

# **BIG BASIN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION**

## **2017**

### **Official Rules and Regulations**

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#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- [I. Current Officers and Board Members](#)
- [II. By-Laws of Organization](#)
- [III. Membership of Towns](#)
- [IV. Registration of Players, Managers and Coaches](#)
- [V. Eligibility of Players](#)
- [VI. Playing Rules](#)
- [VII. Tournament Rules](#)
- [VIII. Protests](#)
- [IX. General Rules](#)
- [X. T-Ball Rules](#)

## I – CURRENT OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Big Basin Baseball Association (“BBB”) shall be governed by a Board of Directors, consisting of an Executive Committee and Town Directors. The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the following positions, elected to 2 year terms by the Town Directors:

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT (2017-18)

Current Office Holder: Larry Cowan, Roland, (479) 650-2872  
[larcowan@icloud.com](mailto:larcowan@icloud.com)

VICE PRESIDENT (2017-18)

Current Office Holder: Frank Sullivan, III, Sallisaw  
[frank@franksullivanlaw.com](mailto:frank@franksullivanlaw.com)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER (2017-18)

Current Office Holder: Joe Obregon, Sallisaw  
[coachjobregon@gmail.com](mailto:coachjobregon@gmail.com)

There shall be one Town Director from each participating Town, chosen by the respective Town’s little league baseball organization. The following are the current Town Directors:

### TOWN DIRECTORS

Bruce Caldwell	Vian	<a href="mailto:bruali722@yahoo.com">bruali722@yahoo.com</a>
Bobby Ogg	Webbers Falls	<a href="mailto:bogg82181@gmail.com">bogg82181@gmail.com</a>
Lane Kindle	Stilwell	<a href="mailto:lane-kindle@cherokee.org">lane-kindle@cherokee.org</a>
Ronnie Howard	Roland	<a href="mailto:rnkhoward3@netzero.net">rnkhoward3@netzero.net</a>
Jimmy Hyles	Muldrow	<a href="mailto:gemcosystems@cox.net">gemcosystems@cox.net</a>
Ryan McGee	Gore	<a href="mailto:ryanmcgee19@yahoo.com">ryanmcgee19@yahoo.com</a>
Bryan Warner	Sallisaw	<a href="mailto:bwarners@carlalbert.edu">bwarners@carlalbert.edu</a>
David Philpot	Brushy	<a href="mailto:brushymountaineers@gmail.com">brushymountaineers@gmail.com</a>

If a Board Member cannot be present at a BBB meeting, he/she may designate another to attend and vote on that member’s behalf.

## II - BY-LAWS OF ORGANIZATION

The organization shall be known as the Big Basin Baseball Association, otherwise referred to as BBB. BBB is a League in the OK Kids Baseball Association. *The most current rule book of OK Kids is adopted by BBB, and OK Kids rules shall be followed except in the cases where BBB has specifically contradicted OK Kids rules for League play.* The Board of Directors will determine the overall policy and will provide for operation of the Association through the Executive Committee. The Board will have the power to replace any or all of the members of the Executive Committee if in its opinion such action would be to the benefit of the Association.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the organization is to promote the playing of amateur baseball, to coordinate and standardize the activities of various organized towns and to develop future citizens with the proper attitude toward life.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board may issue "Policy Directives" for the guidance of the Executive Committee when, and, as necessary, in the opinion of such Board. Such Directives will constitute amendments to the Rules and Regulations, if necessary, to prevent conflict therewith.

The Board of Directors shall meet annually between January 1 and the last day of February. At the annual meeting the President will present an operational review of the past season and plans for the next season. At this meeting, the Board should also consider, as a "Rules Committee," any proposed changes in the playing rules properly submitted by the membership.

Other meetings may be called by the President or a majority of the Board of Directors.

A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum. A majority vote of members present will be sufficient to approve or reject any motion. In the absence of a called meeting, or between meetings, the President may call for a vote by any reasonable means (phone, email, mail, text) of any question he/she deems of sufficient importance.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee shall consist of a President, Vice President and Executive Secretary-Treasurer. The President, Vice-President and Executive Secretary-Treasurer are elected at the annual meeting for a two (2) year term.

**President** - The President presides over BBB meetings and is the chief operations officer. He/she has authority and responsibility for the general and "everyday" management of the business of the Association as required by the Rules and Regulations, or as prescribed by the Board of Directors. The President may delegate to other members of the Executive Committee such portions of responsibilities as the President deems appropriate but will be held accountable for their actions and the result thereof.

