

Pony Baseball

Here in Central Oahu, the PONY Affiliate is the Central Oahu Youth Baseball League. The district encompasses all of Mililani, and west to Wahiawa, Whitmore Village, Kunia, and Haleiwa. The west boundary is Waipio Gentry and Waikele. PONY baseball is similar to Little League in that it is youth baseball but the philosophy and rules differ. PONY is an acronym for the motto, "Protect Our Nation's Youth." It was design for the youth of our country to enjoy what is believed to be the national sport. The philosophy of PONY baseball and where it differs from Little League is that PONY adheres to baseball rules with very little changes. The distances of the base paths are reduced for the younger players but very little else is changed. The emphasis is on safety, learning and having fun.

There are seven age divisions in PONY baseball, starting from 5 year old to 18 year old. The divisions bracket the players in two-year groups.

Shetland Division is an instructional league for players age five and six, intended to introduce youngsters to the basic fundamentals of the game. At this level, the game may not resemble baseball but the emphasis is on getting the players and parents committed to attending practice, learning the game, doing things as a team, and getting everyone attuned to the requirements of the game.

Pinto Division, for players 7 and 8, is a training league to teach the fundamentals of hitting, fielding, catching, and the concept of teamwork. The competition is greater and there is post season play for the better-developed players. There are also tournaments for teams that have done well during the season. Still the emphasis is friendly competition.

Mustang Division is real baseball for 9 and 10-year-old players. This is the first time that players pitch and catch. Base stealing also begins at this level. Individuals that excel have the opportunity to play on the All-Star teams, which could advance as far as the World Series.

Bronco division takes the 11 and 12 year olds into the complete game of baseball. At this level the base path is extended and individual skill are more fully developed.

Pony Division is for players 13 and 14 year old. In COYBL, the players finally get to "inter-league" and get to compete against other districts. The play is very competitive. Teamwork is the key to a successful season.

Colt Division allows players 15 and 16 years old to compete in the adult game. All the restrictions of the youth league are dropped.

Palomino Division offers organized amateur baseball to young adults ages 17 and 18.

Minor Season is a season prior to the start of the regular season for players 9 to 12 year old. Two divisions are created to bracket the boys in two-year groups. This league is very similar to Little League where there is limited stealing, and the rules emphasize participation and learning.

Summer League is also a preseason event with rules similar to the minor season. It is conducted in June and July when most of the better players are involved in their post season play.

Parent's Responsibility

We ask that every parent get involved in the league as a full time member of the Board of Directors, a manager, coach, team parent, or volunteer.

In addition, there are some specific parental responsibilities we all need to follow in order to insure a fair, positive, and enjoyable experience for all of our children. These responsibilities are as follows:

1. To see that your child arrives at games and practices, properly dressed and equipped, ready to play; at the time and place specified by the team manager. To ensure that your child is picked up promptly at the time specified by the manager. To call the manager or coach as soon as possible if you child will be unable to attend a game or practice or other team function.
2. To cooperate with the team manager and coaches, and be supportive of their decisions. Follow team rules as set by the manager.
3. To encourage your child to do their best at all times, and to promote positive encouragement and good sportsmanship.
4. To attend and participate in your child's games and to be supportive of your team. To refrain from using negative remarks against any team member, umpire or parent.
5. Help keep our parks and practice fields clean by picking up any debris and placing them in the proper receptacle. The league recommends that parents bring their own trash bags to clean up after their potluck.
6. To read, understand, and abide by the rules of the game and of the league and have their children do the same.

Refund Policy

The League refunds only 80% on the registration fee if a child withdraws after registering but before the General meeting. The reason for the 20% fee is the administrative cost of registering.

After the General meeting, there is no refund. Once the teams are formed, the uniforms are ordered, insurance is paid, affiliation dues are paid, the game schedules are set, and the umpires are contracted. The money you paid at registration has already been committed.

If prior to the start of the season, you are able to register a player that is willing to accept the uniform ordered for your child, you will be eligible for an 80% refund. The new player must pay the full registration fee.

Fund-Raisers

The registration fee that is paid when you registered your child goes directly for expenses attributable for your child's participation in the league. The expenses are uniform, umpires, team equipment, coach's shirts and caps, insurance, dues for PONY affiliation, and other administrative cost. The items listed under administrative costs are pen and pencils, registration forms, notices, advertisements, and storage fees for league equipment. The registration fee does not cover all the expenses. During the season we also conduct several fund-raisers – one for the minor season in January and one for the Major season in March. These, hopefully, provide us with sufficient funds to sustain the league through the entire year without having to assess additional fees.

In addition to the League fundraisers, to assist the post season teams, coaches and parents may be asked to sell the fund-raiser product. This is strictly voluntary. No one is forced to do this. The post season teams are responsible for the cost of their own travel and tournament fees. If the league raises no extra funds, the post season teams must bear the full cost of participating in any post season event. But, if enough funds are raised during the league fund-raisers, the League assists in covering a portion of these costs. Any extra funds are also used to fund any tournament (s) that we may host during the year.

Each year, about 55% of the players in the 7-yr. old to 12-yr. old group get to participate in some post season activities. This figure may vary depending on the number of teams we choose to enter. The selection of players for post season tournaments is usually based on talent. Some of the tournaments are goodwill where attitude may be more important than talent. So the fact that your child may not be as talented does not preclude him from being selected to a post season team. Of course, not everyone will be selected and that is the reason that the cost is not part of your registration fee.

In recent years, we have sent teams to the Pony World Series, West Zone Tournament and to the State Tournament on the outer islands. We will probably continue to have very competitive teams. As such, we will continue to ask for all of your support for these post season teams.

General Meeting

The general meeting is conducted before each season so parents can meet the coaches, the Board of Directors and have explained to them the philosophy and rules of the League. The League believes that this is an important meeting and wishes every parent to attend. In the explanation of the philosophy and rules, the League tries to have the parents understand what they can expect to happen during the season, methods of filing complaints, and how to resolve differences. The General meeting is also used by the coaches as a team meeting so it is very important that parents attend.

Insurance Policy and Procedures

Part of the registration fee is for medical insurance coverage for any injury suffered by a player during practice or game. As soon as an injury occurs that requires medical attention, see the coach for the Medical Insurance Reimbursement form. Have this form with you when you see the medical attendant. Have the physician sign the form at the first opportune moment. You do not want to make an extra trip later just to have the form signed. The medical insurance policy that the League has covers that expense that is not covered by your personal medical insurance. You need the attending physician to verify that you incurred out-of-pocket expenses. The League's insurance will cover those expenses that you had to pay that are not covered by your medical insurance.

If you do not have any health insurance, the league policy has a \$250 deductible clause which means you will have to pay the first \$250. The policy will pay only the part that exceeds \$250. This clause may change each year so please check the insurance form for exact coverage.

Damages to Vehicles and Personal Property

This is a reminder about damages to vehicles, property, and persons other than coaches due to flying balls and other objects. As a league, we do not have insurance coverage of this type because of the cost is prohibitive and the coverage is minimal. We have asked parents and coaches to use their good judgement and not place their cars or other property where they might be damaged. In addition, we forewarn coaches to exercise common sense in not permitting their players to face the street or parking lot where a struck or thrown ball may reach vehicles on the road or parking lot or people on the sidewalk. Of course, we cannot guarantee that a coach or player will obey this rule. As such, we place the coach and player, or the player's parents responsible for damages due to their negligence.

Player Equipment and League Equipment

The League requires each player to provide his/her own personal equipment. Required equipment consists of athletic supporter and cup, batting helmet, glove, shoes, and practice baseball pants. It is possible to borrow a bat for game and practice from the other players but the League does not provide this equipment.

The League does provide the balls, bases, and catcher's equipment for each team to be used for practices and games. The League also provides each player with a shirt, cap, pants, and sox. This uniform is the property of the League until the end of the season. The uniform becomes the player's at the end of the season. The team's equipment must be returned to the League at the end of the season. The League expects the team to exercise reasonable care in the use of its equipment. If a team loses or damages the team equipment, the team will be assessed a reasonable charge for its replacement. If personal equipment is lost, the League will not be held responsible. The player is also responsible for his uniform. If the uniform is lost or damaged, the player must replace it at his own cost. Players may not participate in any League game without his uniform. The uniform may be altered to obtain a proper fit but no other changes are allowed. No additional emblems or embroidery except what is placed on the shirt, pants, or cap by the League is allowed.

