

2024 Baseball Season



www.rochesterbaseball.com

DISCLAIMER

This document attempts to clarify and simplify as many rules as possible. The intent is to eliminate loopholes so that any one team does not receive an unfair advantage over another. In the event an issue, matter, or circumstance has not been addressed herein, the Rochester Baseball League reserves the right to resolve said occurrence in the best interest of the League as a whole, in the spirit of the game of Baseball and with impartiality to all the participants.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page #	Rule Provision	Header
3	INTRO	
3	1	Teams & Rosters
5	2	Scheduling
7	3	Game Play
14	4	Roster Additions
14	5	Other Rule Provisions
15	COVID	COVID Guidelines
20	Manager's Signature Page	
21	Player's Signature Page	

LEAGUE STRUCTURE & CONTACT INFO

Official Mailing Address

88 Snowy Owl Ridge, Rochester NY 14612

FED ID: 46-45541

Structure:

League President	Nicholas D'Ambrosio
AA Commissioner	Ari Freedman
AAA Co-Commissioners	Ryan Johnson
Treasurer	N/A
Marketing/Website	N/A

INTRODUCTION

League Mission Statement

Our mission is to offer the baseball community an adult league that's organized and structured.

League Vision

Our goal is to be an all-inclusive league, that caters to any adult over the age of 17 within any variance of skill level.

Rules Committee

The key personnel of the league will meet in the off season between December and February to discuss any rule changes. Any player or member can propose a rule change, some will be determined by the committee itself, others will be brought forth at the manager's meeting for a league-wide vote.

Rochester Baseball League - Rule Book & Bi-Laws

1. Teams/Rosters

1.1A Post Season Eligibility AAA ONLY

- At the conclusion of the 6th week of the new season, Sunday at 8 pm, all managers are required to submit a roster with 16 position players/2-way players and 4 Pitcher Only to league email for documentation for a total of 20. Any roster turned in after the deadline is deemed invalid and could result in roster spots being taken away as penalty.

- A player must participate in a minimum of 12 games with a team to be eligible for postseason play for hitters and 2-way players; 6 games appeared in for Pitcher Only. Waivers to this due to injury or other extenuating circumstances must be requested prior to post season play.
 - Game played in AA DO NOT count towards the game goal requirement to be eligible for AAA playoffs
- 1 week prior to the first scheduled post-season game (for the entire league, not a single team), each playoff bound team is allowed to substitute 1 position player/2-way player and 1 pitcher only who were not named on the original roster but are taking the place of a player no longer active on the roster.
- By being listed on a playoff roster, each player has automatically agreed to our insurance waiver and this book of rules and it is each team manager's responsibility to make known the league rules to their players.

1.1B Post Season Eligibility AA ONLY

- At the conclusion of the 10th week of the new season, Sunday at 8 pm, all managers are required to submit a roster with 18 players, designating who also pitches, to league email for documentation. Any roster turned in after the deadline is deemed invalid and could result in roster spots being taken away as penalty
- 1 week prior to the first scheduled post-season game (for the entire league, not a single team), each playoff bound team is allowed to substitute 1 position player/2-way player and 1 pitcher only who were not named on the original roster but are taking the place of a player no longer active on the roster.
- A player must participate in a minimum of 10 games with a team to be eligible for postseason play for hitters or 2-way players and a minimum of 4 games appeared in for pitchers. Waivers to this due to injury or other extenuating circumstances must be requested prior to post season play.
- By being listed on a playoff roster, each player has automatically agreed to our insurance waiver and this book of rules and it is each team manager's responsibility to make known the league rules to their players.

1.2 Canceling/Postponing Games

- Teams must provide at least 24 hour notice for game postponements due to anything except inclement weather. If less than 24 hours, then it is the opposing

team's decision whether to accept forfeit wins or schedule a make-up. If there is a requirement for a second set of umpire fees due to tardiness of the postponement notice, that cost will be entirely paid for the original postponing team.

- On mornings of inclement weather, home teams are expected to check their own fields at least two hours before the official start of the game. If games are being played on a neutral field, then between the two managers, one needs to agree to check the fields. All field reports are to be sent to the League Commissioner and/or League President.
- If a game is started and encounters extenuating circumstances and has play "suspended" the game, completion of the game and subsequent costs are incurred by the teams to complete the game. If the game can be completed as part of another game, the umpires offer up a half rate and the game will resume where paused; If the game has to be scheduled on a lone date, a full umpire rate will occur and therefore the game will start over.

