescheduling. The application will only be accepted if more than 72 hours notice is given.
- c. **Insufficient Players**
 - (1) Where a team has fewer than eight (8) players and is unable to start a match at the scheduled starting time the Plate Umpire shall declare a **FORFEIT**.
A **Visitor** under the conditions of Rule 7 a. (5) (Player registration) may be the **eighth** player.
 - (2) Where both teams are unable to field the required number of players the Plate Umpire shall declare a **NO GAME**.
 - (3) A team that wins by forfeit must submit a team line-up to the Scorer or to the CBL Registrar prior to their next fixture game. Players in that line-up will be credited with participation in that game but no innings.
- d. **Weather/Ground Conditions Prevent Game Commencing or Continuing**
 - (1) In the case of wet weather the groundsman shall inspect the grounds and notify the CBL Chairperson of the state of the grounds. The CBL Chairperson shall notify Clubs as soon as possible if the grounds are unplayable for the entire day.
 - (2) Where weather or ground conditions may prevent a game commencing, games are to be called off one time slot at a time, unless it is obvious that the ground is unplayable for the entire day. The game shall not be called until 15 minutes before the scheduled starting time.
 - (3) Where the Plate Umpire determines that the ground repair work may enable a game to commence or continue 20 minutes shall be allowed for such work to be carried out prior to any decision on calling the game.
 - (4) If a game commences, but is halted due to inclement weather before it becomes a regulation game, scorers must still complete the Game Card and submit it to the Registrar. This will enable participants to be credited with game eligibility for finals.
- e. **Mechanical Light Failure**
 - (1) In the event of light failure during a play (other than a safe hit, catch or out/s made before the light failure) the play shall revert back to the pitch.
 - (2) In the event of a light failure after a safe hit the ball will be dead and all runners shall advance one base.
 - (3) In the event of light failure after a catch or out/s are made the ball will be dead; the outs shall stand and runners return.
NOTE: The Plate Umpire is to advise the CBL Chairperson verbally as soon as possible and in writing within 48 hours after the game was scheduled to commence of any reason/s for a late start (other than preceding game carryover) or no game situation.
- f. **Rescheduled Games**
 - (1) Should a **full round of games in any grade be cancelled** these games shall be **rescheduled if possible**.
If **not possible** each game will be declared a **Draw**.
 - (2) If only part of a round is cancelled in any grade the unplayed games from that round for that Grade will be rescheduled.

RULE 10. LENGTH OF GAMES

- a. (1) (i) All **A Grade** games will be played over **nine (9) innings or two and a half (2 1/2) hours. B Grade and Masters** over **seven (7) innings or two (2) hours**. In A Grade if scores are level after nine (9) innings and time remains the game can continue to the two and a half (2 1/2) hour time limit to achieve a result.
 - (2) No new innings will commence when from the last out of an innings less than **ten (10) minutes** remains to the scheduled finishing time of a time limit game. Once an innings has started it must be completed if the Away Team is in the lead, OR continued until the Home Team is in the lead when the Umpire shall call time and game.
- b. Time limited games will not be classed as **regulation** unless: (I) A Grade - **five (5) innings or 90 minutes** have been completed.
(ii) B Grade / Masters - **three (3) innings or 70 minutes** have been completed.
- c. (1) After a delay in the commencement of a time limited game the game must finish at the scheduled finishing time.