The returning of league equipment is the responsibility of the manager. Failure to return all league equipment within 30 days of the end of the season will result in forfeiture of all seniority points earned for that season.

Birth Certificate

PONY baseball breaks down the division by age. To certify that the all the players are of the proper age, the League requires proof of age by reviewing a copy of the official certificate of

birth.

Player Selection

Players are placed on a team in several methods approved by the Board. In the lower divisions the player agents attempt to distribute players such that there will be an equal number of mature, experienced players on each team. We call this a blind draw. The coaches have no influence on who ends up on their team. The only players the coaches choose are the "lock-ins".

In the upper divisions, also called the major conference, the coaches draft players. In this method, the coaches select players in a sequence determined by the strength of their team.

Players that reside in the same residence may request to be placed on the same team. This is called a "brother clause". This is allowed only if they both are in the same division.

In post season play, the managers nominate players from their own team. All the managers then vote on the players they wish to see on the All-Star team(s). A player must receive at least 80% of the vote to make the All-Star team. The first 12 players and 3 alternates must be selected in this manner. The coaches then vote on the manager of the All-Star team and the elected manager may pick his staff and 3 additional players at his option. The additional need not be the alternates. If the league elects to field additional All-Star teams in any given division, selection criteria will be developed following these guidelines.

Goodwill teams are selected by the manager who in turn is elected by the coaches. The League expects a minimum number of players to be selected from each team for post season play. This number varies with the number of teams in the division and the number of post season teams.

Practices

The practice days, location, and time is set by the coaches of each team. In the minor divisions, the number of practices is set by the league at two per week. In the major divisions, the practices are set at three. The coaches may not mandate any more practices than this number. If a player and his parent(s) want to go to a field for additional practices the League does not restrict them. If the coach (es) is in attendance during these sessions, he will be responsible for the players. These players and adults are not to interfere with the regular practices of other teams. Any infringement or complaints will result in the forfeiture of practice fields and/or more severe consequences determined by the League. Managers may move practices with the approval of the player agent but there should be set days for practices. An adult supervisor is required at each practice at all times. It is recommended that at least two adults are present.

Practices should begin no earlier than 4:00 p.m. and end no later than 6:30 p.m. or as soon as it is too dark to see. Practices in the Shetland division end at 6:00 p.m. and should not be longer than 90 minutes.

Umpires

The policy for umpires differs for the major and minor conferences. In the Shetland and Pinto divisions, coaches and parents will umpire their own games. In the minor divisions, the League tries to provide paid umpires but in the event that this is not possible, the coaches and/or parents are asked to umpire their own games. In the major conference the League provides paid umpires.

Clinics

To better educate parents, coaches, and players, the League is willing to coordinate clinics. These clinics are held in response to request by parents and coaches. In the past, we have had clinics for coaching, basic skills for players, pitching, umpires, score keeping, and team parents. If you would like to attend any of these clinics, please contact your player agent. If there is sufficient interest, the League will schedule the requested clinics.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I - NAME

This organization shall be known as the Central Oahu Youth Baseball League.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVE

The Central Oahu Youth Baseball League, seeks to implant in the youth of the Central Oahu community ideals of good sportsmanship, courage, obedience, loyalty, truth, and reverence, so that they may be livelier, stronger, and happier young people and grow to be good, clean, healthy adults. This objective will be reached by providing supervised competitive games. The Supervisors shall bear in mind at all times that the attainment of exceptional athletic skill or winning of games is secondary and that the molding of future citizens is of prime importance.

ARTICLE III - ORGANIZATION

Section A - General

The Central Oahu Youth Baseball League, hereinafter referred to as the "League," shall be organized as a nonprofit corporation in accordance with the laws of the State of Hawaii. It shall be a civic league, organized by interested citizens of the Central Oahu community, operated in such a manner as to stimulate the youth of the Central Oahu community through organized baseball activities.

Section B - Membership

1. Categories of Members. There shall be five (5) categories of members, to wit Honorary Members, Executive Members, Participating Members, General Members, and Affiliate Members, as follows:
 - a. Honorary Members. Honorary Membership may be extended by the Board of Directors to individuals who have rendered outstanding service in the promotion of youth baseball in the Central Oahu area.
 - b. Executive Members. Executive Membership shall consist of the elected officials of the League.
 - c. Participating Members. Participating Membership is open to all youths of Central Oahu who exhibit a sincere interest in baseball and who become registered players pursuant to the Rules and Regulations of the League, and to all managers, coaches, and umpires.
 - d. General Members. The General Membership shall consist of the parents or guardians of those youths who are participating members of the League.
 - e. Affiliate Members. Affiliate Membership may be extended to persons, corporations, or other entities that make monetary or other donations to assist the sponsorship by the League of the various youth baseball teams or to other persons displaying an active interest in youth baseball activities.
2. Right of Members to Vote:
 - a. Honorary Members and Affiliate Members shall not have the right to vote.
 - b. Only adult Participating Members and adult General Members shall have the right to vote at the annual meeting, and any special meeting of the general membership.
 - c. Executive Members shall have the right to vote on all matters brought before the full membership, the Board of Directors, or committees of which they are members in any duly convened meeting.
3. Suspension, Discipline or Discharge of Members:
 - a. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to suspend, discharge or otherwise discipline any manager, coach, player, league official, umpire or other person whose conduct is considered detrimental to the best interest of the League.
 - b. The League President or Player Agent shall, upon evidence of misconduct of any player, notify the manager of the team of which the player is a member within 24 hours of the act. The manager shall appear, in the capacity of an advisor, with the player before the Player Agent and no less than three (3) members of the Board of Directors, for consideration of appropriate action. The player's parents or guardian shall be advised of, and invited to attend such meeting.

Section C - League Composition:

1. The League shall, for purposes of play, consist of three (3) conferences, referred to as Major Conference, Minor Conference and Post Season, which includes the Summer League.
2. The Major Conference shall be composed of four (4) Divisions: The Mustang Division, for players 9 and 10 years old; The Bronco Division, for players 11 and 12 years old; The Pony Division, for players 13 and 14 years old; and The Colts Division, for players 15 and 16 years old.
3. The Minor Conference shall be composed of five (5) Divisions: The Shetland Division, for players 5 and 6 years old; The Pinto Division, for players 7 and 8 years old; The Minor Mustang Division, for players 9 and 10 years old; and The Minor Bronco Division, for players 11 and 12 years old; and Minor Pony Division, for players 13 and 14 years old.
4. The Minor Conference is designed as an instructional league for players with minimal or no formal baseball experience. This conference is designed to ease the transition of players from Pinto Division to the Mustang Division or from the Minor Conference to the Major Conference.
5. The Major Conference shall be composed of teams of not more than fifteen (15) players, one (1) adult manager and two (2) adult coaches.
6. The Shetland Division shall be composed of teams of not more than fifteen (15) players, one (1) adult manager and three (3) adult coaches.
7. The Pinto Division shall be composed of teams of not more than fifteen (15) players, one (1) adult manager, and three (3) adult coaches.
8. The other Minor Conference divisions shall be composed of not more than fifteen (15) players, one (1) adult manager, and two (2) adult coaches.
9. The minimum age of the manager or coaches must be eighteen (18) years of age.