1.3 Uniforms/Equipment/Safety

- Catchers must have the proper equipment consisting of a mask, chest protector and shin guards.
- All players must wear baseball pants but baseball tops and hats are optional dependent upon team requirements.
- Players can wear turf shoes, molded cleats or metal cleats, unless there are field specified restrictions.
- Base coaches, starting in the 2017 season must have some form of a helmet, whether it be a batting helmet or a catcher's skull cap.

1.4 League Fees

- Each team is required to have paid 100% of their fees by the first game or else they will be subject to possible forfeit depending on the other team's makeup availability. Once league fees are paid in full, each team will receive their allotted baseballs, scorebook and lineup cards.
- Individual teams set their per player fee, which does not come from the league. We set the team fees, the teams can decide player fees based on the number of participants, full time vs part time and if you're lucky enough to get sponsorship assistance from the community.

1.5 Sportsmanship

- All league participants are expected to conduct themselves as adults when on or around the field of play.
- Rude and inconsiderate behavior will not be tolerated, whether between opposing teams or players and umpires. We are an adult baseball league, we need to conduct ourselves as such. We may not agree all the time, we may not like every call on the field but that doesn't mean we lose respect for each other.

1.6 Safety Rules for Stands, Playing Field, Benches/Dugouts

- Only players, managers, and coaches are allowed on the field or in the dugouts **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Only players, managers, and coaches under contract to the Rochester Baseball League and in uniform are permitted to coach bases. Scorekeepers, other than a manager, coach or player must remain in the stands.

1.7 Players & Ages

- AAA League is now a 16 and older league. To encourage more participation, if a potential member is 16 and interested in participating, they can do so with a parent or guardian signature and clearance.
- AA League. The minimum age is 24 years old and turning 25 during the current season. There is no exception to this rule other than players that were grandfathered into the league during the RBL/MSBL merger in 2022.
- There are no age limits in either league.
- All players, full time, part time, or a single game substitute, must sign the Current Player Registration Waiver prior to playing. If a team is caught in violation of this, they will be subject to being stripped of wins. Current Player Registration waiver can be found on the home screen at www.rochesterbaseball.com

2. Scheduling

2.1 Season Schedule

- The league will release the schedule as field venues allow us to finalize field reservations.
- At times, there will be TBA/TBD (To Be Announced/Determined) next to game listings if a field venue hasn't been finalized yet.
- We will actively do the best we can to accommodate home field requests but understand that we are limited at times and often have to shuffle venues around to accommodate requests from others.
- Players can only play for one (1) team during that specific season unless said player is granted his "release" and thus can find a new team to play for.

2.2 Make Up Games

- Both teams have one week to announce a make-up date. If said date is not reached then the league can issue a make-up date. If that date is still unacceptable and the game is not made up before the end of the season, then each team will receive losses for standings purposes.
- Please include league personnel when scheduling make ups as it helps facilitate requests faster. Also, if one party is actively trying to schedule a game(s) and another is stalling, we will award forfeitures when necessary.
- Remember, for standings calculations, any game not made up is a loss for both teams.\

2.3 Quantity of Games

- The Rochester Baseball League does not guarantee a certain amount of games. If weather causes postponements, they will be re-scheduled as efficiently as possible. Understand that most limitations when it comes to rescheduling games is from the lack of aggressiveness on the teams' parts to establish make up dates with your opponents. Be proactive and be persistent.
- Quantity of games is dependent on manager's reluctance to reach a neutral date for both teams

2.4 Playoff Games

- Playoff games will be scheduled on the best available field choices, giving teams with higher seeding the opportunity to secure their fields when possible and if appropriate.
- Due to inclement weather, there will be instances where games will be stacked on weather resistant fields. If that is the case, the higher seed gets to choose the start time they prefer and everyone else will fall in line after that.
- During playoff games, time limits are suspended and the games will play until conclusion.

2.5 All-Star Game

- Every year we strive to host a league all-star game. Every year we budget to host said game at Frontier Field. The exchange for field access is the purchasing of Red Wings tickets, which get distributed to the managers at the final manager meeting. Which means, if the game gets canceled or re-scheduled at another venue, there is no refund as our payment to the Red Wings was for game tickets, not "field rental".
- During the 2023 season, AAA will be forming one allstar team to play against the Muckdogs in Batavia at Dwyer Stadium as their All-Star Game.
- At the designated break point, usually two weeks prior to the game, the standings will lock to determine participants. If there are divisions, then each division winner will be managing a side for the all star game, if there are no divisions that year, then it will fall to first and second place respectively.
- Quantity of players representing each team has always been based on where the team ranks in the standings with the idea that the better performing teams are allowed to send more players.
- ONLY the league can substitute in all star players. As an elected manager of the all star game, if you choose to not participate and just manage, you can select another representative from your team, that is the only case of anyone outside of the league personnel being to add to the allstar roster. After that, any substitution will be made by league personnel at their discretion. The idea is for elected players to get the opportunity to play and we want to avoid the rosters getting too large.
- There is a provision to allow balloting for the allstar game should the league choose to do so. Results will still favor a tiered system to allow all teams to be represented and make sure dominant teams aren't supplying most of the players.

