

**GERMANTOWN BASEBALL INC.**

**RULES AND BY-LAWS**

**INDEX**

Article I – NAME .....	2
Article II –OBJECTIVE.....	2
Article III – BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	2
Article IV – SELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	2-3
Article V – GOVERNMENT.....	3-4
Article VI – MEETINGS.....	4
Article VII – MEMBERSHIP.....	4
Article VIII – FINANCIAL POLICY.....	4
Article IX – GAME AND PARTICIPATION RULES.....	5-12
Article X – T – BALL RULES.....	12-13
Article XI – MACHINE PITCH RULES.....	13-14
Article XII –SOFTBALL COACH PITCH RULES.....	14-15
Article XIII – FALL LEAGUE RULES.....	15

**GERMANTOWN BASEBALL INC.**

**RULES AND BY – LAWS**

**ARTICLE I**

**NAME**

This organization shall be known as GERMANTOWN BASEBALL INC.

**ARTICLE II**

**OBJECTIVE**

The objective of Germantown Baseball Inc. shall be to implant firmly in the boys and girls of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect, so that they may be finer, stronger, happier boys and girls, and will grow to be good, clean-living and healthy citizens.

The objectives will be achieved by providing supervised (competitive) athletic games. THE SUPERVISORS SHALL BEAR IN MIND THAT MOLDING THE CHARACTER OF FUTURE CITIZENS IS OF PRIME IMPORTANCE, and the attainment of exceptional athletic skill or winning of games is secondary.

**ARTICLE III**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors of Germantown Baseball Inc. shall be composed of 16 members as follows: President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (supervises Baseball), 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (supervises softball), 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President (supervises T-Ball and Machine Pitch), Assistant Vice President Baseball, Treasurer, Secretary, three Baseball Players Agents, one Softball Player Agent, one Machine Pitch Player Agent, one T-Ball Player Agent and three Members at Large, all to be elected by the General Membership.

**ARTICLE IV**

**SELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Election of officers shall be held the first Thursday in September.

- (a) A President shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting every uneven year.
- (b) A 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting every even year.
- (c) A 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting every uneven year.
- (d) A 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting every uneven year.
- (e) An Assistant Vice President of Baseball shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting every uneven year.
- (f) A Secretary shall be elected for two years by the General Memberships at the September election meeting every even year.
- (g) A treasurer shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting every uneven year.

- (h) A Baseball Player Agent for 9-10 shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting every even year.
- (i) A Baseball Player Agent for 11-12 shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting every even year.
- (j) A Baseball Player Agent for 13-Over shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting every uneven year.
- (k) A Softball Player Agent for all ages shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting every even year.
- (l) A Boy's Machine Pitch Player (Ages 7-8) shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting every uneven year.
- (m) A T-Ball Player Agent for all ages shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting every even year.
- (n) Three At Large Members shall be elected for two years by the General Membership at the September election meeting. Two every even year and one every uneven year.
- (o) All elected officers shall assume their duties upon election.
- (p) The President of Germantown Baseball Inc. shall also serve as Chairman of the Board.
- (q) All members of the Board are eligible for re-election.
- (r) If for any reason, a vacancy (vacation and sickness excepted) on the Board of Directors exists, the President, or in the absence of the President, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President shall APPOINT a member to the Board of Directors to serve until the next general meeting when a replacement shall be elected for the unexpired term. In case of resignation, suspension, or death of the President, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President declines the office of President; he shall serve as acting President until an election can be held at the next general meeting.
- (s) If a member of the Board of Directors misses 4 meetings in one year, their name will be brought up and reviewed at the next Board meeting about their absenteeism. If a member misses 5 regular scheduled Board meetings in 1 year, his/her action is detrimental to the organization. Action by the Board will be justified through Article IV, Section T.
- (t) The Board of Directors shall have the authority to suspend any officer or board member whose conduct they consider detrimental to the best interest of the organization. The President shall immediately notify these persons. Suspension requires nine negative votes.
- (u) If a person is suspended, he cannot be considered for reinstatement as a member for one year from the date of suspension (See IV, Q).
- (v) Members elected to the Board of Directors must abide by all Rules and Regulations.

## ARTICLE V

### GOVERNMENT

- (a) The government of Germantown Baseball Inc. shall be under the direct supervision of the President and the Board of Directors.
- (b) Community functions shall be under the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors.
- (c) No matter how many members of the Board of Directors are in attendance at a meeting, a **CHANGE OF THE BY-LAWS OF GERMANTOWN BASEBALL INC. will require at least nine votes to carry.** If a motion fails to receive the required number of votes to pass, this same motion can only be brought up on the floor at the next Board of Directors meeting. If it fails again, it must be dropped until the next term, starting in September.

NOTE: Situations in which President can, but is not required to vote:

- (1) Any time vote is by ballot.
- (2) In a simple majority vote, either to break or cause a tie.

In an appeal on the decision of the President, a tie vote sustains the President's decision, even though his vote created the tie, on the principle that the decision of the President can be reversed only by a majority.