- (2) If a match goes over time to complete an inning the starting time of the next match will be adjusted accordingly. If so sufficient time will be allowed to prepare the diamond and allow each team five (5) minutes warm-up time on the diamond and the finishing time will be adjusted accordingly.
- d. **Mercy Rule (Ten Run Rule/Nine Run Rule)**
- (1) In any A Grade game the game shall be called after the completion of the seventh (7th) innings if either team is leading by ten (10) runs or more.
- (2) In B Grade / Masters games Rule 10.d. (1) will be applied after the completion of the fifth (5th) innings.
NOTE: As a courtesy teams will refrain from stealing when a team leads by ten runs or more.
- (3) When a Masters team scores the ninth (9th) run in an inning the inning for the batting side will end regardless of the number of outs. An inning ending safe hit will count towards the batters statistics. **NOTE:** Rule 10.d. (3) will NOT apply in Finals.
- e. **Called Game**
Where a game is called for whatever reason (except forfeit) and regulation innings/time have not been completed, it shall be rescheduled by the CBL Management Committee or Executive Committee (including games cancelled due to weather/ground conditions).
- f. **Batting Cages**
The Home Team will have the use of the batting cage for the first half of the hour preceding the game and the Away Team will have use of the batting cage for the second half of the hour preceding the game.
- g. **Pre-Game Warm-Up**
Before the start of each game both teams may exercise a maximum of ten (10) minutes as a warm-up period on the diamond. This warm-up period will be controlled by the Plate Umpire and will follow the sequence of Away Team followed by the Home Team.

RULE 11. PROTESTING A GAME - NORMAL COMPETITION ROUNDS

- a. Where a Manager/Coach is of the opinion that an Umpire's decision is in violation of either the Official Rules of Baseball or these By-Laws he/she may protest that decision.
NOTE: A protest will not be permitted on any judgement decisions made by an Umpire.
- b. The protest must be lodged with the Plate Umpire immediately after the play has been completed and before the next ball is pitched or in the case of play that ends the game, before the Plate Umpire leaves the playing field.
- c. **The procedure to be adopted is as follows:**
1. The Manager/Coach is to advise the Umpire concerned that he/she will lodge a protest on the decision made.
If this umpire is a Base Umpire the Manager/Coach is then to advise the Plate Umpire of his/her action.
 2. The Plate Umpire is then to advise the Manager/Coach whether he can accept the protest in accordance with the provisions of Official Rule 4.19 (i.e. the decision of the Umpire was a judgement call).
 3. The Plate Umpire will then advise the scorers of the protest.
 4. The scorers are to note on their scorebooks: (i) the time the protest was lodged
(ii) the point of the protest
(iii) the state of the game AND the count on the batter if applicable.
 5. The Plate Umpire is to initial the entries in the scorebooks.
 6. The game will then proceed normally.
 7. At the completion of the game
 - (i) if the team protesting has **WON** the game the protest is automatically dismissed. Nevertheless the team Manager/Coach must, within 48 hours of the completion of the game report the incident in writing to the CBL Chairperson.
 - (ii) if the team protesting has **LOST** the game the Manager/Coach has until 9.00pm on the first working day after the game to lodge an Official Protest in writing with the CBL Chairperson.
- d. On receipt of a protest lodged in accordance with section (c) of this By-Law the CBL Chairperson is within 72 hours of receiving the protest to convene a meeting of both Team Managers/Coaches; those players whom the CBL Chairperson considers will assist in arriving at a decision; those umpires involved in the protested game; and the scorebooks.
- e. On hearing all involved the CBL Chairperson is to rule in accordance with the provisions of Official Rule 4.19.
- f. Where it is necessary to replay a game or that part of a game from the protest point to reach a decision, the game will be played as soon as possible after the protest has been decided. Where such games are replayed they must be replayed if possible with those players and Managers/Coaches as detailed in the original line-up. If possible those umpires who officiated are also to be allocated to the game. Where possible the same ground is to be used.

RULE 12. FINALS SERIES

- a. (1) The leading four (4) teams in each grade at the completion of the fixture rounds shall be considered Semi-Finalists and shall play off in a page system of finals i.e. Week 1: 1st team v 2nd team AND 3rd team v 4th team
Week 2: Loser 1 v 2 plays Winner 3 v 4
Grand Final: Winner 1 v 2 plays Winner of Week 2 game

