



## Waterford Coaches Association 2019 Rules

**P.O. Box 300201 Waterford, MI 48330-0201**

*[www.WCABaseball.com](http://www.WCABaseball.com)*

### GOVERNING PREFIX:

All games will be governed by the “Official Rules of Major League Baseball”, superseded by the PONY Baseball Rulebook, and then superseded by Waterford Coaches Association (hereafter referred to as “WCA”) Rules as revised. December 2017.

It is WCA policy when a family has more than two children participating in the baseball program that the third child will play for free. The free player will be the least expensive participant as will every third player beyond that.

The league will be set as follows:

- 8 Teams per division maximum
- More than 8 teams will be divided into 2 sub-divisions. The split will be decided by the board at their discretion prior to the schedule being completed at a duly called board meeting.

### 1.0 **ELIGIBILITY**

1.1 Boys/Girls who wish to participate in the WCA program must meet at least one of the following requirements:

1.1.2 Meet age requirement as published by Pony for the current year as an “And Under” league with the following conditions:

- All ball players in the WCA must be at least 8 years of age
- In order for a ball player to register to play in the higher league they are age qualified for, they must have played at least 1 summer season in WCA at the lower league they are age qualified for.
- 1.1.2.1 For Mustang aged player they must be 10 yrs. old & played one year in summer Mustang WCA to play up to Bronco
- 1.1.2.2 For Bronco aged player they must be 12 yrs. old & played one year in Bronco Summer WCA to play up to Pony.
- 1.1.2.3 For Pony aged player they must be 14 yrs. old, played one year on Pony summer WCA baseball and Show proof of playing on a High school roster to play up to Colt.

1.2 All players must provide proof of age i.e. Birth Certificate to be kept on file with the WCA.

1.3 Use of ineligible players will result in the suspension of player for the balance of the season and the team shall forfeit all games in which that player participated. Coaches of that team will appear before the WCA Board and face possible disciplinary actions. Registration fee is not refundable.

- 1.4 If a check used to pay a player's fee is returned unpaid for any reason, a fee up to the cost charged by the bank will be added to the player fees due. Player will be ineligible for play or practice until all debts are paid.
- 1.5 Fees must be paid before the start of the season to continue eligibility & to receive uniform. Late fees will be accessed for registrations after the deadline.

## 2.0 **ROSTERS**

- 2.1 A roster is defined as a complete form that includes name, address, phone number, birth date, age and school attending prior to and after the draft.
- 2.2 All players listed on a roster prior to the draft must be registered. Registration must be verified and submitted to the WCA with valid birth certificate on file. The WCA will provide official rosters to coaches at the draft.
- 2.3 Any player that has not registered prior to the predetermined cut-off date will be ineligible and placed on a waiting list.
- 2.4 Final rosters after the draft will encompass up to but not exceeding 15 eligible players based upon enrollment.
- 2.5 There will be no roster additions after the season starts, unless deemed needed by shortage of players by WCA.

## 3.0 **DRAFT**

- 3.1 New teams entering the WCA from the Waterford Parks and Rec baseball program or any other house league within Oakland County can only bring existing players from prior season. Team cannot be USSSA registered. Coaches must submit an official roster from existing team to play in the WCA to the League Admin prior to the registration period. No mergers are allowed. Players will be selected at the draft to fill remaining roster spots.
- 3.2 Coaches must contact all players from prior year roster to notify them of current season activities. If a player is found to have not been contacted by the coach and registers to play, player will be placed on that roster unless they choose to enter the draft. If a coach has drafted to the roster size determined by the WCA for the draft, they will be required to carry over that number of kids if this incident occurs.
- 3.3 No player can or will be dropped from a team.
- 3.4 The WCA reserves the right, upon receipt of a letter of insistence from a parent, to assign a player to a team, provided the board feels the request is justified and in the best interest of the player and league.
- 3.5 All players in the draft will be selected via open draft format; no tryouts/evaluations will take place.
- 3.6 All players registered and paid in full prior to the registration deadline will be eligible for the draft.
- 3.7 Players on a team from the prior year that is moving up a division that are not age eligible will be placed in the draft.
- 3.8 The President will announce at the draft the roster size that coaches will draft to.
- 3.9 At the draft, coaches will draw numbers for order of selection of players. Coaches/teams will drop out of the draft order upon reaching the predetermined roster size.
- 3.10 There will be no mergers of teams unless explicitly approved by the president and board.

