



**NORTH ROYALTON
BASEBALL BOOSTERS**

**RULES AND
REGULATIONS
HANDBOOK**

January 8, 2008

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GENERAL REGULATIONS

CODE OF CONDUCT

All participants including players, coaches, managers, parents and spectators are required to adhere to these policies.

1. All participants must exhibit good sportsmanship at all times.
2. Respect and cooperate with officials at all times.
3. Chatter and cheering must be of positive nature and directed to ones' own team. Abusive and vulgar language will not be tolerated.
4. Safety and injury prevention will be practiced by all.
5. All participants are required to demonstrate a positive attitude and set a good example of behavior. Keep the game in proper perspective. It is supposed to be fun.
6. Facilities, fields, and equipment will be treated with care.

All participants must promote the adherence to the Code of Conduct. Any violation of the Code of Conduct as determined by the umpire and/or Trustee(s) will result in the following:

1. Immediate ejection from that game and dismissal from the facilities for the remainder of the day/night.
2. Any ejection will result in an additional two game suspension from the facilities.
3. Any manager or coach ejected from two or more games during the season may not be permitted to manage or coach the following season pending review by the Booster President, League Commissioner and Head Umpire.
4. Any physical contact done in anger or in an attempt to intimidate will result in immediate expulsion from participating in the program indefinitely.
5. If any offender is asked to leave the grounds and fails to do so, the game will be suspended until the offender leaves the premises. Failure to do so may result in a forfeit.
6. If any manager, coach, or player is removed from any game for any reason, the umpire in charge must contact the League Commissioner and Head Umpire to report the incident within 48 hours. Copies of any documented event need to be distributed to the league commissioner and Head Umpire.
7. Umpires reserve the right to eject parents or unruly fans from the playing vicinity. If the parents/fans fail to comply with the umpire's demands, the umpire reserves the right to delay play, forfeit the game, or contact local police.

ROLE OF PARENT

Parents must shoulder responsibility and take initiative to make our program successful. Baseball Boosters is not a club in which membership implies babysitting benefits and entertainment privileges. Practically speaking, the baseball program is an adult, volunteer work project, constructed, supervised, and assisted by parents who desire to make its benefits extend to their children. Volunteers are always needed for fund raising, team organizing, scheduling, purchasing, and equipment distribution. Each parent should join in the total effort. In addition to the various administrative and service capacities in the program, qualified adult volunteers must be enlisted as team managers, coaches, and umpires. It is not enough that candidates for these important roles have previous experience in the game. Managers and coaches should demonstrate leadership ability, and the know-how to work with young children. Teamwork, good sportsmanship, and discipline are attainable goals of the program. There is a place and a job for all. The burden of operating the program should not fall on a few. The parent who shirks this responsibility cannot, in turn, expect others to assume the burden.

PARENTS CODE OF ETHICS

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in North Royalton Baseball by following this code of ethics.

I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice or other baseball events.

I will place the emotional and physical well being of all children ahead of any personal desire to win.

I will provide support for coaches and officials working with my child to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all.

I will demand a drug, alcohol, and tobacco-free sports environment for my child and agree to assist by refraining from their use at all games, practices and baseball events.

I will remember that the game is for children and not for adults.

I will do my best to make baseball fun for my child.

I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials, with respect regardless of age, race, sex, creed, or ability.

I promise to help my child enjoy the baseball experience within my personal constraints by assisting with coaching, being a respectful fan, providing transportation or whatever I am capable of doing.

REGISTRATION

All players must be North Royalton resident OR attend a school in the North Royalton City limits. An eligible non-resident is a person who does NOT reside in North Royalton, but attends a school here (lives in Broadview Hts., Hinckley, etc.). Eligible non-residents will be assessed an additional fee.

Registration will take place in person at the North Royalton High School. Dates for registration, registration location and registration fees will be published in a public forum (i.e. Royalton Recorder, www.nrbbs.org). Mail-in and online registration may also be offered. Birth certificates will be required for first time players. Any person who registers using a fictitious name, age, residence, etc. will be removed from the program and forfeit all fees.

Any player participating in a game who is not registered with the Boosters will cause a forfeiture of that game.

Cutoff date for registration will be announced by mid-January and posted in the registration announcement and on the website. Registrations received after the cutoff date will be placed onto a waiting list and assigned only if roster space is available. Girls' ages will be determined as of September 1st, Boys' ages will be determined as of August 1st.

Any applicant, who because of size or ability, requests to play in the next lower/higher league, may do so only with the permission of the Commissioners of the leagues, the President, and the recommendation of the previous years' manager.

Full refunds will be issued for requests made prior to the first day of the draft. Request for refunds made between the first day of the draft and the start of the season will only be issued for medical reasons and must be accompanied by a physician's note. No refunds will be issued after the start of the season.

To be qualified to register for Rookies (boys or girls) you must be 5 years old on or prior to September 30th (Kindergarten cutoff).

MANAGERS AND COACHES

1. A representative from each team (manager or coach) should try to attend Baseball Booster meetings. This will help us to be aware of any problems or concerns you may be having. Booster meetings/times are listed in the back of this book and will be posted at York Road Baseball Complex Bulletin Board.
2. Each team's manager and coaches must remain behind the fence in the bench area unless coaching a base. At no time will the manager or any of his coaches or players stand behind the backstop. No manager or coach is permitted out of the dugout area to assist their defense on the field of play, except in 7/8 Boys and Girls leagues. For 7/8 Boys and Girls, the manager or coach must remain in foul territory.

