

OFFICIAL BYLAWS

of

DANIEL BOONE YOUTH SPORTS  
(DBYS)

A Pennsylvania Non-Profit Organization  
FED ID 23-2800350

Revised March 2026

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# **DANIEL BOONE YOUTH SPORTS (DBYS) BY-LAWS**

## **Article I – NAME AND ORGANIZATION**

The name of the organization shall be Douglassville Youth Baseball Association doing business as Daniel Boone Youth Sports. Daniel Boone Youth Sports will serve the community as a non-profit organization formed for the purpose of operating youth sports programs in the Daniel Boone Area School District. The non-profit status of the Association was established under tax identification number FED ID 23-2800350. The Association reserves the right to add other sports and/or age groups, in accordance with the terms of these by-laws.

## **Article II – PURPOSE**

The purpose for which this Association has been formed is to provide an opportunity for every child living in the Daniel Boone Area School District, with an interest in sports, an opportunity to play and compete at a level that allows them to succeed and grow in their knowledge and love of the game. While these young athletes are in our charge it will further be our purpose to implant firmly in the children of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority; so that they may be well adjusted, stronger, and happier children and will grow to be good, decent, healthy and trustworthy citizens.

A subset of this program is to develop and operate a youth baseball program in affiliation with Cal Ripken League, Inc., in conformity with and pursuant to the principles rules and regulations enunciated by said Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken League, Inc., unless otherwise overwritten by local bylaws.

A subset of this program is to develop and operate a softball program in affiliation in conformity with and pursuant to the principles rules and regulations enunciated by the chosen local or national softball governing body/league, unless otherwise overwritten by local bylaws.

A subset of this program is to develop and operate a Buddy Ball youth program to provide children with any type of disability the opportunity to participate in an organized baseball/softball program.

A subset of this program is to develop and operate a baseball program in affiliation American Legion (Prep Legion/Pennsylvania Youth Legion Baseball League/Senior

Legion), Babe Ruth Baseball, City County Baseball, and any other league in which the board determines we will enter a team.

A subset of this program is to develop and operate a youth girl's field hockey program in affiliation with the appropriate national, regional or local governing body.

Additional subsets may be added as the Association adopts new divisions for different sports.

Subsets shall be removed upon dissolution of existing divisions.

All directors, officers, parents, and participants shall operate under the premise that the focus of the Association will be to do what is best for the kids. We will always strive to create opportunities that will benefit the children of our community. It shall be policy to conduct all activities so that the physical and moral welfare of the young people for whose benefit it is organized shall remain paramount and all matters of policy shall be determined on that basis. It shall promote good sportsmanship, honesty and loyalty towards the officials, opposing team members and out of town visitors at all events.

### **Article III – MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Section 1 – General Membership**

General members are:

- All parents/guardians of children who perform registration and are willing to uphold the objectives of Daniel Boone Youth Sports.
- A coach who volunteers to participate and is willing to uphold the objectives of the Association. (This coach must be approved and appointed by the board.)
- A volunteer who is sincerely interested in active service and participation who resides within the Daniel Boone School District and is willing to uphold the objectives of the Association. (This volunteer must be approved and appointed by the board.)

Membership is valid for a twelve (12) month period after payment of registration or for 12 months after selection/approval as a coach or volunteer.

This registration gives the child the opportunity to participate with the teams governed by Daniel Boone Youth Sports and attend the monthly meetings. Members wishing to present on issues may do so by notifying the secretary prior to the start of any public board meeting and will be given time to present during the recognition of guests portion of the meeting. Important issues may also be brought up during the new business portion of the meeting. General members will have a vote during board elections for officers and will have a vote for changes to the bylaws or playing rules as such situations may arise. Votes shall be limited to one (1) per family.

The League shall not discriminate based upon age, sex, gender, national origin, race, religion or physical disability.

## **Section 2 – Player Membership**

Player Membership is open to any youth individual who the organization feels conducts themselves in a way that upholds the objectives of the Daniel Boone Youth Sports both on and off the field. Player membership is restricted to players who live and or attend a school in the Daniel Boone School District.

Player Members are those who register to participate with the teams governed by Daniel Boone Youth Sports. Player Members wishing to present on issues may do so by notifying the secretary prior to the start of the meeting and will be given time to present during the recognition of guests portion of the meeting. Important issues may also be brought up during the new business portion of the meeting.

## **Section 3 - Fees**

Fee for membership will be decided on a yearly basis, at least one (1) month prior to registration, at the monthly meeting.

## **Section 4 - Liability**

If a player plays Buddy Ball, said member may or may not qualify for another level of baseball. League is not liable if a medical issue occurs and said player assumes all risks associated with that level of play.