**Vice President** - The Vice President functions as an assistant to the President. In the absence of or disability of the President he/she shall assume and perform the duties of the President.

**Executive Secretary-Treasurer** - The Executive Secretary-Treasurer will maintain the records of the Association and will prepare a Financial Statement for presentation at the annual meeting. Such statement shall reflect, in reasonable detail, the income and expenses of the past year and the amount of assets and liabilities of the Association.

Whenever the title "Rules Committee," "Tournament Committee" or "Protest Committee" is used in these Rules and Regulations, such title shall mean the Executive Committee.

## **III - MEMBERSHIP OF TOWNS**

1. The membership shall consist of any Town that has at least 1 team (T-Ball, Coach Pitch, PeeWee, Midget, or Prep) participating in BBB League play.
2. Each Town, through its Town Director, must provide a list of teams, coaches, fields and contact numbers to the Executive Committee by the Annual Meeting.

## IV - REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS, MANAGERS AND COACHES

1. Players, managers and coaches are officially registered for the current season only. The individual contract card must be properly completed in ink or typed with the signature written and not printed. Names on the cards must match the names listed on the team roster sheet. The BBB fee for each player is \$9.

NOTE: No player shall be considered duly registered and eligible to participate unless he is properly registered on both a contract card and an approved team roster form, and his fees have been paid to the BBB Secretary-Treasurer. The manager and coaches should also complete a contract card. They must give their full names in order to preserve their identities. Roster forms, player contract forms, player release forms and BBB player fees must be submitted to a member of the Executive Committee and approved prior to a team's first league game, or said team's games will be subject to forfeit until all registration requirements are met.

2. All OK Kids rules regarding player registration are adopted by BBB. No roster forms will be accepted by the Executive Committee after May 30th.

3. The Executive Committee of BBB shall have the right to declare any player a "free agent" at any time for just cause or reject an individual contract card of a prospective player, manager or coach.

4. The Executive Committee has the final say on questions of eligibility of any player, unless OK Kids becomes involved on the issue of eligibility. If a player is declared ineligible, his or her team must forfeit all games in which he/she has participated.

5. Each coach shall have a copy of all birth certificates and a copy of his or her completed and submitted roster form available at every league game, including league tournament games. If a coach does not have said documentation, the penalty is a forfeit. Opposing coaches may request the opportunity to view said documentation, *prior to a game beginning*, without paying any protest fee.

## V - ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

1. All OK Kids rules regarding eligibility are adopted by BBB.
2. In order to be eligible for T-Ball, a player cannot be 7 prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

## VI - PLAYING RULES

1. OK Kids Playing Rules shall govern BBB League and Tournament play except where specifically contradicted by BBB rules.

### 2. Lineup Rules:

- A. Coach Pitch and T-Ball: In League play, a team may play 10 players in the field, every player must bat (batting lineup includes every player) and every player must play in the field during each game. For Coach Pitch Post-Season Tournament play, a team may play 10 players in the field, and allow all members of the team to bat, or may play 9 and follow substitution rules, per OK Kids rules.
- B. PeeWee, Midget & Prep: In League play, teams may bat a nine (9) player line-up or continuous line-up of all present, eligible, uniformed players.
  1. If a team uses a 9 player line-up, OK Kids substitution rules apply
  2. If a team uses a continuous line-up, all players other than the nine (9) defensive position players are Extra Hitters and may move freely in defensive positions with the exception of the pitching position (pitching rules apply).
- C. A team's line-up must be declared before the start of the game and used the entire game. Each coach and the umpire must initial the home book and mark "CL" for continuous line-up or "S" for substitution line-up beside his or her team's line-up.

D. When all team members are batting in a T-Ball or Coach Pitch game, or pursuant to an election to utilize the Continuous Line-up option, a team will not have to take an out because one of the players cannot bat due to injury or other condition, unless the number of players batting for a team is fewer than 9, in which scenario standard rules would apply.

3. When a manager or team submits its official batting order to the umpire and the opposing manager, as required by the official baseball rules, he or she must give the full names of his players participating in the game exactly as registered on the approved roster form.

4. Teams shall have 10 minutes from the scheduled start time to field a team of 9 players. If after 10 minutes a team does not have 9 eligible players present, that team forfeits the game. An exception to this rule will be allowed if the delay is due to an unavoidable emergency, and any game decided by this rule may be protested pursuant to BBB protest rules.

5. Every team must provide helmets with ear protectors for the use of its players. The protective headgear must be worn while batting or as a runner.

