

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

COVENTRY BABE RUTH LEAGUE OF RI INC.

ARTICLE I -NAME

The name of this organization shall be the COVENTRY BABE RUTH LEAGUE OF RI INC.

This organization (CBRL) shall be incorporated under the laws governing non-profit and non-partisan corporations within and by the State of Rhode Island and its Providence Plantations.

ARTICLE II -PURPOSE

This is a non-profit organization whose purpose shall be to provide an opportunity for interested persons to assist in the operation of a baseball league for the youth of the town of Coventry.

Specifically the purpose of the organization shall be to:

1. Operate a baseball league for youths between the ages Of 13 to 15 in accordance with the rules and regulations as set forth by the National Headquarters of Babe Ruth Baseball.
2. Encourage the spirit of fair play and sportsmanship.

ARTICLE III -MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to any person of good moral character who is interested in promoting the game of baseball. Prospective new members will have their name submitted at a regular meeting which will be followed by discussion of the individual. Voting into membership will be held at the next regular meeting where each member will have the opportunity to voice his opinion. Three (3) "nay" votes will constitute rejection of the applicant for membership. The prospective new member will be notified of the outcome and if approved will be invited to attend the next meeting. A nominee must attend at least one meeting before his/her membership is considered formalized. A quorum must be present at the meeting where voting is done on a prospective new member,

Each member shall have one vote. All issues shall be decided by a majority vote with a quorum in attendance. Eight (8) members shall constitute a quorum.

Any member, who shall fail to attend a minimum of one- (1) league meetings in any six (6) month period, shall automatically forfeit his membership in the CBRL. Any such member may appeal his loss of membership to the Executive Committee for review.

ARTICLE IV -OFFICERS

The Officers of this organization shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Player Agent and three (3) Trustees; they shall serve until their successors have been elected.

All terms shall be for one (1) year except for the Trustees, who shall serve for a term of three (3) years. The President shall appoint a nomination committee prior to the September meeting; which shall, at the September meeting, nominate a slate of candidates for election. Counter nominations from the membership may also be submitted at this meeting.

Election of officers shall be held at the October meeting. The duties of the Officers shall be as follows:

President: Shall preside at all meetings; shall appoint all committees; and shall perform all duties which usually pertain to such office. By virtue of his position, he shall be a member, ex-officio, of all committees. **Vice-President:** Shall perform, in the absence of the President, all duties normally associated with that office. Represent the league at all District, State and National Babe Ruth functions (as applicable).

Secretary: Shall keep minutes of all Meetings and have custody of all records and minutes of the organization. Perform all duties normally associated with the office.

Treasurer: Shall have the responsibility for the custody of all the funds of the organization and pay all bills upon the direction of the President. Maintain a record of all receipts and expenditures. The Treasurer shall be bonded. Concession stand records shall be provided to the Treasurer weekly during the regular season and monthly thereafter.

Trustees: Shall be active members of the Executive Committee in forming policies and procedures and operation of this organization. They shall supervise an annual audit of the Treasurer's accounts.

PLAYER AGENT: Whatever player selection plan is used must be under the direction of the "Player Agent". This person should be chosen with much care after thorough consideration of his abilities to do the job, for his impartiality and his reputation for fairness. He must act without favor in his dealing both with adult leaders and young participants. It is the responsibility of the Player Agent, insofar as it is legal and possible to maintain a balance of strength among the teams of the league and to remind constantly everyone connected with the program that the welfare of the youth concerned and the league as a community project are paramount rather than a single manager or team with designs only upon winning.

With the cooperation of other league officers, or assistants, it is the duty of the Player Agent to conduct registration of player candidates and to arrange for and supervise the tryout sessions. He shall supervise the distribution of players among teams, under whatever system the league uses, and shall maintain the "player pool", a list of eligible player candidates who have not been selected for teams but who are available to replace players who may move, be injured or otherwise leave the program during the season.