- (d) Any Motion must have two readings. Motions concerning expenditures for league operations, manger/coach approval and any disciplinary action are excluded.
- (e) All managers and coaches shall be approved by the Board of Directors at the earliest date. If a manger or coach is turned down, the President shall notify these individuals in writhing within 72 hours. A written request from the individual within a week after notification must be sent to the

President requesting an appeal and a special meeting must be called to hear the appeal within 1 week of the request. A second vote will be taken at that time. If the appeal fails, it cannot be brought up again until the next term, starting in September.

- (f) Committee Chairman shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors.
- (g) The agenda for a special Board of Directors meeting must be stated at the time the meeting is called.
- (h) Articles I through VIII shall be considered the By-Laws of Germantown Baseball Inc.

## ARTICLE VI

### MEETINGS

- (a) Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held each month on a designated date. Additional meetings may be called by the President or, upon written request to the President by three members of the Board of Directors, at least three days prior to the requested meeting.
- (b) Meetings of the general membership shall be held on the first Thursday of each month.
- (c) Roberts Rules of Order will be in effect only when the Rules and By-Laws of Germantown Baseball Inc. do not cover the situation.
- (d) The President shall make a report at the regular September meeting to the general membership. This report shall contain a resume of the past year and plans for the coming year in particular, and future goals.

## ARTICLE VII

### MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Parents, Grandparents and Guardians of boy and girls actively participating in Germantown programs shall be members of Germantown Baseball Inc.
- (b) Managers, coaches, umpires, groundskeeper and scorekeepers (16 years and older) who do not qualify under paragraph (a) shall be members.
- (c) Members of the Board of Directors and Committee Chairpersons who do not qualify under paragraph (a) shall be members.
- (d) Each sponsor and booster shall be a member. A sponsor or booster is allowed one membership.

## ARTICLE VIII

### FINANCIAL POLICY

- (a) The Board of Directors shall decide on all matters pertaining to the finances of the organization.
- (b) It shall be a permanent policy of the organization to place all income into a common league treasury.
- (c) The expenditure of money shall be directed in the best interest of the league with the approval of the Board of Directors.
- (d) The Board of Directors shall discourage the contribution of funds to individuals or teams, but to recommend, if such offers are made, that it be donated to the common treasury.
- (e) The President will appoint an Audit Committee to examine the corporation books and report to the Board of Directors their findings. This action should take place during the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the Treasurer's 2-year term. Appointment of the committee, by the President, will occur at the September meeting and the report back to the full Board will occur at the December meeting. Audit of the books in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the Treasurer's 2 year term will be done by an outside qualified Accountant. The selection of such a firm or individual will follow Germantown's purchasing procedures. Awarding of the contract will occur in the month of September and a final report will be submitted to the Board of Directors at the December meeting.
- (f) In order that Germantown Baseball Inc., may qualify as a non-profit organization, Kosair Charities, a non-profit organization, is named to benefit from league treasury in the event of the Dissolution of the organization.
- (g) The President is allowed to spend \$50.00 per month at his discretion for the betterment of the league. If more money is needed, it must be approved by the Board of Directors.
- (h) The Board shall vote on and approve the cost, color, material and design of All-star shirts, hats and socks at a Board of Directors meeting on or before June 15<sup>th</sup> each year.

## ARTICLE IX

### GAME AND PARTICIPATION RULES

(a) Official Rules and Protest Committee.

The Official Cal Ripken Division Rules and Regulation as augmented by the Board of Directors shall be the game rules of Germantown Baseball Inc., for all Baseball (12 & under divisions). For all Baseball (13 & over divisions), they will go by The Babe Ruth Rules and Regulations, published by the National Baseball Congress Inc., Copyright 1990 by Faye Vincent. The USSSA Official Rule Book as augmented by the Board of Directors, shall be the rules for all Softball Games.

1. In case of conflict, Germantown By-Laws shall prevail.
2. No rule changes can be made less than thirty days prior to the opening day of any season.
3. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Presidents shall appoint a Protest Committee of three, for their respective leagues, when a protest occurs.
4. The proper procedures for a protest must be followed according to the Cal Ripken Rules and Regulations, Babe Ruth and Regulations or the USSSA Official Rule Book within 36 hours and accompanied by a \$25.00 protest fee. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be refunded.

(b) Managers and Coaches

1. All managers must be 18 years old and coaches must be 16 years old by opening day and must sign a waiver form upon approval by the Board of Directors.
2. No more than the approved manager, 3 approved coaches and a bat person (whose age shall not exceed the maximum age of the division) may accompany a team on the field. If a manager or coach is absent, the manager or coach present may appoint any approved Manager or coach to assist him. Players of participating team may act as coaches on bases. In the event of an emergency, a parent may come into the game to help coach only with the approval of the opposing manager and if the umpire is notified.
3. Managers and coaches must stay inside the dugout or in the coaching boxes. Standing or sitting in the doorway of the dugouts is permissible providing it does not interfere with the playing of the game. No smoking is allowed on the field.
4. If a manager, coach, or fan is put out of a game, he is restricted from taking part in the game, in any way, and must immediately go to the parking area. A Manager or Coach who is ejected shall automatically be suspended from His or Her next game in that league. If the Manager or Coach engaged in Physical Contact or Verbal Threats, He or She shall be suspended indefinitely until appearing before the Board of Directors.
5. Misconduct of any person on Germantown premises will be brought before the Board of Directors as soon as possible. If a manager or coach is ejected twice in one year, he will be suspended until appearing before the Board of Directors.
6. Four helmets are to be issued by the league to each manager. The manager is responsible for having four helmets at each game.
7. Any manager not returning equipment by September 1<sup>st</sup> cannot be approved as a manager or coach the following year unless granted special dispensation by the Board of Directors.
8. Any coach or manager who exercises a player's option and subsequently resigns their position in the same year may only be replaced after Board investigation and approval.
9. A **\$50.00** per child Concession Stand Fee is to be collected and turned in before a Uniform can be issued. Fee will be refunded when the Scheduled Time is worked.