Section D - Government:

1. The government of the League shall be under the direct supervision of the Board of Directors.

2. The League **Board of Directors** shall, but not be limited to, the following: **Officers:** President, Vice-President(s), Secretary, Treasurer; **Committee Chairs:** Player Agents, Fund-raiser Coordinator, Umpire Coordinator, Field Coordinator, Uniform Coordinator, Publicity Coordinator, and Equipment Coordinator; **Other Board Members:** Immediate Past President (who shall hold office for a one-year period following his/her term as President, unless re-appointed via board action). Persons holding Committee Chair positions may appoint individuals to act as assistants or co-chairs, however, these individuals will be recognized only in a proxy role, having voting rights only in a proxy role.
3. All corporate powers shall be exercised by, or under the authority of, The Board of Directors which shall control the affairs and business of the League. It is hereby expressly declared that the Board of Directors shall have the following powers, to wit:
 - a. To conduct, manage, and control the affairs and business of the League, and to make such rules and regulations therefore not inconsistent with law.
 - b. To act on interim business between meetings and to call special meetings when urgent business requires.
 - c. To adopt, make and use a corporate seal, and to alter the form of such seal from time to time, as in their judgement they may deem best, provided such seal shall at all times comply with the provisions of law.
4. Decisions shall be made by a majority vote of a quorum of the Board. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at a meeting. (See Section G, ARTICLE VII)
5. Executive Committee – The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected Officers of the League. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to transact, in the interim, between board meetings, all regular business, provided that no action so taken shall be in conflict with the express policies of the Board of Directors or these by-laws. The Executive Committee shall keep regular minutes of its proceedings and shall assure the Board of Directors at its next regular meeting is informed of all interim actions of the Executive Committee and that the Board shall ratify all interim actions of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IV - ELECTION, REPLACEMENT, AND REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

Section A - Election of Officers:

1. Prior to an annual General Membership meeting, to be held before September 30 of each year, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee, which shall consist of not more than four (4) members of the Board of Directors.
2. The Nominating Committee shall select and nominate candidates to fill offices for the ensuing year and shall cause ballots to be prepared for use by those members of the League who are authorized to vote for League Officers, as specified in Section B, ARTICLE III.
3. Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of eligible members in attendance at the annual General Membership meeting, and such officers shall take office immediately after the General Membership meeting. The term of office will end at the beginning of the new General Membership the following year.
4. Officers shall hold office for one (1) year, but shall be eligible for re-election. No officer shall hold the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms without approval of the Nominating Committee.
5. All members of the Board of Directors shall be required to participate in a majority of regularly scheduled board meetings and events. By “regularly scheduled”, that is to mean events posted on the annual calendar of events, including, but not limited to: board meetings, season registrations, opening ceremonies, post season tournament events and other events as such noted on the calendar. Any absences must be duly reported to the league President and/or his or her designate. Failure to attend the minimum number of events will subject the board member to removal from office and loss of any seniority points earned for that year.

Section B - Replacement of Officers:

A vacancy in any officer because of death, resignation, or any other reason shall be filled by majority vote of a quorum of the Board of Directors.

Section C - Removal of Officers:

The Board of Directors shall be empowered to remove any officer whose conduct is deemed to have been detrimental to the best interest of the League. Such action shall be taken by a majority vote of a quorum of the Board of Directors, with the stipulation that the officer whose removal is under consideration shall not be entitled to vote.

ARTICLE V - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section A - President:

The President shall be the chief executive and presiding officer of the League. The President shall when present, preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the general membership; shall appoint committees when and as needed; and shall, in general, perform such duties as are customary for presiding officers. The President shall be empowered to call meetings of the Board of Directors and general membership; shall, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, sign contracts and make agreements in behalf of the League; sign all payment vouchers drawn on the League treasury and ordered paid by the Board of Directors. To the extent permitted by operational circumstances, the President shall be responsible for initiating all League correspondence; for receiving all correspondence to the League, and for informing members of the Board of Directors of all incoming and outgoing correspondence which falls within the individual area of interest of any member(s) of the Board. The President shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The President will represent the League at the state and national level.

Section B - Vice-President:

The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in the latter's absence. The Vice-President shall have the primary responsibility for planning and coordinating all post-season activities sponsored by the League, the annual Opening Day Ceremony, and team-picture taking.

The Vice-President will maintain a file of seniority points accumulated by all active and inactive managers, coaches, umpires, volunteers, and board members. Inactive members will retain their status on the list for five consecutive calendar years after which their names will be removed at the discretion of the Board.

The Vice-President shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President.

Section C - Secretary:

The Secretary shall prepare minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the general membership and shall maintain a file of such minutes. The secretary shall prepare outgoing correspondence from the League and shall monitor the preparation of correspondence of specialized nature prepared by other members of the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall maintain a master file of all incoming correspondences of general significance to the League. The Secretary shall prepare and disseminate meeting agendas, periodic League bulletins, and such other informational materials as may be directed by the President; shall certify official records of the League; shall maintain a roster of members of the Board of Directors, team managers, coaches, and shall maintain League files and archives. In the absence of the League President and Vice-President, the Secretary shall preside at meetings of the Board of Directors or of the general membership.

Section D - Treasurer:

The Treasurer shall be in charge of all financial matters concerning the League. The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds, securities, evidence of indebtedness, and other valuable documents, and shall deposit funds and securities in the name of and to the credit of the League as authorized by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall maintain the League financial records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. In coordination with the Equipment Coordinator, the Treasurer shall develop the League's annual operating budget and shall supervise the execution of that budget. The Treasurer will provide the board with a monthly statement depicting the financial status of the league.

Section E - Player Agent:

The Player Agent shall be responsible for coordinating the annual player registration activities and for verification of player eligibility. The Player Agent shall devise and recommend to the Board, a system of distribution of players among teams in such a manner as to achieve the optimum balance of relative team strength. The Player Agent shall also preside over any committee of the Board of Directors appointed and convened to consider the taking of disciplinary action against any player. The Player Agent shall also serve as a liaison between the coaches and the Board of Directors.

Section F - Fund-raiser Coordinator:

The Fund-raise Coordinator shall be responsible for coordinating all fund-raising activities of the League and ensuring that all players meet their financial responsibility in such activities.

Section G - Umpire Coordinator:

The Umpire Coordinator shall be responsible for ensuring the availability of umpires for the conduct of the League's baseball activities. He shall arrange for paid umpires, coordinate clinics of coaches on the rules of the game, and provide each coach with the Official Rules of Baseball, the Rules and Regulations of the League, and a copy each conference's Playing Rules.

Section H - Field Coordinator:

The Field Coordinator shall determine League requirements for practice and game fields; shall obtain the necessary permits and authorizations to utilize such fields; shall ensure that all fields are in safe condition and comply with those specifications established by the League; and shall provide the Upper and Lower Division Managers with field availability schedules for their respective Divisions.

Section I - Uniform Coordinator:

The uniform Coordinator shall be responsible for the fitting of all players with proper uniforms and the acquisition of uniforms for all teams within the entire League as approved by the Board of Directors.

Section J - Equipment Coordinator:

The Equipment Coordinator shall be responsible for the procurement, issuance and collection, maintenance and repair, storage and safeguarding of all baseball equipment owned by the League. The Equipment Coordinator shall recommend to the Board the purchase or other means of acquisition of such equipment; and as authorized by the Board, will purchase such required equipment. The Equipment Manager shall also be responsible for the issuance of such equipment to team managers and for the recovery of such equipment upon completion of the season; for informing the Board of Directors of the liability of a participating member for the loss or willful damage of such equipment. The Equipment Manager shall conduct a complete inventory of all League baseball equipment prior to and following each playing season and for determining the specific dollar value of such equipment.

Section K - Publicity Coordinator:

The Publicity Coordinator shall be responsible for the notification to the public of the various events conducted by the Board. The posting of signs for registration and meeting. The Coordinator will also publish the HandBook, registrations forms, and various information flyers. The Coordinator will attend meetings dealing with field usage.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

Section A - Appointment of Committees:

The League President shall appoint up to four (4) members to a Nominating Committee that shall perform those duties specified in Section A, ARTICLE IV. The President may appoint such other committees as may, in his judgement, become necessary or desirable to improve league operations.

Section B - Committee Membership:

1. The Nominating Committee shall consist of not more than four (4) members of the Board of Directors who shall, among themselves elect the committee chairperson.
2. The League President shall appoint the chairpersons of all other committees from among the members of the Board of directors and shall seek to appoint that Board Member whose areas of responsibility on the Board most closely parallels the area of responsibility of the committee. The President may appoint the other members of the committee or may delegate that authority to the chairperson. Committee members may be drawn from the Executive, Participating and/or General Membership.
3. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Section C - Committee Reports:

The League shall, at the time of appointment of any committee, establish the reporting requirements for that committee. Publication of an annual ballot for the election of League officers shall constitute the report of the Nominating Committee.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

Section A - Annual Organizational Meetings:

An annual General Membership meeting shall be held prior to the end of the season and before September 30 each year for the reading of reports and the election of officers for the ensuing year.

Section B - Special Meetings:

Special meetings of the membership at large shall be held as deemed necessary by the President or by one-third of the members of the Board of Directors, provided that such Board of Director's request for a special meeting shall be submitted, in writing, to the President.