## **Section 5 – Programs**

DBYS shall be structured into the following sports as demanded by the registered membership:

- Spring Baseball (12 and under): Quickball, Rookie, Minor, Major, Diamond League, Tournament (8U through 12U)
- Spring Baseball (13 and over): Babe Ruth, Legion Prep, Junior Legion, Senior Babe Ruth, Senior American Legion
- Fall Baseball: Quickball, Rookie, Minor, Major, 13, 14-15, 16+.
- Spring Softball: Quickball, 8U, 10U, 12U
- Fall Softball: Quickball, 8U, 10U, 12U
- Buddy Ball
- Field Hockey

## **Article IV – GOVERNING BODY**

The business and affairs of this Association shall be managed by its Board of Officers, eleven (11) in number, who shall be Members in good standing of this Association. Each Officer is granted one (1) vote during board meetings in matters that pertain to the association with the exception of the President, and the Directors of each individual division of the Association (e.g. Baseball Director 12U). The President shall only cast a vote in order to break a tie. The individual Directors shall only cast a vote if the matter pertains directly to their division. (The President shall rule if there are disputes over which individual Director should vote.)

The Board of Officers shall manage the general business of the Association; determine compensation, if any, to be paid to any Member for services rendered or as a reimbursement. The Board of Directors will meet at their discretion at least 8 times a year.

### **Section 1 – Board Members**

DBYS will be governed by eleven (11) officers: (President, Vice- President, Financial Treasurer, Recording Secretary, PR/Logistics Coordinator, League Representative, Baseball Director 13+, Baseball Director 12U, Softball Director, Buddy Ball Director, Field Hockey Director, and 2 At Large Members).

### **Section 2 – Election of Board Members**

Nominations for Election: Officers are nominated at the April (October) and May (November) meetings and voted on in June (December). Nominated members must be present to accept the nomination. In order to be eligible for nomination, a person must

be a general member of an active participant in the program, must pass the background check, and must have attended a minimum of three (3) meetings in the last 12 months.

Election Process: Elections shall be conducted by written ballot at the June or December meeting. Only members who are present at the June or December meeting at the time of the election are permitted to vote. No proxy or absentee votes are permitted. The candidate with the most votes in any election shall be declared the winner

Elections will be held every year, with a portion of the board positions up for election each year. President, Treasurer, Secretary, Baseball Director 13+ and Buddy Ball Director are elected in even years. Vice President, Logistics/PR, League Operations Director, Softball Director, Baseball Director 12U and Field Hockey Director are elected in odd years. Each position must be elected individually and in the sequence listed above. In the event that an individual is nominated for multiple positions, he/she will be removed from any subsequent elections after winning a prior position.

The nominees are voted on with a majority vote, which takes place at the June (December) league meeting, members must be present to vote. An officer's term is for a two (2) year period.

Each active Board Member will have their oldest kids participation fee waived for that year as compensation for serving on the board.

The newly elected board will transition, working in conjunction with the existing board until July or January 31st. The newly elected board's two-year term will officially begin August or February 1st.

### **Section 3 – Resignation/Removal of Board Members**

An Officer or Board Member can only be removed by stepping down by his/her own will or by a super-majority vote by the Board of Directors (2/3 vote of all board members). For such a vote to take place a super quorum (9 of the 11 members) must be in attendance. The Board may vote to remove a member if the Board believes that this individual is no longer acting in the best interests of the organization or if the board feels that he/she is no longer properly achieving the objectives of the Association.

In the event of removal or resignation of a board member the board will appoint a successor to serve for 3 months until nominations for a replacement can be made. The elected individual will serve for the duration of the term of the individual for which they

were elected to replace. The nomination plan will be for the announcement to be made at meeting one, nominations will take place at the next monthly meeting, and the election will take place at the third monthly meeting following the removal or resignation of said board member.

#### **Section 4 - Dissolution of the Board**

In the event that the Board of Directors fails to hold and attend legal meetings (meetings with at least 51% of board members in attendance) then the general membership of the Association reserves the right to hold the Bylaws, Board of Directors, and Organization as void and may by super-majority vote of general members in attendance strike the present bylaws and/or standing board members down and begin new to ensure a proper functioning association for the sake of the children of our community. Such an instance may occur if the board fails to hold legal general membership meetings for three consecutive months.

#### **Section 5 – Duties and Responsibilities of the Board**

The officers of the Association shall generally be responsible for the items listed below. These duties may shift slightly as the organization evolves. The board shall decide at which time an amendment to these by-laws shall be conducted to revise the specifics of this section

The President will preside over all DBYS meetings. The other duties of the President include but are not limited to:

- A. Preside over all meetings at which he/she is present.
- B. Exercise general supervision of the affairs and activities of the organization.
- C. Review all required signature correspondence and documents.
- D. Perform the role of Insurance Coordinator.
- E. Co-sign all checks for disbursement along with the Treasurer. Both the President's and the Treasurer's signatures must be on all checks.

The Vice-President, in the absence or disability of the President, shall perform all the duties of the President. The other duties of the Vice-President include but are not limited to:

- A. Preside over all meetings at which the President is absent.
- B. Assist the President with the general supervision of the affairs and activities of the organization.
- C. Oversee equipment ordering and inventory (baseballs, catcher's gear, bats, helmets, etc.)
- D. Oversee purchase and inventory of field supplies (lime, diamond dry, sand, etc.)
- E. Manage the maintenance of equipment (tractors, liners, batting cages, etc.)

