

Greater Gwinnett Baseball League By-Laws

Mission Statement

The Greater Gwinnett Baseball League (GGBL) is committed to providing advanced levels of competition in baseball for the development of strong character, physical fitness, fair play and sportsmanship in the youth of our County. The GGBL will accomplish this while remaining focused on Safety, Community, Fairness, and Accountability.

Safety

In every aspect of this League, rule making, game situations, and equipment, the safety of the players, coaches, umpires, and spectators, will be the determining factor.

Community

Through this League, we hope to develop a sense of pride in our parks, bring together neighbors and classmates, and build a sense of Community.

Fairness

This League is made of recreational programs large and small. Association members of the GGBL will work together to find common ground, putting aside the wants and desires of the individual team for the good of the League. This League expects that each individual, including coaches, players, and parents to realize the value of participation, development, and sportsmanship without overemphasizing the importance of winning.

Accountability

As coaches and parents we are role models. Sportsmanship and learning how to win or lose, are some of the valuable lessons we can teach our kids in the game of Baseball. All players, coaches, and League officials will agree to a Code of Conduct as drafted by the Board of Directors of the GGBL and a Player/Parent's Code of Conduct shall be signed by all coaches, players, parents, legal guardians, and other team personnel.

League Objectives

1. To cooperate and co-exist with City/County Recreational Baseball Programs, Middle Schools, and High School teams.
2. Provide the leadership necessary to organize, schedule, and monitor games among the member programs.
3. To maintain a competitive league at each age group, (9-16), that is made up of the best ballplayers from each Member Associations recreational programs.
4. To provide a positive environment that will prepare recreational ball players for advancement into higher levels of competition and a desire to play at those levels.
5. To create a desire to succeed and excel.

Organization

1. The GGBL is a totally self-supporting, non-profit association.
2. The Executive Board of the Board of Directors will be comprised of the following officers:
 - a) President
 - b) Vice-President who also serves as the President-elect and the Treasurer
 - c) Baseball Commissioner
 - d) Secretary
 - e) Communications Director
3. The Board of Directors shall elect the Executive Board officers in August each year. Each member of the Executive Board shall be from a different Member Association.
4. The Board of Directors will consist of one Representative from each Member Association. Each Membership Association shall have one vote on matters pending before the Board of Directors. A list of representatives who have been approved by each association to cast votes on behalf of that association shall be submitted to the Secretary of GGBL. Any vote cast on matters pending before the Board of Directors by anyone whose name has not been submitted to the Secretary of GGBL shall not be counted.
5. There shall be one League Director per age group. The Executive Board shall select League Directors from the Board of Directors or from the coaches of each age group. The Board of Directors shall approve the League Directors for each age group.

Duties of the Board of Directors and Executive Officers

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of one member association's representative who has the authority to bind, within limits, his respective association and vote on issues pending before the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is responsible for establishing and implementing operational rules as needed to enhance the GGBL.

The Board of Directors may nominate and elect members for committees or individuals for special events to help with the operation of the League. All committees shall remain in committee form until dismissed entirely, or individually replaced by the Board of Directors.

2. The Executive Board will consist of the President, Vice President, Baseball Commissioner, Secretary and the Director of Communications and shall be elected by the Board of Directors. The Executive Board will be responsible for the supervision of day-to-day operations of the League and shall, as necessary, appoint committees or individuals for special duties, events or long term planning.

The Executive Board shall be the final authority for determining the merits of all appeals of decisions or actions rendered by League Directors after an investigation by the Baseball Commission. These appeals may include, but not be limited to, games protested due to allegations of misapplication of the rules of play or other circumstances involving unfair or inconsistent application of the operational guidelines. Any actions taken by the Executive Board will be final unless reversed at the next scheduled or called meeting of the Board of Directors.

- a) The President is responsible for implementing the policies of the Board. The President is responsible for reporting to The Board of Directors, in a timely manner, any and all actions taken by the Executive Board. The President is responsible for submitting an Agenda and presiding over each meeting of the Board of Directors. The President shall schedule meetings in accordance with the directives of the by-laws and operational rules. The President or his designee shall serve as GGBL's foremost representative to the public and to each Member Association's Board.
- b) The Vice President/Treasurer is responsible for the financial structure of the Association and shall collect all funds owed to the GGBL in accordance to the operational guidelines and by-laws. The VP/Treasurer shall pay all bills in a timely manner. The VP/Treasurer will submit a financial report at each meeting of the Board of Directors. In the event that the President is unable to perform his duties, the Vice President shall assume the President's duties until such time that the President is able to resume his duties.