3. Only the Manager is permitted to go on the field to discuss a call with the umpire.
4. For safety injury prevention, any jewelry exposed to the wrist, ear, neck, ankle, or any other part of the body will be the manager's responsibility to deem whether it is safe. Starter post earrings must be covered with band-aids. The Umpire may request jewelry be removed. Also for safety reasons, no gum or candy should be in players' mouths as they may choke on it.
5. **At no time will the manager or the coaches be permitted to smoke while in the vicinity of the playing area.**
6. Managers may bench a player for disciplinary reasons during a game. (Details must be filed with League Commissioner within 48 hours.)
7. A manager may recommend that a player be suspended by notifying the parents, the League Commissioner and the Booster President. A decision will then be made.
8. After three unexcused absences (not notifying manager) from the practices or game, a manager may recommend to the League Commissioner to drop a player from his team. Requests for dropping players must be made in writing to the League Commissioner, with a copy to the parents and forwarded to the executive board for approval. The decision to drop the player will be made by the Booster President, League Commissioner and Manager. The League Commissioner will supply a replacement when possible. Lack of playing ability is not a valid reason for dropping a player.
9. THE MANAGER AND COACH ARE LOOKED UPON BY ALL AS AN EXAMPLE OF GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP. CHATTER AND CHEERING **MUST** BE POSITIVE AND **NOT** DIRECTED TO THE OPPONENTS. ANY MANAGER OR COACH WHO DOES NOT SET A GOOD EXAMPLE OR FOLLOW THE CODE OF CONDUCT SHALL BE WARNED IN WRITING BY THAT LEAGUE'S COMMISSIONER REGARDING DISCIPLINARY ACTION, WITH A COPY TO THE BOOSTER PRESIDENT AND HEAD UMPIRE. IF THERE IS A SECOND VIOLATION, THE MANAGER WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND A HEARING BEFORE THE BOOSTER PRESIDENT, LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS AND HEAD UMPIRE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISMISSAL FROM THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE REST OF THE SEASON.
10. Protests are allowed. Any manager protesting a game must complete a protest form (available on www.nrbb.org) with a \$25 filing fee. The game will be replayed at point of protest if upheld.

All protests will follow the official protest format. All protests will be held before the Protest Committee (Booster President, Commissioner Softball/Hardball and Head Umpire). Protest Committee will meet as

conditions arise. All protests need to be documented in detail, noting situation of the game, inning, base runners, number of outs, players on base and at plate, pitcher of record, etc. During the game any manager wishing to protest must do so at the point during the game in which the controversy arose. Protest must be noted in the official scorebook as well at the time of the event. Protest to be submitted to League Commissioner within 48 hrs. of violation. If a rule is not understood by either an umpire or a manager; a conference between the umpire and both managers can occur to settle a dispute. All protests upheld will result in return of \$25 fee; if a protest is not upheld the \$25 fee is forfeited.

11. The home team furnishes the official scorer and maintains the official score sheet. The visiting team operates the scoreboard. It is recommended that both teams keep scores sheets and compare them at the end of each half inning. Managers should turn in lineups to scorekeepers prior to the game time. The managers must make notification of lineup changes to the official scorekeeper and the opposing manager. The manager should be the only person to confer with the scorekeeper during the game.
12. It is a manager's responsibility to make sure that the opposing manager plays all his players the regulation number of innings.
13. For safety reasons, a manager may request a meeting with the League Commissioner for the purpose of sending a player to a lower league. The League Commissioner will contact the parents and explain the situation to them. All moves must be made prior to the start of the season, and have the approval of the two League Commissioners and Booster President.
14. Each manager must report scores to the League Director weekly. In the event of a game cancellation or suspended game, the home team manager shall advise League Commissioner and Scheduler within 24 hours.
15. Uniforms will be issued by NRBB. All players are required to wear the issued uniform for the entire season. No alterations will be permitted to the uniforms, i.e. adding names to the uniform or tearing off sleeves. Any player altering his or her uniform will be issued a new uniform at his or her expense.
16. Each manager is responsible for player evaluations at the end of the season. **Completed evaluation forms must be turned in to the league commissioner by the end of the regular season (prior to tournament week). Before September, all commissioners (except Rookies) must schedule a meeting with their managers to review the evaluations. A manager may no longer be eligible to participate as a manager the following season if the manager fails to complete the evaluations at the required time.**

DRAFT OF PLAYERS

1. All players who have previously played in the North Royalton program will be evaluated and rated. Use of last year's evaluation forms and the managers' input will be the guides at the managers only draft meeting. Ratings of players can be discussed and changed prior to the team draft on draft night by the majority of managers' vote.
2. The League Commissioner will pre-build the teams according to point values of the players. After rosters are completed, managers, and League Commissioner will determine if rosters are equal. If not, rosters will be adjusted prior to drawing.
3. On draft day the League Commissioners MAY present the managers the option to receive teams as assigned by the League Commissioner or select teams on a blind draw. The option will be voted on by all managers present and a simple majority is necessary to pass. Commissioners can vote to break ties.
4. An individual trade may be required to get back a manager's son(s) or daughter(s).

Managers who draw sons or daughters of opposing managers must trade these players to their respective parent's team for a comparable ball player.

NO OTHER TRADES WILL BE ALLOWED.

5. Late entries will go to the League Commissioner who will place late entries on teams **of his discretion** so equality remains in the league.
6. Any child held back a league would not be placed with the manager he/she had the previous year.
7. Any late registrant after the draft will be assigned to a manager different from the manager he/she had the previous year.
8. No trading of players is allowed between managers (penalty, invalid roster — forfeiture of games played).

GENERAL RULES FOR PLAYERS

1. All leagues follow Major League Baseball, NFHS, or ASA rules, whichever is appropriate with exceptions supplemented by Baseball Boosters.
2. No player can be held back a league at the time of registration or moved back a league during preseason without approval of the two League Commissioners and the Booster President.
3. For safety injury prevention, any jewelry exposed to the wrist, ear, neck, ankle, or any other part of the body will be the manager's responsibility to deem whether it is safe. Starter post earrings must be covered with band-aids.

The Umpire may request jewelry be removed. Also for safety reasons, no gum or candy should be in players' mouths as they may choke on it.