In all cases the umpire will notify the violating team's manager/coach about a violation of this rule prior to calling a player out. This allows the manager/coach the opportunity to keep the player from being called out or being injured. In tournament play if a player comes to bat without a helmet the umpire will warn the player to put on a helmet. If he does not comply with the umpire's request he will be called out before the first pitch is made to him. If a base runner fails to wear his helmet, the umpire will warn him to put on a helmet. If he does not comply with the umpire's request, he will be called out before the first pitch is made to the batter.

6. No pick up players will be allowed. A player must be on a team's OK Kids submitted and approved roster in order to be eligible.

7. Admission to all League games shall be \$2 for all persons 18 and above. Anyone 17 and under is admitted free of charge. Each team shall receive 3 Coach Passes that will allow the holders to be admitted to BBB League and Tournament games free of charge.

8. Each player uniform must have a unique number.

9. The following time limits apply to BBB League and Tournament games: T-Ball – 1 hour; Coach Pitch – 1 hour, 15 minutes; PeeWee – 1 hour, 15 minutes; Midget – 1 hour, 30 minutes; unless 1) there is no game following the scheduled game, and 2) both coaches initial the home scorebook and write “no time limit” prior to the game beginning. The official game start time shall be announced to both teams and recorded in the home scorebook, and the umpire’s timepiece will be the official timepiece. Once time expires, the umpire shall declare “time expired” to both teams and allow the current inning to be completed. If the game is tied at the completion of that inning, then the tie-breaker rule applies.

Note: An inning begins as soon as the 3<sup>rd</sup> out is recorded in the previous inning.

10. In the case of a tie at the end of regulation, 1 extra inning will be played. **T-BALL ONLY** – If the game is still tied at the end of the 1 extra inning, then the winner shall be determined by the team that has recorded the most outs while on defense. If the game is still tied at the end of the extra inning, and if T-Ball the teams have both recorded the same number of outs while on defense, the game shall be recorded as a tie. If there is no game scheduled after the tie game, and both coaches initial the home scorebook and write “no tie-breaker rule”, then the teams can play until a winner is determined.

11. If a game is unable to be played or completed due to weather or any other unavoidable reason, the home team shall provide two available dates and times (must be different days) with which the visiting team does not have a conflict to play or complete the game. If the visiting team does not agree to play on one of the make-up dates, the home team shall be declared the winner. If the home team fails to provide two make-up dates, the visiting team shall be declared the winner. The home team must provide make-up dates that will occur either 7 days prior to the last regularly scheduled BBB League game, or in the case that the game to be played or completed was within 10 days of the last regularly scheduled BBB League game, then as soon as possible. Any disputes concerning this rule shall be resolved by the Executive Committee.

12. There will be a 13-run rule for T-Ball and Coach Pitch, a 12-run rule for PeeWee and a 10-run rule for Midgets and Preps if all the innings have been completed except two. That is, if three (3) full innings have been played, or two and one-half (2 ½) innings when the home team is ahead in T-Ball, Coach Pitch and

Peewee; or if four (4) innings have been played, or three and one-half (3 ½) innings, when the home team is ahead in Midgets.

13. All PeeWee games will have a 10 run-per-inning limit for each team. During the last inning (by time expiration or innings), if a team cannot possibly win then the game shall be declared over.

14. Any player who, in the opinion of the umpire, slings his bat in a manner that is dangerous to other players, shall first receive a warning from the umpire, which shall be recorded in the home scorebook. If the same player slings the bat again in the same game, then it shall be a dead ball and the batter shall be called out.

## VII - TOURNAMENT RULES

1. BBB Mid-Season and Post-Season Tournaments shall be rotated among the eligible Towns, from West to East. For a Town to be eligible for a specific age group, said Town must have had a team participate in BBB league play for that age group for the last 3 consecutive years, and have adequate facilities to host a tournament.

2. The following Mid-Season and Post-Season Tournaments shall take place each year:

Note: The dates of this season's Mid-Season and Post-Season Tournaments are indicated in parentheses. The Town hosting each Tournament this season is also indicated in parentheses.

### Mid-Season (April 24<sup>th</sup> – April 29<sup>th</sup>)

- A. T-Ball (Vian)
- B. Coach Pitch (Sallisaw)
- C. PeeWee (Gore)
- D. Midget (Webbers Falls)

\* If a Town cannot do both the PeeWee and Midget Tournaments together, then a host Town will be chosen by a drawing from a hat of the eligible Towns not hosting a Mid-Season Tournament.