- (2) Should a grade consist of only four (4) teams then only the top three (3) qualify for finals. The team finishing on top of the points table goes straight into the Grand Final, while teams two (2) and three (3) play off in a Semi-Final to decide who will play the Minor Premier team in the Grand Final.
 - (3) Should a grade consist of three (3) teams then only the top two (2) qualify for a finals series.
 - (4) In the event of teams being on equal points consideration will be given initially to the runs for and against percentage, then to head to head results.
- b. (1) All finals including Semi-Finals will be played as follows : (i) A GRADE - 9 innings games
(ii) B GRADE / MASTERS - 7 innings games or 2 ½ hours
(iii) Grand Finals will be a best of three games series ??? ?
- (2) If after seven (7) or nine (9) innings scores are tied, extra innings will be played to determine a result. The 10 Run Rule applies.
 - (3) Minor Premiers or the team going straight to the Grand Final after the first Semi-Final will be Home Team for the first Grand Final and the third if required. The Opposing Team will be home team for Grand Final Game 2.
- c. (1) Suitable dates and format are to be decided by the Grading and Schedules Committee/ Management Committee.
(2) If as a result of inclement weather or other reason this format cannot be followed then a special meeting of the Management Committee will be called to reschedule games with preference given to games being rescheduled mid-week.
- d. **Eligibility**
- (1) No team shall enter a final unless all Club monies owing to the CBL are paid.
 - (2) No player may play in any final for a Team unless that player has played **six (6) fixture games** for that Team's Club during the current season.
- e. **Gradings**
- (1) **Upgrading** – A player may play for a higher grade team in his Club for the finals series if that player complies with Rule 12 d. (2).
 - (2) **Downgrading** - A player who is deemed to be a particular Grade player for the finals series may NOT participate in any lower grade during that finals series.
PENALTY: Where the CBL Chairperson determines that a player has deliberately contravened this By-Law the lower grade team in which the player played shall FORFEIT the game.
- f. **Conduct of Finals Series Games**
- (1) The Plate Umpire controlling the game will decide the suitability of the ground, the light conditions and similar aspects for the commencement, continuance or otherwise of play.
 - (2) Where a game cannot be commenced for any reason (excepting a forfeit) or where because of adverse light or weather conditions a Regulation Game (as defined in By-Law Rule 10.g) cannot be reached then the CBL Management Committee will reschedule the match to a time prior to the next Finals series scheduled game or games in that grade.
NOTE: Official Rules of Baseball 4.12 (Suspended Games) shall apply to the Finals Series and Tied Games will be considered Suspended Games. In the application of this Rule weather shall include poor light.
 - (3) Any rescheduled or suspended game/s should be played no later than seven (7) days after the original scheduled game(s) with preference to mid week rescheduling.
- g. **Protesting a Finals Series Game**
- (1) During any finals series game a manager/coach may protest against any decision made by an umpire which the manager/coach believes is in violation of the Official Rules of Baseball or these By-Laws. A protest will not be accepted on any judgement decision made by an umpire.
 - (2) By-Law 11.a - c. shall apply. The protest will then be decided at the time it is lodged by an independent Committee appointed prior to the Finals Series by the CBL Management Committee. Play will be suspended while the committee deliberates.
(i) The decision reached by the Committee will be final and the game will then continue.

RULE 13. VISITS TO THE MOUND

Official Rule 8.06 (b) is to mean that the second visit of a Manager/Coach to a pitcher in the same inning forces the removal of that pitcher from the mound. He/she may assume a fielding position but may not return to pitch for the rest of the game.

RULE 14. SCORING

- a. Each team shall supply a scorer to record the proceedings of the game. Scorers will sit together and confer so that scorebooks and the computer, if in use, are identical at the conclusion of the game.
PENALTY: A team failing to supply a scorer will incur a \$50 fine.
- b. The scorers will select the Most Valuable Players for the game and allocate points to a minimum of two (2) players with a maximum of three (3) points to any one player - 6 points in total to be allocated.
- c. At the conclusion of the game Match Result cards showing the Final Score; Winning Team; all players and umpires participating in the game; any changes to the line-up and when the change occurred; any new registrations or visitors used; and any incidents or injuries occurring in the game must be completed by both scorers and signed by the Plate Umpire and both Scorers.