### Manager Selection and Approval Process

Selection:

1. Managers from previous year are offered the team again.
2. Player agent collects applications from anyone interested in managing a team.
3. A selection committee consisting of 5 members will review all applications and come to a consensus on all managers.

4. If there are still openings available then the agent can fill the openings as they see fit, as long as approval process is satisfied.

Approval:

1. All managers and coaches must agree to background checks
2. Applications are given to the Board for review. Background checks will be performed then audited by a third party that will inform the Board of any problems or issues with applicant.
3. Board approves or declines applicant. Player Agent advises applicants of status.

(c) Umpires and Scorekeepers

1. All umpires in all divisions must be 16 years of age by opening day with the exception of T-Ball, where umpires must be 15 years of age by opening day.
2. All umpires are the representatives of the league and under the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors.
3. Fees for umpires, scorekeepers, groundskeepers, etc. shall be decided by the Board of Directors.
4. Umpires shall not smoke on the field.

(d) Time of game, time limit, and called games.

1. The starting time for all games will be in the program. In all divisions, no forfeit time is allowed. In all divisions, the game officially begins when the home plate umpire instructs the defensive team to take the field and notifies both Managers and Scorekeepers of the starting time.
2. In all divisions, there is a minimum number of innings that must be completed before the game can be declared an official game. There is also a maximum time limit for all games depending on the division. This time limit will be kept by the home plate umpire and may be checked at the end of each inning so that no inning shall start after the time limit for that division has expired. There is also a maximum number of innings (unless the score is tied) that can be played in each division. An inning starts when the third out of the previous inning is made. The following table shows the limits for each division.

DIVISION	MINIMUM NO. MAXIMUM (WHICH OCCURES FIRST)		
	INNINGS	TIME LIMIT	INNINGS
Machine Pitch	3	75 Min.	6
7-9 Softball	3	55 Min.	6
10-12 Softball	3	55 Min.	7
13-16 Softball	3	1 Hr. 10 Min.	7
9-12 Boys Baseball	3	1 Hrs. 30 Min.	6
13-Over Baseball	5	1 Hrs. 50 Min.	7
T-Ball	2	55 Min.	4

Normally, a game will be declared official when the inning in progress is completed and the time has expired.

3. The groundskeeper shall make every effort to have the playing fields in playable condition by game time. The President, or his representative, shall make the decision as to the playability of the fields. Once the game has started, the Umpire in Chief for that game (home plate umpire) shall make the decision.
4. In Baseball and Softball if for some reason such as rain, the game is over 60 minutes late starting the game is called. In T-Ball if the game is over 15 minutes late starting, the game is called. If any game is called and some of the fields can be readied, subsequent games will be played. Any game called for darkness, will be considered a legal game if the minimum numbers of innings have been played.
5. If, for any reason a game is delayed over 5 minutes, in all leagues, time will be added for every minute over 5 minutes up to 30 minutes.

6. Mercy Rules in all leagues except 13 & Over Boys Baseball. When the time of the game expires and there is a 10 run difference, the game is called.
7. All called games will be rescheduled by the respective Vice President for that league and posted at Germantown. It is the manager's responsibility to determine when their game is rescheduled once it has been posted. The manager will be considered to have been notified once the rescheduled times have been posted. Both managers must be given 36 hours notice of the rescheduled game time. With the approval of both managers, a game may be rescheduled with less than 36hours notice.

(e) Playoffs, Trophies and Awards

1. In leagues with split divisions, a 2 game playoff shall determine the League Champion. In case of tie in a division, a 1 game playoff will determine the Division Champion. All players are eligible to pitch in the 1<sup>st</sup> game of any playoff with that game being the start of a new pitching week no matter when scheduled. The 3<sup>rd</sup> game will constitute the start of a new pitching week. The games will go the maximum number of innings for their respective league. The Home Team shall be decided by a flip of the coin the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> games (1<sup>st</sup> game home team will be visitor the 2<sup>nd</sup> game). If the game is halted for any reason, it will be a suspended game and will be completed in its entirety at the earliest possible date.
2. In leagues without split divisions, the team with the best won/loss percentage shall be declared champion. In the event of any ties at the end of the season, a 1 game playoff shall decide the Championship. All rules concerning number of innings, home or visitor, suspended game, new pitching week, etc will apply as in Rule 1.
3. In Girl's Softball, a 3 game playoff shall determine the League Champion. Due to time restraints, a 1 game playoff may determine the League Champion. All rules shall apply as in Rule 1.
4. The following trophies and awards are to be given out at the end of each season.
  - (a) The sponsor and players, manager and coaches of the winning team in each division are to receive trophies.
  - (b) The sponsor, players, manager and coaches of the winning team in each league are to receive a trophy. All awards including 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophies are to be approved by the Board of Directors.

