



La Azteca Baseball League

By-Laws / Rules

Updated – 2017

CONSTITUTION

Article 1

Section 1: The name of this Organization will be "La Azteca Baseball League".

Article 2

Section 1: The objective of this league will be to teach and promote the game of baseball by organizing competitions and games between amateur and young baseball players.

Section 2: To act like a representative and permanent organization of amateur / youth baseball.

Article 3

Section 1: Every member of this league will know how to respect and ensure the respect of all participants of La Azteca Baseball League, including:

- a. Promotion, stability and development of amateur / youth baseball.
- b. To work with the interest and purpose in the healthy development and the civic value of the game of baseball.

Article 4

Section 1: The first annual meeting will proceed with the election of the League's Commission:

- a. President
- b. Vice president
- c. Board Director (Secretary)
- d. Board Director (Treasurer)
- e. Board Director (Committee of Rules)

Section 2: The first annual meeting will be in January or as determined by the League's Commission.

Section 3: All officials should be elected by majority of votes.

Section 4: The officials representing the League's Commission, should be members of one of the teams in the league (or unless by majority of votes be decided different).

Article 5

Amendment to the By-Laws / Rules:

Amendments to the Rules/By-Laws of this league shall take effect only in a regular session and only take effect when 50 percent plus one of the members are present. No proposal for an amendment will be taken into account without a notification to the League's Commission. This notification must take place 30 days prior to the following regular session. A copy of the amendment will be sent to each manager 10 days before the date of the next session at which time voting pertaining to the amendment will take place.

BY-LAWS / RULES

Article A

Responsibilities of the League's Commission

Section 1: It is the responsibility of the President to preside over all the meetings and to see that the regulations, as well as agreements related to the administration of the league, are followed and respected.

- a. The President will have the authority to call a meeting for the league when it is considered necessary and must notify all members in writing or by phone.
- b. In order for a meeting to be carried out, 51% of the members must be present

Section 2: Vice President - In the absence of the President, the Vice President will have the authority to occupy his place.

Section 3: The payments to the league should be given directly to the Treasurer. The Treasurer can provide a report of the treasury, upon written request.

Section 4: All the agreements and processes of the meetings of the league should be documented in the meeting minutes by the Secretary. The Secretary will conduct all the events of the meetings and he will comply with responsibilities given and pertaining to the league. In addition, the Secretary will maintain a registration of the members of the league.

Section 5: It will be the responsibility of the Committee of Rules to review the statutes. In case of protests and with the aid of the League's Commission, find the solution to the protests brought to this league. The cost of a protest will be \$50.00. In case the team or member presenting the protest wins such case, the league will reimburse \$25.00.

Section 6: The league's schedule is determined as a lottery format, and may be subject to change due to make-up games or as determined by the League's Commission.

Article B

Responsibilities of the Managers

Section 1: It is the duty of the managers to ensure that all of its players are properly registered with the league, so the players can be eligible to play. This league will not allow any players who are not registered to be eligible to participate in any scheduled games.

Section 2: On Opening Day (League Ceremony) each team must have present a minimum of nine (9) players to represent the team. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in a \$100.00 fine.

Section 3: It is the duty of the managers to see that all members of its team are fully uniformed, according to the regulations of Baseball. Every player on the field must play using only spikes or cleats or artificial-turf shoes. In addition, every player must wear the same exact and complete uniform as every other member of such team, including but not limited to the following: socks, pants, jersey/uniform shirt, and baseball cap. NO JEANS, SHORTS, OR NON-ATHLETIC SHOES.

Section 4: After the first five (5) regular season games it will be mandatory for all teams to be fully uniformed as required in Article B; Section 3.

Section 5: Unless the League's Commission determines to take on the responsibility of performing this task, the home team will be responsible for putting the bases and marking the foul lines. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in a \$50.00 fine and such team will not be able to play until the fine is paid.

Section 6a: Game time. The managers should see that the game commences by the time indicated. Game time is forfeit time. Nine players are required for the Home Team to take the field. Away team can commence with at least eight (8) players but will be required to have the ninth player by the time such player is up to bat or when the team takes the field after batting in the first inning. At all times, the managers will cooperate with the umpires so that the Official Rules of Major League Baseball are followed and respected. Courtesy time can be given under the discretion of both the managers and umpires.

Section 6b: Planned Forfeits. If you know in advance that you will not have enough players, please let your commissioner know ASAP. This is a courtesy that will allow the league to notify your opponent and could allow for a schedule change and cancellation of a scheduled umpire.