ARTICLE V -ADMINISTRATION

1. The administration of the league shall be under the direct control of the Executive Committee.
2. The Executive Committee shall consist of all elected officers; President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Player Agent and the three (3) Trustees.
3. All matters concerning policy and procedures shall be decided by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. All managers and coaches are subject to recommendation by the Executive Committee and approval of the President, on an annual basis.
4. A majority vote of the general membership at a regular meeting may petition the Executive Committee to review a decision; the results of such a review must be presented to the membership at the next regular meeting.
5. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of five (5) members, In the event of a deadlock in vote; the President shall cast the deciding vote.
6. The President shall cast a ballot only when an issue is deadlocked in vote.

ARTICLE VI -COMMITTEES

Committees shall be formed as necessary and committee chairman shall be appointed by the President.

ARTICLE VII -MEETINGS

Regular meetings shall be held monthly at a place, date and time specified by the President. Special meetings may be called by the President as required.

The order of business at regular meetings shall be as follows:

1. Roll call of members
2. Minutes of last meeting
3. Treasurer's report
4. Communications and bills
5. Committee reports
6. Old business
7. New business
8. Adjournment

ARTICLE VIII -FINANCING

An annual request shall be submitted to the Town of Coventry for funds and/or equipment to enable this organization to adequately carry out its responsibilities. Additional funds may be solicited through whatever legal means appropriate to this organization.

ARTICLE IX –AMENDMENTS

This Constitution and bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote at any membership meeting provided that the proposed amendment was read at the previous membership meeting or sent in writing to the membership at least ten (10) days prior to the membership meeting.

Playing Rules

COVENTRY BABE RUTH LEAGUE OF RI INC

PURPOSE

The "Playing Rules" shall provide all CBRL rules not specifically outlined in the Constitution and By-Laws.

AMENDMENTS

The "Playing Rules" may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote of the CBRL officers at any time that such a change is deemed necessary.

PLAYER SELECTION SYSTEM -PLAYER DRAFT

The following is the Player Draft Selection System that will assist in formation and equalization of teams within the league.

Section I -Tryouts Clinics

The first step in the player draft will be the "FALL" tryout or clinic season. Every candidate between the ages of 13 and 15 residing in the area covered by our Babe Ruth League Charter shall be eligible to register and tryout for a position on one of the teams, He must, however, file his application within the time as provided by the player agent of the league. Notices for player candidates should be publicly made through local newspapers, and schools. Notices of tryout dates should be followed up through the same mediums. It is very important that all managers be present at all tryout and clinic periods. Each applicant should report to the player agent immediately upon arrival at the tryout site. The player agent should list each candidate in respect to age and number him for future identification. During these tryouts and clinics each candidate should be given the opportunity to bat, run, and field in competition with candidates in their own particular age group. Careful observation, instruction, checking, and grading all candidates will prove invaluable to all managers at the player draft.

Any candidate failing to attend at least One-half (1/2) of the tryouts or clinics must present an excuse acceptable to all managers or lose their eligibility for the draft. Candidate draft eligibility can be restored by a majority vote of Managers and the Player Agent.

Section II -Player Agent's List

1. At least one week prior to the draft, the Player Agent shall prepare a list of all eligible candidates to be known as the "Player Agent's List". This list will include the candidate's name, tryout number and league age and shall indicate whether or not a birth certificate or eligibility document is available.
2. The Player Agent's List when prepared shall constitute the pool of available candidates for the current year and may not be added to after the regular season has been completed.
3. Player Agent shall note on his list any optioned candidates (see Section IV) and shall announce such options prior to the start of the player draft.
4. Any players selected by managers shall be taken from the Player Agent's List consistent with Babe Ruth League Inc. Rules.

Section III -Player draft

1. Prior to Player Draft, Player Agent shall announce any options held by managers. (See section IV for procedure regarding such optioned candidates).
2. Each manager shall be numbered in reverse order to the position which his team held in the final or final combined standings of that league at the close of the preceding Play-offs; that is last place team shall be No.1, next to last position shall be No.2 and so on until first place team shall hold last draft number. It is recommended when first formulating teams that manager's draw for draft position.
3. Each manager shall then proceed to pick in order of his Number from the Player Agent's List. He may pick any eligible candidate within the limitations of Babe Ruth League Rules governing the composition of teams. After each manager has had an opportunity to pick one player, the selection shall be repeated in the same order until all teams are filled or until all candidates are selected.
4. Any player chosen in the Player Draft shall remain in property of that team during his remaining Babe Ruth career, unless subsequently traded or released, (see Section V).
5. During the season, should a vacancy occur on one or more teams, such vacancy shall be filled according to Section V paragraph D. In the event there are vacancies on more than one team, managers shall draw lots for order of choice from the pool. Such players chosen that registered, tried out, and were eligible for the Player Draft but not chosen, and-eligible to return the next season, will become a pool option to the team that picked him/her up in the next draft. Such player that was not eligible for the Player Draft will not be considered a pool option of such team and will be returned to the pool at the close of the season.
6. Selections as outlined in Paragraph "f" Section III, may not be made at random, but will be made at intervals of approximately one week on dates and places announced by the Player Agent in order that all managers will have an equal opportunity to fill their team rosters.