- 3.11 The WCA board reserves the right to form teams, if needed, by geographic/school area depending on the number of players and teams in each respective league
- 3.12 Players who submit registration paperwork after the registration deadline and/or have not paid fees by the deadline will be placed on a waiting list and if necessary, assigned to the next available team where the draft ended and then in draft sequence as established prior to the draft. Teams will not exceed 14 players for Mustang 13 all other divisions of league.
- 3.13 After rosters are full, any remaining or late submittals may be offered to the coaches in the aforementioned sequence, however it will be the coach's decision whether to accept or decline additional players. Once a coach declines additional players, he cannot add new players to the roster without approval of the WCA.
- 3.14 There will be no refunds issued after the draft unless approved by WCA Officers after showing just cause. Partial refund only may be given based on the situation.
- 3.15 Board Members and coaches only are allowed to attend the draft. No players, parents or other individuals permitted.

#### 4.0 HEAD COACH RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1 The Head Coach is required to secure a team sponsor by date determined by the WCA. Failure to secure a sponsor will result in the sponsor fee being distributed for payment amongst players represented on the team. Failure to obtain sponsor and/or pay the fee prior to the start of the season will result in a forfeit of any scheduled game until the fee is paid in full.
- 4.2 The Head Coach is responsible for all equipment provided to them by the WCA. Lost equipment will be charged to the Head Coach at the replacement cost. Equipment damaged through negligence or abuse will also be charged to the Head Coach. Head Coach will sign equipment list provided by Equipment Head Coach prior to season.
- 4.3 Head Coach is fully responsible for the conduct and appearance of their team at all team events.
- 4.4 No player can participate in a game unless he/she is fully dressed in the complete uniform issued by the WCA for regulation games. Uniforms cannot be altered in any fashion unless approved in advance by the WCA. Any alterations will result in that player and/or coach are being charged for the replacement value.
  - 4.4.1 Head Coach and coaches are required to wear the team shirt and hat provided to them by the WCA for that team or if they coach multiple teams, they will be allowed to wear secondary team apparel. Failure to abide by the rule will result in ejection from the game and inability to coach the team in any aspect. Team will forfeit that game. A coach from another WCA team can substitute on another team if requested provided they are in proper WCA uniform i.e. shirt and hat.
- 4.5 Head Coach is responsible for the eligibility of their players.
- 4.6 A returning Head Coach from prior year should contact all players from prior year to be sure of their eligibility and interest in returning to the team. This shall be done prior to the first registration date and Head Coach shall inform parent of all activities surrounding the current season.
- 4.7 Head Coach will begin their roster with all eligible players from prior season assuming they register and return to that team. They can elect to enter the draft if they choose.
  - 4.7.1 All players lost due to age or choice not to return to that team will be placed into the draft. That Head Coach cannot select that player from the draft.

- 4.8 Any player must participate in at least 75% (rounded down) of their teams scheduled games to be eligible for tournament or all-star game play.
- 4.9 Collection and control of rosters, birth certificates, sponsor/sponsor fee, player and fundraising fees should be submitted to the League Admin.
- 4.10 Head Coach and up to 3 assistant coaches per team must submit personal information on provided background check form as mandated by WCA and Pony Baseball. Only 3 coaches will be allowed in the dugout. No unregistered persons are allowed on field or in dugout. Each coach and manager must pay a \$10 fee for insurance coverage and have a back-ground check completed. Not optional.
- 4.11 Head Coach is responsible for involving their team in all fundraising activities being promoted by the WCA. This includes but is not limited to help by parents/adults at the concessions stands. They must provide all relevant information to parents/players regarding rules, meetings and any other pertinent information from the WCA. All info will be provided in advance to the coach and is usually posted to the WCA website and emailed to the organization.
- 4.12 The Head Coach shall participate and encourage their team to participate in providing the team's sponsor with trophy, awards, plaques, pictures or any other form of recognition that the WCA wishes to provide to acknowledge and show its appreciation to the sponsor.
- 4.13 Winning team will report the score and pitcher innings for both teams to the WCA within 24hrs of completion of the game. Failure to report will result in a loss for the winning team.
- 4.14 Coaches have right to appeal calls during an inning to opposing umpire as a clarification on only judgement calls except strikes and balls. Limit 2 per game.
- 4.15 Coaches must avoid vocal contact towards the umpires on calling strikes and balls.

