

2021 North Stars Interior Pony Baseball Bylaws

First Revision Adopted May 26th, 2004

ARTICLE I - MEETINGS AND VOTING

1) The membership of North Stars Interior Pony League (NSPL) shall hold an annual meeting at such place and time as shall be determined by the Board of Directors. (It may be preferable to select a specific date for the annual meeting, such as the third Thursday in August, or to specify that the annual meeting be held prior to a specific date, such as not later than the third Thursday in August.)

Notice of time and place of such annual meeting shall be made known to the membership of NSPL through publication and/or individual mailings (in whatever form contact is generally made with the membership) not less than 10 days prior to the date of the meeting.

2) Special meetings of NSPL membership may be called by the President, or by majority vote of the Board of Directors, or upon written request to the Secretary by not less than 15 members of NSPL. Notice of time and place of special meetings of NSPL membership shall be made known to the membership of NSPL not less than five days prior to the date of the meeting.

3) At each annual or special meeting of NSPL every eligible member present shall be entitled to vote. There shall be no proxy voting. A majority of those present and eligible to vote shall be required for election and questions brought to a vote.

4) The presence of not less than 10 members eligible to vote shall be required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any special or annual meeting of the League.

ARTICLE II - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1) At the meeting prior to the annual meeting, a Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President, consisting of two members of the Board of Directors and two members of the general membership, to obtain and nominate officers for the following year.

2) The term of office for all officers shall be one year beginning the day following the annual meeting.

3) All officers shall be eligible for reelection. (Leagues desiring to limit the term of office might state "No person shall serve in the same office for more than three consecutive terms").

4) In the event of the death, resignation, or inability of any officer to perform the duties of office, the Board of Directors shall be empowered to select a replacement for such office to serve until the following annual meeting.

ARTICLE III - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1) The Board of Directors shall include the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Player Agent, Chairman of all Standing Committees, and the President of the Auxiliary.

2) The Board of Directors shall meet on a monthly basis at such time and place determined by the President. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President, or by the Secretary, upon receipt of the written request of at least three members of the Board of Directors.

3) The Board of Directors shall have the authority to suspend, discharge or otherwise discipline any member, manager, coach, player, league official, umpire or other person whose conduct is considered detrimental to the best interests of NSPL.

4) Any adult (persons 18 years of age or older) who is suspended, removed or otherwise disciplined by the Board of Directors shall have the right to appeal such action before a majority of the members of the Board of Directors at a regular or special meeting called for that purpose.

5) The President shall, upon evidence of misconduct of any player, notify the manager of the team of which the player is a member and the parents or guardians of any such player who is less than 18 years of age, within 24 hours of the act. The manager shall appear with the player before NSPC Player Agent, and at least three other members of the Board of Directors, for consideration of appropriate action. The player's parents or guardian shall be advised of and invited to attend such meeting.

ARTICLE IV - FINANCIAL POLICY

1) The Board of Directors shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of the league, bearing the responsibility to conduct the financial affairs of NSPL in a sound businesslike manner.

2) To equalize the benefits of NSPL for all participating teams, solicitation of funds shall be for the treasury of NSPL and contributions to individuals or teams shall be discouraged.

3) The Board of Directors shall institute policy relative to the preparation and acceptance of an annual budget, and periodic and annual presentation of financial reports, and an annual audit of the books of NSPL.

ARTICLE V - AUXILIARY (FUNDRAISING)

1) An Auxiliary organization may be formed for the purpose of assisting the Board of Directors in fund-raising activity, concession stand operation, and other activities as suggested by the Board of Directors.

2) All activities of the Auxiliary are subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

3) The President of the Auxiliary shall become a member of the Board of Directors of the League upon election and for the term of office.

ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

1) The President shall preside at all meetings of NSPL membership and at all meetings of the Board of Directors; shall serve as the Chief Executive Officer of NSPL; shall be an ex-officio member of all standing and special committees and shall perform such other duties as are normally associated with the office of President.

2) The Vice President shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the President; shall otherwise assist the President in the performance of the President's duties and shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President.

3) The Secretary shall have custody of the Constitution and Bylaws, and all other records of NSPL; shall keep an accurate record of the meetings and other activities of NSPL and of the Board of Directors; shall be responsible for all correspondence on behalf of NSPL and shall transmit all records and correspondence to any person elected to succeed him or her in that office.

4) The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds with the approval of the Board of Directors; shall keep an accurate account of all funds received and disbursed for NSPL; shall submit a financial report at all regular meetings and at such other times as may be requested by the President; shall compile an annual report of NSPL finances; shall provide the books of NSPL and such other documentation as requested for the annual audit and shall transmit all financial records to any person elected to succeed him or her in that office.