Section IV -Optioned Players

1. Prior to the start of the Player Draft, any manager holding an option on any candidate must notify the Player Agent, who in turn will notify the other managers.
2. There are 4 (four) kinds of optioned players; (1) Manager's son/daughter (s) (2) Coach's son/daughter (s) (*Coach in Major League must have served two (2) consecutive and current years as a coach in the Major league to have the option in effect); (3) Brother/Sister option & candidates (that are legal residents of the same household) of players already selected. (4) POOL option -see Section III paragraph f.
3. Option procedure in Player Draft: whenever any manager not holding an option on an "optioned -player" selects such player as his draft choice, the manager holding such option must within that round surrender his draft choice in exchange for such "optioned player" or forfeit his option. In the event that the manager holding the option has made another selection in the round, which he is called upon to exercise, he must surrender such choice and return the original selection to the pool, after which the Draft will be backed up to that point, all subsequent choices will be revoked and the draft will then be resumed.
4. In the event a manager holds options on more than one player and shall be called upon to exercise an option on a player in a round in which he has already exercised his option on another player, such manager shall surrender his next succeeding draft choice in exchange for such player, or forfeit his option.
5. A manager may exercise options only to the extent that such option will fill his team in accordance with the team composition as to ages.
6. There shall be-no requirement that options be exercised. Any option may be denied, but such denial and/or designation of possible optioned player must be made at the start of the draft.

Section V- Releasing/Trading of Players

1. Releasing a player: Any player who was a member of a team in the league the previous year, and who is still of eligible age and residence, must be released from the roster before the last scheduled tryout session. Managers must notify the Player Agent and player concerned before such release shall become effective in order that the player may enter the tryouts and have the opportunity to be selected on another team.
2. Once players have been selected for the current season they may be released only for disciplinary reasons, with the approval of the Player Agents and not for lack of playing ability. Managers have the responsibility of notifying the player and parents concerned when any player is released from the team roster for disciplinary reasons. Such releases must have the approval of the Player Agent.
3. Teams may trade players within the league. All exchanges of players shall be made with the approval of the Executive Board, who must be notified by the managers involved in the transaction. .
4. Managers are expected to maintain a Minimum roster of (12) players as long as replacements are available from the player pool. Injured players expected to resume playing before conclusion of the current season, or who have another year of eligibility remaining in the program, may be retained on the team roster.

COVENTRY BABE RUTH LEAGUE OF RI INC.

MANAGERS & COACHES CODE OF ETHICS

Managers and coaches in the Coventry Babe Ruth League are selected and approved by the Executive Committee and assigned coaching responsibilities for a team for the duration of one (1)-playing season. All managers and coaches are subject to the by-laws and playing rules of the organization. It is expected that all managers and coaches will be familiar with the philosophies and rules of the organization and will abide by them.

Managers must provide a BCI to the league president before performing any manager duties.

1. Manager responsibilities:

- a. All on-field responsibilities for games and practices.
- b. Attend monthly meetings. If you cannot attend, have a rep. attend or learn the meetings results afterward.
- c. Managers are responsible for issuing, collecting and returning all league equipment and uniforms.
- d. Managers are responsible for supervision of players during fundraising events (example Tag Day).
- e. Managers must nominate and vote on a post-season award winner.
- f. Home team manager is responsible for postponing and rescheduling games due to rain and for notification of the opposing team manager and umpires.
- g. Field preparation and maintenance.
- h. Managers will “manage” in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the CBRL Board of Directors.
- i. In general, managers are responsible for all aspects of team operation to ensure a safe, successful and fun baseball season for all players.