(f) Registration and League Boundaries

1. A birth certificate or hospital report for every boy and girl must be shown.
2. Any boy or girl living outside the boundaries of Germantown Baseball will not be eligible to play excepting if less than a total of 900 boys and 500 girls are registered from within the boundaries. In that case, those living nearest the boundaries will be accepted.
3. Following zip codes are the boundaries of Germantown Baseball Inc.: 40202, 40203, 40204, 40205, 40206, 40208, 40210, 40212, 40213, 40214, 40215, 40217, 40218, 40216, east of Dixie Hwy. and 40219 north of Outer Loop. Boundaries of Germantown Baseball Inc., shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

(g) Uniforms and Helmets

1. In all divisions, all players must wear the full uniform issued by Germantown Baseball Inc.
2. Helmets provided by Germantown Baseball, Inc., must be worn for the safety of the player and must be worn by batters and base runners in all leagues, games and practices. If a helmet is deliberately removed, the penalty shall be that the player shall be called out by the Umpire. The ball shall remain in play if there are less than three outs.
3. In Softball if hats are issued, girls must wear them as part of a Germantown issue uniform and must be worn properly. NOTE: this is already a USSSA rule.

(h) Substitutions – Every Child Should Play

1. In all leagues, every effort should be made to see that every child plays as often as possible.

2. A manager has the right to discipline his team and may, at his discretion sit a player out of a game for disciplinary reasons. A manager is under no obligation to play a child if (a) the child did not participate in at least 50% of his team practices. (b) The child is not present to play at least 10 minutes before game time. In divisions where it is mandatory to play all players, the manager must list these disciplinary reason and all absent players on the score card before the game.
  3. In 12 & under Baseball and all divisions of Softball, the manager will submit a batting order of all players on his team and they will bat in that order for the entire game. If a player arrives at any time after the game has started and the Manager still wishes to get them in the game, they will be added at the bottom of the batting line-up. If a player is removed from the line-up for whatever reason, they may only be added back to their spot in the line-up with approval of the opposing Manager and the Home Plate Umpire. If a player that has reached base is removed due to injury or sickness, the last batter of the previous inning should be used as a pinch runner. If this is not possible, any prior runner may be used with the approval of the opposing Manager. **IT IS MANDATORY** that all players' play six defensive outs in all games except for disciplinary reasons noted in paragraph 2. All positions in those divisions can be freely substituted except for the pitcher in baseball. In baseball, the manager needs only to designate his starting pitcher during the game. Any players that are being disciplined under paragraph 2 must be noted at the bottom of the line-up card.
  4. Ages 13 – Over Baseball shall abide by the following mandatory playing rules: Every player on a team roster will participate in each game for a minimum of six defensive outs and bat at least one time. Penalty – The players involved shall start the next game and play no less than the mandatory time limit. The manager for the 1<sup>st</sup> offense shall receive a verbal warning from Vice President of the respective league; 2<sup>nd</sup> offense shall receive a suspension for the next game and 3<sup>rd</sup> offense, a suspension for the remainder of the season. NOTE: If the violation is determined to have been intentional, a more severe penalty may be assessed by the Board of Director. However, forfeiture of a game may not be involved.
  5. In 7-12 softball, each girl is to play every other inning in the field except for disciplinary reasons noted in 2 above. If a manger does not abide by this rule the penalty is the same as noted in 4 above.
  6. In all softball divisions a team may start with 9 players without penalty. When a player arrivers, she is added at the bottom of the line up.
- (i) Number of Players, Ineligible Players, and Player's Misconduct.
1. Each team will begin the season with no less than twelve players, no more than fifteen (15) except at the discretion of the Board of Director. This condition will not give any team the right to a bonus pick under the draft selection system.
  2. In all divisions, a team must start a game with nine players.
  3. A game will be forfeited when an ineligible player or pitcher is used if a protest is made within 36 hours.
  4. Members of the Board of Directors shall, upon evidence of the misconduct of any player, notify the player's manager and Parent or Guardian within 24 hours. The player shall appear with his manager as advisor and the Parents or Guardian if they elect to appear with him before at least 3 members of the Board of Directors within 3 days of the act.
  5. Any player who throws any equipment in a malicious manner will be ejected from the game by the umpire.
  6. If any player is ejected from 2 games, he/she must appear before the Board of Directors before he/she can participate in another game.
- (j) Baseball Tryouts and Draft Selection System
1. There will be a draft involving all players in all leagues except for T-Ball. No player will be eligible to be drafted unless he/she proves himself in the tryouts or by the discretion of the Board.
  2. Any player who does not try out will be distributed in a blind draw at the end of the draft except mangers & coaches options.

