

**KAUKAUNA YOUTH BASEBALL**  
Bylaws (as amended April 2021)

**I. LEAGUE**

- A. Emphasis is placed on skill development, individual improvement, self -confidence, and team work, with the ultimate goal being continued progress toward the next level of play.
- B. The league shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of volunteer personnel.
  - a There are five voting members on the Board of Directors: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Registrar/Records. These five members ultimately vote with input from the entire Board.
  - b Any expenditure considered non-operational shall be brought forward for discussion by the Board of Directors and voted upon by the voting members.
- C. The league shall be open to participants residing within the boundaries of the Kaukauna Area School District, or to participants who attend school within the boundaries of Kaukauna Area School District.
- D. All participants **must** be covered by health insurance. In no way, shall the league be expected to carry any insurance for the participants.
- E. All participants, including coaches, players, Directors and other volunteers, participate at their own risk, and Kaukauna Youth Baseball bears no responsibility or liability of any kind or nature whatsoever for any claims of injury damage to property or monetary damages of any kind or nature whatsoever arising from or associated in any way with participating in any KYB activities.

**II. PLAY RULES (Indicated by Age Group)**

- A. General:
  - 1. (5-Legion) All coaches and volunteers must have registered online for the purpose of completing a current background check. Additionally, all coaches and volunteers are required to complete online training in accordance with the Federal Safe Sport Act.
  - 2. (5-12) At least one member of the Board of Directors shall be present during play.
  - 3. (9-Legion) All attending players shall be fully uniformed, including cap, or will not be allowed to play.
  - 4. (9-Legion) Two or more qualified persons must be available to supervise or coach each team during games or practice. There shall be one adult in the dugout at all times during a game.

5. (5-Legion) The coach shall be responsible for the conduct of his or her players and for maintaining discipline and order on the playing field and bench area during a game or practice. When any player uses unsportsmanlike conduct, obscene or indecent language, or makes an assault upon an umpire, coach or player, the coach has the authority to disqualify this player and to eject this disqualified person from the playing field. Any disqualification by a coach, umpire, or any game official of a player shall be reported by that player's coach to the league president within twenty-four hours after the end of the game or practice. That coach and player shall be required to appear before the Kaukauna Little League AD-HOC Committee appointed by the President for the purpose of reviewing this particular disqualification. This committee will be comprised of five members of the Board of Directors. (At least three of the appointees must be present.) The members of the AD-HOC Committee present at the meeting shall impose such penalty as they feel is justified. (The playing ability of the player shall not be considered in the decision of the committee in any way whatsoever.) Ejection of a player automatically results in disqualification for the next game.
  6. (5-Legion) Coaches will be held accountable for their actions by the KYB Board of Directors. Each situation reported will be reviewed and handle as quickly as possible. No reported situation will be overlooked.
  7. Fans and parents will be held accountable for their actions by the Director on Duty. Complaints about fan and parent conduct shall be reported to the President.
- B. **Jr Legion and Legion Baseball** Divisions shall be governed by the rules of play set forth in the Legion Baseball League.
- a. Jr Legion and Legion teams are selected by the coaches.
  - b. All play rules are governed by the league the teams play in.
  - c. An additional 16U Legion team may be created based on the number of players and talent.
  - d. Legion team may be created based on the number of players and talent.
- C. **13 – 18 Yr. Old Divisions:** Teams associated with league play shall be governed by the rules of play set forth in the corresponding league. Fox Valley Youth Baseball League current rules can be accessed at <http://www.fvybl.com/rules.htm>.
1. There are multiple level of play for 13 and 14U players, Three levels are Travel, AA, and A teams are selected by a tryout process. Evaluators will consist of coaches from the previous season, High School coaching staff, and other members of the Board of Directors. The numbers and talent of players will determine the number of teams at each level. Players may be cut based upon the number of players trying out and the talent of those players. There will be a maximum of two teams at the 13/14 A level.
  2. The 15 through 18 Year old team(s) are selected by the coaches and evaluators. Based on the number of players and talent there may be additional teams added.

3. Travel team rules are governed by the tournaments that the teams register for.

D. **9-12 Yr. Old Divisions:** shall be governed by the rules of play and eligibility set forth by Little League Baseball ® except as amended in the following paragraphs and articles and as communicated with coaches at the annual coaches meeting.