3. Game Play

3.1 Official Game

- Each team must have at least 8 players before a game is legal and can start. Teams will be permitted 20 minutes past the official start of the game for late players, however that will count towards the total game time allotment. After the 20 minute allotment, the game is a forfeit.
- Games are official at the completion of the top of the 5th inning if the home team is ahead, for 7 inning games and after the completion of top of the 5th inning if the home team is heard, for 9 inning games.
 - Games can end in a Tie if past the "official game" mark. Any decision to complete the game will have to be agreed upon by BOTH teams.
 - If the game is not official when, for example, weather hits, the game will have to be completed at a later date.
 - If completed as part of another scheduled game, the game will resume where suspended and the umpire fee is half the cost, split payment by both teams
 - If completed on another or separate date, the game will be start over and the umpire fee is full cost, split payment by both teams.
 - Games not played or not completed within the final two weeks of the season will be granted a "tie scenario" for both teams due to lack of time allowance to coordinate a reschedule.
- MERCY RULE
 - 7 Inning Games: 15 after 5
 - 9 Inning Games: 15 after 5 and 10 after 7

3.2 Home/Away for Double Headers

- Each team will split home and away, no matter where the venue is played. If a make-up game, then home and away will alternate on each separate date no matter where the games are played.

3.3 Ejections

- If a player(s) is ejected, for the first offense of the season, it is an automatic (1) one game suspension. If it is a second offense of the season, then that player is suspended for the rest of the season and will be subject to a league evaluation of reinstatement. Any team caught violating this rule will be subject to forfeit wins, first, possible league banishment after.
- Each player has the right to petition the league regarding an ejection however understand we are not obligated to overturn an ejection without evidence of an egregious error on the part of the umpire.
- If a player cannot demonstrate constraint, the league will enact a lifetime ban. To reiterate, we are an adult baseball league, please conduct yourself like an adult.

3.4 Collisions

- Any collisions during the game are subject to the umpire's discretion of intent. If deemed that the player in question intended on engaging in contact with the other player then the player in question is subjected to an automatic ejection. If deemed contact was accidental, then warnings may be issued and the game proceeds.
- Players sliding into a base must be within an arm's reach of any base in order to be considered within our rules and allowable for injury prevention purposes.

3.5 Playing with 8 Players

- If a team has 9 players (or more), they must have at least 9 players in their lineup for that game.
- If a team has 8 players, they will be allowed to start a game without a lineup penalty and play with 8 players. The opposing team does not have to lend them a defensive player to help, but there is not going to be a rule outlawing that. If a 9th (or more) shows up after the game has started, the team in question will be allowed to place them at the bottom of the order.
- If a team has 9 (or more) players and one is ejected, then there is an automatic out in that player's lineup spot. If a team has 8 players and one is ejected then the game is called. If a team has 9 (or more) and a player is ejected, but there is a player that has not been listed in the official lineup, he may substitute in for the ejected player in that exact spot in the lineup.

- If a team has 9 (or more) players and one is injured, that team must substitute any player not in the original lineup into the open spot. If a team does not have any substitutes available, they will be allowed to complete their game with 8 players and skip his lineup spot and play without penalty. If a team has 8 players and one is injured then the game is called.
- In summary, you must end the game with the same amount of lineup participants except in the case of injury but only in the case that there are still 8 or more players actively playing.

3.6 Substitutions/Line-Ups

- Starting Pitcher. A starting pitcher is allowed to exit the game and re-enter the game on the mound once.
- Relief Pitcher. Any pitcher after the starter, once substituted for, is out of the game for good on the mound.
- Position Player. Any starter in the lineup may be "pinch hit" for at any time and that starter may re-enter at any point after in his original lineup spot once. Once he does, the player that substituted for him, is out for the remainder of the game. After the re-entry, if the starter is "pinch hit" for again, then he is out of the lineup for the remainder of the game.
- Pinch Runner/Designated Runner. If a team chooses to do so, it may designate players in its lineup that are going to be run for, this designation must occur prior to the start of the game and it will not constitute as a substitution or else it is considered a pinch runner and a lineup substitution. **In AA teams** are allowed to designate up to two players to run for prior to the start of any game. **In AAA teams** are allowed to designate up to one player to run for prior to the start of any game. For designated runners, the last batted out runs for said designated player, not necessarily the last recorded out. For pinch runners, anyone not in the lineup can run but this is considered a lineup substitution, starter may re-enter once.
- League-wide for speed up rule, each team can run for the catcher with two (2) outs and there will be no lineup substitution requirements. Runner will be last batted out except for PITCHER or a batter in the lineup that has a designated runner themselves. If anyone other than the last batted out runs, assuming the stipulation of being a pitcher or a batter with a designated runner, then that will be considered a lineup substitution.