2. Managers and coaches must demonstrate good sportsmanship and teach fair play at all times. Players should be encouraged to be as graceful in losing as in winning and winning should be kept in perspective. Managers and coaches are expected to encourage and teach their players respect for the rules, their fellow players and officials.

3. Managers and coaches are expected to set a good example, and therefore, alcoholic beverages and drugs are prohibited at all league games and practice sessions. Managers and coaches must not appear before their team while under the influence of such.

4. Managers and coaches are expected to help their players improve their baseball skills. At practices, every player from the most highly skilled to the least skilled should be given equal attention. During regular season games and all playoff games every player must play at least the required number of innings unless the player is being disciplined for flagrant rules violation and/or missing of games/practices without good reason.

5. Running up scores or embarrassing or humiliating another team is discouraged. Teams will exchange handshakes at the completion of the game and managers will ensure that all players participate.

6. Managers and coaches are responsible for maintaining and correcting the good conduct of their players at all times. Players who flagrantly violate the rules or consistently display poor sportsmanship must be disciplined.

7. Spectators are not allowed on the playing field. Managers and coaches are asked to remind parents and spectators of proper behavior, and in general to foster the ideals of sportsmanship.

8. Managers are responsible for the equipment assigned to them for the duration of the season, and are expected to return all equipment when the playing season is completed.
9. There will be no toleration of abuses physical or verbal of players or officials.
10. Managers and coaches may be disciplined as a result of violations of the Coventry Babe Ruth League rules and regulations.

NON-PLAYING LOCAL RULES ADOPTED BY THE COVENTRY BABE RUTH LEAGUE OF RI INC.

1. Dennis St Germaine Award

This award is presented to the 13-year-old in the Prep Division of the Coventry Babe Ruth League, which exemplifies the qualities that Babe Ruth Baseball stands for. That is a strong, clean, healthy body, mind and soul. A strong urge for sportsmanship, like good conduct, an understanding of and respect for the rules, courage in defeat, tolerance and modesty in victory, control over emotions and speech, a spirit of co-operation and team play and development into a true citizen.

Joey Kuras Award

2. The Joey Kuras Award

The Coventry Babe Ruth Joseph Kuras “Most Valuable Player” award is given annually to a 15 year old in the Major division who best exemplifies the qualities of the late Joseph Kuras. Joseph Kuras was an outstanding sportsman and athlete in the Coventry Babe Ruth League from 1994 to 1996.

The recipient of this award must demonstrate exceptional baseball talent and ability; he must be a player who proves to be a vital part of his team and a top player in his league. He must also demonstrate a love of the game and an utmost respect for coaches, officials and other players. He must be a team player and a dedicated fan giving 100% whether his team is up by 10 runs or down by 10. He brings pride to himself, his team and the league as a whole.

For every division (Prep & Major) each manager nominates a candidate and a vote is taken with each team having one vote. First round each team votes for two candidates (you cannot vote for your team’s candidate on the first round. First candidate listed gets 2 points. Second candidate listed gets 1 point. Points are totaled. The candidate with the most points is the winner. In the event of a tie on the first round vote, only those candidates that tied with the most points will qualify for second round voting. On the second round of voting you will be allowed to vote for your teams candidate if he or she is one of the eligible candidates. On this round, each manager gets only one vote and the candidate with the most votes will be the winner. If there is still a tie, those tied will be voted on in a third round following the guidelines of round two. This process will continue until a single candidate is selected.

3. Draft Definitions:

3a. Manager’s option

MAJOR Div. -Manager will get his son or daughter as an option in the draft.

PREP Div. With the approval of the Executive bd., the Manager once approved will get his son or daughter as an option in the draft.

3b. Coach's OPTION

MAJOR Div. -coach must have served 2 consecutive and current years, as a coach in the Major div. in order to have his son/daughter (s) as an option in the MAJOR Div. draft.

PREP Div. -all coaches approved by the Executive bd. will have an option on their son or daughter in the PREP Div. draft. ** Only 1 coach can be designated per PREP team prior to the draft.