- d. Match Result Cards must also be lodged for games not commenced due to weather, ground conditions, forfeit etc.
- e. Statistics collected by the CBL Statistician and Registrar shall be used to determine CBL awards at the conclusion of each season.

RULE 15. GENERAL

- a. (1) Any person covered by either the By-Laws or the Official Rules of Baseball is not permitted to consume any alcoholic beverages, **smoke or chew tobacco** while on the playing field, benches or dugouts. Nor shall a player leave the playing field for such a purpose.
- (2) An umpire will eject such offenders from the game and shall submit a written report on his/her action to the CBL Chairperson within 48 hours of the completion of the game.
- b. Any team causing a forfeit may be subject to further action.
- c. A team commencing a game with nine (9) players may continue the game with eight (8) players as the result of an injury.
- d. Each team must have a representative at League General Meetings.
- e. Any Club not supplying workers at a working bee or failing to fulfil rostered Grounds Duties may be subject to a \$50 fine.
- f. Bat boys/girls must be a minimum of 10 years old and a registered junior player.
- g. A Catcher may be replaced by a courtesy runner at any time provided the courtesy runner is not participating in the game in any position at that time.
- h. **Infectious Disease Control**
 - (1) When an injury resulting in bleeding occurs all contaminated clothing and equipment must be replaced prior to the player being allowed to resume play out of uniform (if necessary) without penalty. If bleeding cannot be controlled and the wound securely covered the player must not continue in the game.
 - (2) **Spitting is not permitted.**
- i. **Trophies**
 - (1) Eligibility for batting, fielding and pitching trophies will be based on the number of innings played during the competition:
 - (I) A Grade players must have played at least (number of fixture games in that grade x 3) innings.
 - (ii) B Grade / Masters players must have played at least (number of fixture games in the appropriate grade x 2) innings.

RULE 16. TOURNAMENTS AND NIGHTBALL FIXTURES

- a. The CBL may from time to time make special rules over and above the Official Rules of Baseball and these By-Laws for the conduct of special tournaments or interstate fixtures. The CBL will nominate such tournaments or fixtures and may overrule both the Official Rules of Baseball and these By-Laws.
- b. When Nightball games constitute a separate competition this competition will be governed by these same By-Laws and Official Rules of Baseball with the following exceptions:
 - (I) Statistics and points will be recorded separately.
 - (ii) Any player registered with the CBL may participate in the competition.

RULE 17. TRIBUNAL PROCEDURES AND DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES

A. PLAYERS, MANAGERS, COACHES ETC ON REPORT

Where a person covered by the Official Rules of Baseball or these By-Laws is either ejected from a game or reported by an umpire, the following actions are to be taken by:

- a. **Umpire - Officiating at a Game**
 - (1) If a player, Manager/Coach or any other qualified member of the bench (hereinafter referred to as a team member) is ejected during a game the umpire is to advise both managers/coaches and the scorers. The advice to the manager/coach is simply to be that a team member has been ejected for being in violation of the rules. Advice to the scorers is to include:
 - (I) the name of the team member
 - (ii) the time of the ejection
 - (iii) where a player has been ejected confirmation of the substitute player.

NOTE: Where a manager/coach is ejected the manager/coach will advise the Umpire-in-Chief immediately after he/she is ejected of the nominated substitute manager/coach. Where the ejected manager/coach declines or refuses to notify a substitute the Umpire-in-Chief will nominate a team member to act as manager/coach.

- (2) After the game the Umpire will inform the CBL Chairperson either by telephone or in person of the ejection within twelve (12) hours of the end of the game.
- (3) Within 48 hours of advising the CBL Chairperson the Umpire is to forward to him/her a written report of the ejection.

b. **CBL Chairperson**

- (1) On receipt of the Umpire's advice the CBL Chairperson will advise the appropriate Club President or Club Secretary of the name of the team member under report and inform the Club President or Club Secretary that the team member under report may if he/she elects appear before a Tribunal Panel and explain his/her actions.
- (2) The CBL Chairperson shall endeavour to convene a Tribunal Panel within 48 hours of receiving the Umpire's written report.

c. **Offences**

The offences defined in these By-Laws are in three (3) categories with the degree of gravity ranging from offensive behaviour through to dangerous and violent behaviour.