Forfeit Penalties

1. A forfeit results in your team recording a loss and your opponent recording a win with the score of 9-0
2. The manager of the forfeiting team is responsible for paying a forfeit fee of \$80 to each umpire who was scheduled to work the game and is present at the time of forfeit
3. If payment for fee has not been received prior to the team's next game - team will NOT eligible to play their next game and team will be penalized with an additional forfeit

Section 6c: Forfeit vs. Rainout. Rainouts supersede forfeits. Rainouts eliminate the possibility of a game being played. Therefore, if your team has given advance of a planned forfeit, but the game is ultimately rained out, your planned forfeit will not be recorded, and no penalties will be incurred. Likewise, teams reporting to the field

without at least nine (9) players will still not be charged with a forfeit if the game is rained out

Section 7: It is the duty of the managers to follow and respect the rule of the time limit. Game time limits are only enforceable if there is another team that needs to utilize the field and the proceeding game cannot start a little later. In which case, the time limits are as followed: 9 Inning Game – 3 hours, at which, no team can initiate another Inning. In case of a tie, the unfinished game will continue on a date designated by the league. In reference to time, the last scheduled game of the day will be subjectively played according to the Officials Rules of Major League Baseball.

Section 8: It is the duty of the managers of each team to present to the umpire with 2 new baseballs and at the end of each game all remaining game balls will be property of the home team. In case of poor weather and the baseballs become wet or destroyed, each team must deliver a baseball to the umpire, where the two teams will alternate, the first one corresponding to the home team and if necessary, the second one corresponding to the visiting team. The League's Commission will designate the official league baseball each year.

Section 9: It is the duty of the managers to see that all players use the protective batting helmet in order to bat. Helmets will be worn at all times during a player's at-bat and running of the bases. No exceptions. Any player who violates this rule will be called out. If a player goes into the dug-out before reaching first base, such player will be called out by the umpire.

Section 10: Before the beginning of each game, each manager will provide the umpire with a line-up card and process as designated by the League's Commission. (See Article F – Credentials)

Section 11: Any and all fines must be paid upon notification and prior to the next game or such game will be forfeited by the League's Commission. Failure will also result in an additional \$100 fine.

Section 12: All of the teams of this league will be required to participate in all the social events and/or sporting events organized by the league during the year. Failure to participate in such activities will result in a penalty determined by the league's Commission.

Section 13: Every manager will have the obligation to attend all the meetings or to send a representative. Failure to attend an official meeting will result in a fine of \$25.00. If a manager or its representative arrives twenty (20) minutes after the meeting has begun, that team will be subject to a \$15.00 fine.

Article C
Registration Fees

Section 1: Any new team which is approved by the League's Commission will pay a fee of \$200.00 for the concept of admission rights to this league. This Registration fee is not refundable in case of separation by sanctions or violations to the regulations of this league. A new team is defined as a team who has never participated in this league or has not been active in this league for more than two years.

Section 2: All of the teams must pay the designated League Fees by the Due Dates as determined by the League's Commission. No team will be admitted to this league without complying with this requirement. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Section 3: REFUNDS - The league will only refund 50% of any paid league fees prior to the start of the season or as determined by the League's Commission.

Section 4: The League's Commission may determine a 10% Administration Fee for sponsorship donations to individual teams, to be used as league donations.

Article D
Protests

Section 1: Every protest should be presented on the field to the umpire of the protested game. If the protest is regarding the misinterpretation of a rule, such protest must be accompanied with the number or description to the rule, so that the protest is considered.

Section 2: An extraordinary session for the purpose of presenting a protest or provide disciplinary action to a manager, coach or player will take place as soon as possible with the approval of the President of the league.

Section 3: Every protest related to the eligibility of a player or rules of baseball or rules of this league will be presented in writing and accompanied with a \$50.00 fine within 24 hours to the League's Commission (President, Vice President, or Board of Directors). This fee is not refundable unless the protest is won, at which point, the team who presented the protest will receive a refund of \$25.00. Each protest must be presented to the umpire at the time of the occurrence.

Article E
Registration Requirements / Roster Transactions

Section 1: Every manager, coaches and players must be approved by the League's Commission, so that they can participate and be part of this league.

Section 2: Once the team rosters are submitted and approved by the League President, any team wishing to add a player to the current roster must do so by notifying the President by Thursday 8pm in order to be allowed to participate in the following Sunday's scheduled game.

Section 3: After any player has officially registered with the league and listed on a team roster, said player will be allowed to switch teams under one of the following situations: 1) player has been dropped from said team and becomes a free agent; or 2) contingent on paying a \$150.00 fine.

- \$100 will go to the former Manager
- \$50 will go towards League administration

In addition, any games previously played with the former team will not count towards Play-Off participation with the new team. Player shall fulfill the full eligibility requirement with the new team. Forfeit of the game is the penalty for playing a non-registered player.

Section 4: Every team must have its players registered for their final roster and delivered to the league by the end of the day on Father's Day (Sunday). Every team will be able to add/remove players up until this date. The last day for roster transactions will be on Fathers' Day. No exceptions.

Section 5: Every player registered in this league must participate by playing fifty percent of the regular season games in order to be eligible to participate in the league play-offs. **This includes coaches.**

Section 6: The term "participate" shall mean that the player must be listed on the line-up card with a minimum of one at-bat or pitched at-bat during the game in order for such game to qualify as participation toward the play-off requirement. Pitchers must face at least three batters or end a half-inning for participation to be earned.