Post-Season (June 16<sup>th</sup> – June 23<sup>rd</sup>)

- A. T-Ball (Roland)
  - B. Coach Pitch (Muldrow)
  - C. PeeWee (Webbers Falls)
  - D. Midget (Gore)
3. The BBB Playing Rules shall govern Tournament Play.
  4. BBB shall provide trophies for Post-Season tournament finishers in places 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>. The host Town shall provide trophies or awards for Mid-Season tournament finishers in places 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  5. All tournament seeding and brackets will be drawn by the Executive Committee.
  6. The Town Director of the Town hosting a BBB Tournament shall be provided with a copy of the approved rosters for each team participating in the tournament.
  7. The "home" team in all Tournament games shall be determined by the toss of a coin by the umpire.
  8. Admission to all BBB Tournament games shall be \$3 for adults and \$2 for children. Coaches passes will be honored.

## **VIII - PROTESTS**

1. A protest must be filed in writing with the League President, Vice-President or Secretary within 48 hours from the end of the game in protest, and must be accompanied by the League protest fee of \$150.00. If the protest is won, the protest fee will be returned. If the protest is lost, the protest fee is forfeited.
2. Protests will be heard as soon as possible by the Executive Committee. If an Executive Committee members' team is involved in the protest, said Executive Committee Member shall not take part in determining the protest. In such case, a Town Director (that does not have a team involved in the protest) must be randomly chosen to replace the Committee member with the conflict of interest, for the purpose of deciding the protest.

3. A manager contemplating a protest on a violation of playing rules on the field of play must notify the umpire-in-chief immediately of his desire. The umpire must announce that the game is being played under protest.
4. If a protest is lost, a team may protest to OK Kids pursuant to its rules.

## **IX – GENERAL RULES**

1. BBB shall provide trophies for league or division finishers in places 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>, so long as there are at least 6 teams competing in said league or division.
2. The Qualifiers for Regionals shall be the league or division champions, which teams shall not participate in the Post-Season Tournaments. For however many additional Qualifiers BBB is authorized to submit to OK Kids, the respective number of top finishers in the Post-Season Tournament shall be named additional Qualifiers. BBB shall pay OK Kids Regional fees for each Qualifier and At-large team that participates in an OK Kids Regional.
3. In the instance where after League play is complete, teams share the same record, the team who has the better head-to-head record shall place higher. If tied head-to-head, the Executive Committee shall determine the higher placing team and Qualifier, if necessary. The Executive Committee will attempt to decide the Qualifier by a playoff game if possible.
4. Umpires: In T-Ball and Coach Pitch, the home team must provide an umpire. If the home team cannot provide an umpire, the visiting team may choose an umpire for the game. In PeeWee and Midget, the home team must provide a home plate and base umpire. If the home team cannot provide a home plate and/or base umpire, the visiting team may choose a home plate and/or base umpire for the game.
5. In T-Ball and Coach Pitch, the umpire may stand behind home plate or behind the pitcher's mound, at his discretion.
6. Lightning: Each Town Director shall:
  - A. Assign staff to monitor local weather conditions before and during events.

- B. Develop an evacuation plan, including identification of appropriate nearby shelters.
- C. Follow this criteria for suspension and resumption of play:
  - 1. When thunder is heard, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. *Suspend play and take shelter immediately.*
  - 2. Thirty-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
  - 3. Any subsequent thunder or lightning after the beginning of the 30 minute count, reset the clock and another 30 minute count should begin.

7. The Board of Directors of BBB reserves absolute discretion to revoke the right of any person to coach during Big Basin league or tournament events. If the Board of Directors becomes aware of a person whose conduct is determined to be detrimental to the welfare of the children served by BBB, the Board can do whatever it sees fit to remedy the situation. Any ejections during BBB league or tournament events shall be reported to the Executive Committee by the Town Director at whose home field the ejection took place.

## **X - T-BALL RULES**

OK Kids Baseball does not recognize T-Ball. For BBB, all OK Kids general rules and Coach Pitch rules are adopted, except those rules specifically contradicted by BBB rules.

- 1. **Base Distance:** 60 Feet
- 2. **Ball Size:** 8 1/2 Inches (Brand does not matter – NO rubber balls allowed)
- 3. **Swings:** Five (5) swings. If the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) pitch is hit foul, bat hits the tee, the bat misses the tee or the bat misses the ball, the batter is called out. There can be no walks. (**Clarification: The batter has five (5) swings to put ball in play.**)
- 4. **Game Length:** Five (5) Innings or One (1) hour, whichever comes first.