The Treasurer shall receive and safely keep all funds of the league, and pay out the same, only on the order of the President. The other duties of the Treasurer include but are not limited to:

- A. Prepare a monthly report, for discussion at the monthly board meeting.
- B. Prepare an annual report of all receipts and disbursements.
- C. Co-sign all checks for disbursement along with the President. Both the President's and the Treasurer's signatures must be on all checks.
- D. Coordinates banking of all monies received on behalf of the Organization.
- E. Coordinates payment of all bills approved in the budget.
- F. Keeps accurate bookkeeping records.
- G. Responsible for all tax preparation and reporting; including keeping the Organization current and in compliance with its PA Sales Tax Exemption
- H. Oversee revenue, expenses, and banking of Concessions with the Director(s) of Concessions.
- I. Manage the inventory of supplies at the league operated snack bars.

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all proceedings and record the same. The other duties of the Secretary include but are not limited to:

- A. Give notice to the general membership of all meetings.
- B. Preside over all meetings at which the President and Vice-President are absent.
- C. Ensures that all records belonging to the Organization are maintained.
- D. Maintains a current list of Board Members and Managers.
- E. Handles correspondence as directed.
- F. Arranges location for board meetings.
- G. Maintain these organizational Bylaws and other documents including Rules of Play for each level.
- H. Solicit sponsorships from the community to assist with the funding of the Organization.

The Logistics/Public Relations Director is responsible for organizing and coordinating the major events of the season along with communicating the objectives of the Association to any outside entities.. These duties include but are not limited to:

- A. Oversee program registration.
- B. Plan any coaching and/or player clinics
- C. Organize the Opening Day ceremony
- D. Organize tournaments
- E. Communicate with our community through email and other methods about upcoming meetings, registrations and important dates
- F. See to the regular updating of the Association website
- G. Utilize local media (newspapers, radio, television) to communicate dates and events to the public.

- H. Advertise coaching openings to help with the recruitment of candidates for open positions
- I. Secure advertising for tournaments and events being held by the association.

The League Representative shall attend all pertinent league meetings (baseball, softball and Buddy Ball) and report back to the Governing Board along with the governing body. He/She is also responsible for any other duties deemed necessary by the President. The other duties of the League Representative include but are not limited to:

- A. Coordinate with the individual League Commissioners during the season.
- B. Lead a committee to oversee in season rule violations and other in-season decisions.
- C. Attend any other meetings that relate to any aspect of the operation of the organization, including township meetings, school district meetings, municipal meetings or other baseball, softball or Buddy Ball governing body meetings (Cal Ripken, Berks Softball League etc.) as necessary.
- D. Secure field usage for the Association
- E. Build a partnership in funding improvements to the fields by the Association and Local Government.

The Softball Director shall attend all pertinent softball league meetings and report back to the Governing Board. The other duties of the Softball Director include but are not limited to:

- A. Manage the maintenance of all softball fields.
- B. Oversee the development of rosters for all softball teams
- C. Administrate the selection of league head coaches and assistant coaches.

The Baseball 13+ Director shall attend all pertinent Baseball 13+ league meetings and report back to the Governing Board. The other duties of the Baseball 13+ Director include but are not limited to:

- A. Manage the maintenance of all Baseball 13+ fields.

B. Oversee the development of rosters for Baseball 13+ teams.

C. Administrate the selection of league commissioners.

The Baseball 12U Director shall attend all pertinent Baseball 12U league meetings and report back to the Governing Board. The other duties of the Baseball 12U Director include but are not limited to:

A. Manage the maintenance of all Baseball 12U fields.

B. Oversee the development of rosters for Baseball 12U teams

C. Administrate the selection of league commissioners.

The Buddy Ball Director shall attend all pertinent Buddy Ball league meetings and report back to the Governing Board. The other duties of the Buddy Ball Director include but are not limited to:

A. Manage the maintenance of all Buddy Ball fields.

B. Oversee the development of rosters for Buddy Ball teams.

C. Administrate the selection of league commissioners.

The Field Hockey Director shall attend all pertinent Field Hockey league meetings and report back to the Governing Board. The other duties of the Field Hockey Director include but are not limited to:

A. Manage the maintenance of all Field Hockey fields.

B. Oversee the development of rosters for Field Hockey teams.

C. Administrate the selection of league commissioners.

Head Coaches: Any head coach at the 13+ levels, will serve as a voting member of the board on matters that pertain to his/her team. Head coaches are required to attend board meetings and meetings of their team's league. The head coach will report to the board at an Association meeting following a league meeting. In the event that a head coach is not able to attend a league meeting or board meeting it is their responsibility to

find representation at that particular meeting. It is the coach's responsibility to uphold and teach the players within our organization the beliefs; standards and objectives as set forth in Article II of these by-laws.