Section C - Board of Directors' Meetings:

Meetings of the Board of Directors for any purpose or purposes shall be called at any time as deemed necessary by the President or, if he/she is absent or unable or unwilling to act, by the majority of the Board of Directors.

Section D - Notification of Meetings:

1. Notice of the date, time and location of the annual General Membership meeting and of special meetings of the membership at large shall be provided in such manner as the Board of Directors shall deem best to ensure awareness on the part of the membership of such meeting.

2. Notice of the date, time and place of the Board of Directors' meetings and of any special business to be considered, shall be provided by the President, Vice-President, or Secretary, in writing or by telephone to all board members, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Section E - Place of Meeting:

The annual organization meeting, special meetings, and meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at any place within the Central Oahu area which is designated by resolution of the Board or is otherwise agreed upon by the majority of members of the Board.

Section F - Meeting Procedure:

"Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised" shall govern the proceedings of all meetings, except when in conflict with the Constitution and by-laws of the League.

Section G - Quorum:

A majority of the Executive Members must be present at any meeting to constitute a quorum.

Section H - Proxy Votes:

Voting by proxy shall not be permitted.

ARTICLE VIII - FEES

Section A - Liability for Fees:

Participating members, other than managers, coaches and umpires, shall pay registration fees as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section B - Time of Payment of Fees:

Fees shall be payable at the time of registration. The Board of Directors may, in the event of temporary financial hardship, permit payment of registration fees to be deferred. All payments must be received prior to the commencement of League play.

Section C - Dishonored Checks:

The receipt by the League of a dishonored check in payment of fees shall be sufficient basis for the Board of Directors to take disciplinary action.

ARTICLE IX - FINANCIAL POLICY

Section A - Authority to Responsibility:

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to conduct all matters pertaining to the financial operations of the League and shall be responsible to the membership at large to conduct the financial affairs of the League in a sound, business-like manner.

Section B - Accounting Procedure:

League accounting procedures shall be in compliance with those generally accepted accounting principles advanced by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and shall be in accordance with Federal and State of Hawaii law governing non-profit organizations. The Board of Directors shall institute formal policies relative to the preparation and acceptance of an annual operating budget, periodic and annual presentation of financial reports, and an annual audit of League financial records.

Section C - Fiscal Year:

The Fiscal Year shall commence on September 1 of each year and shall conclude on August 31 of the following year.

Section D - Fund Solicitation:

To equalize the benefits of the League for all participating teams and to comply with Federal and State of Hawaii law governing non-profit organizations, solicited funds, from whatever source, shall accrue to the League Treasury and shall not accrue to any team or individual member of the League.

Section E - Acknowledgment of Donations:

All individuals, corporations, or other entities making monetary or property donations to the League shall be provided with a written acknowledgment of such donation.

Section F - Unrelated Business Income:

The League shall not conduct any business activities or produce any income that is not directly related to its tax-exempt purpose. This provision shall not be interpreted as precluding the realization of interest income from the investment of League funds incidental to the sound management of its monetary assets.

Section G - Disposition of Assets:

In the event the League is, at some future date, dissolved, the Board of Directors shall, prior to dissolution, and by majority vote, select one (1) or more non-profit organization and/or agencies of the Federal, State of Hawaii, or City and County of Honolulu governments to which all monetary and equipment assets of the League shall be donated in conformance with Federal revenue rulings governing non-profit organizations. In selecting the recipient organization(s) and/or agency or agencies, the Board of Directors shall be guided by the knowledge that the assets of the League have been derived from the citizens of the Central Oahu area and the assets of the League should, to the extent possible, continue to benefit the youth of the Central Oahu area.

ARTICLE X - LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Board of Directors shall adopt a set of rules and regulations to be known as the "Central Oahu Youth Baseball League, Rules and Regulations". Such rules and regulations shall relate to administration, accounting, insurance, logistics, registration and eligibility, conduct, player distribution, scheduling, post-season recognition or participants, tournaments, and similar operational matters, as the Board of Directors may deem necessary. The League rules and regulations may be amended or repealed by a majority vote of a quorum of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENT

Provisions of the League Constitution and by-laws may be amended or repealed, or new provisions thereof adopted, by a two thirds vote of a quorum of the Board of Directors, provided that each member of the Board of Directors is provided written notice of proposed amendments at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting at which the proposed amendments shall be placed before the Board of Directors for consideration.

These rules were last amended: September 12, 2003.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

I. THE LEAGUE

A. Description

1. The purpose of the League is to provide an opportunity for youths between the ages of five and sixteen to play baseball. (The age is based on the participant's age on August 1st of the League's season. Proof of age shall be required)
2. The League's program is designed to offer youths an opportunity to play baseball at a level comparable to their ability and knowledge of baseball.

B. Conference Format

1. The League shall strive for a minimum of four teams per division for all divisions, except for the Colt Division. Teams from other leagues may be used to fulfill this requirement.
2. The maximum number of teams in all divisions shall be determined by the number of available coaches, available fields, and eligible players.

C. Team Format

1. All coaches listed on the official team roster prior to the first schedule conference game shall be required to participate at most team practices and conference games.

II. PLAYER PARTICIPATION RULES

A. General Rules

1. Any player assigned to a team who has fulfilled his financial obligation has the right to participate in any official league contest that his team is participating in.

2. A player may be declared ineligible to participate for failure to pay the League's registration fees.

B. Game Participation

The specific rules governing participation of rostered players are contained within each conference's Local Rules that are subject to an annual review and approved by coaches and the Board of Directors

C. Disciplinary Suspension

1. A manager/coach may deny the right of a player to participate in a game for disciplinary reasons.
2. Once a player has played during said game, he may not be suspended for that game. The suspension would have to be for the following game.
3. Managers must advise the opposing team and umpires of a suspension prior to the start of a game.
4. The suspended player may not enter the game at any time.
5. Conditions of wearing a uniform or where the suspended player should sit are up to the discretion of the manager.

D. Medical Suspension

1. A player may be suspended from League play for medical reasons.
2. The rules and procedure stated under Disciplinary suspension will also apply to medical suspensions.
3. Any player needing medical attention of an injury or illness whether it occurred on or off the field shall be required to submit a signed statement from a parent or guardian stating his fitness to play to the team manager and a copy to the Player Agent.
4. A player injured during a game and is removed because of his injuries may not reenter the game.

III. PLAYER SELECTION

A. General Eligibility

1. Players meeting all League requirements shall be eligible for selection on a team.
2. League requirements for eligibility shall be based on age and residence as outlined under the Rules and Regulations, and as set forth under the Constitution and by-laws of the Central Oahu Youth Baseball League, Inc.

B. Draft Procedures - Minor Conference

Player Agents shall determine drafting method of Draft Procedure with approval of the Board of Directors.

C. Draft Procedures - Major Conference

1. All players in the Major Conferences shall be rated on the basis of their performance during the Major conference "player evaluation".
2. Players shall be placed into age and skill categories.
3. The selection of players shall be based on a system that ensures that each team has the same number of players from each age and skill category. The selection process used will be based on the input of conference managers/coaches and must be approved by the Board of Directors.

D. Lock-In Players

1. In the Shetland and Pinto divisions, every team is allowed up to four "lock-ins". At the Mustang, Bronco and Pony divisions, every team is allowed up to three "lock-ins". All players whose parent is a manager or an official coach shall become one of these lock-ins.
2. A coach/manager who does not have a player in their conference shall be allowed to pick three lock-ins in a blind draw at the start of the draft.

E. Conference Regulations

1. *General Rules*

- (a) All players registered by the final registration date shall be eligible for placement on teams, subject to the availability of coaches. (See II, A-2, pg. 14)
- (b) There shall be no visible jewelry worn by players. Any player wearing visible jewelry may be declared ineligible to participate in that game.

2. *Minor Conference*

The Minor Conference is conducted as a pre-season instructional league for players between the ages of 9 and 14 who wish to hone their skills for the Major Conference.

3. *Summer/Fall League*

A Summer League and/or a Fall League shall be conducted at the discretion of the league officials. The rules and regulations will be adjusted to the circumstances.

IV. **SELECTION OF MANAGERS AND COACHES**

- A. Managers and coaches for each conference shall be subject to approval by the Board of Directors.
- B. The selection of managers shall be based on a seniority system that gives credit for years of service as a manager, lesser points for being an assistant coach, serving on the Board of Directors, and for volunteer work recognized by the Board.
- C. The Board of Directors may deny a returning manager or coach the right to participate if the Board deems that he is deemed to be detrimental to the League.
- D. Vacancies will be filled by the Board of Directors after each applicant is screened.