## 5.0 LEAGUE EXCEPTIONS

- 5.1 If a Head Coach of a team does not return to the WCA in the following year, an assistant coach, manager, or parent from that team may take over the team as Head Coach. If no one assumes that role, all players will be placed in the next draft.
- 5.2 Family members including son/daughter/grandson/granddaughter/niece/nephew/step-child of a team Head Coach, coach, sponsor or player would be exempt from the draft and placed onto their relative's team, if so desired.
- 5.3 Medical Leave – If a player is forced to sit out or miss a season due to medical reasons, they will be allowed to return to the last team they played for. This assumes the player and team are in the same age bracket and there is an open spot on the roster.

## 6.0 GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 6.1 **OFFICAL WCA RULES:** Official Major League Baseball Rules will apply followed by Pony Rules, except as amended below by WCA rules, & WCA rules supersede all:
- 6.1.1 Field Dimensions as declared in Pony Rule Book
- Palomino / Colt – Regulation Bases 90ft
  - Pony - Bases 80ft apart, Mound 54 feet from back corner of home plate

- Bronco - Bases 70 ft apart, Mound 50 feet from back corner of home plate
- Mustang - Bases 60ft apart, Mound 46 feet from back corner of home plate

6.1.2 Game Length / Mercy Rulings / Run Limit Per Inning (refer to Pony Rule Book)

6.1.2.1 Run Rule, End of Inning & End of Game Run Rules:

- Mustang & Bronco Runs limit per inning is 6 runs per inning. 7 runs in Pony.
- Run Limit per inning can only be exceeded by way of runs scoring during the completion of a play until time is called or play ends by 3<sup>rd</sup> out, thus ending the inning.
- Last inning allows unlimited runs to be scored by both teams.
- Umpire must notify both head coaches of the last inning or pending last inning of the run rule for last inning at the home plate to both coaches, before the start of visitors at bat.

6.1.2.2 Mustang thru Pony Divisions – Once mercy rule is called (10 run lead after four innings in Mustang, 10 runs after 5 innings in Bronco/Pony), the game will be official and play will not continue.

6.1.2.3 Pony Rule Book's mercy rule will apply in all playoff games.

6.1.2.4 Any game tied at the end of regulation time or innings must continue under international tie-breaker rules no exceptions. Each team begins their at-bat with 1 out and the last batter on 2<sup>nd</sup> base, each batter starts with a 1 ball and 1 strike count. Same Batting order continues. All other rules apply.

6.1.2.5 During the continuation of a suspended game any rostered player that was not at the original game, can & must be added to the bottom of the batting order. A player that can not attend the make up game from a suspended game is not an automatic out.

6.1.3 Courtesy runner for catcher of record. The coach will be allowed to substitute a runner for the catcher of record when 2 outs in an inning are reached. The runner must be the last batted out. Catcher must be stated in first inning or subsequent innings to the other coach. If player provides doctors note for the disability/condition, an exception will be made and a runner allowed.

6.1.4 Due to scheduling and time constraints, every effort shall be made to start & play each game. Umpire will make the decision to play or not play in under adverse weather conditions. No games shall be postponed by anyone other than the WCA officials prior to a game under adverse weather conditions. Waterford Parks and Rec also has the authority to close certain parks/fields at their discretion.