- Defensive replacements are not considered lineup substitutions. In fact, you could have a totally different set of players play defense compared to those listed in the lineups.
- All subs should be listed on the substitution portion of the lineup card.
- All subs must be reported to the lineup and opposing manager.
- To encourage participation and play time, teams can add players to the bottom of the lineup after the game has started however once done, that lineup must stay and can only be altered by legal substitutions, i.e. you can't start with 10 lineup, go to 12 and then for whatever reason, try to go back to 10 in your lineup.
- Starting in 2022 we are instituting an A/B lineup scenario in which managers, before the game starts, announce they are using an alternating lineup in which "A" bats first, then "B" lineup, then "A" again.
 - Starting in 2024, if a team has 11 players in the lineup and the 10 spot is an A/B scenario, at any point in the game, if the team elects, both players can bat and in that scenario, player "A" enters permanently in the lineup spot (in this scenario spot 10), and player "B" enters permanently in the lineup spot (in this scenario spot 11). Both players are in the lineup until the end of the game and can only be taken out of the lineup by a legal substitution.
 - Further clarification on the A/B scenario, if at any point in time, a team decides one player is taking over, that is considered a permanent substitution and the other player is done for the game, i.e. if the 10 spot is an A/B and in the 5th, player B takes over the A spot, A is done for the game, the A/B scenario is eliminated and player is now in the lineup full time.

3.7 Start of Games

- Each team is required to have their team ready to play within 15 minutes of the proposed, original start time.
- Start of games are not to be delayed to accommodate infield/outfield and/or Batting Practice. If a team wishes to perform these tasks prior to playing, it is their obligation to show up early to accomplish such a task.
- Game start times will be determined when the schedule is released dependent upon town requirements.
- If due to inclement weather, game start times can be delayed so that at least one if not both games can be played.

- Each team will be expected to split the supply of baseballs, whether it be splitting within each game or else each team taking a specific game to supply. Each team has been supplied 3 baseballs per game, with two teams, that is six baseballs.
- Any team arriving without umpire money or baseballs is subject to discipline. If a particular team becomes a frequent offender, their league status will be revoked.

3.8 Foul Balls

- Each team is responsible for retrieving their own respective foul balls. This is the manager's responsibility to enforce. If the league receives complaints of slow play due to the lack of hustle for foul balls, the offending team may be subject to discipline. If a team runs out of supplied baseballs because they do not retrieve their own baseballs, they will be responsible for purchasing league approved baseballs to complete their season or face possible forfeits. Extra balls will not be handed out because of laziness.
- If foul balls enter adjacent property to the field being played on, please be respectful while retrieving the ball. If there is a fence, DO NOT climb the fence. Please use common courtesy and ask permission when necessary.

3.9 Bats

- All wood (bamboo, ash, oak, maple or birch) is permitted for use. Wood composite bats are also permitted for use.

3.10 Player Conduct

- All players will conduct themselves as adults and maintain an appropriate demeanor before, during and after games.
- Control yourself and your players. Make sure your players know the rules that affect them. Make sure they read the contract they sign. Good sportsmanship is expected of every player. It is up to each player to make the game competitive and enjoyable for the other players, managers, and umpires that participate, as well as for friends, family and other spectators who come to watch. Fighting and/or physical abuse of players, umpires, or spectators, or abusive language directed at players, umpires, or spectators will not be tolerated by the Rochester Baseball League.

- Starting in 2024, players that are ejected will be subject to a review panel comprised of umpire reps and fellow RBL reps. If the ejection is upheld, the player is subject to a fine of \$150 per occurrence, money to be collected and donated to charity.