5. **Runs:** Six (6) per inning or three (3) outs, whichever comes first. A team is allowed to score a maximum of six (6) runs per inning. This applies in every inning, including the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) inning or any extra innings.
6. **Bunts:** Bunting is not allowed.
7. **Base Running:** A base runner must have one foot on base once the ball is alive and cannot leave the base until the batter has contacted the ball with the bat.
8. **Stopping Play:** The lead runner has stopped advancing at the discretion of the umpire. If a base runner has not passed one-half (1/2) the distance between the bases when play is stopped the runner must return to the previous base.
9. **Infield Fly Rule:** Does not apply in T-Ball. NO INFIELD FLY RULE.
10. **Umpires:** League games must have at least one umpire, who may stand behind the plate or the pitcher's mound, at the umpire's discretion.

**Players:**

11. T-Ball will allow ten (10) players on the field of play. Four (4) of the ten (10) players must be in the outfield. (Note: Starting Lineup must have nine (9) players to start the game or forfeit the game.)
12. Each player present must be placed in the starting lineup. (Clarification: If they are present they must bat in the lineup and play in the field. NO EXCEPTIONS.)
13. Players that show up late are to be placed at the end of the lineup. (Clarification: If a player shows up after lineups have been exchanged and game has started, they are to be placed at the end of the lineup.)

**Coaches:**

14. During the game. There will be two (2) coaches allowed on defense and three (3) coaches allowed on offense. Defensive coaches must stay in foul territory behind 1st and 3rd base and out of the offensive coaches' way. (Suggestion: Please be courteous and talk to the opposing coaches and make sure both of the coaches agree on where each can coach from and not disrupt the other.)

15. Batting Coaching (Coach at the Tee): Coach is responsible to move Tee and Bat after the player has left the batter's box. They are to move to the back stop with Tee and Bat.

- a. If the coach fails to remove Tee and Bat from the home plate area and there is a play occurring on the runner at home, there will be a warning issued.
- b. First Offense - There will a warning issued for first offense. (Umpire must let both books know of such warning.)
- c. Second Offense - If a second offense is to occur it will result in run not counting and runner shall be declared out.

**Field:**

16. Each field must have a line 10ft in front of 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base. It is suggested the line be a minimum of 2ft in length. The line must be visible by umpire, coaches and players. (Note: Each town is responsible to place this line on the field of play. If a line is not in place or visible, please contact the field maintenance of the town and/or town representative before play begins.)

- a. All players must be behind this line, 1st baseman, 2nd baseman, 3<sup>rd</sup> baseman and short stop must also stay behind this line.
- b. First offense - If player is in front of the 10ft line, coaches and/or umpire will call time and have player move behind line.
- c. Second offense - The umpire must talk with the coach of the player.
- d. Third offense – The coach must remove player in question from that position.

17. Each field must have a 10ft arc in front of home plate. The 10ft arc is to be measured from the back of home plate. This arc must travel from the 1<sup>st</sup> base foul line to the 3<sup>rd</sup> base foul line. (Note: Each town is responsible to place this arc on the field of play. If the arc is not in place or visible, please contact the field maintenance of the town and/or town representative before play begins.)

- a. The baseball must travel PAST the arc/line drawn in order for it to be fair.
- b. This line is treated like a foul line, if player picks it up before it goes fair, the ball is foul.

18. Pitcher is to have one foot on rubber or have foot touching the pitching rubber. For safety reasons – If the either coach is concerned about the batter hitting the ball too hard for his pitcher to field it, they must call time and place pitcher behind the catcher. (Note: Each town is responsible to place a pitching rubber on the field of

play. If the pitching rubber is not in place or visible, please contact the field maintenance of the town and/or town representative before play begins.)

- a. Pitching Rubber Distance: 42 Feet.
- b. Safety – Each coach should let the opposing team know of a batter that could possibly hit the ball too hard for a pitcher to field. This rule is for the safety of the pitcher. Please be courteous and let the opposing team know.
- c. Once ball is put in play, pitcher can go back on the field of play and play his position.

**Player Equipment:**

19. Catcher must wear a helmet and facemask.

*This revised rulebook was approved by BBB on February 23, 2017 by the Board of Directors. Members present: Larry Cowan, Frank Sullivan, III, Bryan Warner, Jimmy Hyles, Ryan McGee, Lane Kindle, David Philpot, and Bruce Caldwell.*