V. **SENIORITY POINT SYSTEM**

- A. Managers shall receive 7 seniority points for the successful completion of one season. Assistant coaches shall receive 5 points per season.
- B. Board members receive 10 points per year.
- C. Managers of post-season teams receive 7 points. Assistant coaches of post-season teams receive 5 points per season.
- D. Volunteers may be awarded 3 points per year at the discretion of the Board.
- E. In a situation where two or more individuals are tied on the number of seniority points, then the individuals with more seasons as a manager or coach shall be given preference. If an individual held more than one position in one season, it will count only as one season. If this also results in a tie, then a coin toss will decide the manager. Being a member of the Board or a post-season manager shall not count as a season.
- F. Managers, coaches, and other members of the league that face disciplinary action of the Board shall lose part or all of their seniority points.
- G. Ejection of a manager or coach shall result in an automatic forfeiture of 3 points subject to notification and appeal. A repeat offense in the same season will result in loss of all points for that season.
- H. Failure of Managers and coaches to report seniority points to the Vice-President, prior to the beginning of the season, will result in loss of points for that season.

VI. **PRACTICE AND GAMES**

A. Practice

- 1. No more than five practice sessions per week shall be allowed. A scrimmage or game will count as a practice session. This rule may be adjusted depending on the availability of fields or with the prior approval of the Player Agent.
- 2. All practice fields shall be assigned and teams will be scheduled on fields best suited to their conferences.

3. Teams shall be required to practice only on the field and days assigned to them.
4. Use of backstops and game fields shall be assigned on an equal basis.
5. Any deviation of the practice schedule must have prior approval of the Player Agent and/or Field Coordinator.

B. Games

1. Rainouts and suspended games may be made up upon agreement of the managers of both teams.
2. Post-season competition may be allowed at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
3. There shall be a two-hour time limit. In case of a tie and if there is still time, extra innings will be played to try to determine a winner, however, no more than 9 innings may be played. Extra innings will not be allowed in division with players younger than 11 years.
4. Inter-league play may be allowed with the approval of the Board of Directors.
5. In the Major Conferences the official game schedule shall end at least three weeks before the start of the State Championship Tournament for that age group.
6. The home team shall occupy the bench along the third-base side of the field.
7. There shall be no infield practices between games or prior to the first game.
8. Managers shall have their respective teams in their dugouts and ready to play ten (10) minutes prior to the start of their game. If the prior game ran over the time limit, then be ready to play immediately after the teams from the prior game have vacated the dugout.
9. The team that is designated the “visiting team” of the last game of each day shall be responsible for “dragging and raking” the infield of the playing diamond and returning the bases to its proper storage location.
10. The home team shall provide the official scorekeeper.
11. A pinch runner may be substituted for the catcher after two outs are recorded. The pinch runner must be the last runner to be put out or to cross home plate.
12. The batter shall not “throw his bat” after a hit. The batter will be called out and the ball declared dead or “delayed dead ball” whichever is more advantageous for the defense. “Throwing the bat” will be interpreted as releasing the bat without making an attempt to slow its momentum after the ball is hit.
13. No pinch-hitting is allowed; pinch runners are allowed for injured players. The pinch runner will be a substitute for those divisions where everyone bats or the last runner to be put out or to cross home plate in the lower divisions.
14. Games may not be unilaterally postponed. Any manager postponing a game will automatically forfeit the game, even if the game was replayed and his team won. If two opposing teams do not have the sufficient number of players to play, the game may be rescheduled with the approval of the player agent. Teams will play the required number of games even if games were forfeited. Failure to play the required minimum games will result in the suspension of the manager.
15. Minor conference seasons shall consist of not less than 10 games and not more than 14 games. Rained out games need not be made up if the minimum games are played.
16. Major conference seasons shall consist of not less than 12 games and not more than 16 games. Rained out games which can not be made up will not count as games played.

VII. POST SEASON REPRESENTATION

A. Conference Representation

1. The number of teams that represent the League in post season tournaments shall depend on the format of the tournament as determined by the host.
2. Teams shall participate only in tournaments sanctioned by the Board of Directors. A team that wears the uniform of the League will be deemed a League team and this rule will apply.
3. All tournament team players selected for the Division tournament team shall play according to tournament rules.
4. The hosting of any post-season tournament for any conference shall be the decision of the Board of Directors.
5. A player selected for the All-Star team but declines to participate shall be ineligible for all other post season teams. A player selected then refuses to participate shall be ineligible to

participate in any other post season tournament team.

6. In the Pinto division, players shall be allowed to participate in more than one post season tournament team. Unless the tournament dates conflict, players selected for the All-star team will be allowed to participate in All-Star as well as intact teams. Intact team members may also participate in Goodwill tournament teams. All-star team members shall not participate on goodwill teams. All-star teams may participate in goodwill tournaments as long as the team participates intact.
7. Selection to an All-star team will be by nomination by the team manager. The manager should nominate only players desiring to participate in its division all-star tournament. Players consenting to be nominated also avow that if selected they will be available for practices and the games of the tournament. Players that violate this rule will be subject to be removed from future nomination to all-star teams. In addition, players (including their parents and or guardians) who violate this rule shall be held financially liable for any and all expenses incurred by the league on the player's behalf.

B. Tournament Manager Selection

1. Only managers or official coaches from within that conference will be eligible to be selected as Tournament Team Manager.
2. The manager of any tournament team shall be selected by his peers and subject to the approval by the Board of Directors.
3. The Board of Directors reserves the right to select a tournament team manager if no one agrees to serve as a manager.
4. A manager shall act in that capacity on only one post-season team at a time and shall commit his full attention to that team.

C. Tournament Coach Selection

1. The manager of the tournament team will select his coaching staff, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.
2. If no one agrees to serve as a coach, the Board of Directors reserves the right to select the coaches.
3. A coach shall act in that capacity on only one post-season team at a time and shall commit his full attention to that team.
4. Coaches consenting to coach will participate in all practices and the games of the tournament. Coaches that violate this rule will be subject to be removed from future consideration as managers or coaches.

D. Player Selection

1. Each tournament team shall be comprised of not less than twelve and not more than fifteen eligible players. Twelve members will be selected by an eighty per cent (80%) vote of participating managers. Three members may be selected at the option of the Manager. The Board must approve of the selection.
2. Players are eligible if they have participated in a minimum number of games as prescribed in the PONY rulebook.
3. Once selected, a player cannot be removed from the tournament team without the approval of the Board of Directors.
4. Goodwill teams shall be selected by the team manager. A fair representation of players from each team must be reflected in the selection process. The league will specify a maximum and minimum number of players from one team that may participate in post season play.

VIII. CONFERENCES PLAYING RULES

A. General Rules

1. The local playing rules for each conference may be amended by the player agent and coaches for that conference, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors prior to the start of each season.
2. If not specified in the local rules or the Rules and Regulation, the rules shall be, in the following order; the Official PONY Baseball Rules, and "Sporting News" edition of the rules of baseball.

IX. UMPIRES

- A. There must be a minimum of two (2) umpires for any official league game.
- B. Unless exempted below, one umpire shall be positioned behind home plate and the other on the field.

- C. The umpire behind home plate shall be called the head umpire and has full responsibility over the game.
- D. Umpires will either be volunteers or paid depending on the conference they are participating in.
- E. In the Minor conference, unless provided by the League, each team shall provide an umpire to officiate games.
- F. If there is a question on rule interpretation, the discussion shall be kept to a minimum. The umpire shall make a decision before continuing the game. There shall be no discussion on a judgement call. Only one team representative (the manager or his designee) shall be allowed to confer with the umpire. Before approaching the umpire or entering the field, the coach or manager must request and be granted a time out.