4. All team members who are not involved in fielding, batting or coaching are to be seated on the bench.
5. Players may be dropped from a team for the following reason:
 - a. If the player is endangering himself physically, e.g. poor eyesight etc.
 - b. If he or she is consistently absent from scheduled practices and games.
 - c. Other: illness, injuries, change of address, etc. Managers will support their request with sound reasons.
8. Any player charged with unsportsmanlike conduct will be ejected from that game.
9. Any player ejected from a game will count as an out in the continuous batting order. If the ejection of a player drops the team below the minimum number of players the game will be considered a forfeit.
10. Any player who is ejected from of a game for any reason shall also be suspended for an additional two games. The umpire shall report any such incident to the League Commissioner and the Head Umpire within 48 hours.
11. Call up players must be NRBB registered in-house players, except for High School Boys Baseball, which may call up NRBB registered in-house or travel players. All call up players must come from one birth year lower. Example: Boys HS may call up a 14 year old from an in-house team or a 14 year old from a travel team. Any call up player found to be ineligible during a game shall be removed immediately from the game. An ineligible player removed from a game will count as an out in the continuous batting order. If a team is found to have used an ineligible player during a game that was completed, that game and any other game, in which the ineligible player participated, will be forfeited.
12. In-house players may be used as occasional call-ups for travel teams provided the travel team does not interfere with the in-house practice or game schedule.
13. Major Safety Rule Infractions such as the wearing of metal spikes or the use of an illegal bat (approved bat for that league) shall result in the player receiving an immediate suspension for the remainder of the game. Each time the player who has been removed from the game is due up, the team will receive an out. If the removal of the player brings the team below the minimum number of players, the team will forfeit the game.
14. The offensive and defensive team may not make verbal comments about a pitch or pitcher during the pitch and prior to the ball crossing the plate.

EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

1. The Recreation Department through the Baseball Boosters will provide bats, catcher's equipment, bases, and similar team equipment. All persons should

be mindful that such equipment is public property and should be protected from loss and misuse. Players can provide their own bat if they like. It should be properly tagged with the players' name. It is your responsibility if your bat is missing. Bats must conform to hardball/softball specifications. In 7/8 Boys and Girls Leagues, T-ball bats are permissible.

2. All equipment is to be stacked behind the benches or sidelines.
3. Equipment, including bats and protective helmets, must not be thrown as a display of unsportsmanlike conduct. Penalty may include ejection from the game.
4. All city equipment must be turned into appropriate equipment managers promptly at the conclusion of the season. Unreturned equipment will be billed at cost to whom it was issued.
5. Boys Baseball teams should supply one new ball. For Slow Pitch Softball only the home team will supply one new ball. **NO BALLS ARE TO BE GIVEN TO PLAYERS.**
6. Chest protectors and face masks/helmets are to be worn by all catchers. Shin Guards are mandatory for all non slow pitch leagues.
7. Any batter/runner intentionally removing their protective helmet during play will be declared out.
8. No metal spikes may be worn in any in-house league.
9. **HARDBALL ONLY** (from 7/8 league and up).
 - a. **All players should wear athletic supporters. For safety reasons all catchers must wear a protective cup. If a team cannot field a catcher with a cup the game will be forfeited.**
 - b. All catchers must wear a throat guard on their facemask.
10. All diamonds will be prepared and maintained by the Recreation Department.

GAME RULES

1. The official game time will be indicated on the official league schedule
2. Regulation/minimum Number of Players and Player Substitution
 - a. Teams must field the REGULATION number of players if the required numbers are present. The REGULATION number of players for hardball and softball is ten. Boys High School is nine.
 - b. Teams unable to field the MINIMUM number of players 15 minutes after the scheduled starting time must forfeit the game. The MINIMUM number of players is eight (8).

- c. If injury or illness drops a team below the MINIMUM number, the game may be resumed at a later date at the point of injury.
- d. It is the manager's responsibility to see that a team is fielded with the REGULATION number of players.
- e. In the event of a player shortage due to vacations or illness, the team affected may request players from a lower league to increase the team to the REGULATION number of players. This rule may only be used when a team cannot field a REGULATION NUMBER OF PLAYERS.
NOTE: Travel players are not permitted to play as call up players, except for Boys High School Baseball.
- f. Any call up players first obligation is to his/her assigned team and may consent to play only if they don't have a regularly scheduled game at that time.
- g. For safety reasons, call up players should only be those players with appropriate ability in the lower league. Call up players must play an outfield position and bat last and wear the uniform issued to the team they play for, or different color shirt. A Manager will not issue a team shirt to a call up player.
- h. Prior to the start of the game, the manager with call up players must notify the opposing manager, scorekeeper and umpire.
- i. Any call up player found to be ineligible during a game shall be removed immediately from the game. An ineligible player removed from a game will count as an out in the continuous batting order. If a team is found to have used an ineligible player during a game that was completed, that game and any other game, in which the ineligible player participated, will be forfeited.

4. The team listed first on the schedule will be the home team.

5. Prior to 3:30 PM on all weekdays, the fitness of the grounds for all games will be the responsibility of the recreation department. After 3:30 PM on weekdays the umpire or a designated booster official will determine the fitness of the grounds for all games. The time for all weekend games will be 8:00 AM

6. Procedure for Suspended Game

- a. The umpire may temporarily suspend a game, when, in the judgment of the umpire, conditions pose a safety hazard (weather, light failure, field conditions, etc.).
- b. **The game will be temporarily suspended immediately if the umpire observes lightning.**

Thirty-Minute Rule — Once lightning has been recognized, competition shall be suspended until at least 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning is witnessed or thunder is heard. Given the average rates of thunderstorm

travel, this would allow the storm to move 10 to 12 miles away from the area and significantly reduces the risk of local lightning flashes. **Any subsequent lightning or thunder after the beginning of the 30-minute count shall reset the clock and another count should begin.**