3. The selection of players for the above divisions shall be in compliance with the draft selection system, which is outlined in the remainder of this section.
4. The “immediate family” for immediate family options shall be defined as sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, and grandchildren.
5. A manager or coach who has a member of his immediate family eligible under the rules and who wishes to draft him/her/them for his team must state this to the Player Agent prior to the tryouts. A manager or coach must be approved at a board meeting prior to tryouts to exercise any option except when vacancies have not been filled.
6. At the start of the tryouts, the Player Agent will notify all options to all managers of the teams. No options will be allowed after the 1<sup>st</sup> ball is hit at tryouts.
7. No team shall have more than three players on their team at any one time that was obtained by a Manager’s or Coach’s option. Except in 13 baseball, no more than 2 managers options can be of same age.
8. The player agent for each age group shall appoint a seeding committee of at least 2 impartial persons.
9. All managers and coaches options will be seeded & ranked for the draft.
10. All brothers shall be seeded even if they are not options.
11. At the completion of try-outs, each team manager shall inform the seeding committee of the recommended seeding for their respective team options. This shall be completed in private.
12. Managers will be asked to leave one by one while his/hers options are discussed.
13. If all managers do not agree on any particular seed it shall then go to the seeding committee for a final decision.
14. The order of the draft shall not be determined until all seeds are final. The order of the draft will be decided by random selection, pulling numbers out of a hat. The team that has the last pick of the first round will have the first pick of the second round and the process will repeat.

(k) Soft Ball Tryouts and Draft Selection System

1. There will be a draft for all leagues except for T-Ball and 7 – 9 softball. No player will be eligible to be drafted unless he/she proves their self in the tryouts or by the discretion of the Board. Managers/coaches’ options are not required to try out.
2. Any player who does not try out will be distributed in a blind draw at the beginning of the draft.
3. The selection of players for the above divisions shall be in compliance with the draft selection system, which is outlined in the remainder of this section.
4. The immediate family for immediate family options shall be defined as sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, and grandchildren.
5. A manager or coach who has a member of his immediate family eligible under the rules and who wishes to draft him/her/them for his team must state this to the Player Agent prior to the tryouts. A manager or coach must be approved at a board meeting prior to tryouts to exercise any option except when vacancies have not been filled.
6. At the start of the tryouts, the Player Agent will notify all options to all managers of the teams. No options will be allowed after the 1<sup>st</sup> ball is hit at tryouts.
7. The manager or coach is required to exercise his or her option(s) starting in the 1<sup>st</sup> draft round. Any options thereafter shall be taken in subsequent rounds until all options are exercised.
8. No team shall have more than three players on their team at any one time that was obtained by a Manager’s or Coach’s option unless all parties involved in a particular situation appear before the Board and the fourth option on the team be approved by the Board of Directors.
9. The team that finished last in the previous season will have first choice in the first round after the immediate family options are announced. The teams will choose in reverse order of their finish last season. The league champion will draft last, the league runner up will draft next to last. Remainder of draft will be based on best won/loss record.
10. Manager who had last choice in the round shall choose first in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round.

11. In the event of 2 teams having the same record, the player agent will flip a coin to decide the order of the draft.
12. Any player that was on a previous team and goes back in the draft may not be a Coach's Option unless approved by the Board of Directors.
13. Managers must draft so that their team will have seven or less of each age group, or such numbers so that age groups are equally distributed on their team.
14. If there are two members of the same immediate family in the pool of players and the manager chooses one of these members in any round, the other family member will be placed on the same team automatically with parent approval.
15. Any team losing a released player will be awarded a bonus pick at the end of the round in which the released player is chosen. If a released player's parent manages or coaches with a different team in that league, the option for that particular player must be taken in the first round.
16. If a player is picked as an option and his parent does not manage or coach at least 50% of the games, the must be returned to the draft or draw the following year unless approved at a meeting of the Board of Directors.

(l) Players Who Quit and Replacement Players

1. If a player quits, the Player Agent or Vice President of the division shall immediately notify the child's parents for confirmation.
2. If a player quits a team, he shall not be eligible to play the balance of that season with any team in Germantown Baseball Inc.
3. A manager of any team must report to the player agent within 48 hours any player who quits.
4. The procedure for obtaining a player to replace one lost must be handled by Player Agent.
5. A replacement player must be chosen in order from the waiting list. If no waiting list exists, the player must be the same age or younger than the player he is to replace.

(m) Special Rules in Certain Divisions

1. In all divisions, each team will be allowed to hit infield at umpires' discretion.
2. In softball, 7-9 age groups, the pitching rubber shall be 35ft. from home plate. In 10-12 age group, it shall be 40ft. from home plate and in 13-16 age group; it shall be 50ft. from home plate. Base paths shall be 60ft. in 7-12 age group and 65ft. in 13-16 age group.
3. In 7-9 softball, 7-8 Machine Pitch and in T-Ball the infield fly rule shall not apply.
4. In 12 & under Baseball, the starting pitcher may come back once as a pitcher (and only the starting pitcher).
5. In 12 & under Baseball, a pitcher may pitch six innings in a calendar week, Monday through Sunday, not exceeding 6 innings in two consecutive days.
6. In 13-18 Baseball, the pitcher may pitch 7 innings in a calendar week, Monday through Sunday, not exceeding 7 innings in two consecutive days.
7. In all leagues, a second trip to the same pitcher in the same inning will cause this pitcher's automatic removal.
8. In all leagues, the catcher must wear a mask to warm up the pitcher.
9. In all leagues, there will be a maximum of three offensive time outs per inning with a maximum of one time out per batter.
10. In Softball there are no appeals, if a runner leaves a base too soon or misses a base, he/she will be called out by the umpire after time has been called. NOTE: Once a runner touches the next base, he/she may not go back to the previous base.