X. UNIFORMS

- A. The League shall **purchase and distribute** uniforms (caps and shirts, provided by the League) to players, including those required for post season (Goodwill) State Tournaments. Only All-Star team managers shall have the option of selecting, purchasing and distributing the attire of the team. The Uniform Coordinator shall monitor expenditures such that the League would not expend any more than if the League purchased the uniforms. The Uniform Coordinator shall also monitor the team to assure that each player receives the same and complete set of uniform(s).
- B. Managers, coaches, and players shall be outfitted in the team's uniform provided by the League. The League will issue full uniforms if conference rules require it for tournament competition.
- C. At the end of the season, players, the manager, and coaches may retain their uniforms.
- D. There shall be no upgrading of uniforms provided by the League. Violations of this rule will result in disciplinary action against the team manager and/or coaching staff, or those participants involved in the infraction.
- E. The Manager shall be responsible for the players' protective equipment. If a player is found to be playing without the necessary protective equipment, the player and manager will be ejected from the game.

XI. EQUIPMENT

A. General Rules

1. All teams shall be issued equipment necessary to play a game. There will be a \$50.00 deposit on all equipment issued to each Manager. Fifty dollars deposit will be entered in to COYBL account and will be refunded when all equipment is returned to the league.
2. Managers shall be responsible for all equipment issued to them.
3. Replacement of broken or damaged equipment shall be made when the broken/damaged item is turned in to the League's Equipment Manager and/or Player Agent.
4. Failure of a manager to return league equipment within 30 days of the end of the season shall result in forfeiture of all seniority point and/or other disciplinary action.

B. Player-Provided Equipment

1. Each player shall wear a protective cup and athletic supporter in practice and in all games. This rule pertains only to males.
2. All catchers shall be required to wear a catcher's protective gear during a game and practice. A catcher's mask and helmet must be worn when "warming-up" a pitcher.
3. Each player is required to have a glove suitable for play and a batting helmet to be used when batting.
4. Each player is required to provide suitable footwear appropriate to his level of play. Metal cleats are allowed only in the Mustang, Bronco, Pony, and Colt conferences.

C. Lost or Stolen Equipment

1. If the League determines that a Manager is negligent in losing or damaging equipment, beyond normal wear-and-tear, that manager shall lose the \$50.00 deposit on equipment and will be assessed an amount needed to replace the missing article(s).
2. Personal equipment not provided by the League shall be the owner's responsibility.

XII. RULES OF CONDUCT

A. Managers, Coaches and Umpires

1. Adult supervisors of the League shall conduct themselves in a civil manner at all times befitting their responsibility and role as manager, coach, or umpire.
2. No abusive language or mistreatment of any League member or umpire in any way shall be allowed. No “ragging”.
3. Consumption of alcoholic beverages and/or narcotics is prohibited at any time during practice or during a game.
4. Smoking or the use of other tobacco products shall not be allowed on the playing field and in or around the dugouts during practices or games.
5. There shall be no protest games; the head umpire will resolve all differences.
6. Infractions of the above or other League rules, or written complaints substantiated by the Board shall result in either loss of seniority points, suspension, or termination from the League, or other penalties as determined by the Board.
7. Managers or coaches ejected from a game shall automatically forfeit 3 seniority points pending notification and appeal. A second offense within the same season will result in loss of all seniority points as well as suspension for that season.

B. Players

1. Players may not use abusive language, smoke or consume alcoholic beverages, and/or narcotics during practice or during a game.
2. Players shall not deliberately endanger other players, coaches, or umpires at any time. This includes the deliberate collision in “breaking up” a play. Base runners shall make every attempt to avoid collision.
3. No personal remarks, such as name calling, threats or derogatory comments toward opposing team players shall be allowed during, or after a game. No “ragging”.
4. Abuse of League property and equipment is prohibited.
5. Any base runner that intentionally removes his headgear shall be called out. The headgear will be worn while on the field of play.
6. Bat person(s) shall not be allowed.
7. Violations of the above shall subject the offending player to penalties stipulated under Disciplinary Actions (See Section XII).

C. Spectators

1. No spectator shall be recognized as a game participant.
2. Abusive language, threats and/or name calling toward game participants shall not be allowed.
3. All spectators shall be required to follow City and County Park Regulations as stated under the provisions of the field permit.
4. Managers are responsible for the actions of their team and team supporters. Any unsportsmanlike conduct shall be referred to the team manager as a “first warning.” On the next occurrence the offender will be removed or the game will be suspended.

XIII. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- A. The league officers shall have the authority to suspend, discharge or otherwise discipline any player, manager, coach, umpire league officer or other person whose conduct is in violation of the Rules and Regulations of Central Oahu Youth Baseball League, Inc. and/or is considered detrimental to the best interests of the league.
 1. Persons subject to such discipline shall have the right to a hearing before league officers before such discipline is imposed.
 2. In the event of disciplinary procedures involving a player, or any other person under the age of 18, that person's parents shall be invited to attend the hearing with the person concerned.
 3. A player or coach ejected from a game will be automatically suspended for the following game.

4. Any ejection of a player or coach shall be reported to the player agent by the umpire.
- B. The following penalties are suggested to match the severity of the offense.
1. **Warning** - The offending person shall be advised, in writing, of the offense, and further advised that repetition of the offense will result in a more severe penalty.
 2. **Suspension** - The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been suspended from all league activity for a specific number of games, or days.
 3. **Dismissal** - The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been dismissed from the league for the remainder of the current year.
 4. **Barred** - The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been barred from present and future participation in the league, permanently, or for a specific number of years.

SHETLAND CONFERENCE RULES

I. General Rules

A. Playing Field

1. The distance between all bases shall be 50 feet. The distance between the point of home plate to the center of second base, 70 feet, 8.5 inches.
2. "40 feet line": The field shall be marked with an arc 40 feet from the point of home plate. The arc will begin on the first base line and continue to the third base line.
3. "Outfield Line": A line shall be placed 10 feet behind first base and third base and an arc 10 feet behind second base.
4. "10 Feet Line": An arc shall be drawn 10 feet from the point of home plate beginning from the first base line to the third base line.

B. Participation

1. Each team's roster shall be comprised of no less than eleven (11) players who are 5 and 6 years of age as determined by the PONY Baseball Age Key.
2. A player shall play a minimum of two positions in a game and no more than two innings in any one position. Only one of the positions shall be an infield position.
3. Once an inning begins, defensive player positions shall not change unless a defensive player is injured.
4. Each team member who is present shall be in the offensive lineup throughout the game. The batting order at the start of the game will prevail throughout the game, and will not be changed when defensive changes are made except for injured players.
5. Players who arrive after the start of the game will be placed at the end of the batting order
6. If a batter is injured while at bat and cannot continue, he shall be removed from the game. The next batter in the lineup shall come to bat with a new count.
7. The defensive lineup shall consist of three players stationed between first and second base, three players between second and third, and the balance of the team in the outfield.
 1. Outfielders shall be positioned beyond the "outfield line" but within the foul lines.
 2. No outfielder may take a position in the infield and make plays as an infielder, i.e. the player cannot receive a throw for an out at any base. If any outfielder makes such a play at a base, it cannot result in an out, play continues until the ball is ruled dead.
 3. No infielder may take a position inside of the "40 feet line" but may cross the line after the ball has been hit.
8. A grace period of 10 minutes shall be allowed to reach a sufficient number of players to start the game. If one team does not have a sufficient number of players after the grace period, the opposing team may "loan" players until each team has an equal number of players.
9. There shall be no infield-fly rule.

C. Umpires

1. Each team shall provide an umpire knowledgeable in SHETLAND rules. The home team provides the head umpire, who will work behind the plate.

D. Batting Order

1. The first batter in the batting order shall bat first in the first inning. The third batter in batting order will bat first in the second inning. Each succeeding inning will begin two batters down from the inning before.

II. Base Running Rules

A. Offensive Coaches

1. The offensive team shall be allowed three base coaches; one for each base. The first and third base coaches will assume the traditional positions. The second base coach will position himself directly behind second base on a line drawn from home plate through second base.

B. Stealing

1. There shall be no base stealing. Base runners may not leave the base until after the ball is hit. If a runner has left the base prior to the ball being hit, the ball shall be ruled dead, and the runner shall return to his original base. If the ball was put in play, the batter will resume batting as if the last swing did not take place.

C. Dead Ball

1. The ball shall be ruled dead when any defensive player in possession of the ball touches any base, tags a runner, or catches a batted ball in the air before it touches the ground.
2. The ball shall be ruled dead when a thrown ball or fair ball deflected by a player crosses the "out-of-bounds" line.
3. Runners shall return to the last base touched. The only exception will be if the batter has not reached first. In which case, he will be awarded first base. The base awarded will be determined by the last runner, i.e. if the bases are loaded and the ball is thrown out before any runner reached the next base, the batter will be awarded first so each runner will advance one base with the runner on third scoring. If one of the bases were open, the bases would be full.