- c. Players, coaches, managers and spectators shall evacuate to available safe structures or shelters within the vicinity of the playing field and must remain there to await the decision by the umpire to resume play. Teams risk a forfeit if they leave before the umpire's decision.
 - d. When an umpire determines that play cannot be resumed, all games, which end prior to becoming official, will be replayed as a new game. Games that cannot be resumed after becoming official will use the ending score, provided the losing team has at least as many completed times at bat as the winning team. If not, the score reverts to the previous inning's score.
 - e. If play is suspended during a game the suspension time will not count against the time limit.
7. All games with a 1 hr. and 15 min. time limit that have exceeded the minimum number of innings will be terminated at 1.5 hrs. after the start time, at which point the score will revert back to the previous inning.
 8. All games with a 1 hr. and 5 min. time limit that have exceeded the minimum number of innings will be terminated at 1 hr. and 20 min. after the start time, at which point the score will revert back to the previous inning.
 9. All leagues will have a time limit to play a regulation game. The time limits are shown on page 12. However, there is no time limit to play on OFFICIAL game (minimum number of innings). NO inning is permitted to start (after the game is official) once the time limit has been reached. A full regulation game is permitted, provided the last inning has been started prior to the time limit. **NO GAME SHALL BE STOPPED IN THE HOME HALF OF AN INNING IF THE TIME LIMIT HAS BEEN EXCEEDED, UNLESS THE HOME TEAM IS AHEAD.**
 10. In the event a game starts later than the scheduled time (for example: player shortage, weather, etc.), the time limit shall begin when the umpire declares "PLAY BALL".
 11. Games that are tied which have reached the time limit shall remain tied. As a result, teams shall be given points to determine the league standings. A team shall be awarded two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie, and zero (0) points for a loss.
 12. At the end of the regular season, a playoff games can be held to determine a division champion if a tie occurs, except in the 7/8 Boys and Girls League.

13. Any violation of the pitching rules constitutes a forfeiture of the game.
The game will not be replayed.
14. When a player arrives late for a game, the other team must be notified of the new player before they enter the game. The new player may enter the game at any point during the inning but must bat in the last position of the order. If their team is in the field they must enter the game as an outfielder, provided there is an open position.
15. All teams shall use a continuous batting order, batting the entire roster.
16. No batter will be declared out if he/she is unable to bat in the consecutive batting order due to injury, illness or leaving the facility.
17. Any runner is out when the runner does not slide or attempt to get around a fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make the tag. **DELIBERATE AND FORCEFUL CONTACT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**
18. No head first slides are permitted unless going back to a previous base.
The penalty is calling the runner out.
19. Batters releasing their bats in an unsafe manner, in the judgment of the umpire, will be given an individual warning. A second occurrence by the same batter will result in the batter being declared out.

TOURNAMENT RULES — In-House Teams

1. All Tournament Rules take precedence over any other conflicting rules.
2. Seeding of teams in tournament brackets shall be determined, first by standings, then by head to head record, and then by coin toss. A process of placing the first place team and the second place team in separate brackets is encouraged.
3. Time limits will remain in effect for all games except championship games and tie games. A winner must be determined therefore no ties will be allowed. All games that are stopped due to weather, light failure, etc., will be suspended games and resumed at the point which the game was stopped.
4. Tournament play will begin on Saturday following the end of the regular season.
5. All protests will be resolved immediately on the field by the umpires and the designated booster tournament official.
6. It is the responsibility of the manager to field his/her team for all scheduled and rescheduled tournament games. Failure to field a team at the scheduled or rescheduled time will result in forfeiture.
7. The home team shall be determined by the team with the best record. If both teams have the same record, a coin toss will determine the home team.

GAME SCHEDULES

1. The Scheduler will schedule all games. No exceptions. The head umpire will be notified of rescheduled games by the rescheduler.
2. Rescheduling of games must be due to weather. Requests for games to be rescheduled for reasons other than weather must be done **72 hours in advance** and **both teams** must be affected (i.e., class picnic or community event). Failure to comply will result in forfeiture of game.
3. Rescheduled games will be posted at the York Road Baseball Complex Bulletin Board and on the NRBB Website.
4. MAKE UP GAMES HAVE PRIORITY OVER PRACTICES.
5. All make up games and playoff games shall be completed within one week of the final scheduled league game.
6. Not all rainout games will be rescheduled when rain causes cancellations near the end of the season. The League Commissioner ultimately will decide which games shall be rescheduled (if any) to determine league champion.

LEAGUE REGULATIONS

AGE	REGULATION GAME	OFFICIAL GAME	TIME LIMIT	BASE DIS.	PITCHING DISTANCE	BALL TYPE
Boys Rookies	None	None	1 Hr.	50'	None	RIF
Girls Rookies	None	None	1 Hr.	50'	20' - 30'	RIF
Boys 7-8	5 Innings	3 Innings	1 Hr. 5 Min.	50'	35'	RIF
Girls 7-8	5 Innings	3 Innings	1 Hr. 5 Min.	50'	25'	RIF
Boys 9-10	5 Innings	3 Innings	1 Hr. 15 Min.	60'	40'	RIF5 (9 only)
Girls 9-10 Modified Pitch	5 Innings	3 Innings	1 Hr. 15 Min.	60'	35'	11" Optic
Boys 11	6 Innings	4 Innings	1 Hr. 45 Min.	65'	46'	
Boys 12	6 Innings	4 Innings	1 Hr. 45 Min.	70'	51'	
Girls 11-13 Modified Pitch	6 Innings	4 Innings	1 Hr. 45 Min.	60'	40'	11" Optic
Boys 13-14	7 Innings	4 Innings	2 Hrs.	80'	54'	
Girls H. S. Slow Pitch	7 Innings	5 Innings	1 Hr. 15 Min.	65'	46'	11" White
Girls H. S. Fast Pitch	6 Innings	5 Innings	1 Hr. 45 Min.	60'	40'	12" Optic
Boys High School	7 Innings	5 Innings	2 Hrs. 15 Min.	90'	60'6"	
Co-ed Softball	7 Innings	5 Innings	1 Hr. 15 Min.	65'	46'	12" RIFIO

TRAVEL TEAMS

North Royalton travel teams are in place to provide a highly competitive baseball and softball experience for the serious athlete. All travel teams are directly affiliated with the NRBB and must conform to the rules and guidelines established by the NRBB.