3.11 Alcohol, Drugs & Tobacco

- ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND/OR DRUGS ARE SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITED ON HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUSES BY A VARIETY OF MUNICIPAL, COUNTY AND STATE LAWS. IN ADDITION, THE ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE EXPRESSLY PROHIBITS ANY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND/OR DRUGS IN THE VICINITY (INCLUDING PARKING LOTS) OF ANY FIELD USED BY THE ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE SO AS TO AVOID ANY APPEARANCE OF VIOLATING THESE LAWS. THIS APPLIES TO ALL MANAGERS, PLAYERS, COACHES, AS WELL AS FANS, FRIENDS, FAMILY MEMBERS OR SPECTATORS THAT COME TO GAMES. ANY MANAGER OR PLAYER FOUND TO BE IN VIOLATION OF THESE RULES MAY BE SUSPENDED IMMEDIATELY FOR A MINIMUM OF TWO (2) GAMES. ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS MAY ALSO BE APPLIED AGAINST ANY OFFENDER(S).
- A second violation may result in expulsion from the Rochester Baseball League, either individually or as a team. Please notify all participants and spectators of this rule. Umpires have the authority from the Rochester Baseball League to stop or forfeit games if there is a problem with drinking or drugs at any game or facility being utilized. Teams are to police their fans, friends, family members or spectators for violations of league rules.
- Both team managers should attempt to persuade any person or persons participating in or watching the game and who are in violation of this section to leave the premises. To Reiterate: Umpires have the authority from the Rochester Baseball League to stop or forfeit games if there is a problem with drinking or drug use at any game or facility. Many school districts, city or county ordinances may prohibit all or some forms of tobacco use (cigarettes, dip, chew, etc.) at a facility. It is very important to observe these rules wherever and whenever they may be in force. In those instances where tobacco use is not prohibited, please use courtesy, common sense, fire-safety awareness and sanitation in both the use and disposal of all tobacco products. No coach or incoming team wants to see cigarette butts and chew-spit tarnishing the field and dugouts. League Presidents may enforce penalties or prohibit use for repeated offenses.

- The objective of the league is to provide an athletic outlet in a family setting and all players are requested to conduct themselves in such a fashion that doesn't conflict with those goals.
- Any violations to the conduct policy will yield an indefinite suspension, pending a league investigation.

3.12 Game Time Constraints

- On certain fields, at certain times during the season, there may not be a given time constraint, of which then, we can and will permit extra innings to a maximum of 3 for each game.
- If there are time constraints, then the limits are as follows:
 - 2.5 hrs for 7 inning games, No new inning after 2:15
 - 3.0 hrs for 9 inning games, No new inning after 2:45
- There are no time constraints for playoff games, games must be played to completion.

3.13 Game Baseballs

- Teams will be issued league sanctioned baseballs at the start of the season. League issued baseballs must be used to start the game. If, due to lost baseballs, alternate balls need to be utilized, please utilize the best ones you have and clear any non-league ball being used with the opposing manager.

3.14 BEHAVIOR TOWARD UMPIRES

- Umpires shall not be physically or verbally abused. If you have a complaint about an umpire's call, explain it to him. If you are reasonable, they will be reasonable. If problems develop between you and an umpire, notify the League President and provide them with the umpire's name and number.
- VERBAL ABUSE OR PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH THE PERSON OF AN UMPIRE OR THEIR PERSONAL PROPERTY (i.e., automobile, equipment, etc.) IN ANY WAY IS FORBIDDEN BY BOTH ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE AND OFFICIAL BASEBALL RULES AND WILL BE DEALT WITH BY A MINIMUM MULTIPLE GAME SUSPENSIONS, SEASON EXPULSION, OR PERMANENT EXPULSION FROM THE ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE.

- The Umpire Evaluation form (if provided) in the form section of this booklet is to be used to rate all umpires. Unless these are sent in regularly to the ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE, we cannot evaluate umpires. The umpires are subject to review by the ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE. They also provide to the ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE written reports about ejections, protests and other incidents. Umpires may be asked to evaluate teams for attitude or level of ability. The intent is to ensure that teams are playing in the appropriate league and to weed out teams with abusive conduct.
- Discussions with umpires are to be done on the field. If any player or manager follows an umpire off the field they will be subject to suspension and expulsion from the ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE. Remember that, as with players, no umpire is perfect. Some are better than others. It is your place as manager to deal with the umpires; keep your players away from them. If anybody is ejected, it should be you, not your players. However, don't make a habit of being ejected.
- Each ejection comes with an automatic two (2) game suspension if the ejection is upheld along with a \$150.00 fine to be collected and donated to charity. The ejected player will be indefinitely suspended until the fine is paid, even if the length of suspension stretches past two (2) games.
- If the Umpire Union deems a trend is starting, generally upon second ejection and second non-payment, they reserve the right to start pulling umpires from that particular teams' schedule. The manager of said team has the ability to settle all debts or forfeit games until debts are settled.
- As always, a second suspension in the same season garners a season long suspension and a second fine, which will be paid by the end of the same season or else that player will be subject to a permanent ban from RBL.