Additional Ad-Hoc positions such as Sponsorship Coordinator, Umpire Coordinator, Field Coordinator, Equipment Coordinator, and Scheduling Coordinator, Uniform Coordinator, Snack bar Coordinator, may be created as allowed by these by-laws. These additional positions shall be volunteers appointed and approved by the board to promote better operations of the league; however, they are not voting members of the board. These Ad-Hoc positions would be subject to our background check policy.

## **Section 6 – Salaries and Dues**

No Officer of the League with the exception of a hired CPA serving as Treasurer shall be entitled to receive any salary or compensation for his or her position in this organization. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent anyone from being reimbursed for expenditures other than his or her duties.

## **Article V – MEETINGS**

### **Section 1: General**

DBYS meetings will be held monthly or more as required by the Governing Board. If, in the off-season, no urgent business is needed to be discussed, the Governing Board may opt to recess in the predetermined months.

Special Meetings of the Members may be called at any time by the President, or by super- majority vote of the Board of Directors. In the event of a Special Meeting, notice of such meeting shall be given to all Members no less than five (5) days prior to meeting.

### **Section 2 – Attendance**

Attendance at DBYS meetings; each officer, Commissioner, Head Coach, or their designated representative, should be present at all DBYS League Meetings through the months of March-July (5 meetings during the season)

### **Section 3 – Leadership**

The President will preside over all DBYS meetings at which he/she is present. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall preside. The meetings will be conducted per the Robert Rules of Order.

### **Section 4 – Voting**

Any motion with a second that is brought before the board of directors and receives a majority vote by the board of directors will be passed and acted upon as specified in the motion. The only exception being that of voting to remove an officer or another board member from office as specified in Article IV; which needs a super-majority vote. Under special circumstances board members may vote electronically at the discretion of the board and will be documented and duly noted in the meeting minutes by the secretary.

### **Section 5 – Quorum**

A quorum must be present at a board meeting for any motions to be voted and/or acted upon. A majority (51% or greater) of voting members of the board must be present to constitute a quorum.

The Board of Directors for the League shall consist of the aforementioned Officers as defined in Article IV.

### **Section 6 – Voting for Changes to Bylaws**

When a motion is made and seconded to vote on a change to the bylaws notice will be sent to the membership of such meeting. Voting for changes to the bylaws cannot happen at the same meeting at which said change is proposed. Notice and the proposed changes will be posted for the review and consideration for a vote by the general membership to be held at the next scheduled meeting. At the next scheduled meeting the general membership will be given a vote on the issue on the floor. Those votes will be combined with the votes of voting board members. A super-majority vote (2/3 of all voting members) will be required for changes to be made to the bylaws. Changes to the bylaws will be put into effect immediately following the supporting vote. The method of the vote will be a role call vote or a ballot vote.

### **Section 7 – Order of Business**

The following is the suggested method in which the regular membership meetings shall be conducted.

- A. Roll Call of Officers.
- B. Approval of Minutes of the Preceding General Meeting.
- C. Approval of the Treasurer's Report.
- D. Recognition of Guests.
- E. Reports of Officers.
- F. Reports of Committees.
- G. Old and Unfinished Business.
- H. New Business.
- I. Good of the Order.
- J. Adjournment.

## **Article VI – COACHES/COMMISSIONERS CRITERIA**

### **Section 1**

Commissioners will be nominated by the general membership and then decided on by the Governing Board. The Commissioner of each level will serve to execute the operations of the league. A commissioner may be appointed for each of the following levels as needed: Baseball – Majors; Baseball – Minors; Baseball – Rookie; Baseball/Softball – Quickball; Softball – 8U; Softball – 10U, Softball - 12U, Softball - 14U; Buddy Ball.

### **Section 2**

The term "Coach" shall include Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager or any other person in a team leadership role.

### **Section 3**

Coaches will be accepted on a voluntary basis. The Governing Board will make all decisions on coaches. In the event that there are more volunteer coaches than positions open, the Board may consider an interviewing process if deemed necessary.

### **Section 4**

All Coaches, Head and Assistant, are required to adhere to Article XII regarding criminal background checks. Additionally, any added "on-field" or "in-dugout" helpers and scorekeepers must also adhere to the coaches code of conduct.

## **Section 5**

It will be the responsibility of each Head Coach to select his/her 2 official assistants.

## **Section 6**

If for any reason it would be necessary to remove a coach (Head or Assistant) from his/her position, a board member can call a special meeting of the Governing Board to vote to remove the coach in question. A unanimous vote of the Governing Board is required to remove a coach once the season has started. If a Head Coach is removed during the season, it will be the responsibility of the Governing Board to select his/her replacement.

## **Section 7**

All Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches must be at least eighteen (18) years of age. No one under 18-years of age will be allowed to coach on the field.

## **Section 8**

Tournament and Travel Coaches will be nominated by the general membership. If more than one (1) coach is nominated at any level, a decision will be made by the governing board. After the Head Coach is selected, it is his/her responsibility to pick assistant coaches, only after rosters have been determined. He/She must then present his coach list to the Governing Board for approval.