The purpose of the NRBB Travel Program is to provide an opportunity for players to participate at a higher competitive level of the sport than what the “in-house” program offers. The program is designed for teams to participate in a competitive non-city league. While the programs are higher levels of softball and baseball, the intent is to create a positive experience for both players and parents.

TRAVEL PROGRAM GENERAL RULES

The following rules apply to ALL divisions within the NRBB Travel Program. Rules specific to each division are listed following this section.

Travel Commissioners – Boys and girls travel teams are governed, and represented on the NRBB board, by a Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14), Boys High School Travel Commissioner (U15-U18), and a Girls Travel Commissioner. As trustees, these positions are established by the NRBB and have a two-year term. The Travel Commissioner’s role is to ensure that the travel team guidelines are followed, and to coordinate all travel activities such as tournaments, field scheduling coordination, issues related to the CVBA or Emerald Necklace league, and any other travel team issues that may come up from time to time.

Travel Team Advisory Board – As needed, within each travel “division”, the respective Travel Commissioner and two NRBB trustees, one being a board member, will form an Advisory Board. Each of these Advisory Boards will act per the rules and regulations set forth by the NRBB.

Travel Team Manager Review – At the conclusion of the travel season, each of the travel team Advisory Boards will conduct a review of all travel managers within the respective travel division and determine if the manager is in good standing. A manager is in good standing if he or she follows all of the travel team guidelines and conducts himself or herself properly throughout the season, and is not on manager probation. After the completion of the manager review process, a manager in good standing will manage the team the following year. As part of this review process, the Advisory Boards will investigate any written complaints presented to the NRBB or Travel Commissioners, Parent’s Survey Form and Umpire Incident Reports indicating that a travel manager has violated NRBB rules or is not creating a positive experience for the kids. Any manager deemed not in good standing will be placed on probation or possibly removed by the respective travel team Advisory Board. All managers agree that decisions by their respective travel team Advisory Board are final.

Manager or Coach Probation – A manager or coach may be placed on “probation” by a travel team Advisory Board for violation of the NRBB rules. If a manager is on probation and commits a second violation, he/she will be given a second and final warning and serve a one game suspension. That one game suspension will be the game immediately following the incident or if in a tournament will not be allowed to manage or be on the premises for the remainder of the tournament. After the second and final warning, a manager committing an additional violation will be immediately dismissed from the travel program. Managers dismissed will also give up their rights to manage any team in the NRBB organization.

Travel Manager Selection – If a manager is removed or if a manager steps-down from that position, that position will be deemed “open”. Anyone interested in filling an “open” manager position must contact the corresponding Travel Commissioner and complete a Manager Application. The corresponding Travel Commissioner will make arrangements for each applicant to be interviewed by the proper Advisory Board in order to make a selection. For a copy of the Manager Application, please go to www.NRBB.org. The return of a signed Manager Application to the NRBB shall constitute acceptance of all terms and conditions set forth by the NRBB and/or Travel Commissioners.

General Criteria for Travel Managers – In selecting travel managers, the individuals must:

- Have proper knowledge of the game of baseball
- Have previous coaching and/or playing experience
- Maintain strong organizational skills
- Maintain a strong commitment to the travel program and player development
- Maintain a strong commitment to spend the necessary time required to properly manage a travel team
- Conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times
- Maintain a strong commitment to follow all rules as set forth by the NRBB and their respective league (i.e., CVBA, Emerald Necklace), or all other appropriate governing bodies

Travel Manager’s Responsibilities – The manager and coaching staff shall be responsible for the conduct of his/her team and for complying with all applicable travel rules. All managers (or designated representative) shall be responsible for attending meetings held to discuss rules, scheduling, field selection or league matters.

Travel Manager Conduct – All travel managers agree to represent the City of North Royalton in a professional manner when playing both in North Royalton

as well as other cities. The managers agree that they are responsible for their coaches, players and parents, and they will do everything in their power to ensure that they conduct themselves properly. Managers agree to take immediate action against a coach, player, or parent for all actions that are deemed inappropriate. Such actions include excessive arguing with the umpires, use of inappropriate language, drinking or smoking before or during the game, berating or embarrassing a player or parent, or any other actions not in the spirit of good sportsmanship. Any managers failing to follow this proper conduct will be placed on manager probation.

Ejections From a Game or Field – Under no circumstances will the NRBB tolerate a manager, player, or parent being ejected from a game, or a field. If anyone associated with a travel team is ejected from a game, or is requested to leave the premise, that person will face at minimum a two game suspension. There will be no appeals. All such incidents must be reported to the proper Travel Commissioner within 24 hours. If the Commissioner feels that the action was severe, he/she will present it to the corresponding Advisory Board and the Board will decide if additional action is necessary. All incidents involving a travel manager will result in that manager being placed on probation or being removed from the travel program. If the action was by a player or parent, the Travel Commissioner will contact that person and inform them that any further type of behavior will not be tolerated and the player involved in the incident or the player associated with the parent involved in the incident will be dismissed from the program for the remainder of that year, and will have to get the proper Advisory Board's approval to be re-instated for the next season.

Player Eligibility – Team rosters are limited to players that are North Royalton residents or players attending a school in the City of North Royalton School District. However, each team is allowed to supplement their roster with two (2) players outside of the stated boundaries (Royalton School District). At no time will a travel team be allowed to have more than two (2) Non-Royalton School District players on their roster. Non-Royalton School District players must be approved by the proper Travel Commissioner and must pay the additional non-resident fee. NOTE: Every effort must be made to pick a team with all North Royalton or Royalton School District players.