(n) Tournament Team Guidelines

1. Tournament Committee  
Board of Directors will appoint a Tournament Committee to assist Managers, Coaches, Players and Parents of Tournament Teams. The committee will include a representative from Baseball and Softball. Please direct any tournament questions or issues to the individuals of the committee

2. Player Fees

Each player will be expected to pay a fee, as determined by the Board of Directors. This fee is to help offset the cost of uniforms and tournament fees. Managers cannot collect additional fees for uniform upgrades, tournament charges or travel expenses from parents of players. Parents will have enough additional out of pocket expenses. Germantown will provide funds to help offset these expenses.

3. Tournament Play

Germantown Baseball Inc. will pay fees for sanctioned tournaments and to ONE Invitational tournament per team. Managers must seek approval from the tournament committee prior to accepting a spot in an Invitational Tournament. Certificates of Insurance are required for all team playing Invitational Tournaments, which are provided by the committee. Germantown will require a certificate from all teams playing in Germantown Tournaments.

Play in Invitational Tournaments must be started on or before August 1<sup>st</sup> (away or hosted).

4. Uniforms

Teams are to wear uniforms issued by Germantown Baseball Inc. A uniform consists of a hat, shirt and socks, which will be distributed to players 1 Manager and 3 Coaches. All Tournament teams are to wear gray uniform pants (same as regular season). Players and coaches are responsible for supplying pants.

Ordering and obtaining uniforms for tournament play can be a time sensitive process. In order to expedite the process, jersey number may be randomly issued. Players may select jersey numbers only if time permits.

5. Travel Expenses

Germantown Baseball Inc. cannot fund the entire expense of a team that travels. Funds for travel are available pending tournament committee approval. The general guidelines for travel expenses are as follows: The Sanctioned or Qualifying Tournament is at least 90 miles from Germantown (as determined by mapquest.com). Teams will receive \$30.00 per player and Coach per day, when overnight travel is required. The amount is based upon the league providing funds for lodging for 2 Coaches rooms, 4 Players rooms and \$10.00 for meal per player.

In the event there are no locally sanctioned tournaments, request for Invitational travel expenses must be submitted to the Board for approval prior to June 1<sup>st</sup> each season.

6. Player and Manager Selection

A tournament team will consist of 12-15 players, 1 Manager and 3 Coaches, subject to Board approval.

All-star nominations shall be done in the week of the 10<sup>th</sup> game, with selections occurring in the week that the 13<sup>th</sup> game is played in that division. The manager shall not contact any player until the team has been approved by the Board of Directors.

The manager who has the best regular season record has the option to be manager of the age group of his choice. The 2<sup>nd</sup> place manager has the next option. Ties will be determined by comparison of head to head competition.

Teams are allowed 1 Manager and 3 Coaches but please note, that the Babe Ruth Rules state that only 1 Manager and 2 Coaches are allowed on the field and dugout before and during a game.

In leagues with 5 or more teams, tournament teams shall be selected by managers of each team submitting a list of his/her top ten players of each age. Managers may not vote for players from his/her team. Tournament team rosters will consist of the 12 players receiving the most votes, and the team manager may chose up to 3 additional players.

In all leagues with less than 5 teams, the tournament team manager will choose a minimum of 12, and a maximum of 15 players with at least 1 player represented per team.

7. Fund Raising

Germantown provides Fund Raisers and solicits sponsors to help with tournament expenses. The Board of Directors must approve all fund raising efforts by individual teams.

8. Concession Stand Duty

All tournament Teams will be required to staff the concession stand during tournament play at Germantown. The committee will assign your teams shift(s). Teams could receive less than 24 hours notice. **Tournament Teams may not play in an “Invitational Tournament” on days that a sanctioned state tournament is being held at Germantown Baseball**

9. Conduct

Each team (players, coaches and parents) is representing not just themselves but Germantown Baseball Inc., as well. The single most important thing that a coach can do for his team is to win or lose with, respect, dignity and honor.

The coaching staff is expected to be leaders. Please abide and follow the park and field rules of Germantown and other facilities (No smoking on fields or dugouts, no alcoholic beverages at ballpark, abusive language etc.).

The tournament committee will suspend any manager or coach, not following these guidelines, from the team. They can only be reinstated with the approval of the Board of Directors. In the event a manager or coach is ejected from a tournament game, they will be suspended for the next scheduled game. If ejected twice, the coach or manager must appear before the Board of Directors prior to returning to the team.

## ARTICLE X

### T-Ball Rules

- (a) All players participating in Germantown T-Ball must be 4 years of age by December 31<sup>st</sup> and cannot be 7 years of age before January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- (b) Only Germantown issued equipment may be used. The home team will furnish the tee.
- (c) The manager is responsible for the conduct of the coaches, players and fans. The home plate umpire will use his/her in reprimanding the manager concerning the fans' conduct. Misconduct may result in ejection and possible game being called.
- (d) Each team is allowed on manager and two coaches. On offense, the coaches are placed in boxes at first and third bases. One coach may remain at home plate to help instruct the batter. Base coaches must remain in their coaching boxes. No coach will be allowed to touch a child while the ball is in play or that player will be called out. On defense, the three coaches may accompany their team onto the field to help instruct players, but must position themselves behind the infield base lines. No interference will allow. (Penalty: runners to get base they are going to plus one more). If a team's manager or coaches are absent and no approved coach can be found, then an adult may be used subject to the approval of the opposing manager. An extra adult may be used in the dugout to supervise the line-up.