1. Requirements for play:

- a. The league shall provide a jersey and equipment for the season. Any league owned equipment shall be returned at season's end. This rule excludes personal equipment purchases such as gloves, pants, hats, socks, batting gloves, bats etc. (All bats must be Little League approved.)
- b. Any player participating in Kaukauna Youth Baseball 9-12 league is required to pay registration fees set forth by KYB and to participate in the fundraiser or pay a \$100 buyout and buy or sell 30 raffle tickets. Any player participating in Kaukauna Youth Baseball is required to sign up online: [www.kaukaunabaseball.com](http://www.kaukaunabaseball.com). Players that sign up after the registration deadline may be assessed a \$20.00 late registration fee. Once the teams have been selected, late registrations might not be placed on a team. Players unable to pay registration fees due to financial hardship shall contact the board of directors for other arrangements.

2. Supplemental Playing Rules

- a. All attending players shall bat in order, 1 through last batter. Courtesy runners are allowed for the catcher and any injured player. The courtesy runner shall be the player who made the last out before the substitution.
- b. Every player must play at least two complete innings by the end of the fourth inning. Team that makes an infraction will forfeit the game of the infraction.
- c. There shall be open substitution. Players are allowed to enter or re-enter the game at any time. (Batting order remains the same.)
- d. 9/10 Division:
  - 1 There shall be a "Five run rule", meaning that no more than five runs may be scored in your half of any given inning, regardless if more runs cross the plate in an inning. The game shall be over when one team's score exceeds the other team's score plus the remainder of their run potential.
  - 2 Pitchers are limited to a maximum of 3 innings per game.
  - 3 The time limit for games is 1hr 45minutes unless amended due to scheduling constraints.

- e. 11/12 Division: There is no time limit for games unless amended as necessary due to scheduling constraints.
- E. 5/ 6 Yr Old Division shall be governed by rules adopted & posted on our website
  - 1. Teams are selected by a draft process.
  - 2. League is a coach pitch league.
- F. 7/8 Yr Old Division shall be governed by rules adopted and posted on our website
  - 1. Teams are selected by a draft process.
  - 2. League is a coach pitch league.

### **III. SCHEDULES**

- A. Scrimmages or practices between regular season teams may be played.
- B. Makeup games or suspended games shall be re-scheduled as soon as practical unless restricted by field availability.
- C. League games and practices will take priority over Traveling team practices except on Sundays.

### **IV. LEAGUE TEAMS**

- A. Teams shall be formed through tryouts to be held on a date stated on the Kaukauna baseball website. A Rain Date for tryouts will be scheduled if needed.
- B. Draft Picks.
  - 1. Draft order shall be determined by the coaches for ages 7 and up. 5/6 Division draft order will be determined by luck of the draw. All drafts shall follow the snake draft format.
  - 2. Players that register to play and miss the tryout will be picked at the end of the draft if not chosen in the first round. The exception is that each team will have one preselected player, indicated on the night of the draft, who they reserve the right to draft in any round.
  - 3. Players that sign up after the draft will be placed on teams by the Board of Directors based upon order of sign up and numbers of players on each team.
  - 4. For 7-12, only two coaches with players involved may pair up before the draft. (if those coaches have more than one player, a penalty for each player greater than

two may be assessed, such as forfeiture of draft picks. The penalty will be determined prior to the draft.

**V. TRAVEL TEAMS**

- A. Players shall be evaluated by a team of evaluators. Each player will be evaluated based on fielding, throwing, hitting, running, attitude, commitment, dedication, and other intangible factors. Evaluators will consist of the previous season's coaches, high school coaching staff, and other coaches / board members not affiliated with the specific age group. Evaluations will be collected and a summary will be compiled and distributed to the individual coaches. Individual ratings will be anonymous to all other than the travel director.
- B. Any cuts if necessary, and specific team placement, will be based upon anonymous voting by coaches, under the direction and supervision of the Travel director.
- C. Teams will play tournaments selected by the team's coach and the Travel Team Coordinator. Number of teams, composition of teams, and number of tournaments will be determined by the travel director and KYB board of directors. Alterations to team composition or schedule must be approved by the travel director and board of directors.
- D. Coaches are expected to give every team member meaningful play time during the course of the season based on a players ability, attitude, attendance (practice & game) along with game situation.
- E. Travel teams may call up players if they do not have enough players to fill a team for a particular tournament.
- F. Players that accept roster positions on travel teams are expected to show dedication and commitment to Kaukauna Youth Baseball.