Parent Waiver and Approval Form – A parent or guardian of any player trying out for a travel team must complete a travel baseball waiver and consent form and be given a copy of the NRBB Travel Rules. For a copy of the Parent Waiver and Approval Form, please go to www.NRBB.org. All parents signing the form agree to let their child participate in the NRBB travel program and agree to adhere to the NRBB rules. The travel tryout dates and rules will be posted on the NRBB website prior to tryouts. When advertising the tryouts, the notice will include mention of the website and posting of the rules. Also, while at the website, all parents are encouraged to read the NRBB Rules and Regulation Handbook.

Registration Forms – All players selected for a travel team must complete a NRBB registration form and pay the related fees. All travel managers are responsible for the accuracy of the information and the collection of the player registration fee. Managers should try to submit the fees and completed forms to their respective Travel Commissioner by the date set forth by their Travel Commissioner (see specific dates within each travel division below). All forms submitted after the designated date may be subject to additional NRBB fees. All travel team registration forms will be verified for their accuracy by the NRBB. Any player that has a registration form that contains false information related to residency or age requirements will be immediately removed from the NRBB travel program. Also, the related manager will be suspended indefinitely. All parents give the NRBB permission to contact existing school organizations to verify enrollment and if requested to produce birth certificates.

Travel Team Call Up Players – Travel teams may roster players from a lower age NRBB travel team. Travel teams may use Call Up players when there is a chance they will have less than nine players at a regular season game. The Call Up players may play only if there is not a conflict with their assigned team. Call Up players are also not permitted to pitch in any game. Call Up players may participate with the travel team in tournaments if conflicts do not exist.

Use of NR City Fields – All teams will be given dates that they can utilize the North Royalton fields for practices and games. However, the NRBB controls these field times and the NRBB has first right to use that field. In the event that a potential conflict arises, the NRBB Scheduler will give the appropriate manager adequate time to reschedule a game. If a travel team needs additional field time for a makeup game or a special situation exists, a request should be submitted to the proper Travel Commissioner.

Travel Team Accounting – It is the responsibility of each travel team to be financially self sufficient. All travel managers are responsible for accounting for all monies received and spent for their team. Due to the NRBB association with the City of North Royalton, all travel teams are required to provide statements of accounting and adhere to the compliance requirements set forth by the City and the NRBB. These statements shall be provided in a format acceptable to the NRBB and the City of North Royalton. All travel managers must submit these financial statements to their respective Travel Commissioner at the end of each calendar quarter. In addition to providing a complete accounting, all managers agree that all monies collected through fundraising and donations will be properly accounted for and used for the current year travel team expenses.

Payment of Umpire Fees – All games on North Royalton fields will be assigned an umpire(s) by the association under contract with the NRBB. Prior to the start of the season, all managers will provide their finalized home schedule to their respective Travel Commissioner and the NRBB Scheduler. This home schedule will identify all games being played during the season on North Royalton fields. Umpire

rates for each division will be available to the managers. The managers are responsible for calculating the total amount of umpire fees due for home games and submitting that amount to the NRBB Treasurer prior to the start of the season. Teams that have not paid the fees in advance will not be furnished umpires

BOYS U8-U14 TRAVEL RULES

The following rules apply to the Boys U8-U14 Travel Teams:

Teams – All age groups beginning with age 8 and going through age 14 are eligible to host travel teams. Each age group will have one team that will be called the bid team and take the North Royalton nickname of Bears. Only one (1) team may be fielded for the U8 age group. In the U9-U14 age groups, a second team will be established if there are enough quality players to field a competitive team. (When) If this second team is established, they will be the “non-bid” team. In the event (that) there are not enough “travel quality” players in an age group, that particular age group will have only one team. A maximum of two (2) teams in the U9-U14 age groups will be allowed as determined by the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14) and NRBB.

Travel Team Nicknames – All bid travel teams have the obligation of using the “Bears” nickname. If there is a non-bid team, they can elect an appropriate “bears related” nickname (i.e., Cubs, Grizzlies, etc.) for the team. All team nicknames and logos must be approved by the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14).

Travel Team Uniforms – All bid team uniforms will be purple and gold. Non-bid team colors can be purple and gold, or black and gold, or colors approved by the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14) and the NRBB. All teams, both bid and non-bid, will prominently display on the front of their uniform North Royalton or the team nickname. All travel team uniforms must be approved by the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14).

League – The boys travel teams will participate in the Cuyahoga Valley Baseball Association (CVBA). The Bid team can elect to play in either the CVBA Open Division (if available for that age group), or the CVBA bid division. If the Bid team plays in the Open Division, the Non-Bid team can elect to play in the Bid Division. If the Bid team plays in the Bid division the Non-Bid team will play in the Non-Bid division. In the 9U age group, the CVBA normally has only one division which both 9U teams would play in. Any team requesting to play in a league not associated with CVBA, or a deviation of the above rules, must get approval by the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14).

Registration Form Deadline – All travel managers in this division should attempt to collect and submit all of their player registration forms to the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14) by February 6. In any event, all registration forms must be submitted no later than March 1st, as travel rosters must be set prior to this

date. All players assigned to Boys U8-U14 Travel teams MUST register with the NRBB and pay appropriate fees. All rosters must be turned in to the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14) who in turn will submit the forms, fees and rosters to the NRBB.

Publication of Tryouts – After August 1, all existing travel managers will request a tryout date from the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14) for completion of tryouts. Once all requests have been approved, a complete list of tryout dates will be established and published through various media outlets such as the local newspaper, NRBB website, fliers in the schools, etc. It is the responsibility of the travel organization and specific managers to ensure that all eligible residents are given an opportunity to tryout for the travel teams.

Tryouts and Player Selection – All players to be placed on a travel team must attend tryouts. Tryouts will take place on a Saturday and Sunday in August or September at the North Royalton baseball complex. A third tryout date may be needed in the event that a player is out of town or provides a valid reason for not being able to attend the tryouts.