6.1.5 All games interrupted by weather or darkness before reaching the point of being an official game (an official game is 2 hours or 3 innings in Mustang, 4 in Bronco, and 5 for Pony), are to be continued using the same lineups and batting orders where possible. An inning begun after the point where a game could not be considered complete and official must be completed only if the visiting team has come from behind to tie or take the lead in the top of said inning. In cases where that inning cannot be completed, it will be considered a suspended game. If players cannot attend the continuation game they may be removed from the lineup without penalty. Players may only be added at the end of the lineup. Number of pitches and innings pitched continue from suspended game and are not reset. Total game time continues from point of suspension and is not reset. If the suspension occurred in the middle of an at-bat and that player is not

available for the continuation then it will count as an out. Umpires have final call on game being interrupted or postponed.

- 6.1.5.1 The WCA will refer to the Waterford Parks & Rec Heat Index policy in regard to cancellation or modifications to WCA games where they are applicable and don't conflict with the rules.
- 6.1.5.2 If lightning, thunder or hazardous weather conditions occur and are spotted from the field, the game will be suspended for a minimum of 30 minutes. No players may leave the grounds prior to the 30 minutes. Any player that does leave will be considered out of the game's lineup and considered an out in the batting order. If at the end of the time delay, either team has less than 8 players, the game will be considered a forfeit. The delay in the game is not to exceed 40 minutes. During the delay, all players should be with a parent or in a safe vehicle if parent is not present.
- 6.1.5.3 Games that are suspended are to be made up as follows:
  - 6.1.5.3.1 Monday/Wednesday games on the immediate Friday.
  - 6.1.5.3.2 Tuesday/Thursday games on the immediate Sunday.
  - 6.1.5.3.3 Games shall be at the same field and time if available otherwise an alternate field and time will be acquired. Day is not negotiable, weather permitting.
  - 6.1.5.3.4 Games suspended must be reported to admin after makeup game is completed.
  - 6.1.5.3.5 Any player that is not on the original roster of the suspended game can be added to the bottom of the batting order roster for the makeup game.
- 6.1.6 No inning will begin after the game has progressed 2 hours in all leagues. Such games are considered complete and official after the current inning has completed if they have reached official game status. The only exception is if the game is tied thus the game will continue until there is a winner. Start time is set by umpire and logged into each scorekeeper's book as the official game start time.
- 6.1.7 Make up games – The coaches involved will, within 48hrs of scheduled game date/time, make arrangements for the game with the Vice-President. After this period, the VP will reschedule the game at their discretion. All make-up games must be completed prior to final regular season game. Failure to do so will result in forfeit by both teams.
- 6.1.8 In the 2<sup>nd</sup> game during the week at Lions Park, no inning can begin after 10:45pm
- 6.1.9 Coaches are to communicate with the Umpire Director for all issues with umpires.
- 6.1.10 No use of Alcohol/tobacco/narcotics, by players, coaches, parents, umpires and any spectators are allowed at all during the games. MHSAA rules apply. Suspensions can result.
- 6.1.11 No swearing or abusive language shall be allowed on the field, bench or spectator areas.
  - 6.1.11.1 Penalty for items 6.1.10 and 6.1.11 will be ejection after warning is given from the event and applies to WCA events. One game suspension shall be served. If action continues party in violation may be banned from attending WCA events.
- 6.1.12 Forfeit time is game time. Umpire's time is official

- 6.1.13 A fielder cannot fake a tag on a runner when that defensive player does not have possession of the ball. Violation of this rule will result in obstruction being called and a 2<sup>nd</sup> violation will result in ejection. Also, a fielder cannot block or interfere with runners from progressing to the next base or home plate. Umpires may call interference on a fielder as a result.
- 6.1.14 It is Mandatory that a runner must avoid contact or a collision with a fielder at any base. A base runner may not jump over a fielder in an attempt to reach the base. In the judgement of the umpire, the runner may also be ejected from the game for unsportsmanlike conduct in addition to being called out on the play in question. The runner must use the 3 rules of running for the WCA running rule to be properly followed: 1. Avoid contact while running; 2. Give yourself up to avoid contact or 3. Slide into the next base to avoid contact.
- 6.1.15 Sliding is the only way a runner can intentionally make contact with a defensive fielder who is actively making a play at a base or home plate. If the base runner makes contact with the fielder who was actively “trying” to make a play at a base/home plate and the base runner was not sliding, they will be called out.
- 6.1.16 Mustang has No infield fly rule as there is no stealing.