3.15 Appeals

- Each team has the right to appeal an outcome. There will be an ejection panel comprised of Umpire Union representatives and RBL senior members.

3.16 Various Game Play Rules Highlighted for Ease

- Balks, we do not issue warnings for balks in our league. If you balk the first time, it will be called and the runners will advance. You are entitled to ask what you balked for and the umpires are encouraged to share their observations.

- Pitchers cannot fake a throw to third base and throw to first in a pick off attempt, that is a balk.
- Mound Visits. Each team is allowed 2 non-substitution mound visits per game.

3.17 Extra Inning Rule

- Extra innings during the regular season are not guaranteed and can only be played if the game is within time constraints or an agreement between umpires the field venue to allow the game to proceed past the agreed upon time constraints.
- Extra innings during the regular season will adopt a new MLB rule with the last batted out the previous inning starting on second base. If that runner shall score, the run is considered unearned.
- Extra innings during the playoffs will default to traditional format, no runners on and play until completion.

3.18 Pace of Play

- In an effort to increase pace of play, the league will adopt and permit 2-out runners for Catchers without that change being considered a lineup substitution.
- Runner must be the last batted out.

4. **Roster Additions**

4.1 Free Agents

- Free agents are free to sign with any team they so choose. Once signed, they are obligated to finish that particular season with the claiming team and will not be permitted to leave one team for another mid-season without each manager's approval.
- Free agents are signed as a first to notify the league, first to claim the player.

4.2 Mid Season Roster Additions

- Teams are permitted to add players throughout the season, specifically if it allows them to have enough to play a game, as long as they are not an active member on another team.

4.3 Using other RBL Team Players

- AAA this is not permitted
- AA teams should make every effort to field a team without using players from other RBL teams. In the event that a team needs to ask other RBL teams for player(s) to avoid a forfeit, the following guidelines must be followed:
 - Request for substitute is to be made directly to the team's manager (not the player) and the league commissioner is to be included in communication
 - Opposing team manager must approve of the substitution
 - Substitute may not pitch in the game
 - Substitute should not be of a "game-changing" talent level

5. Other Rule Provisions

5.1 Arbitration & Protests

- Each team is allowed to protest a game but must submit their protest, in writing within 12 hours of the completion of the game.
- Once a protest is documented, the acting commissioner has the option to rule on the protest by himself or, in an event of conflict of interest, enact an arbitration panel to make a collective decision. The panel will be 5 senior members of each league and the majority decision will be the final decision.
- If the game must be completed, or replayed, after a ruling, the game costs must be split between both affected teams evenly.

5.2 Rules not listed

- Anything not specifically listed above as a ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE's own specific rule, will be governed by Major League Baseball's official rule book with exceptions and practicality.

5.3 Rule Changes

- The ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE observes the right to change any rule, mid-season if necessary, that they deem necessary.

5.4 Field and Facility Protocols

- All teams are to treat every park and every facility as a carry-in, carry-out policy for trash in case there are not dumpsters available.
- If you arrive at a game and the field or facility was not left in proper condition by our standards, you are to take photographs immediately and email them to myself so that they are accompanied by a time stamp.
 - Please clean up the mess to the best of your ability to get your game in.
 - With the time stamp, I can prove to facilities that the mess occurred prior to our rental.
- Each team is encouraged to purchase their own landscape rake and bring it with them to each game to help tidy up the field after their game.
- If upon arrival to a facility and there are tarps on the field, it is our responsibility to replace the tarps after our game. If there is a double header, teams from the first game must make teams in the second game aware to replace tarps.

Rochester Baseball League – 2020 COVID-19 Guidelines

- This season, until further notice, one umpire will be positioned in the grass of the infield behind the pitcher while the other umpire is back, behind the batter's box at least 6-8 feet away. Balls and strikes will be called by the umpire behind the pitcher.
- Each player is expected to have his own helmet, no sharing
- Before the game we will eliminate the meeting at home plate between umpires and coaches
- Lineups will be exchanged via text message to the opposing team
- All participants, spectators and those working on the field or monitoring a field must adhere to a six-foot physical distance while at the baseball facility. Face covers are required within the six-foot distance.
- There is a mandatory self-evaluation assessment of the daily symptoms. If you are experiencing any of the symptoms you must stay home.
 - If you have any symptoms related to Covid-19 do not play and go to the Doctor and get tested.
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Chills
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Muscle pain
 - Headache
 - Sore throat

