

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
PARKS & RECREATION

2026 CITY BASEBALL CONSTITUTION

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CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – GENERAL

A. Jurisdiction

This Constitution sets the policies and procedures for the City of Philadelphia Parks & Recreation Baseball Program.

B. Affiliation

The City of Philadelphia Parks & Recreation Baseball Program is affiliated with and is a part of the Junior Baseball Federation, Incorporated, of Philadelphia.

ARTICLE II – BASEBALL COMMITTEE

The Baseball Program operates through a sub-committee of the Sports and Athletic Section of Philadelphia Parks & Recreation. This Committee is composed of a City Chairman and the League Directors of the various Leagues.

ARTICLE III – PARTICIPANTS

A. Eligibility

1. Any amateur player is eligible to participate in the Baseball Program if that player:
 - a. Is a bonafide resident of the City of Philadelphia, or if a non-resident, a waiver must be approved before a waiver can be granted.
 - b. Abides by the rules of this Constitution and Bylaws.
 - c. Is registered as prescribed by the rules.
2. Professional or Semi-Professionals are not permitted to participate.
3. A participant may compete for only one team and in only one age division.
4. A participant may enter an older age division but may not enter a younger age division.

5. The Baseball Committee will rule on any violation of eligibility.
6. Non-residents – A player or team must obtain an approved waiver submitted through the appropriate Baseball Committee League Director.

ARTICLE IV – AGE CLASSIFICATIONS

The (uniformed) Baseball Program is divided into various age divisions as stated in the Bylaws. **Age groups will also be divided into Majors and Minors Divisions.**

ARTICLE V - GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS

The Baseball Program will be comprised of leagues formed based on the age divisions as stated in Bylaws Section D (Divisions) with teams from all sections of the City.

ARTICLE VI – WAIVERS

A. Waivers are required for:

1. Non-residents - individuals not residing within Philadelphia.
2. Teams with a majority of non-residents must be waived into a league. **NOTE: Teams with a majority of non-residents cannot compete in playoffs.**

B. Initiating the Waiver Request – It is the responsibility of the coach or manager to initiate the waiver request in sufficient time to receive an official approval or disapproval at least two weeks prior to the start of league play. The individual(s) or team requesting the waiver may not be accepted into that league without the approval of the waiver request.

C. Waiver Request Procedure

1. The waiver request form must be used request a waiver. Forms are available through the Baseball Committee or the Sports and Athletics Section.
2. Submit the Waiver Request to the Chairman of the League that the individual(s) or team resides in. For non-residents, submit to the Chairman of the League in which the individual(s) desires to participate.
3. The Baseball committee will make all decisions on waivers.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

A. **Scheduling**

1. The Baseball Committee will meet at a site and time designated by the City Chairman through the Athletic Coordinator.
2. Organizational Meeting – to be held in February.
3. Regular Meetings – to be held every month, March to September.
4. Members of the Baseball Committee will be notified of meetings by email.

B. **Special Meetings** – may be called at the discretion of the City Chairman, Athletic Coordinator or others in authority.

C. **League Meetings** –League Directors should hold organizational meetings before the start of the season. League Directors should call meetings with their teams to keep them informed of Committee business and to expedite local league business.

ARTICLE VIII – RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. **League Directors**

1. Records – should include:
 - a. Game results
 - b. Team standings
 - c. Player eligibility
 - d. League finances
 - e. Umpires
 - f. Disciplinary action reports

2. Reports - should include:
 - a. League rules, schedules, and rosters
 - b. newsletters
 - c. Final reports
 - d. Protest reports
 - e. Disciplinary action reports
 - f. Financial report

B. City Chairman

1. Records – should include:
 - a. Rosters
 - b. Umpire bills for City
 - c. Newsletters
 - d. Protests and disciplinary action reports
 - e. All correspondence to Baseball Committee
 - f. All correspondence to Athletic Coordinator

2. Final report – submit to the Athletic Program Coordinator at the close of the season.

ARTICLE IX – RULES OF PLAY

The Baseball Committee selects the rules of play.

ARTICLE X – LEAGUE ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION

A. Game Scheduling

1. League schedules will be drawn up and distributed by the League Director in accordance with the Bylaws.
2. No games are to be played under field night lighting. All games must be played during daylight hours only as proscribed by the Bylaws.

B. Playing Fields and Behavior of Coaches, Players and Spectators

The home team is responsible for its playing site. Site conditions should be safe, playable and free from obstructions. **Each team is responsible for the behavior of their coaches, players and spectators.** Recreation playing fields are not required, within reason, to meet Major League specifications.

C. **Umpires**

League Directors will be responsible for securing umpire service for the season.

D. **League Fees**

1. Leagues are permitted to set fees (such as franchise, umpire operating, awards, etc.) within the limits of the League's requirements for operation.
2. The Athletic Coordinator reserves the right to adjust any fee structure determined not to conform to the policies and procedures of Philadelphia Parks & Recreation.

E. **Awards**

1. Regular Season League Awards – Allowances for awards are determined by each league.
2. Citywide Level – Appropriate awards will be presented at the citywide level in accordance with the policies of Philadelphia Parks & Recreation.

ARTICLE XI – PROTESTS

A. Protests may be submitted for misinterpretation of a playing or ground rule, an umpire's incorrect imposition of a penalty for a rule violation, or for eligibility. An umpire's judgment decision cannot be protested.

B. Protests on Rule Interpretation and Rule Violation Penalties must be made to the umpire at the time of the incident. No protests on rules or penalties will be accepted at any time other than at the point of the incident. Follow protest procedures stated in the Bylaws.

C. **Categories of Eligibility Violation**

1. Age violation – Too old for the age sub-division registered for
2. Multiple teams – Player plays for more than one team in the same or different Leagues.
3. Geographical – No waiver request submitted

D. Eligibility protests can be submitted at any time. Follow the protest procedures stated in the Bylaws.

E. The Protest Board

1. It is the responsibility of the League Director or Chairman at each level to organize a protest board.
3. The League Director or Chairman should have available 3 to 5 adults knowledgeable of the rules and willing to serve on a protest board.
4. The protest board will have the authority to rule on all aspects of the protest.
5. The protest board will follow protest procedures as stated in the Athletic Coordinator's memos of 9/9 and 9/22/86.
6. Each team involved and the League, City Chairman and the Athletic Coordinator must receive in writing the ruling of the protest board within 48 hours of the termination of the meeting.

ARTICLE XII – ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL

The office of the Athletic Coordinator reserves the right to make any administrative decisions deemed necessary to conform to the policies and procedures of Philadelphia Parks & Recreation.

A. The Baseball Committee may amend any of the foregoing articles.

B. Amendment Procedure

1. Submit the proposed amendment in writing to the Athletic Coordinator.
2. The Athletic Coordinator will review the amendment and call a meeting if deemed necessary.
3. Presentation of the proposed amendment will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
4. Upon the acceptance by two-thirds of the members of the Baseball Committee present at the Meeting, the proposed amendment will become effective as of the next season.