## **Section 9**

Selection of Baseball 13+ managers: Following the final "late" registration the Board of Directors shall determine the total number of managers and coaches required for the regular season. The list of candidates available for these positions shall be submitted to the Board of Directors by the January General membership meeting for review and approval.

- A. Any Managerial or coaching candidate including assistant coaches must submit a current background check (State Police and Child Abuse at minimum from within a 12 month window) completed in good standing. Background checks will be examined by the Officers of the Board of Directors only and strict confidentiality

will be maintained. The Officers of the Board will make determinations on the clearances of coaching candidates based on their review.

- B. Returning regular season managers of teams from the same division, provided such candidates are available and otherwise qualified.
- C. Returning regular season managers of teams from other divisions, provided such candidates are available and otherwise qualified.
- D. Returning regular season coaches of teams from other divisions, provided such candidates are available and otherwise qualified.
- E. Other candidates who are available and otherwise qualified.

NOTE: The determination as to whether any candidate is qualified is within the sole discretion of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall form a subcommittee to conduct interviews and evaluate managerial candidates for the express purpose of ensuring each team is provided with the best possible coach. The subcommittee will report back to the board and will make a determination of team managers by the March General Membership Meeting.

Prior to the vote by the Board, any candidate may present evidence in support of his/her qualifications to be a regular season manager. If such evidence includes the testimony of persons who are present to speak on behalf of the candidate, such testimony shall be limited to that of no more than three (3) persons. Testimony presented should be limited to 5 minutes per speaker.

The final selection of regular season managers shall be determined by a vote of the members of the Board present at the time of the vote. The vote may be by voice or ballot. All potential candidates shall be asked to leave the room before the final pre vote discussions and the vote itself takes place. This is to include any Board member who may be a potential candidate. Board member candidates will not be permitted a vote for their position. If the final vote is done per ballot, the ballots will be presented to the Association President for count. The Association Treasurer or Secretary will then review and validate the result.

Once elected to the position of head coach, it will become their responsibility to nominate their assistant coaches. The board needs to approve all nominations. The head coach will make their nominations in advance of the next regular monthly meeting for approval by the board.

Removal of any coaches with cause will be done by a super majority vote of the board of directors.

## **Article VI – PLAYERS**

### **Section 1**

Except as noted in this bylaw, player eligibility in any level of the program Babe Ruth League Inc.

### **Section 2**

The eligibility age for each spring baseball season is determined by each player's age on May 1 of the current season. Each level shall consist of players of the following ages:

Baseball – Rookie: 7 and 8 years of age;

Baseball – Minor: 9 and 10 years of age;

Baseball – Major: 11 and 12 years of age.

Baseball – Legion Prep 13 years of age

Baseball – Junior Legion 14 and 15 years of age

Baseball – Senior Legion 16 through 18 years of age

The governing board may make exceptions when assigning children into levels under special circumstances. However, a player who, by age, is playing at a lower level may not pitch at that lower level.

The Governing Board shall also exercise a flex year concept to assist with children playing at a higher level for baseball. If a child is 8 or 10 years old on May 1 and has already played two seasons at the lower level, the child is eligible to play at the higher level. All "flex year" assignments will be subject to final approval by the Governing Board.

For players wishing to play up at the next level, the player will be evaluated at the player evaluations. Upon completion of the evaluation, a recommendation will be made to the Governing Board on whether the player is appropriate to play at the next level. Please refer to the specific age level rules. Final decisions will be made by the Governing Board.

### Section 3

The eligibility age for each softball season is determined by each player's age on August 31 of the current season. Each level shall consist of players of the following ages:

Baseball/Softball – Quickball: 4 through 6 years of age;

Softball – 8U: 6 through 8 years of age;

Softball – 10U: 9 and 10 years of age;

Softball – 12U: 11 and 12 years of age.

Softball – 14U: 13 and 14 years of age.



### BABE RUTH LEAGUE, INC. BIRTH CHART FOR 2026 – SOFTBALL DIVISIONS

<b>2020 - 2021</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>4</b>	<b>2016 - 2017</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>8U</b>	<b>2012 - 2013</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>12U</b>	<b>2008 - 2009</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>16U</b>
<b>2019 - 2020</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>5U</b>	<b>2015 - 2016</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>9U</b>	<b>2011 - 2012</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>13U</b>	<b>2007 - 2008</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>17U</b>
<b>2018 - 2019</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>6U</b>	<b>2014 - 2015</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>10U</b>	<b>2010 - 2011</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>14U</b>	<b>2006 - 2007</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>18U</b>
<b>2017 - 2018</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>7U</b>	<b>2013 - 2014</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. 31 <b>11U</b>	<b>2009 - 2010</b> Sep. 1 - Aug. <b>3115U</b>	

Any player who, by the above birth chart, is younger than 4 years of age (born before September 1, 2020), or who is older than 18 years of age (born after August 31, 2007), is not eligible to participate in Babe Ruth Softball for the 2026 season.