III. Defensive Rules

A. Defensive Coaches

1. Two defensive coaches may be stationed on the field beyond the baselines to provide verbal instructions to the defensive team.
2. The defensive coaches shall not instruct the base runners nor hinder their progress in any way.
3. Any contact with a runner or the ball whether batted or thrown shall result in the runners safely advancing to their bases.
4. Defensive players shall be positioned either in front of or behind the base path.

B. Outs

Outs shall not be recorded. A runner that is tagged out or forced out or a runner whose batted ball was caught in the air will return to the dugout.

IV. Batting Rules

1. At the discretion of the manager, more advanced players may have the ball pitched under hand to them. If after four (4) pitches, the player does not put the ball into play. The player will be required to hit off of the batting tee.
2. The batter shall bat the ball off a rubber tee placed two (2) feet behind home plate.
3. The umpire shall place the ball on the tee and indicate when the batter can swing.
4. Each batter shall be allowed six (6) attempts to put the ball in play after which he will lose his turn at bat.
5. A batting coach shall be allowed to assist the batter in positioning and providing verbal instructions but the coach must remove himself after the batter hits the ball and proceeds to first. The batting coach must remain behind the batter. The batting coach will also be the pitching coach.

6. The batted ball must completely cross the "10 foot line" otherwise the hit shall be foul. If the ball completely crosses the line and returns back behind the arc but inside the foul line, the ball will be ruled fair.
7. There shall be no strikes, balls, balks, or bases awarded to the batter for any reason.
8. If there is an injury suffered by the player, the umpire shall immediately call time and play will stop. The base runner will receive the base he was going to. The ball will be dead at the time the player was injured.
1. The inning shall end when the last batter in the batting rotation has completed his at bat and when play has completed and the ball ruled dead, if the ball was put into play.

V. Length of Game

1. Each game shall consist of 4 entire innings.
2. No new inning shall start if there is less than 40 minutes to the time limit. Any inning that begins will be played to completion. An inning begins immediately after the last play is made from the previous inning. If the game is called for any reason at any time, it shall be considered a complete game. Postponed games should be rescheduled by the managers of both teams with the approval of the player agent.

VI. Practices

Teams in this conference shall have not more than two practices a week. Each practice will not exceed 90 minutes. Practices will not begin before 4:00 p.m. and end not later than 6:00 p.m.

VII. Managing and Coaching Rules

1. All disciplinary action between the player(s) and the coaches shall be resolved prior to the start of the game. It is recommended that the player's parents also be notified of the action taken.
2. No offensive time-outs shall be allowed except to correct equipment or injury.

PINTO CONFERENCE RULES

1. General Rules

A. Playing Field

1. The distance between all bases shall be 60 feet.
2. The base paths between all bases except between home plate and first shall be marked by a 6-foot line (3 ft. of either side of the base line). This line shall be marked 3/4 of the way between the bases and shall be known as the "3/4" mark.

B. Participation

1. Players shall be substituted so that no player sits on the bench for two consecutive innings.
2. A player shall play no more than three innings at any one position in a game.
3. Each player shall play a minimum of four innings in a seven (7) inning game.
4. Once an inning begins, defensive player positions shall not change nor will there be any substitution unless a player is injured and needs to be removed from the game.
5. Unless being disciplined by the team manager, each team player that is present shall be in the offensive lineup throughout the game. Once a game begins, the batting order shall not change.

6. Players who arrive after the start of the game shall be placed at the end of the batting order.
7. No pinch-hitting is allowed; pinch runners are allowed only for players injured while on the bases and required to be removed from the game. The pinch runner shall either be the last runner to be put out or to cross home plate.
8. If a batter is injured while at bat and cannot continue, he shall be removed from the game. The next batter in the lineup will take his place with a new count.
9. The defensive lineup shall consist of 11 players. Nine players will take the regular positions normally associated with baseball. The two additional players shall be positioned in the outfield.
 - (a) Outfielders shall be positioned at least ten (10) feet behind second base or ten (10) feet beyond the direct line between each of the bases.
 - (b) No outfielder may take a position in the infield and make plays as an infielder; Outfielders cannot receive a throw for an out at any base. If any outfielder makes a play at a base, it cannot result in an out, play continues until the ball is ruled dead. Outfielders may make a tag on the base path if he is backing up a play and receives a ball missed by an infielder. Outfielders cannot be part of a rundown.
10. There shall be no infield-fly rule.

C. Umpires

1. Each team shall provide an umpire knowledgeable in PINTO rules. The home team provides the head umpire, who will work behind the plate.

II. Base Running Rules

A. Stealing

1. There shall be no base stealing. Base runners may not leave the base until after the ball is hit. If a batter swings and misses and the runner leaves the base anticipating that the ball will be hit, the runner shall be declared out. When the ball is hit, but if the runner has left base too early, the runner shall be called out, and the play ruled dead. The batter will resume batting as if the last swing did not take place.

B. Overthrown Ball

1. Runners shall be given 2 bases on any thrown ball that passes the "out-of-bounds" line.
2. The time the ball is thrown shall dictate the number of bases the runner will advance.
 - (a) If the base runner has not passed first, he shall advance to second base.
 - (b) If the base runner has passed first base, he shall be awarded second and third.

C. Appeal

1. An appeal must be made prior to the ball being returned to the offensive pitcher, i.e. if a base runner misses a base and the baseball is thrown to the pitcher in the circle, the pitcher must throw to the base missed by the base runner, the baseman, after receiving the throw and stepping on the base, must make an appeal to the umpire. The umpire shall make the call or judgement only after the appeal is verbally made. If a defensive player or coach calls time, the ball is ruled dead, and no appeal will be allowed.

III. Pitching Rules

A. Offensive Pitcher

1. The offensive pitcher shall be a member of the coaching staff of the team that is batting. The offensive pitcher shall pitch in an underhand motion to his own team from a distance of 20 to 38 feet, and in a direct line from home plate to second base.
2. The offensive pitcher can talk to and coach the batter until the ball is pitched. Once the ball is hit, the offensive pitcher shall immediately remove himself from the field of play and shall not provide any verbal or physical assistance or in any way coach any of the runners. The first offense for assisting or coaching by the offensive pitcher will be a warning by the umpire. Subsequent violations will result in the offending pitcher being removed from the game and the batter being ruled out.
3. If in the umpire's judgement, the offensive pitcher deliberately interferes with a play, the batter shall be ruled out, and all runners will return to the bases occupied when the pitch was made. An action by the offensive pitcher to protect himself is not deliberate interference. In this situation the play is called dead, and the batter returns to the plate with the same count prior to the pitch that was hit.
4. If the offensive pitcher touches, or is touched by the batted ball and directly influences the flight of the ball, the play is ruled dead, and the batter returns to the box with the same

count prior to the pitch that was hit. This is a judgement call of the umpire.

B. Defensive Pitcher

1. The defensive pitcher shall be a player on the team that is on the field. The defensive pitcher must have one foot on the ground within the pitcher's circle when the offensive pitcher delivers the ball. If the defensive pitcher leaves his position before the pitch is delivered and the ball is hit to him resulting in an out, it will be ruled an illegal play with all runners being safe.
2. The pitcher's circle shall be a circle of 4-1/2 foot radius. This circle is used to position the defensive pitcher prior to the pitch being delivered and to stop further play. The ball is dead when any defensive player has possession of the ball and has two feet on the ground within the circle. The exception to this rule is when a batted ball is fielded in the circle; it will remain in play until the pitcher steps out of the circle and steps completely back in.

C. Catcher

The catcher shall assume the normal catcher's position anywhere directly behind home plate but not closer than ten (10) feet from the plate. The catcher must wear a catcher's helmet and mask with throat protector.