**VI. COACHES**

- A. Coaches will be selected through an application process. Individuals interested in coaching a travel team, who believes they meet our criteria, should submit a coaching application via online registration.
- B. If two or more qualified individuals are interested in coaching travel baseball, a committee chosen by the Board of Directors shall interview the interested coaches. Coaches will be selected based upon previous coaching performance, communication, parent feedback, and qualifications listed below. Final approval of head coaching assignments will be made at the sole discretion of the committee chosen by the Board of Directors. Assistant coaches will be selected based upon a discussion between the head coach and the travel director.
- C. Coach Qualifications. All candidates for Coach positions must meet the following requirements:

1. Demonstrates a knowledge of baseball, baseball skills and knows how to pass this knowledge on to his or her players.
2. Exemplifies high moral and ethical qualities.
3. Shows good sportsmanship and expects the same of their players.
4. Maintains discipline and expects the same of their players.
5. Properly supervises practices and games, and manages the administrative functions of the team.
6. Makes an attempt to develop each player's skills so that each player is able to play more than one position on the team.
7. Availability during pre-season and in-season activities (practices, games, etc).
8. Coaches are expected to give every team member meaningful play time during the course of the season based on a players ability, attitude, attendance (practice & game) along with game situation.

## **VII. FIELD DECORUM**

- A. The actions of players, coaches, umpires, and league officials must be above reproach.
- B. All players shall be on their bench, in the dugouts, or in the bullpen while their team is at bat. When their team is on defense, the reserve players shall be on their bench, or in the bullpen.
- C. No one at any time during the course of the game may swing a bat outside of the fence surrounding the playing field.
- D. Two adult coaches shall be permitted to coach the bases when and only when there is an adult or coach in the dugout.
- E. Except to take their place in the coaching box, adult coach may not come onto the field without permission of an umpire.
- F. No games may be protested.
- G. The use of alcohol or tobacco in any form is prohibited on the field, benches, or dugouts by anyone.
- H. Bat boys will not be allowed for safety reasons.

## **VII. LEAGUE TOURNAMENT PLAY**

- A. Pairings for the tournament will be done once each team has completed their listed games. Tournament seeding tie breakers are based upon:
  - a Head to head results (if applicable)

- b Number of runs allowed
- c Number of runs scored
- d Coin flip

## **IX. SAFETY CODE**

- A. No games or practices shall be held when weather or field conditions are not good. Particularly when lighting is inadequate.
- B. Playing area should be inspected frequently for holes, damage, stones, glass and other foreign objects.
- C. During practice and games, all players should be alert and watching the batter on every pitch.
- D. During warm up drills, players should be spaced so that no one is endangered by wild throws or missed pitches.
- E. Equipment should be inspected regularly, making sure it fits properly and of good condition.
- F. Batters must wear protective helmets during batting practice, as well as during games. Bats may only be swung inside the cages, in the batter's box, and in the on deck circle. Male catchers must wear protective supporters at all times with a protective cup.
- G. Players must not wear watches, rings, pins or other metallic items. Pitchers may not wear anything white on their pitching arms, batters gloves on any hand and cannot wear sunglasses unless prescribed.
- H. Catchers must wear facemask with shin guards in warming up pitchers. This applies between innings and in bullpen practices.
- I. Shoes with metal spikes or cleats are prohibited for 12u and under. Shoes with molded rubber cleats are permitted.
- J. At no time should "horseplay" be permitted on the playing field or in the dug outs.
- K. Last two teams of the evening are responsible for filling in holes on pitcher's mound and in the batter's box, and for bringing in bases and signs.
- L. All injuries must be reported to the coach who, in turn, must report the injuries to the Kaukauna Board of Directors or Director on duty. (This rule pertains no matter how small the injury may seem.)

- M. The Coach or Coach's representative shall stay after games and practices until all kids are picked up or leave park.
- N. Delayed games because of lightning will not resume until 20 minutes after the last sighting of lightning.
- O. No unorganized or unsupervised play after leagues games.

## **X. AMENDMENTS**

1. These preceding regulations govern the conduct and operation of the Kaukauna Youth Baseball program.
2. No rule changes can be made without the approval of a majority of the Kaukauna Board of Directors.
3. The Board of Directors shall meet at the end of every playing season to review the rules, regulations, and policies of Kaukauna Youth Baseball and to suggest any changes which may improve the program.

### **Kaukauna Youth Baseball Mission Statement:**

Kaukauna youth baseball is a program of service to the youth of our community. It shall provide physical facilities, volunteer manpower and the resources to outfit a healthy activity in a wholesome atmosphere.

We are dedicated to helping children become good and decent citizens through our training and leadership. We support the development of our youth by nurturing their setting of goals and by establishing the foundation for teamwork and fair play.

The core of Kaukauna youth baseball is our board of directors who administer the operation of our program. The other segment of our program is made up of youngsters, coaches and parents. The two components provide significant benefits to all youth who participate.

On the premise that because of their participation, graduates of our program are now better prepared and equipped for the future, we must move ahead by improving and expanding the benefits to the many kids yet to join our program.



\*\*For the betterment of the program, the previous stated By Laws may be changed at any given time by the Board of Directors, as set forth in Article X.