4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY **

A Player must reside within the boundary of the Coventry Babe Ruth League Charter. Players living outside of the Town of Coventry but within the CBRL league charter will be asked to pay the "Town Sports Fee" unless their town of residence pays this fee to the Coventry Babe Ruth League. All late registrants will be required to pay this fee as well.

5. Replacement players

If a team's roster drops to less than 11 players, that team Manager is required to contact the player agent. The player agent will inform the manager of the next player agent pool meeting which that manager must attend to get a replacement player.

6. ALL STAR MANAGER SELECTION

The managers of each division will meet and vote on the All-Star manager for their division.

7. ALL STAR BAT BOY/GIRL

League adopted rule that no bat boy/girl will be used in all-star games. Reason; they are not listed on National team rosters and would not be covered under our insurance agreement.

8. All STAR NOMINATIONS

Each team Manager submits names of players on their team that they feel qualify for all stars.

PREP Div. - Managers can nominate only 13 yr. olds for the PREP ALL-STAR TEAM.

MAJOR Div. - Managers can nominate both 14 and 15-yr. old players for the national tournament. If the Major Div. consists of more than one division, each division will select their own all-star team

9. ALL STAR SELECTION

MAJOR DIV. -each team will have one ballot and select 15 players and list them in reverse order the best selection being 15, second best 14 and so forth, with the last selection numbered 1. The top 10 vote getters make up the all-star team. The Manager will choose from two to five additional players to make up the remaining team. Only Major Div. teams vote for the 15 and 14 yr. old all-star teams.

If there is more than one division, each division will select their own all-star team in the manner stated above.
PREP DIV. -Only the PREP teams will select the 13-yr. old PREP ALL-STAR TEAM in the same manner as stated above.

10. SCOREBOARD -PAINE FIELD Home team is to take the first base dugout and is responsible for posting the score on the scoreboard.

LOCAL PLAYING RULES ADOPTED BY THE COVENTRY BABE RUTH LEAGUE OF RI Inc.

1. **SUSPENSIONS** -Any MEMBER or PLAYER of the CBRL thrown out of a game by an umpire shall be suspended from participating in his/her next CBRL game in his/her respective Division. Player must be present and in uniform and remain in the dugout area while serving his/her suspension. MEMBER must remain away from the playing field, so as not to instruct in any way, while serving his/her suspension.

2. Any MEMBER or PLAYER thrown out of two (2) games in the same season and same Division shall be suspended for the remainder of that season. He/she has the right of appeal to the Executive Bd. only on the second ejection, but will serve the suspension until the appeal is heard.

3. **TEAM DISCIPLINE** -Each Manager will handle any discipline problems on his team in accordance with the league's code of ethics and use sound judgment depending the situation.

4. **BORROWING PLAYERS** Fifteen players total are required to start a game. Not more than two (2) players can be borrowed from the opposing team (if available), otherwise the game is forfeited by the short-handed team. Players will be borrowed to play defense only. With the exception of the pitcher and catcher, the players making the last outs in the previous inning will be lent to the short-handed team Borrowing will not be allowed in the playoffs. If a team cannot produce nine players by the end of the grace period, they forfeit the game.

5. **GRACE PERIOD** -A team will have fifteen (15) minutes from the scheduled starting time of the game, to wait for late players to give the team the required number of players to start the game.

6. **RAIN OUTS/POSTPONED GAMES** - When a scheduled game becomes necessary to be cancelled, it is the responsibility of the HOME TEAM MANAGER to call the Umpire in Chief and the OPPOSING Team's MANAGER at least 1 1/2 hrs. before the starting time of the game to notify them of the cancellation. It is also the responsibility of the HOME TEAM MANAGER to see that the game is rescheduled and the Opposing Manager and Umpire in Chief are notified.

7. **GAME NEWS REPORTS** -The winning team is asked to submit a printed or typed report of the game to the CBRL web site. This is to give our Sponsors some publicity and the players and league some recognition.

8. **NO UMPIRES** -When no umpires are available for a regularly scheduled game, a spectator may be asked to umpire the game, with the consent of both managers. Such game will be declared official.

9. **LENGTH OF GAME - SINGLE** night games - no inning shall be started two (2) hours and thirty (30) minutes from the start of the game. There will be no time limit in playoff games.