- c) The Baseball Commissioner is responsible for the immediate supervision of the League Directors and shall assist with the day-to-day operation and management of the league and the interpretation of rules. The Baseball Commissioner shall, when requested by the Executive Board or a League Director, review the actions of the League Directors to ensure that the application of GGBL rules and guidelines are consistent throughout the league. The Baseball Commissioner shall report Code of Conduct disciplinary actions to the Executive Board.
 - d) The Secretary is responsible for recording the Minutes of each meeting and submitting these to the Board of Directors and the Communications Director for publication prior to the next meeting. The Secretary shall secure the minutes as a permanent record after the Board of Directors votes to except the minutes from the previous meeting. The Secretary shall make such permanent records available for review upon request by officers of the Executive Board, Board of Directors, or League Directors. The Secretary shall maintain a list of authorized voting members and, before a vote is taken, verify who is authorized to vote during Board of Director meetings.
 - e) The Communications Director is responsible for notifying each Member Association of all scheduled or called Board of Director's meetings in a timely manner. The Communications Director will disseminate, electronically or otherwise, information vital to the operation of the League.
3. The League Directors are responsible for the day-to-day operation and management of their assigned age group and shall include game scheduling, roster changes, Code of Conduct violations, and Protest issues. All decisions rendered must be in accordance to GGBL by-laws, and approved operational rules, with consideration given to special or unique circumstances. Disciplinary actions for Code of Conducts violations of and game ejections will be electronically reported to The Baseball Commissioner within 24 hours of being reported or discovered by the League Director. Each report will include a brief summary of the events, the resulting and/or suggested action, and whether or not the assigned penalty has been completed by the offender(s). League Directors will also follow The Board of Director's directions and prepare seeded tournament play accordingly.
4. A Rules Committee shall be appointed each year during the August meeting. This committee will review the GGBL By-Laws and Operational Rules. The purpose of this committee is to ensure that the By-Laws and Operational Rules are fair, reasonable, and consistent for all Member Associations. An elected Executive Board Officer shall not serve on the Rules Committee. Any proposed changes shall be submitted to the Executive Board for study before presentation to the Board of Directors. The Executive Board shall present all proposed changes to the Board of Directors each year by September.

Each year during the first meeting in September, the Board of Directors shall review the Rules Committee report and consider other purposed changes or amendments to the By-Laws or Operational Rules and shall finalize any changes or amendments for the upcoming season in October.

GGBL Participation

1. Member Associations may submit one or more teams in the following age groups: 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, 14U and 15/16U. A Member Association is not required to submit a team in each age group.
2. Member Associations are responsible for providing uniforms, umpires, and field(s) that are in safe playable condition.
3. It is recommended that each Member Association make provisions to obtain additional funds, in the form of registration fees, sponsorships or other means to financially support the teams they submit to play in the GGBL.
4. Member Associations must submit proof of general liability insurance, which names the Greater Gwinnett Baseball Association as additional insured.
5. Member Associations must accept and approve the Objectives, Rules, and Code of Conduct as submitted by the GGBL. The by-laws and rules of the Member Associations supersede the by-laws and rules of the GGBL. In situations where the Member Association and the GGBL have conflicting guidelines, it is the responsibility of the Member Association to make all members of the GGBL aware of the conflict, and work through the GGBL Board to reach an agreement.
6. Member Associations shall be required to pay a fee as mandated by the Board of Directors to provide for the financial health of the organization.

Member Associations

Brookwood Athletic Association
Greater Buford Athletic Association
Collins Hill Athletic Association
Dacula Athletic Association
Duluth Youth Baseball & Softball Assoc.
Grayson Athletic Association
Hebron Baptist Church
Lawrenceville Youth Association
Lilburn Athletic Association

Loganville Athletic Association
Mill Creek Athletic Assoc. at Bogan Park
Mountain Park Athletic Association
Norcross Youth Baseball & Softball Assoc.
North Gwinnett Baseball & Softball Assoc.
Peachtree Ridge Youth Athletic Assoc.
Shiloh Athletic Association
South Gwinnett Athletic Association

New Members into the GGBL must voted on for acceptance into the GGBL by at least 2/3's majority of the Board of Directors being present and voting to accept a new Association. New Members (*) do not have a vote until their 2nd year in the league. Any Association or team can be voted "out" of the GGBL by 2/3's of the Board of Directors present and voting to remove an Association or team and with the Association subject to the vote, not having a vote. Any Association Member not participating in GGBL competition for one year shall automatically be removed from GGBL membership. Associations removed from the GGBL may reapply for membership.

Finances

1. The funds of this association shall be used to further the objectives as communicated in the by-laws and Operational Rules. Each member association shall pay a yearly membership fee for operating costs and other such fees as needed for league tournaments, insurance, and the printing of rulebooks. The membership fee will be set each year by The Board of Directors and is non-refundable. The VP/Treasurer, upon approval of the Board of Directors, may disburse funds by a properly drawn warrant upon the deposits of the League.
2. All funds collected by the officers or members of the Board of Directors shall be deposited in an account approved by the Board.
3. The President of the League shall have the authority to authorize expenditures up to one hundred dollars each month from the League's funds when it is not feasible to call a special meeting of the Board of Directors. A report of these expenditures shall be given at the next meeting of the Board. The Executive Board may seek approval by email or phone if the amount exceeds one hundred dollars.
4. The VP/Treasurer of the GGBL shall pay by check, all debts of the League within 30 days after receipt or upon approval by the Board.

GGBL Voting

Proposed amendments to the By-Laws of the GGBL must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board prior to presentation to the Board of Directors. Binding amendments to the By-Laws shall require approval by $\frac{3}{4}$'s of the Membership Associations authorized representatives being present to vote.

Revisions to the Operational Rules or any other recommendation by the Board of Directors shall only occur when a quorum of Member Association representatives that are authorized to vote is present. A quorum shall be one more than half of the total number Member Associations authorized to vote.

Proposed Operational Rule changes and other actions of the Board of Directors shall be approved by receiving a simple majority vote. A simple majority vote is one vote more than half of the total number of votes.