- (e) There will be approximately 15 children on each team. Six players must be designated as infielders and placed in the position of first base, second base, third base, shortstop, short fielder (defined as the area between first and second base), and pitcher. A seventh infielder may be used, but if so, must be used in the position of catcher. All other players must play in the outfield. Infielders may play their positions at the discretion of their manager in accordance with normal baseball positions. However, no outfielder may be positioned in front of a designated infielder.
- (f) All children must be in full uniform, as issued by Germantown Baseball Inc. to play. A line-up card with the names of all players and the order they are to bat must be furnished to the scorekeeper at least five minutes before the game's scheduled starting time.
- (g) Each team will bat the number of players on their line up in the first inning. After the 1<sup>st</sup> inning this number, or 3 outs, whichever comes first, will constitute a half-inning.
- (h) All batters must stay in the dugout until their turn to bat. Batter must bat from inside batter's box or he will be called out. If a batter throws his bat and it hits the fence, he will automatically be called out. In case of a bat violation, all play is stopped and there is no advance of runners.
- (i) The ball must be batted from a tee. There are no walks, strikeouts, bunts, sliding, stealing leading off, or infield fly rules. The batter must take a full swing at the ball. The ball must go at least 6 feet be fair.
- (j) The last batter in any inning will be played the same as the 10<sup>th</sup> batter in Article XII, Section 9. He, or any runner, must either be put out or score. The runner can only be played one base at a time. If the ball is thrown or a play is made two bases ahead of any runner or the batter-runner, all runners score.
- (k) No defensive player shall block any member of the batting team. A blocked player will be awarded the base to which he was advancing. If the defensive player has the ball, the base path becomes neutral territory.
- (l) No player can cross in front of the "pitcher" until the ball is hit. **Penalty:** Batter is awarded first base.
- (m) Time will be called by the umpire when the ball is in possession of an infielder, within the base paths of the infield, and no play is being made on any runner or batter. It is the umpire's discretion as to whether or not a play is being made. All play is stopped when time is called by the umpire. At the umpire's discretion, a runner will be awarded the base to which he was advancing when time was called.
- (n) In the event of an overthrow, runners may run at their own risk. If an overthrow goes out of play (over or under a fence), then the runner is awarded the base to which he was advancing toward plus the next base. Anything not covered in these rules or in Germantown By-Laws will be governed by Bambino Rules and Regulations.
- (o) No protests will be allowed in T-Ball.
- (p) No forfeits will be allowed.

## ARTICLE XI

### Baseball Machine-Pitch Rules

Seven & Eight year old Machine Pitch will follow rules for 9-12 Baseball with the exceptions listed below.

- (a) Players may use any bat, as long as it meets Little League specifications.
- (b) Each team is allowed 1 Manager and 3 Coaches. On Offense, 2 Coaches are placed in coaching boxes at 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> base. The other coach will be the Pitching coach and deliver the ball into the machine. Base coaches must remain in their coaching boxes. No coach will be allowed to touch a child while the ball is in play or that player will be called out. If a team's manager/or coaches are absent and no other coach can be found, then an adult may be used subject to the approval of the opposing manager.
- (c) All players (at the game) will be in the starting lineup. Each team will field 10 players (but may start with as few as 9 players). The field positions will be the normal Softball positions. Players will be rotated in and out of the game each inning. No outfielder may be positioned in front of or to the side of a designated fielder.

- (d) A pitching machine chosen by Germantown Baseball Inc. will pitch to batters. The coach placing the ball into the pitching machine may not help coach the bases. PENALTY: The umpire will issue a warning on the 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence; the 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence will result in the pitching coach being replaced for the balance of the game. The pitching coach must stay 3 ft. behind the pitching machine after delivering the ball into the machine. If the ball hits the pitching machine or coach, it will be ruled dead. This pitch will not count towards the maximum pitches. If a pitch is obviously out of the strike zone (bounces, etc) the umpire may rule the pitch unhittable. It will not count towards the maximum number of pitches. Each batter may receive up to 5 pitches or 3 swinging strikes. If the 3<sup>rd</sup> strike is foul tipped and caught by the catcher, it is an out. The batter is allowed to foul off the 3<sup>rd</sup> strike or 5<sup>th</sup> pitch until he hits the ball or strikes out.
- (e) The player playing the pitcher position on defense will start to the right or to the left of the pitching machine, with 1 foot on the mid circle line, and may not go in front of the pitching mound until the ball has been thrown. No other player may cross in front of the pitching mound until the ball has been hit. This is treated as a delayed dead ball as in catcher's interference.
- (f) Time will be called, when a player has possession of the baseball in the pitchers circle, or at the Umpire's Discretion. Once time is called, players beyond the midway line will be allowed to advance to the next base. Players yet to reach the midway line shall go back to the previous base.
- (g) The home team manager, of the 1<sup>st</sup> game, is responsible for setting up the pitching machine. The home team manager of the last game is responsible for putting the machine back. In the event only one game is played, the home team manger sets up the machine and the visiting team manager puts it back.
- (h) Tampering with the pitching machine speed will be an automatic out.
- (i) Players may only steal one base per pitch. A runner may not leave the base until the ball has crossed home plate. A line drawn between the bases and around the pitching machine. If the catcher returns the ball back to the pitcher before the base runner crosses the mid line, the runner must return to the original base after successfully reaching 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> base. The catcher may attempt to get the runner out. If a player leaves base early and succeeds in stealing a base, he will be sent back for leaving base early. Stealing home will not be allowed.
- (j) There will be no infield fly rule.
- (k) No appeal is needed for leaving base early or missing a base.
- (l) 6 runs or 3 outs will constitute a half inning.
- (m) Anything not covered in these rules or in Germantown By-Laws will be governed by the Cal Ripken Rules & Regulations.