## 6.2 **STEALING**

- 6.2.1 There will be no stealing or leading off in the Mustang division. Mustang base runners may not leave the base until the ball is put into play by the batter.
- 6.2.2 All other divisions will permit stealing and leading off as per regulation baseball rules.

## 6.3 **PITCHERS**

- 6.3.1 2 visits to the mound during an inning require coach to change pitchers to unused pitcher.
- 6.3.2 Pitchers cannot reenter game as a pitcher after they have already pitched (even one pitch) and then be removed from pitching during a game. Pitchers can reenter as a player anywhere on the field of play in that inning or later in the game, but cannot be used pitching during the remainder of that game.
- 6.3.3 Limits for pitchers (For the benefit of the players)
- 6.3.3.1 Mustang – maximum of 2 innings or 60 pitches per day
- 6.3.3.2 Bronco – maximum of 4 innings or 70 pitches per day.
- 6.3.3.3 Pony – 80 pitches per day or 5 innings per day, no more than 160 pitches per week.
- 6.3.3.4 Warm up pitches as follows: 8 total for new pitcher between innings or as new substitute and 4 for returning pitchers between innings.
- 6.3.3.5 Mustang, Bronco & Pony Pitchers must have 2 days rest between pitching outings, mandatory.
- 6.3.3.6 Any violation of these pitching rules will result in a 1 game suspension from the time of the infraction, for the head coach of that team & the player.

6.3.4 Hitting Batters: In Mustang, Bronco Pony divisions any pitcher who hits 2 batters during an entire game while pitching must be removed, & a new pitcher inserted.

6.3.5 Balks

6.3.5.1 Mustang – No balks will be called

6.3.5.2 Bronco – 1 warning per pitcher per game; Umpire will advise pitcher of why during warning, 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence Umpire will enforce balk.

6.3.5.3 Pony – No warnings given balks enforced on 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence.

## 6.4 **CATCHERS**

6.4.1 Catchers **MUST** wear protective cup and throat guard in all divisions; also shins guards, chest protector and metal frame face mask must be worn, no exceptions.

6.4.2 Mustang catchers can only catch for max 3 innings in any one game. Bronco 4 max.

## 6.5 **SUBSTITUTIONS**

6.5.1 Substitutions will be unlimited in all divisions with the following restrictions

6.5.1.1 A team must have 8 able bodied players present to begin a game. If 8 are at ball field at game time, the game must start. Players arriving after game start time must be added at bottom of roster and opposing coach notified immediately. Substitute players are not to be removed once game starts from roster.

6.5.1.2 All eligible players must play a minimum of 2 completed innings on defense and bat 1 time per game. Defense consists of 9 players as in regulation baseball except in Mustang where 10 players are utilized on defense with 4 of those in the outfield. Any team that cannot comply with this rule due to a rain shortened (make up) game will not be penalized.

6.5.1.3 The batting order shall consist of all registered and eligible players in attendance. If a player arrives after the start of the game, they will be added as the last batter on the batting roster.

6.5.1.4 Any player under coach's discipline and not playing must be declared to the umpire prior to the start of the game and is ineligible for that game.

6.5.1.5 If a batter or base runner cannot continue due to injury or illness, they will be removed from the lineup for the remainder of the game without penalty. If they leave for any other reason, they are considered an out. Player who made the last out will be substituted for the player removed if on base.

6.5.1.6 Batting order must include first and/or last name of player and must include uniform # for all players. Also, before game start rosters must include named starting pitcher and catcher on both teams so both coaches.