If a team does not have a manager, the tryouts will be conducted by the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14) and two independent evaluators. They will be responsible for selecting the team. These evaluators may request statistics or feedback from the team's previous managers or coaches to aid in making the selections.

For the 8-year-old team, the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14) or a committee established by the Commissioner will conduct the tryouts. During the tryouts, all players will be evaluated by a minimum of three independent evaluators and tested on all relevant baseball skills. The players will be evaluated on a rating scale and at the completion of the tryouts will be given a grade. All player ratings will be evaluated and a copy submitted to the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14). The top 11 or 12 players will be identified and selected. The manager position will be deemed open (see Travel Manager Selection). The Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14) will notify the parents of the players attending tryouts of the results within 14 days after tryouts.

For the 9-year old division, there will be one tryout over two days. All existing 8-year old travel players and any other eligible NR players must attend the tryout. The existing 8 year old manager and two independent evaluators selected by the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14) will conduct the tryouts and evaluate the players as done in the 8-year old division. After the tryouts, the existing manager will select the players to play on the bid team, and the remaining 11-12 players will be selected to play on the non-bid team. The manager position will be deemed open for the non-bid team (see manager selection). The bid manager will notify the parents of the players attending tryouts of the results within 14 days after tryouts.

For the 10-14 age division, two separate tryouts or a single combined tryout may be conducted.

- **10-14 Age Divisions Two Separate Tryouts** – The first tryout will be for the bid team and be conducted by the bid manager. All existing bid players must attend the tryout, as well as all new eligible players that did not play travel baseball the previous season. Existing non-bid players are not obligated but encouraged to attend the bid tryout. All players attending the bid tryout agree that if selected will play on the bid team. After the tryout, the bid manager has 10 days to select the team and notify all selected players as well as non-selected players. All players not selected will then have the opportunity to try out for the non-bid team.

The non-bid team tryout will be conducted by the non-bid manager 14 days after the bid team tryouts. All players that attended the tryouts and were not selected for the bid team and previous year non-bid players that elected not to attend the bid tryouts are eligible to try out. The non-bid manager will then have 14 days to select the team. After the team is selected the manager will contact all selected players as well as non-selected players.

All managers are obligated to give players a fair and equitable chance to make the team. Players should be judged based on playing ability, attitude, and any other circumstances that the manager feels are relevant.

- **10-14 Age Division Combined Tryout** – If the Bid and Non-Bid managers elect they can have one tryout with all players attending. They must notify the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14) when scheduling tryout dates. All players eligible for that age group will attend and all applicable rules stated above will apply. This single tryout will be conducted to save time and eliminate players having to attend four days of tryouts. After the tryout, the Bid Manager will have seven (7) days to select his players. He will then notify the Non-Bid Manager of his selections, and will contact the parents to notify them that they have made the team. The Non-Bid Manager will then select his team within the next seven (7) days from the remaining players and will contact those parents. If the managers need additional time to take an additional look at the players, or conduct a second tryout, it must be approved by the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14).

Bid Players Not Selected for a Bid Team – If a player was on a Bid team the previous season and is not selected for the team the next season, he will be placed on the Non-Bid team. However, if the Non-Bid manager can clearly demonstrate that this player was not one of the highest rated players, or has reasonable circumstances that this player should not be on the team, he can present his “case” to the travel team advisory board.

Rosters with selected players for all teams must be submitted to the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14) within 14 days after the team is selected.

All parents of players attending tryouts must be notified of the tryout results. This notification can be via telephone call, letter, or the posting of the final rosters at the North Royalton fields. If a parent wants a further explanation the manager will inform them of that particular boy or girl's ranking only. All tryout information will be kept confidential.

After the travel team's rosters have been submitted, the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14) must approve any changes or additions. Players on a team cannot be removed without the approval of the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14). If a player quits a team, the manager may add a player that had previously attended the tryouts. Any special situations regarding boys moving into North Royalton after the tryout date, or not being available for tryouts must be presented to the Boys Travel Commissioner (U8-U14).

BOYS HIGH SCHOOL TRAVEL RULES

The following rules apply to the U15-U18 Boys High School Travel Teams:

Teams – All age groups beginning with age 15 and going through age 18 are eligible to host travel teams. If in the year prior to moving into the U15 age group, two U14 teams exist, both teams will be eligible to move into the U15 age group and will remain eligible until reaching the U18 age group, as long as there are enough quality players to field a competitive team. If two teams move into the U15 age group, the second team will be the “non-bid” team. If only one team exists in any age group within the U15-U18 divisions, a second team will not be allowed to be formed. This is due to the general lack of North Royalton players that continue playing once they enter their High School years.

Travel Team Nicknames – The bid team in each age group will be called the Bears. Any non-bid teams must take the nickname Grizzlies or Cubs. All nicknames must be approved by the Boys High School Travel Commissioner.

Travel Team Uniforms – All bid team uniforms will be purple and gold or white with purple and gold. Non-bid team colors can be purple and gold, white with purple and gold, or black and gold. All teams, both bid and non-bid, will prominently display on the front of their uniform North Royalton, Royalton or the team nickname. All High School Travel team uniforms must be approved by the Boys High School Travel Commissioner.

League – The boy's teams will participate in the Cuyahoga Valley Boys Association (“CVBA”). The “bid” team will play in the CVBA bid division or open division and the “non-bid” team will play in the CVBA non-bid division. If the CVBA only maintains a bid or open division, the non-bid team will play in the lower of the two divisions. If a team plays in an “Open” division, that team must still abide by

the roster eligibility rules associated with the “Bid” team division. Any team requesting to play in a league not associated with the CVBA must get approval from the Boys High School Travel Commissioner and the NRBB.