## **Section 4**

The eligibility age for each Buddy Ball season 4 through 21 years of age. If there is anyone outside this age range, their eligibility will be reviewed by the Buddy Ball coaches and the Board.

## **Article VII – PLAYER PLACEMENT**

### **Section 1**

The process of placing players on teams differs between the different sports and levels of the program. The process for each is outlined in the division rules attached to these by-laws.

## **Article VIII – RULES OF PLAY**

### **Section 1**

Rules will be governed by the DBYS league or its affiliates, and are to be considered binding on this organization.

### **Section 2**

Any local rules that may differ from Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken League, Inc. rules may be proposed at the June and July meetings. The proposals shall be voted on at a general meeting in August for the next year's season.

### **Section 3**

The rules for each level of the program are included in the division rules attached to these by-laws.

## **Article IX – PROPOSALS AND AMENDMENTS**

### **Section 1**

Any member may propose a plan to the membership for their consideration, whether it is to amend or repeal the regulations, be financial in nature, or for the general

betterment of DBYS. If a fellow member seconds the proposal, it must be considered and voted on by the Governing Board.

- A. Bylaws – Any member may propose to amend the bylaws. Bylaw amendments must be presented and voted on over three (3) meetings, unless the amendment is legal or regulatory in nature, at which point no voting is necessary.
- B. Rules of Play – Proposals for revisions to the rules of play will be accepted at the June and July general membership meetings. The proposals shall be voted on at a general meeting in August for the next year's season. The vote shall be pass/fail and the majority selection will be the outcome.

## **Section 2**

If, in the judgment of the President, any plan being submitted lacks information or facts necessary for the Governing Board to reach an informed decision, the President can recommend the submitting member investigate further and resubmit at the next DBYS meeting.

## **Section 3**

All capital expenditures exceeding two-thousand dollars (\$2,000) need to be approved by the DBYS Board and the general membership. Expenditures under two-thousand dollars (\$2,000) can be approved by the DBYS board.

## **Article X – MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

### **Section 1**

DBYS will set up and establish a Review Committee, which is automatically the elected Board, and the Commissioner of the Division the grievance occurred in. This Committee will be responsible for settling all disputes between coaches and parents. The President of the Board shall act as the chairperson of the Committee and break any tie votes. All parents, regardless of their position in DBYS, must approach one of the Review Committee members with complaints about any coach. If no reasonable resolution can be reached with the coach and his/her staff, the Review Committee must act on the complaint and report their findings back to the parent. Coaches must notify a Review Committee member of any incidents that may be questioned.

### **Section 2**

If the league is dissolved, all assets remaining will be donated to a local charity, or non-profit organization, as determined by the governing board

## **Article XI – CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **Section 1: Coaches and Volunteers**

Coaches shall remain unconditionally supportive of the Organization's commitment to the ideals of good sportsmanship, team play, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority. Likewise, coaches shall remain sensitive to the physical and emotional well-being of the players on his/her team. In order to adhere to these doctrines the coaches agree as follows:

- Coaches and Volunteers will be positive role models.
- Coaches and Volunteers will display and instill in their players the principals of good sportsmanship and team play.
- Coaches and Volunteers will conduct themselves in a manner that best serves the interests of the players.
- Coaches and Volunteers will do their best to provide the players a positive experience.
- Coaches and Volunteers will ensure that winning and/or losing teams do so in a manner, which exhibits respect and good sportsmanship.
- Coaches and Volunteers will treat all players, parents, spectators, other coaches and league officials with respect.
- Coaches and Volunteers will provide instruction in a manner that is constructive and supportive.
- Coaches will not ridicule, abuse, or demean players, umpires, other coaches or league officials.
- Coaches and Volunteers will not tolerate behavior or the use of obscene language that endangers the health or well-being of a child.

- Coaches and Volunteers will comply with the decisions of league officials and observe all rules, policy and procedure as established or endorsed by the DBYS.
- Coaches and Volunteers will teach the game of baseball to the best of their ability.
- Coaches and Volunteers will be drug and alcohol free while at any DBYS athletic event. If a coach is suspected of this violation, an immediate Board meeting must occur with said coach to determine course of action up to and including removal from DBYS. If an active current Board member, this person shall be immediately removed from their position. Reinstatement to be evaluated the following calendar year( 12 months from time of infraction).
- Coaches and Volunteers will not use any tobacco products in the dugout or on the playing field.

Coaches and Volunteers acknowledge the need to demonstrate fundamental proficiencies with respect to the game of baseball and first aid. Consequently, all coaches agree to attend any skill sessions that may be required by the Board of Directors and moreover, any first aid courses that may be mandated by the Board.

## **Section 2: Parents and Spectators**

Parents and spectators shall support the players, coaches, umpires and league officials. They shall not “coach” or “officiate” and agree as follows:

- Parents and spectators will be positive role models.
- Parents and spectators will display and instill in all players, the principles of good sportsmanship and team play.
- Parents and spectators will conduct themselves in a manner that best serves the interests of the players.
- Parents and spectators will do their best to provide the players a positive experience.
- Parents will make certain that their children show respect for all other players, coaches, officials and spectators.