(1) **Offensive behaviour**

(i) shall not in any way be limited to but shall include what the officiating Umpire or any member of the CBL may consider to be the use of any profane, indecent or obscene language; or the use of any threatening, abusive or insulting words to any person; or any behaviour that is disorderly, indecent, offensive, threatening or insulting.

(ii) in the case of offensive behaviour the alleged offender may be:

- (a) cautioned by the Umpire
- (b) ejected from the game
- (c) reported to the CBL Chairperson

In (a) or (b) the Umpire who issues the caution must report the name of the alleged offender and the nature of the offence on the back of the official game card and sign it. If an ejection occurs Rule 17 of these By-Laws must be followed.

The recording of such cautions and ejections shall be the responsibility of the Registrar, who shall notify the CBL Chairperson in the case of either (a) or (b) above.

(2) **Dangerous behaviour**

shall not in any way be limited to but shall include any behaviour that in the opinion of the officiating Umpire or any member of the CBL is considered to be dangerous to any player, Umpire or any other person.

If any player or any other person is, in the opinion of the Umpire, guilty of dangerous behaviour, then he shall eject such player or such other person from the game or from the ground, and Rule 17 of these By-Laws should be followed.

(3) **Violent behaviour**

shall not in any way be limited to but shall include any behaviour that in the opinion of the Umpire then officiating or any member of the CBL to be an act of violence towards any player, Umpire or any other person.

If any player or any other person is, in the opinion of the Umpire, guilty of violent behaviour, then the Umpire shall eject such player or such other person from the game or from the ground. If an ejection occurs Rule 17 of these By-Laws must be followed.

d. **Penalties**

- (1) The gravity of the reported offence is to be used to decide on the penalty awarded. However consideration shall also be given to previous offences in reaching this penalty.
- (2) The Umpire or the CBL Chairperson or both may deem that no further action is necessary following the ejection of a player from a game. In such a case a Tribunal Panel need not be convened.
- (3) Penalties which may be imposed are:
 - (i) **REPRIMAND** Limited to one (1) per season per offender.
 - (ii) **SUSPENSION** Shall generally be for a defined period of time and can include representative games if the player is selected in a representative team. For lengthy periods of suspension see also RULE 17 Section C.b and C.c.
 - (iii) **FINES** A Tribunal Panel may decide that a fine or fines are an appropriate form of penalty and if this is the case then
 1. they may award a fine not to exceed \$50 for any reported offence;
 2. they may award any penalty as well as a fine not to exceed \$50 for any reported offence.
 - (iv) **SUSPENDED PENALTY** The Tribunal may decide to suspend for a specified time period all or part of a fine or suspension. Any suspended penalty must be added to any subsequent penalty for a subsequent offence.
- (4) On hearing the evidence a tribunal may decide that a penalty as such is not warranted.
- (5) When a player is suspended or disqualified the Tribunal shall nominate the specific date up to and including that to which he is suspended.

B. CLUB MEMBERS ON REPORT

- a. Any registered member of a Club may be reported to the CBL Chairperson by an umpire for action which, while they are not engaged in a game of baseball, in any way impedes the progress of a game, reflects on either the character of the umpire or opposing team members, or brings the game of Baseball into discredit or disrepute.
- b. Where such a member is reported the Umpire will where possible advise the member concerned and an executive of the club. The CBL Chairperson is to be advised either personally or by telephone within 12 hours of the incident and in writing within 48 hours of the incident.