- New loss of taste or smell
 - If you have anyone in your immediate family who has tested positive for Covid-19 please do not play two complete weeks.
 - Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Each player must bring their own drinks and must not share with other players. There must not be any communal drinking containers.
- These requirements must be shared prior to the event with all players, coaches, spectators, officials, and employees prior to their arrival at the venue.
- Teams will form in large areas near the field where social distancing can take place and away from other teams.
- Players should not congregate in the parking lot prior to the games, and should come to the field alone and not with any teammates.
- Each team should have baseballs designated for when they are on defense. These baseballs will be disinfected after each inning of use, and after every foul ball retrieved. Each team should have disinfectant available to disinfect their baseballs during the game, and in between each inning. Lysol spray, or something of that nature, will suffice.
- Infection Control and Prevention – Mandatory Precautions and Recommendations While Warming Up, and Playing the Game for Coaches and Players
 - Coaches and players must adhere to the physical six-foot distancing except when the ball is in play.
 - Athletes and coaches must wear face coverings at all times while not actively participating in the field of play.
 - Coaches should ensure the players are adhering to social distancing in the dugouts and other seating areas and wearing face coverings while not actively participating on the field of play.
 - Athletes must not share equipment of any kind with another player. Keep your equipment separate from all other players' equipment. This includes bats, helmets, catchers equipment, sunglasses, gloves, batting gloves, belts, shoes, etc.
 - Athletes during the game and after the game must not high five each other, and do not fist bump each other.
 - Each player must bring their own drinks and must not share with other players. There must not be any communal drinking containers.
 - No spitting or eating seeds, gum, or other similar products.
 - After the game is over your dugout must be 100% cleaned out of all trash, paper, bottles, baseballs, etc; so the next team coming in for the next game has a clean dugout.
 - When you go home you should immediately wash your hands or take a shower, and you should sterilize all of your equipment, including washing

your uniform and pants. We also recommend that you clean your shoes after each game.

- Infection Control and Prevention – Mandatory Precautions and Recommendations for Umpires and Officials
 - Must adhere to six-foot social distancing practices when interacting with players, coaches, and spectators off the field of play.
 - Must conduct daily symptom assessments.
 - Until social distancing guidelines are relaxed that umpires behind the plate wear masks and gloves and/or stand 6 feet behind the pitcher.
 - Umpires should be wearing gloves especially when exchanging line up cards or documents.
 - Umpires should have a bottle of sanitizer with you during the game and to utilize it.
 - When the game is over do not congregate in the parking lot and go home.
 - When you go home from the game you should immediately wash your hands or take a shower, and you should sterilize all of your equipment, including washing your umpire shirt and pants. We also recommend that you clean your shoes after each game.
- Infection Control and Prevention – Mandatory Precautions and Recommendations For Spectators
 - Must adhere to the six-foot social distancing practices. This includes in and around the bleachers for anyone not in the same family.
 - Must conduct daily symptom assessments
 - Must not enter player areas on the field of play or bench area.
 - Must keep six-feet or more distance from the backstop.
 - Have a bottle of sanitizer with you during the game and to utilize it.
 - Put all trash and drinking bottles immediately into a trash receptacle when you are finished with it, and do not leave any trash or bottles on the ground or in the bleachers.
 - When the game is over do not congregate in the parking lot and go home.
 - When you go home immediately wash your hands and sterilize all of your articles/possessions taken to the field with you. We also recommend that you clean your shoes after the game.
- Please note that our liability insurance does not cover infectious or communicable disease situations.
- The ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE Waiver and Indemnification Agreement is very clear regarding your responsibility for playing in the ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE. We have placed a copy of the waiver and indemnification below for your perusal. Each player, and manager must sign a copy of the ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE Waiver and Indemnification on the ROCHESTER BASEBALL

LEAGUE website, and each league agrees to use the ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE Waiver and Indemnification process without altering its content.

- ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE TEAM LIABILITY WAIVER & INDEMNIFICATION READ BEFORE SUBMITTING REGISTRATION - *PLACING A PLAYERS NAME ON THIS ROSTER/WAIVER EFFECTUATES AS A SIGNATURE AND THE WAIVER AS SET FORTH BELOW
- By placing a name on this page, as a player and/or as an individual playing on the team set forth herein or as assigned by ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE or tournament officials, hereby consent and agree to the following parameters as conditions of participation in the Rochester Baseball League, Inc.'s (ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE) leagues and tournaments.
- I and the team certify that I/We have a valid ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE contract on file with my league president or the ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE National Office and that this is subject to verification. I/We also understand that if the contract is not on file, any league or tournament game I/We participate in will be subject to forfeiture.
- I and the team certify that I/We are aware of the league and tournament rules and guidelines and ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE rules regarding player conduct and I/We are aware that these rules apply to this league or tournament.
- I and the team understand that violation of any part of this contract (and/or the rules contained in the regular season or tournament ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE contract) can result in disciplinary action against me or the team, including forfeiture of games, suspension from play, or permanent expulsion from this league and/or ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE events/tournaments. I and the team understand that the ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE reserves the right to refuse any player or team permission to play in any ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE event, including league.
- I and the team understand the risk to have contact with individuals, who have been exposed to and/or have been diagnosed with one or more communicable diseases, including but not limited to COVID-19 or other medical conditions, diseases, or maladies does exist, and it is impossible to eliminate that risk, and that I could be exposed to and/or become infected through contact with or close proximity with an individual with a communicable disease. I and the team realize that the total responsibility of any personal injury, accident, illness, disability, death, property damage, lawsuit, legal issues, and/or other occurrence to any person, place or thing, including me and mine, that occurs due to my actions or the actions of others while I am participating in any ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE game/tournament, and/or other function, is solely mine and the team. I, the manager and the team knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of the releasees or