- Parents and spectators agree not to ridicule or demean players, coaches, umpires, or league officials in any public forum.
- Parents agree to inform the coach of any disability or ailment that may affect the safety of their child and others
- Parents and spectators agree to treat all players, coaches and umpires fairly and with respect, including the misuse of all Social Media.
- Parents and spectators will comply with the decisions of league officials.
- Parents and spectators will support the rules, regulations and bylaws as established or endorsed by DBYS.
- Parents and spectators will not question an umpire's call.
- Parents and spectators will respect the opponent and avoid any confrontation with opposing players, spectators, or coaches. This includes the use of negative opinions on social media.
- Parents and spectators will be drug and alcohol free while at any DBYS athletic event, or they will be asked to be removed by the Head Coach or Umpire.
- Parents must sign the DBYS Parent Code of Conduct Form.

Failure to adhere to the code of conduct may result in suspension and/or removal of the coach, parent, and/or player by the governing board.

### **Section 3: Players**

Players shall:

- Display good sportsmanship and team play at all times.
- Follow the direction of the Coaching Staff.
- Respect all, coaches, players, league officials, umpires and spectators.
- Make every attempt to be on time and ready to play for all games and practices.

Players shall not:

- Use abusive or profane language.
- Taunt or humiliate any other player.
- Question an umpire's call.
- Abuse, mistreat or mishandle any equipment or property (e.g., throwing batting helmets)

Failure to adhere to the code of conduct may result in suspension and/or removal of the coach, parent, and/or player by the governing board.

## **Article XII – BACKGROUND SCREENING POLICY**

### **Section 1: Purpose**

It is the intent of this policy to establish certain guidelines wherein Daniel Boone Youth Sports (herein after referred to as "DBYS") can seek to protect our children by investigating the background of individuals who will be coaching, officiating, or having any type of contact with children involved in DBYS athletic programs.

### **Section 2: General**

- A. Any person who has been found guilty, pled guilty; or pled no contest, regardless of adjudication, or has a pending charge pertaining to any of the disqualifying offenses listed in this policy will be immediately disqualified from coaching (either as a head coach or an assistant coach) in any DBYS athletic program. DBYS also reserves the right to disqualify a person for any crime that would be considered a potential risk to children, vulnerable populations, and/or DBYS itself. A Coach who fails to comply with this background screening policy shall be automatically disqualified.
- B. This policy will apply to all youth sports volunteers and coaches, both head and assistant, participating in sanctioned DBYS athletic programs. If there is any doubt as to which volunteers should be screened, the general rule is anyone who would potentially have unsupervised access to children. Each Coach must

complete the DBYS preferred background check once every 12 months for as long as he or she continues volunteering.

### **Section 3: Screening Process**

- A. Upon registration or assignment to a DBYS athletic program the volunteer must visit the appropriate page on the DBYS website to complete the online background screening process. It is the volunteer's responsibility to locate this page and complete the process prior to beginning practice or competition. DBYS will notify the volunteer if this process is not completed.
- B. DBYS will establish deadlines to complete the background screening process. As a rule, the volunteer should complete the background screening process before having any contact with the children. If a volunteer fails to complete the background screening process prior to the established deadline that individual will be removed from the event immediately.
- C. The third party contractor conducting the checks will provide all results to the DBYS President. A pass/fail grade will then be applied to each volunteer based on the list of disqualifying acts listed below. A "pass" grade will be applied to an individual that has zero disqualifying acts matches. A "fail" grade will be applied to an individual that has one or more disqualifying acts matches.
- D. If it is determined that a volunteer will receive a "fail" grade, DBYS will notify the individual that they are disqualified. Upon request, the volunteer will receive a copy of the background check from the third party contractor.

### **Section 4: Confidentiality**

The only information returned to DBYS by the third party contractor is information regarding the criminal history of the volunteer should there be such history. All other information including SSN, address, DOB, etc. will remain with the third party contractor and will remain secure and confidential. Any information provided to DBYS by the third party contractor will also remain secure and confidential. This information will only be accessible to the DBYS league president responsible for reviewing background checks. The third party contractor also has a confidentiality policy which can be obtained upon request.

### **Section 5: Disqualifying Acts**

A volunteer will be immediately disqualified from coaching (either as a head coach or an assistant coach) in any DBYS athletic program if he/she:

A. Has been found guilty, pled guilty; or pled no contest, regardless of adjudication, to any of the following acts:

1. All sex offenses.
  - a. Examples include, but are not limited to: child molestation, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, prostitution, solicitation, indecent exposure, etc.
2. All felony violence offenses.
  - a. Examples include, but are not limited to: murder, manslaughter, aggravated assault, kidnapping, robbery, aggravated burglary, etc.
3. All felony offenses other than violence or sex.
  - a. Examples include, but are not limited to: drug offenses, theft, embezzlement, fraud, child endangerment, etc.
4. All misdemeanor violence offenses within the past ten (10) years.
  - a. Examples include, but are not limited to: simple assault, battery, domestic violence, hit and run, etc.
5. Two or more misdemeanor alcohol offenses within the past five (5) years.
  - a. Examples include, but are not limited to: driving under the influence, drunk and disorderly, public intoxication, etc.
6. All misdemeanor drug offenses within the past five (5) years or multiple offenses in the past ten (10) years.
  - a. Examples include, but are not limited to: simple drug possession, possession of drug paraphernalia, etc.