- c. (1) On receipt of the written report the CBL Chairperson is to advise the Club President and request an explanation from either the President or the Club member concerned.
 - (2) On receipt of that explanation (or where no explanation is forthcoming within 96 hours of the incident) the CBL Executive is to advise the Club President of any penalty imposed.
 - (3) Where a Club volunteers in writing to reprimand its own members then, if it is a first or isolated incident, the CBL Executive can accept this as an appropriate penalty. Where however the incident is serious in nature or a second offence (i.e. either the second offence in a season or an offence after a club has internally dealt with the first incident) by any member of the club, or no club response, the CBL Executive is to award penalties as follows:
 - (i) First penalty awarded for an offence by any member of the club (other than a team member as defined by either the Official Rules of Baseball or these By-Laws) \$50 payable by the club; or
 - (ii) A second or subsequent penalty awarded for an offence by any member of the club (other than a team member as defined in the Official Rules of Baseball or these By-Laws) \$100 payable by the club; or
 - (iii) For repeated offences or an offence of exceptional gravity, the CBL Executive may as well as imposing a fine also ban the attendance of a club member from any game played under the auspices of the CBL for a period of up to one (1) full calendar year.
- d. **Who may report**
- (1) Other than those incidents reportable by an umpire or scorer as detailed under the provisions of rules 9.05 (a) and 10.01 (c) of the Official Rules of Baseball any player, manager/coach, club official or member may report to the CBL any incident by another player, manager/coach, umpire, club official or member which in the reportee's opinion brings the game of Baseball into discredit or disrepute.
 - (2) Such reports may be verbal in the first instance but are to be followed within 48 hours of the incident by a written report and, except for an Umpire who will be disciplined by the CBUA, the CBL Chairperson will take action in accordance with the provisions of this By-Law.

C. PERIOD QUALIFICATION

- a. Where periods are stipulated in hours the first hour will commence one (1) minute after the completion of a game and cease one (1) minute before the stipulated number of hours. Those stipulated hour periods that follow (e.g.) the period within which the CBL Chairperson will impose a penalty etc.) will commence one (1) minute after the expiration of the previous period and cease one (1) minute before the expiration of that particular period.
- b. For those periods specified in months each month will be a calendar month. For example a player could be suspended for all games in which he was eligible in a three month period. The period shall commence at one (1) minute past midnight on the date immediately following the game at which the player was reported and cease one (1) minute to midnight three calendar months after.
- c. Where a calendar year is specified it will commence at one (1) minute past midnight on the day immediately following the game at which a club member etc. was reported and cease at one (1) minute to midnight 365 days later.

D. FAILURE TO MEET TIME LIMITS SPECIFIED IN THESE PROCEDURES

A report shall not be entertained if it is not made within the time limit specified in these procedures.

E. TRIBUNAL PROCEDURES

- a. **Introduction**
 - (1) These notes set out the procedure to be adopted for all Tribunals.
 - (2) Regardless of the number of persons forming the Tribunal Panel, the CBL Secretary is to act as Secretary of the Tribunal and record those members present, the evidence presented in summary form and the decision of the tribunal. The Secretary will also record in the Tribunal Book the reported person's name, reason for report, date of offence and tribunal decision. Reports can show a diagram.
 - (3) Before the Tribunal convenes the Secretary is to ensure that:
 - (i) all members of the Tribunal Panel are present
 - (ii) the original report is available for the Chairperson of the Tribunal
 - (iii) copies of the report are available to the other Tribunal Panel members and the person under report
 - (iv) the person under report, if he/she so elects, is present.
 - (v) any persons the person under report wishes to call before the Tribunal are present; and
 - (vi) the person making the report, if he/she elects, is present.
 - (4) When the Secretary has confirmed that the Tribunal may commence the Tribunal Panel and the Secretary are to meet in private and review the report and the rule or rules under which the report is made.
- b. **Procedure**
 - (1) The Procedure to be adopted in all cases will be:
 1. The person under report, the reporting person, the persons the reported person wishes to call are to be assembled.
 2. The Tribunal Chairperson will read out the report to those assembled and then, ensuring that all understand the nature of the report, direct that all except the Tribunal Panel, the reported person and the person(s) making the report are to retire.
 3. The reported person and the reporting person(s) will remain present throughout the proceedings when evidence is given. However the reported person may NOT be represented at the tribunal.