**** Only exception will be that the game must reach the regulation # of innings.

10. **THROWING BAT or HELMET** - A player will be ejected from the game, if in the umpire's judgment he flagrantly throws his bat or helmet. (Such ejection will result in the player's suspension for the next game).

11. **RUNNER IS OUT** -The runner is "OUT" if in the umpires judgment he intentionally throws off his helmet while running the bases.
12. **OFFICIAL SCORER** -The HOME TEAM is the official scorer for all games played within the CBRL and must keep both teams statistics.
13. **REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS** - A point system will be instituted to determine the regular season standings in both divisions. Each team will receive -2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss.
 - 13a. In the event of a tie at end of the regular season, head to head competition will determine standings. If still tied, runs allowed will determine standings and if still tied, one game will determine the standings.
14. **OFFICIAL GAME;(PREP DIV. REGULAR SEASON ONLY)** -If a game goes 3 1/2 complete innings and the HOME team is ahead or a game goes 4 complete innings, the game will be considered regulation.
15. **MANDATORY PLAYING TIME PER PLAYER (PREP & MAJOR DIV.)** -Each player must play a minimum of (2) innings in the field and be in the continuous batting order provided the game goes seven innings.
16. **CONTINUOUS BATTING ORDER (PREP & MAJOR DIV.)** -All players will be listed in a continuous batting order, which cannot be altered once the game starts. Except for the following: (1) Players arriving late after the game has started must be added to the bottom of the batting order. (2) If a player is removed from the game due to injury, emergency, ejection, etc., the manager of such player will notify the opposing manager to scratch that player's name from the batting order and to notify the umpire if necessary.
17. **FREE SUBSTITUTION (PREP & MAJOR DIV.)** -This means players may be substituted freely in the field defensively. This does not mean players can be substituted as PINCH RUNNERS or PINCH HITTERS. However if an injury prevents a base runner from continuing without a short rest, the player that made the last out will become the pinch runner.
18. **PLAYOFF FORMAT (PREP & MAJOR)** - All teams will enter into a double elimination tournament. . The number of teams will determine the bracket format. National tournament pitching rules will be used in tournament play. Brackets will be made and scheduled by the league scheduler and approved by the Executive Board in accordance with Babe Ruth National Tournament Bracket.
** The team that finished ahead of the other team in the regular season in any given game in the playoffs will be the HOME team. That is if you finished first, you will always be HOME in the playoffs. If you finished last in the regular season you will always be the visiting team.
19. **PLAYOFF MANDATORY PLAYING TIME - MAJOR DIV .-** Mandatory each player will play two (2) inning in the field and must BAT at least one (1) time in each playoff game, provided the game goes seven innings complete or the HOME team is ahead after 6 1/2 innings are complete.
20. **DESIGNATED HITTER -(MAJOR DIV.)** – During playoffs, the optional designated hitter (DH) is a tenth (10th) player in the line-up and can be placed anywhere in the 10 man batting order. However, the designated hitter must also play two (2) innings minimum in the field. Therefore it is permitted to move the player (designated hitter) to any of the other nine- (9) fielding positions and the player in the field to the designated hitter. This is done without any change in the batting order.

21. INJURY RE-ENTRY - MAJOR DIV. PLAYOFFS - A substitute may re-enter a game only in the case where he is replacing an injured player and there is no one else who can substitute for the injured player. The opposing Manager will pick the substitute.
22. TEAMS will be allowed to play two (2) games on the same day for make up purposes.
23. The rules and regulations governing the operation of the Coventry Babe Ruth League have been developed to provide a safe, fair and enjoyable baseball season for all eligible players interested in baseball. All comments and suggestions for improvement are welcomed and encouraged. However, there will be no changes to these rules and regulations without board approval. Even if both managers agree to take exception to a rule, that game will not be official and a make-up will not be allowed if league rules were not followed. Therefore, the winning team will not get credit for that win.

Between the 2003/2004 playing season, this document was revised with significant changes to better serve this league. The original document can be obtained from the league secretary.

A motion to accept these changes carried unanimous approval at the league general membership meeting on Tuesday, March 9, 2004.

A special "thanks" to the members who worked hard during this winter to update this document.