B. Has a record of a conviction of an equivalent offense in another state, the volunteer will be disqualified from volunteering for a coaching, assistant coaching, or officiating position within DBYS athletic programs, or

C. Has a charge pending against him or her in which he or she has committed any of the following acts:

1. All sex offenses.

- a. Examples include, but are not limited to: child molestation, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, prostitution, solicitation, indecent exposure, etc.
2. All felony violence offenses.
  - a. Examples include, but are not limited to: murder, manslaughter, aggravated assault, kidnapping, robbery, aggravated burglary, etc.

## **Section 6: Why these Acts?**

DBYS has reviewed several national youth sports associations including the National Alliance for Youth Sports, and the National Association of Professional Background Screeners to determine the disqualifying acts that should be a part of this policy. Based on the recommendations of these organizations DBYS has developed the guidelines and procedures outlined in this policy.

## **Article XIII – CONCUSSION EDUCATION & TREATMENT**

### **Section 1: Legal**

The Safety in Youth Sports Act (Pennsylvania Senate Bill 200) was signed into law November 9, 2011 as Act 101 by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The bill mandates measures to be taken in order to ensure the safety of student-athletes involved in interscholastic sports in Pennsylvania. It is imperative that athletes, coaches, and parents/guardians are educated about the nature and treatment of sports related concussions and other head injuries. Although the signed bill only mandates compliance within the public school system of Pennsylvania, the law does state, “The sponsors of youth athletic activities are encouraged to follow the guidance set forth in this act.” DBYS chooses to follow the guidance of this act to protect the children who participate in this program.

### **Section 2: Background**

A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury that disrupts normal functioning of the brain. . A concussion can be caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body that causes the head and brain to move rapidly back and forth. Concussions are a type of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), which can range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally functions. Concussions can cause significant and sustained neuropsychological impairment affecting problem solving, planning, memory, attention, concentration, and behavior.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 300,000 concussions are sustained during sports related activities annually and more than 62,000 concussions are sustained each year in high school contact sports. Second-impact syndrome occurs when a person sustains a second concussion while still experiencing symptoms of a previous concussion. It can lead to severe impairment and even death of the victim.

### **Section 3: Training - Coaches**

From Section 3, subsection (e) of the Act: “Once each year, a coach shall complete the concussion management certification training course offered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Federation of State High School Associations or another provider approved by the Department of Health. A coach shall not coach an athletic activity until the coach completes the training course required under this subsection.” In plain terms, all coaches must complete a CDC approved training course for handling concussions in youth sports. As of January 2014, the following two sites are among the acceptable courses:

- [http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/headsup/online\\_training.html](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/headsup/online_training.html) ‘
- <http://www.nfhslearn.com/electiveDetail.aspx?courseID=38000>

### **Section 4: Acknowledgement – Parents/Guardians**

From Section 3, subsection (a) of the Act: “A student participating in or desiring to participate in an athletic activity and the student's parent or guardian shall each school year, prior to participation by the student in an athletic activity, sign and return to the student's school an acknowledgment of receipt and review of a concussion and traumatic brain injury information sheet developed under this subsection.” In plain terms, DBYS will require the parent/guardian of each player to read and acknowledge understanding of a basic concussion informational sheet at the registration process prior to each season.

### **Section 5: Removal of a Player from Competition/Practice.**

From Section 3, subsection (c) of the Act: “A student who, as determined by a game official, coach from the student's team, certified athletic trainer, licensed physician, licensed physical therapist or other official designated by DBYS, exhibits signs or symptoms of a concussion or traumatic brain injury while participating in an athletic activity shall be removed by the coach from participation at that time.”

## **Section 6: Return to Competition/Practice**

From Section 3, subsection (d) of the Act: “The coach shall not return a student to participation until the student is evaluated and cleared for return to participation in writing by an appropriate medical professional. DBYS may designate a specific person or persons, who must be appropriate medical professionals, to provide written clearance for return to participation. In order to help determine whether a student is ready to return to participation, an appropriate medical professional may consult any other licensed or certified medical professionals.”

## **Section 7: Penalty**

From Section 3, subsection (f) of the Act: “DBYS shall establish the following minimum penalties for a coach found in violation of the requirements under subsection (c) or (d) [Section 5 or 6 of this by-law]:

- (1) For a first violation, suspension from coaching in DBYS for the remainder of the season.
- (2) For a second violation, suspension from coaching in DBYS for the remainder of the season and for the next season.
- (3) For a third violation, permanent suspension from coaching in DBYS.”