Section 7: Any forfeited game will count as qualification for participation toward the play-off requirement.

Section 8: In the event of an All-Star Game, any player that is elected by the league or his manager to represent the league for the All-Star Game and does not participate in the All-Star Game will be suspended for the following 2 games and fined with \$50.00.

Article F
Identification / Credentials

Section 1: The league will allow a 25 man-roster per team including one Manager and 24 Players and coaches. Every team must provide the proper identification (as determined by the League's Commission) with photograph and signature of the player(s). The President of the league will retain these identifications as credentials for the file.

Section 2: Prior to the beginning of the season, team rosters must be completely filled out and accompanied by a copy of a photo ID for each player and submitted by the date designated by the League Commission.

Section 3: All teams must follow the Line-Up Card Process, as designated by the League Commission.

Article G
Misconduct

Section 1: Any player or member of a team that commits an offense, which in some form discredits the league or in his wrongdoing fails to maintain the good harmony inside the league, will be subject to a severe penalty as determined by the League's Commission.

Section 2: Any official or member that violates these statutes or sections of this constitution will receive a severe penalty.

Section 3: Any team that does not presents itself to two consecutive scheduled games or three games accumulated by forfeit will be suspended for the remainder of the season and will lose all of its quotas which will remain in favor of the league.

Section 4: Any team which refuses to participate in a championship or play-off game will be removed from this league, losing all their quotas and will be replaced by the next team(s) according to the standings.

Section 5: Any team or player that does not return a uniform or property alike and remains in debt with fees to his own team will not be allowed to play in this league until said debt is resolved. This will also apply to being in debt with previous leagues where said player has participated. Players will not be able to play in this league until the manager, team or previous league confirms that said player or team have been absolved of the charges.

Section 6: Any manager, coach or player that commits a wrongdoing against an umpire during a game will be thrown out of the game and removed from the field of play by the

umpire. Said person will remain a minimum of 100 feet from the field of play and the game will not continue until the individual obeys this rule. Failure to obey this rule will result in a severe penalty as determined by the League's Commission.

Section 7: Any manager, coach or player that physically attacks an umpire will be suspended indefinitely from this league until said penalty is acquitted.

Section 8: Any member of this league that offends or physically attacks an official of this league inside and/or out of the game of baseball will be suspended immediately and indefinitely from the League.

Section 9: Any person: Manager, Coaches, and/or Player who behaves in an "unsportsmanlike" manner during a game may be ejected from that game, possible future games and possibly face expulsion from the league for that playing year. The umpire can and will eject any person without warning if he/she feels this is necessary.

Examples of unsportsmanlike conduct behavior may include but are not limited to:

- Using vulgar or obscene language
- Cheering in a negative manner towards the opposing team, managers, coaches or players
- Threatening or striking any other persons
- Intentionally intimidate, disrupt or hinder a player in the field
- Engaging in any activity which is deemed illegal or is disruptive to the field of play

Section 10: Any person ejected from games will serve a mandatory and minimum one game suspension, *this is non-appealable*. After review of the League Commission, suspension may be extended to multiple games and up to a full playing year. To fulfill a suspension a player will not be permitted to play, participate or attend in that game. Failure to do so will result in additional suspensions determined by the League's Commission.

Article H

Misc. Modification of MLB Rules

Section 1: **This Rule Has Been Repealed.** Any pitcher who commits 2 hit batsmen in an inning or 3 hit batsmen in a game will be immediately removed from the pitching mound for the remainder of the game. Any player who is pitching can switch positions at any time during the game and then come back to assume the pitching position. This can happen only once per pitcher during the game in an effort to avoid long delays. If a pitcher commits one (1) hit batsman and is then switched to a different position; and if said pitcher comes back to the pitching mound and hits another batsman, that pitcher will be removed immediately from the pitcher position. This player will be allowed to continue the game from a different position.

Section 2: In reference to Article H, Section 1; this rule will only apply during regular season. During playoffs pitchers will not be penalized for hit batsmen, UNLESS, the official umpire uses his discretion to determine whether to issue warnings and/or immediate ejections for hit batsmen.

Section 3: When a player is positioned as a Designated Hitter, said player can continue playing and enter the field of play at any position, including as Pitcher, as long as the Designated Hitter position remained in the game. Please note: A DH is only allowed in the lineup for the pitcher.

Section 4: All games will be played using wood bats or composite wood bats as approved by the League's Commission.

Section 5: The slaughter rule will take effect: 15 runs after 5 innings or 10 runs after 7 innings. In seven inning games, the slaughter rule shall be 10 runs after 4 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead or after 5 innings if the visiting team is ahead.

Section 6: A game that has been cancelled due to weather or other circumstance will be rescheduled to a later date during the regular season as a seven-inning game.