IV. Batting Rules

- A. If after one warning, a player throws his bat, he shall be ruled out and the play called dead.
- B. All batters shall take a full swing at the pitched ball; if a batter fails to take a full swing and makes contact, it shall result in a dead ball, and the batter will return to the batter's box to hit again. The pitch will be counted toward the total number of pitches allowed.
- C. Each batter shall receive no more than 7 legal pitches. The 7th pitch is the last pitch and if the ball is not put into play, the batter will be considered to have struck out.
- D. Any batted ball that comes to rest within the 15-foot arc from home plate shall be ruled foul. The ball resting on the arc will be ruled fair.
- E. There shall be no called strikes, balls or balks, and no bases awarded by virtue of being struck by the pitcher.
- F. If a thrown ball hits a player and in the umpire's judgement, there is an injury suffered by the player, the umpire shall immediately call time and play will stop. The batter and/or base runners will receive the base they were going to. The ball will be dead at the time the player was hit.

V. Length of Game

- A. Each game shall consist of 7 innings. The game shall be played in its entirety unless the home team is ahead after 6 ½ innings have been completed, or unless the home team takes the lead in the last half of the 7th inning. No new inning will begin with less than 30 minutes of the time limit. Once an inning has started, it will be played to completion. An inning begins immediately after the last out is made from the previous inning.
- B. If a game is called for any reason, it is an official game if 4 or more innings have been completed.
 1. If the home team is ahead after 3-1/2 innings, the game shall be declared an official game.
 2. If the home team cannot complete its offensive inning, the score shall revert to the last completed inning.
 3. If the game is tied after 4 complete innings, the game shall stand as a tie.
- C. If the game is called for any reason before it is an official game, it shall be considered a suspended game, and is to be resumed from the point of curtailment at a later date. Postponed or suspended games should be rescheduled by the managers of both teams.
- D. A half-inning shall be considered completed when an offensive team either makes 3 outs or scores 5 runs.

VI. Managing and Coaching Rules

- A. All coaches must sit behind the fence.
- B. Any violation of the above rules by a player, manager or coach (es) shall result in the ejection from the game of the player/manager/coach (es) involved and suspension, and possibly other disciplinary action.

MINOR CONFERENCE RULES

I. General Rules

A. Participation

1. Players shall be substituted so that no player sits on the bench for two consecutive innings.
2. A player shall not play one position for more than three innings in a game. In an injury substitution, the inning played by the substitute will not count in the three-inning maximum. The inning will count only against the player that started the inning.
3. Each player shall play a minimum of four innings in a seven-inning game.
4. Once an inning begins, there shall be no substitution of players unless the player is injured. This rule does not apply to the pitcher.
5. Unless being disciplined by the team manager, each team player that is present shall be in the offensive lineup throughout the game.
6. Players who arrive after the start of the game shall be placed at the end of the batting order.
7. Defensive position changes shall be allowed only at the beginning of the defensive inning or when a pitcher is substituted or a player is injured. At which time, any number of defensive position changes may be made. In this situation like the injury substitution, only the player that started the inning will have the inning count in his three-inning maximum.

B. Umpires

Unless provided by the League, each team shall provide an umpire Knowledgeable in COYBL Minor League as well as baseball rules.

II. Length of Games

- A. A half-inning shall consist of three (3) outs or five (5) runs whichever comes first.
- B. A game shall be declared a tie game if the score is tied after seven (7) innings or after reaching the time limit, whichever comes first.
- C. There shall be no “ten-run rule”
- D. No new inning will begin with less than 15 minutes to the time limit. Once started, an inning will be played to completion.

III. Base Running Rules

- A. Advancement of a runner to home plate can occur only on a batted ball, a bases loaded walk, a balk, or a play to any base.
- B. 9-10 YR. OLDS: There shall be no leadoff. All base runners shall remain in contact with their bases until the pitcher has released the pitched ball. Base runners that leave the base too soon shall be called out and the pitch shall be declared a dead ball and a “no pitch.”
- C. 9-10 YR. OLDS: A batter may not advance to first base on a called third strike even if the ball is dropped.

IV. Pitching Rules

- A. No pitcher shall be allowed to pitch more than two (2) innings in one game, no more than three (3) innings per week. Any violation of this rule shall not result in a suspension of the player. However, the player in question shall lose two innings of pitching eligibility. If the violation occurred in the first game of the week, the player would not be allowed to pitch at all in the next game and have only two innings of eligibility remaining the following week. If the violation occurred on the second game of the week, the player would not be able to pitch in the next game and would have one inning of eligibility remaining the next week.
- B. An attempt to “bean” a batter shall result in the pitcher being expelled from the game.
- C. Balks shall not be called. Unless the balks are considered deliberate. Umpires are to advise the coaching staff if a pitcher is committing an excessive numbers of balks.

V. Batting Rules

- A. No slash bunts shall be allowed; the batter who attempts to make a slash bunt shall be called out. A second attempt in the same game will result in the expulsion of the batter from the game. A slash bunt is where a batter shows the bunt but swings at the ball.
- B. Once the bunt is shown, the bat cannot be deliberately waved to distract the pitcher or catcher. If a pitch is delivered, the pitch will be called a strike if it is not hit, even if it is outside the strike zone. If the ball is hit, it will be ruled a slash bunt.
- C. Only the batters on deck and in the batter's box will be allowed to swing a bat. If a coach or adult supervises a player, the player may hit into a net.
- D. No pinch-hitting is allowed; pinch runners are allowed for injured players. The pinch runner will be either the last runner to be put out or to cross home plate.

VI. Field Rules

- A. Hokuahiahi Field - all balls hit onto or over the right field sidewalk shall be declared a home run. The rest of the field will be playable.
- B. Mililani Uka Field - all ground balls that roll onto or over the basketball courts will be a ground-rule double. All fly balls hit onto or over the basketball courts will be declared a home run.

VII. Managing and Coaching Rules

- A. Coaches must sit behind the fence.
- B. Any violation of the above rules by a player, manager or coach (es) shall result in the ejection from the game of the player/manager/coach (es) involved and suspension, and possibly other disciplinary action.

MAJOR CONFERENCE RULES

I. Player Participation Rules

- A. Mustang
 - 1. Players shall be substituted so that no player sits on the bench for two consecutive innings.
 - 2. All players present shall be in the batting order and bat in that rotation throughout the game.
- B. Bronco and Pony
 - 1. All substitutes shall enter the game by the top of the fourth inning.
 - 2. Substitutes shall remain in the game for a minimum of three consecutive innings and has completed one at bat.
 - 3. Starters shall not be substituted until they have completed at least one at bat.
 - 4. All players shall participate in a minimum of three innings in a regulation game.
 - 5. Players that arrive late must be added to the end of the batting lineup.

II. Length of Game

- A. Mustang - 6 innings (no extra innings)
- B. Bronco, Pony - 7 innings (9 innings maximum)
- C. No new inning shall start within 15 minutes of the time limit. Once started, an inning will be played to completion.

III. Field Rules

- A. Hokuahiahi Field - all balls that roll onto or over the right field sidewalk shall be declared a home run. The rest of the field will be playable.
- B. Mililani Uka Field - all ground balls that roll onto or over the basketball courts will be a ground-rule double. All fly balls hit onto or over the basketball courts will be declared a home run.

IV. Base Running Rules - Mustang only

- A. There shall be a 20-foot restraining line from third base to home plate. A runner may not pass this line until the ball is hit or gets by the catcher. If a runner steps on or over this line before the ball gets to or by the catcher, the runner will be declared out. If the ball is hit, the ball is dead and the pitch will not count.

V. Pitching Rules

- A. Mustang pitchers shall be allowed one warning per pitcher after which "balks" will be called.
- B. Throwing a pitch at the batter with the intent of hitting the batter shall result in the pitcher being expelled from the game. If the catcher positions himself too close to the batter signaling a "brush back" or "bean", he will be expelled.

VI. Batting Rules - Mustang only

- A. No slash bunts shall be allowed; the batter who attempts to make a slash bunt shall be called out. A second attempt in the same game will result in the expulsion of the batter from the game. A slash bunt is where a batter shows bunt but swings at the ball.
- B. Once the bunt is shown, the bat cannot be deliberately waved to distract the pitcher or catcher. If a pitch is delivered, the pitch will be called a strike if it is not hit, even if it is outside the strike zone. If the ball is hit, it will be ruled a slash bunt.
- C. Only the batters on deck and in the batter's box will be allowed to swing a bat. If a coach supervises a player, the player may hit into a net.

VII. Managing and Coaching Rules

- A. Coaches must sit behind the fence.
- B. Any violation of the above rules by a player, manager, or coach (es) shall result in the ejection from the game of the player/manager/coach (es) involved and suspension, and possibly other disciplinary action.