## ARTICLE XII

### Softball Coach-Pitch Rules

- (a) All Players participating in Germantown coach-Pitch must have been seven years of age by January 1<sup>st</sup> and cannot be ten years of age by January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- (b) Only Germantown issued equipment may be used. Players may use any bat, as long as it meets USSSA specification.
- (c) At least nine players must be fielded at game time or a forfeit will be declared.
- (d) Each team is allowed 1 manager and 3 coaches. On offense, two coaches are placed in coaching boxes at 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> bases. The other coach will be the pitching coach and deliver the ball to the batter. Base coaches must remain in their coaching boxes. No coach will be allowed to touch a child while the ball is in play or that player will be called out. If a team's manager or coaches are absent and no other approved coach can be found, then an adult may be used subject to the approval of the opposing manager. An extra adult may be used in the dugout to help supervise the line-up.
- (e) There will be approximately 15 children on each team. All players (at the game) will be in the batting line-up. Each team will field 10 players (but may start a game with only 9 players). The field positions will be the normal softball positions. No outfielder may be positioned in front of or to the side of a designated infielder.
- (f) All children must be in full uniform, as issued by Germantown Baseball Inc. to play. A line-up card with the names of all players in the order they are to bat must be furnished to the scorekeeper at least five minutes before the games' scheduled starting time.

- (g) Ten batters, or three outs, whichever comes first, will constitute a half inning.
- (h) Batters will be pitched to by one of their coaches. This pitching coach may not help coach the bases and must stay three feet behind the pitching mound after delivering the ball to the batter. If the ball hits the pitching coach, it will be ruled as a playable ball (assuming it was unintentional). No ball or strikes will be called. There are no walks. Each batter will be allowed a maximum of 7 pitches or 3 swinging strikes (whichever comes first). There are no bunts, stealing, leading off, or infield fly rules, however sliding is permitted.
- (i) The 10<sup>th</sup> batter in any ½ inning will be the last batter. If the 10<sup>th</sup> batter hits the ball with no one on base, she must be played for one base at a time. If the ball reaches the base in front of her, she is automatically out. If the 10<sup>th</sup> batter hits the ball with runners on base, the 3<sup>rd</sup> out can be made by playing for any of the base runners, but the same rule applies by playing the runner at the base she is advancing to. If any runner is played 2 bases in advance, all runners will automatically counted as scored. The umpires will enforce this in such a way as to avoid any unnecessary collisions.
- (j) No defensive player shall block any member of the batting team. A blocked player will be awarded the base to which she was advancing. If the defensive player has the ball, the base path becomes neutral territory.
- (k) The player playing the pitcher position on defense will start to the right or left of the pitching coach and may not go in front of the pitching mound until the ball has been thrown. No other player may cross in front of the pitching mound until the ball has been hit. Penalty: Batter is awarded first base.
- (l) Time will be called by the umpire as in normal softball rules. The fielder with the ball does not have to be in the infield.
- (m) In the event of an overthrow, runners may run at their own risk. If an overthrow goes out of play (over or under a fence), then the runner is awarded the base to which he was advancing toward plus the next base.
- (n) The pitching rubber will be 35 feet from home plate. The distance between the bases will be 60 feet.
- (o) Anything not covered in these rules or in the Germantown By-Laws will be governed by the USSSA Rules.

### ARTICLE XIII

#### Fall League Rules

- (a) The fall league was formed for the purpose of serving as an instructional and transitional league in order to prepare players for the following summer. A player's age is determined by their age on July 31<sup>st</sup> of the following summer.
- (b) League standings will not be kept, and no trophies will be awarded.
- (c) Playing rules will be the same as in the summer with the exceptions listed below.
- (d) There will be no tryouts in any division. Each team will draft 4 players (manager and coach option included—1 manager, 2 coaches). The remaining players will be distributed in a blind draw.
- (e) Managers will submit a line up of all players, and they will bat in that order for the entire game.
- (f) Managers need only to designate the pitcher on the line up. All other positions may be freely substituted.
- (g) No player may sit on the bench for two consecutive innings except for disciplinary reasons. Players may not play any one position for more than 3 innings per game.
- (h) No balks will be called in the 12 and under division.
- (i) In 9-10 Baseball, runners may not steal home on a past ball unless a play is made on a runner. Managers may use four outfielders.
- (j) No new inning may begin after maximum time has expired.