4. The reporting person(s) will then give a verbal explanation of the report.
 5. The Tribunal Panel may then ask questions of the reporting person(s).
 6. The reported person may ask questions of the reporting person(s) through the Tribunal Chairperson.
 7. Then the reported person is to be advised by the Tribunal Chairperson that he/she:
 - (i) may comment on the report; or
 - (ii) may remain silent; and/or
 - (iii) may call those witnesses, singly, whom he/she believes will assist the Tribunal Panel in its deliberations.
 8. Where a reported person gives evidence he/she may be questioned by the Tribunal Panel.
 9. Where witnesses are called, the Tribunal Chairperson is to:
 - (i) invite the witness to give evidence;
 - (ii) allow the Tribunal Panel to question the witness; then
 - (iii) allow the reported person to question the witness through the Tribunal Chairperson.
 10. All witnesses called by the reported person are to be treated in the manner described in (9) above.
 11. After all evidence has been given, the reported and reporting persons are to withdraw and the Tribunal Panel is to consider its decision. At any time any person may be recalled to clarify any statements, however, at all such times the reported person must also be present and must be allowed to question the recalled witness.
- (2) After the Tribunal Panel has reached a decision the reported person and the reporting person(s) are to be recalled and informed of the Tribunal Panel's decision in the following manner:
- (i) Where the Tribunal Panel believes that a penalty is not warranted the Tribunal Chairman is simply to say-

“.....[Name of person]..... this Tribunal has decided that the award of a penalty is not warranted in this case. If you wish a copy of the minutes taken at this Tribunal will be forwarded to you.”
 - (ii) Where the Tribunal Panel decides that a penalty is to be awarded, the Tribunal Chairperson is simply to say-

“.....[Name of person]....., after careful deliberation this Tribunal has awarded you[state the penalty]..... You are reminded that you have the right of appeal on this decision to the CBL. If you wish to exercise that right you must do so within the time frame and manner detailed in By-Law Rule 17 G of the CBL. Also, if you wish, a copy of the minutes taken at this Tribunal will be forwarded to you.”
 - (iii) Where the Tribunal Panel has decided to suspend a part of the penalty, the Tribunal Chairperson is simply to say-

“.....[Name of person]....., after careful deliberation this Tribunal has awarded you[state the penalty]..... However of this penalty the Tribunal has decided to suspend[state portion suspended]..... You are reminded that if you appear before another Tribunal this season, and are awarded a further penalty, the suspended part of this penalty and any subsequent penalty awarded that Tribunal must be served in full. Such penalties may well go over into next season. You are reminded that you have the right of appeal on this decision to the CBL. If you wish to exercise that right you must do so within the time frame and manner detailed in By-Law Rule 17G of the CBL. Also if you wish, a copy of the minutes taken at this Tribunal hearing will be forwarded to you.”
- (3) A copy of the minutes of the Tribunal Hearing may be supplied to both the reported person and the reporting person if requested.

F. MISBEHAVIOUR AT A TRIBUNAL

Where a person before the Tribunal misbehaves, this action is to be reported by the Tribunal Chairperson in accordance with the CBL Constitution and By-Laws and appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws is to be taken by the CBL Management Committee.

G. APPEAL

- (1) Any player, manager, official or Club may appeal to the CBL against the decision of any CBL Tribunal, provided that such appeal is in writing, accompanied by a fifty dollar (\$50) fee and is in the hands of the CBL Secretary within forty-eight (48) hours after the notification of such decision to any player, manager, official or Club. No appeal will be accepted unless the \$50 fee is attached. All efforts are to be made to expedite any outcome of any appeals in an effort to be fair to all concerned.
- (2) Any penalty imposed shall be suspended until a decision on the appeal is made by the CBL.
- (3) Any appeal by the player, manager, official or Club concerned deemed frivolous by the CBL will incur forfeiture of the \$50 fee.
- (4) Any successful appeal will see the \$50 fee refunded to the player, manager, official or Club.
- (5) Any unsuccessful appeal will incur forfeiture by the player, manager, official or Club of the \$50 fee.