- 6.5.1.7 Playing Up Rule: Bronco, Pony and Colt players are allowed to play up one division to support a team short on players for any game during the season. Mustang cannot play up. Player playing up must wear his current team complete uniform in upper league game with no exceptions. Player must comply with all upper division's rules

## 7.0 **PLAYOFFS**

- 7.1 In the event of a tie in the regular season standings then the tie will be broken and playoff seeding determined by head-to-head records. If head-to-head records are even then the tie will be broken by a single game playoff scheduled by the Vice President and the home team will be determined by a coin flip.
- 7.2 In all playoff games, 2 hr. time limit will not be enforced. Game must be completed. All weekday playoff games will begin at 6:00 PM. Run limit per inning applies to playoffs rule 6.1.2.1. Also, the last inning rule is allowed in playoffs. Last inning allows unlimited runs to be score by either team in last inning declared by the umpire. Umpire must declare the last inning to both teams at the start of the Visitors at bat.
- 7.3 Higher seed will be the home team in all games in all divisions and get 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout.
- 7.4 Playoffs will be held for all leagues and will be conducted at the conclusion of the regular season for each league. All teams that played in the regular season will play in at least 1 playoff game.
- 7.5 Playoffs will be single elimination playoffs. Meaning, whenever a team loses, their season is over and there are no further games this summer ball season.
- 7.6 Positioning within the playoffs is done by the WCA board based on the pony rulebook

## 8.0 **EQUIPMENT**

- 8.1 Home field Head Coach is responsible for the setup of all home games or playoff games 15 minutes prior to game time on each level Mustang, Bronco, and Pony. Colt and Palomino. Specific measurements must be done for all bases and the pitchers' mound. Home Field Coach uses the 3<sup>rd</sup> base line dugout for their team.
- 8.2 Home field coaches must return bases to lock WCA lock box if their game is the last game of the day.
- 8.3 All batters, runners and umpires behind home plate must wear protective headgear when on the field of play in all divisions. Umpires will force individual to acquire one before resuming game. Runners must keep helmets on until they are in dugout. If a runner intentionally removes their helmet while on the field of play, at the umpire's judgment, the player will be called out at the point where the infraction occurred when the play has completed. No penalty if the helmet comes off accidentally during play. (WCA will provide in field equipment boxes).
- 8.3.1 Coaches of offending team will be warned once. Each successive violation will result in an out.
- 8.4 In games officiated by a single umpire, time is automatically out when the umpire is returning to their position behind the plate after making a call on the bases.
- 8.5 Metal spike cleats are not allowed in any division except Pony, Colt and Palomino.

8.6 **UPDATED May 2019 Bats will be allowed per the following restrictions:**

8.6.1 **Mustang , Bronco & Pony WCA Divisions:**

8.6.1.1 **Size: 2 ¾ bats are not allowed. All Smaller sizes (21/4,21/2.25/8) are accepted**

8.6.1.2 **Weight: -3 bats & has to be stamped BBCOR certified. All other drop sizes (-5,-7,-9-10 etc) are legal only if they have the USABAT stamp on the bat.**

8.6.2 **Colt & Palomino Divisions:**

8.6.2.1 **Size: 2 5/8 only no other sizes accepted**

8.6.2.2 **Weight: -3 stamped bats with BBCOR certified only on the bat.**

8.6.3 **All others see Pony Rule Book.**

8.7 Only WCA issued uniforms will be allowed in league play. Refer to Rule 4.4.1

8.8 No jewelry shall be worn by any player during a game except medical alert ID tags. Tags and earrings that cannot be removed shall be taped to avoid risk of injury.

8.9 Batboys, batgirls, mascots and other extra people, not registered as coaches, are not allowed on the field of play or in the dugout/bench area at any time during game. Only authorized coaches, managers, assistance coaches and players. Non-registered people are people that have not paid for and had a back-ground check & paid \$10 fee to coach.

## 9.0 **UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT**

These rules apply to all coaches, players, managers, parents and spectators. We are here for the children and we must set an example for the WCA children playing this game. Ejection from a game may result from any violation of any of the below rules.

9.1 Fighting is prohibited before, during or after any game or practice and can result in suspension from league.

9.2 Overly aggressive play that is considered as deliberate with intent to injure. For example, lowering shoulder, sliding into the defender of a base or catcher at home plate; running into a fielder in the base line with intent.