5) The Player Agent shall supervise the annual registration of player candidates, tryout sessions and distribution of players among NSPL teams and shall maintain any listing of eligible players not assigned to teams who may be available as replacement players.

ARTICLE VII - STANDING COMMITTEES

(Permanent or standing committees should be included according to league needs or desires. These may include, as examples):

1) The Coach Selection Committee shall interview and review the credentials and qualifications of all persons who apply for such positions in NSPL and shall actively seek out a sufficient number of applicants to meet the needs of NSPL. Final selection of candidates proposed by the committee shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

2) The Finance Committee shall, in cooperation with the Treasurer, prepare an annual budget for NSPL; shall be charged with preparing an annual audit of League financial activities; shall supervise fundraising activity and securing of sponsors on behalf of NSPL and, at the request of the Treasurer, shall assist with the collection and handling of League finances.

3) The Field and Facilities Committee shall be charged with the general preparation, maintenance, development and improvement of all playing facilities owned, leased or used by NSPL and shall make recommendations to the Finance Committee for suggested or needed expenditures in this area of operation.

4) The Equipment Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of ordering and purchasing uniforms and playing equipment for NSPL, the distribution of equipment among NSPL teams, the collection, inventory and storage of equipment during the off-season and preparation of such reports and suggestions as needed by the Finance Committee for budgetary action.

5) The Umpire Committee shall be charged with obtaining suitable umpires for NSPL as directed by the Board of Directors, shall consider all complaints relative to umpires and make suitable recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Umpire Committee shall make every effort to register all umpires with PONY.

6) The Publicity Committee shall be responsible for news media relations and the general publicizing of league activities and special events.

(The league may wish to add or delete Standing Committees from this list and to expand or decrease committee duties and responsibilities, depending upon local needs).

ARTICLE VIII - SPECIAL COMMITTEES

1) Special Committees may be appointed by the President for such special purposes as deemed necessary. Committee duties and responsibilities are to be outlined at the time of the appointment and such committees shall be dissolved at the annual meeting following appointment, but may be reappointed at any time following the annual meeting.

(A word of caution as to the appointment of Special Committees. Most activities can be handled by a Standing Committee -and should be referred to that Chairperson. Irresponsible appointment of Special Committees can disrupt or interfere with the work of your Standing Committees. If the purpose is a major activity, for example the construction of a new playing facility, it may be better to refer the matter to your Fields and Facilities Committee and let that Chairperson participate in the selection of a special sub-committee of the Fields and Facilities Committee to handle the activity).

ARTICLE IX - ROBERTS RULES

1) The rules contained in the most current edition of "Roberts Rules of Order" shall govern NSPL meetings and meetings of the Board of Directors and NSPL Committees in all cases in which they are applicable and not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the League shall adopt.

(While Roberts Rules are a recognized format for settling procedural matters, they can require interpretation by a knowledgeable person, and, in general, are written for a more formal type of meeting than that usually associated with this type of organization. It is suggested that meetings not be bogged down with constant references to Roberts Rules where no serious challenge to procedure is made).

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

1) These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of NSPL membership at the annual meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose provided notification for special meetings is provided to the membership at least 10 days in advance of the date of such meeting.

(NSPL may wish to include provisions in the bylaws for the selection of tournament teams and tournament managing and coaching personnel, for a system of league player distribution and for a Decisions Committee or these items may be covered in a separate document, such as Local League Rules and Regulations).

THE CODE OF THE GAME

Paraphrased from "The Christian Athlete"

PLAYERS live clean and play hard. Players play for the love of the game, winning without boasting, losing without excuse, but never quitting. Players respect officials and accept their decisions and never forget that when people judge a player's actions they judge not only the player, but the team, the league, and the community the player represents.

MANAGERS AND COACHES inspire in the players a love for the game and a desire to win, teaching that it is better to lose fairly than to win unfairly. Managers and coaches teach players and spectators to respect officials by setting a good example. Managers and coaches are the type of people they want the players to be.

UMPIRES know the rules, are fair and firm in all decisions and call them as they see them. Umpires treat players and managers and coaches courteously and demand the same treatment for themselves. Umpires know the game is for the players and let the players have the spotlight.

SPECTATORS never boo umpires or players or managers or coaches. Spectators appreciate a good play, no matter who makes it. Spectators know that their community gets the blame, or the praise, for their conduct, and recognize the need for more sportsmanship and fewer sports.