others, and assume all and full responsibility for me and my teams participation in any ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE event, league or tournament.

- I and the team will not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages or drugs at any time on the playing field, in the dugouts, bleachers, or other areas near or around the playing field, or within one hundred (100) yards of the playing field facility, including, but not limited to, the parking lots of any facility.
- I and the team understand that I/We must be able to identify ourselves with a driver's license or other photo ID at any officially scheduled ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE or tournament game, or I/We will be ineligible to continue in the game. Any substitute for I/We will enter the game under the rules governing player ejection.
- In consideration of the foregoing and being allowed to participate in the ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE activities or functions, including, but not limited to, tournaments, this league, its games, practices and meeting, and intending to be legally bound for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, I and the team do hereby release and discharge the ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE, including but not limited to, the National Organization, its officers, directors, agents, contractors and employees, any city, county and/or state organization or any other governing body that may have jurisdiction over any baseball field or other facility that I and the team might play on, any other owners, lessors or provider of fields or facilities (whether privately held or otherwise), any umpires or umpire organizations, and their respective officers, directors, agents, contractors, employees and other players in the Association, jointly and severally, from any and all liability from personal injury, accident, illness, disability, death, property damage, legal issue, lawsuit or other occurrence which I and the team may suffer in any manner whatsoever arising out of or resulting from my participation in this league or any ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE activity of function held in conjunction therewith; and I expressly assume all risk of my participation in these activities or functions.
- I and the team agree that in the event of rain, any Acts of God or forces beyond ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE's control, league and tournament officials may make every reasonable effort to complete the full league/tournament schedule. Alternate schedules, shortened games, reduced numbers of playoff teams or other means may be used to attempt to complete the league/tournament play.
- I and the team hereby acknowledge and agree that neither the ROCHESTER BASEBALL LEAGUE nor its agents may be held liable for games which cannot be played for reasons as described herein.

Rochester Baseball League (RBL) Rules & Code of Conduct Manager Contract

As manager, by signing this, I acknowledge that I've read and understand the rules that are clarified above and acknowledge that I will make my team aware of them and agree to abide by them. I certify that all the players appearing on my roster will electronically sign the Rochester Baseball League waiver form before participating in any Rochester Baseball League sanctioned events and that failure to do so will make them ineligible.

I will take full responsibility for the conduct and behavior of my players and assistant coaches and will make every effort to ensure that collectively, we will fully respect umpires, opposing players, managers, coaches, spectators, and the facilities that the Rochester Baseball League utilizes.

I understand that if at any point during a game or the season, an issue arises that is not clearly spelled out in the rules above, I agree to use my best judgment as well as utilize the umpires or the league as arbiters to settle the situation.

I accept that failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may result in the expulsion of my team or specified individuals within it, from the Rochester Baseball League.

Print Name: _____

Print Team Name: _____

Sign: _____

Date: _____

Rochester Baseball League (RBL) Player Contract

READ BEFORE SIGNING

As a baseball player in the Rochester Baseball League, by signing this, I acknowledge that I've read and understand the rules that are clarified in the league's bylaws, rules and regulations, code of conduct and acknowledge as well as the following Rochester Baseball League athletic waiver and release of liability:

- 1) The risk of injury from the activities involved in this program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and,
- 2) I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
- 3) I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately; and,
- 4) 4) I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS **Rochester Baseball League**, their directors, team managers, officials, agents, volunteers, umpires, spectators, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and the owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event ("RELEASEES"), WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law. I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

I understand failure to electronically sign the Rochester Baseball League Player Contract will make me an indelible, rostered player and that my team may suffer the repercussions should I participate in a Rochester Baseball League sanctioned event prior to doing so.

PRINTED NAME: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER: _____

SIGNED: _____

(Participant's Signature)