Registration Form Deadline – All travel managers in this division should attempt to collect and submit all of their player registration forms and fees to the Boys High School Travel Commissioner by May 1st. In any event, all registration forms must be submitted no later than May 3 1st, as High School Travel rosters must be set prior to this date. All players assigned to Boys High School Travel teams MUST register with the NRBB and pay appropriate fees. All rosters must be turned in to the Boys High School Travel Commissioner who in turn will submit the forms, fees and rosters to the NRBB.

High School Travel Rosters and Selection of Players – Teams will be picked between March 1 and April 30 of the corresponding season. The managers may pick their players directly from their respective High School tryouts held each Spring, or from observing and rating them while they play for their High School team. The manager may also hold tryouts for non-High School team players if there are not enough High School Team players available or interested in playing in the NRBB High School Travel program.

Managers holding additional tryouts must publish announcements on the NRBB website or via fliers in the NR High School.

If two (2) teams exist in any one age group, the Bid Manager will have the first right to select his players and the Non-Bid Manager will have the second right to select his players. This will relate to both the selection of High School Team players and non-High School Team players. At no time will Managers be allowed to “recruit” players who have already either played on or who have already been selected by another Manager in the Boys High School Travel division.

The Boys High School Travel Commissioner and all Boys High School Travel managers are obligated to give players a fair and equitable chance to make a team. Players should be judged based on playing ability, attitude, availability and any other criteria that the manager(s) feel relevant.

All players attending tryouts must be notified of the tryout results via telephone call from the team manager within five (5) days from the final date the tryouts were conducted. If a parent requires further explanation, the manager must discuss the reason(s) for the team selections with that parent. All tryout information must be kept confidential.

All tryouts and the final team selection will be completed prior to May 1st of each year. Rosters with all selected players for all teams must be submitted to the High School Travel Commissioner within 5 days after the team is selected. All players selected by the teams MUST register with the NRBB and pay appropriate fees.

After the Boys High School Travel rosters have been submitted, the Boys High School Travel Commissioner must approve any changes or additions. Players

on a team cannot be removed without the approval of the Boys High School Travel Commissioner. If a player quits a team, the manager may add a player that had previously attended the tryouts. Any special situations regarding boys moving into North Royalton after the tryout date, or not being available for tryouts must be presented to the Boys High School Travel Commissioner.

GIRLS TRAVEL RULES

The following rules apply to ALL Girls Travel Teams:

Teams – All age groups beginning with 10U and through age 18 (high school) are eligible to host travel teams. Each age group will have at least one team and subsequent teams will be established if there are enough quality players to field competitive teams. In the event there are not enough 'travel quality' players in an age group, that particular age group will have only one team. There is a maximum of four (4) teams per age level or two (2) teams per age.

Travel Team Nicknames – Since the travel organization is established for North Royalton, all travel teams have the obligation of using the 'Bears' nickname, or any related 'Bears' theme as the team name. All nicknames and logos are subject to the approval of the Girls Travel Commissioner.

Travel Team Uniforms – All teams will prominently display on the front of their uniform 'North Royalton', 'NR' or the team nickname. All travel team uniforms must be approved by the Girls Travel Commissioner.

League – The Girls Travel teams will participate in the Emerald Necklace Girls Fastpitch Softball Association and will abide by its rules and regulations. Any team requesting to play in a league not associated with the Emerald league must get approval from the Girls Travel Commissioner and the NRBB.

Registration Form Deadline – Travel managers in this division should submit the fees and completed forms to the Girls Travel Commissioner by March 31st for all 10U through 14U teams. JV and High School must submit their forms by May 1st. All players assigned to travel teams MUST register with the NRBB and pay appropriate fees. All rosters must be turned in to the Girls Travel Commissioner who in turn will submit the forms, fees and rosters to the NRBB.

Publication of Tryouts – After August 1, all existing Girls Travel managers will request a tryout date from the Girls Travel Commissioner for completion of tryouts. Once all requests have been approved, a complete list of tryout dates will be established and published through various media outlets such as the local newspaper, NRBB website, fliers in the schools, etc. It is the responsibility of the Girls Travel Commissioner and specific managers to ensure that all eligible residents are given an opportunity to tryout for the Girls Travel teams.

Travel Rosters and Selection of Players – Tryouts for U10 and up to and including U14 will take place on a Saturday and Sunday (or Friday) in August or September at the North Royalton York Road Complex. A third tryout date may be needed in the event that a player is out of town or provides a valid reason for not being able to attend the tryouts.

The JV and Varsity teams will be picked sometime before May 1 of the new year. The managers may pick the girls right from their high school tryouts in spring, or from observing and rating them while they play for their high school. The manager may still hold tryouts if they need them. All this will be done before the May 1st deadline.

All managers are obligated to give players a fair and equitable chance to make a team. Players should be judged based on playing ability, attitude, availability and any other circumstance that the manager(s) feels relevant.

Rosters with selected players for all teams must be submitted to the Girls Travel Commissioner within 14 days after the team is selected.

All players attending tryouts must be notified of the tryout results. This notification can be via telephone call, letter, or the postings of the final rosters at the North Royalton fields. If a parent wants a further explanation, they can contact the manager to discuss the situation in more detail. All tryout information will be kept confidential.

After the travel team's rosters have been submitted, the Girls Travel Commissioner must approve any changes or additions. Players on a team cannot be removed without the approval of the Girls Travel Commissioner. If a player quits a team, the manager may add a player that had previously attended the tryouts. Any special situations regarding girls moving into North Royalton after the tryout date, or not being available for tryouts must be presented to the Girls Travel Commissioner

SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES

SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES FOR 7-8

TEAM IN THE FIELD

1. A fielded team will consist of all players. There will be six infielders. The fielding pitcher is positioned with six feet behind or to either side of the pitcher's plate, which is located 25' from home plate. The remaining infielders will play within five feet of the baseline between first and third base. There is no catcher in this league. The remaining players will play outfield. Outfielders must play in excess of twenty feet behind the baseline.