9.3 Use of profanity is strictly prohibited and can result in ejection and one game suspension.

9.4 Bullying by anyone towards any one is prohibited and can result in ejection and suspension.

9.5 General conduct as stated in rule 9.01 of the Major League Rule Book, as follows:

9.5.1 Each umpire has the authority to disqualify any player, coach, Head Coach or substitute for objecting to decisions or for unsportsmanlike conduct of language and eject such disqualified person from the playing field. If an umpire disqualifies a player while a play is in progress, the disqualification shall not take effect until no further action is possible in that play.

9.5.2 Each umpire has at his/her discretion the authority to eject from the playing field:

9.5.2.1 Any person whose duties permit his/her presence on the field such as grounds crew member, etc.

9.5.2.2 Any spectator or other person not authorized to be on the playing field.

- 9.5.2.3 Umpires are instructed to notify both coaches as to which player has been ejected and for what reason, as well as notifying the Umpire Director. In addition, if the game in which the ejection occurs is suspended for any reason, the ineligibility will be in effect for the continuation of that suspended game.
- 9.5.2.4 The WCA prohibits the use of heckling as a part of this program when directed at members of the opposing team. Again, all spectators and visitors to the games are included along with coaches, players, managers and parents.
- 9.5.2.5 All players, Head Coaches, coaches and spectators are under the jurisdiction of the WCA while on the playing field, park areas adjoining playing fields or area designated for spectators to sit or stand.
- 9.5.3 If someone is ejected by umpire, the Penalty for any infractions in section 9.5 will result in ejection from current game and suspension from next scheduled game.
- 9.6 Any rules violations of section 9.0 may be reviewed by the WCA by disciplinary committee consisting of the President, Umpire Director and 2 board members for possible penalties or additional discipline, depending on severity of infraction and results from committee review.

## 10.0 **PROTESTS**

- 10.1 After the start of a game, verbal protests must be made to the umpire in charge at the time of the alleged infraction before the next ball is pitched. Failure to protest at this time cancels all rights to a protest.
- 10.2 Coaches must file an official protest after the verbal protest on game day within 12 hours of said protest on protest forms furnished by the WCA and accompanied by a fee of \$20 must be filed with the Vice President within 12 hours or completion of protested game. Below list items you cannot protest.
- 10.3 Protest of eligibility of players will be accepted at any time with no fee to the president. President and League Admin will settle these types of protests.
- 10.4 No protests will be allowed during the playoff games. Any such disputes will be settled before the next pitch. WCA will make every effort to have a board member or league official present during playoffs games.
- 10.5 Protest committee will consist of the President, 3 board members and the Umpire director.
- 10.6 Judgment calls: The following instances may not be protested:
  - 10.6.1 Calls of safe or out
  - 10.6.2 Balls and strikes
  - 10.6.3 Fair and Foul balls.
  - 10.6.4 Condition of the fields
  - 10.6.5 Suspensions of games due to darkness or weather condition
  - 10.6.6 Interference or obstruction – when called, the umpire has the discretion to determine awarding of bases.

10.6.7 Protests dealing with highly technical matters having no obvious bearing on the outcome of the game will not be honored. The only protests that can be upheld are those in which an umpire clearly misinterpreted a rule which has a direct effect on the outcome of the game. Anything involving umpire judgment cannot be protested

## 11.0 TOURNAMENTS

- 11.1 The WCA's registration into Pony Baseball Inc. includes entry into the Pony tournaments as scheduled. The WCA will decide to participate in the Pony tournaments or another tournament and pay for the entry fee and coaches will be notified of required fundraisers that selected players will perform.
- 11.2 Tournament team coaches will be selected at a coach's meeting prior to the start of the season.
- 11.3 Tournament tryouts will be scheduled and assigned to the selected coach.
- 11.4 Player selection will be completed no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- 11.5 Tryouts will take place over a 2-3-day period in which all WCA players are eligible.
- 11.6 If a team advances beyond the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the Pony tournament, players and coaches lodging expenses only will be covered by the WCA at the discretion of the WCA upon receiving costs.

**End of WCA Rules 2019.**

