

ILLAWARRA BASEBALL LEAGUE INCORPORATED

BY-LAWS AND PLAYING CONDITIONS

Version 1.0 – 6th February 2012

Version 1.1 – 16th April 2012 (see Section 26 revision notes)

Version 1.2 – 5th May 2013 (see Section 26 revision notes)

Version 1.3 – 3rd March 2014 (see Section 26 revision notes)

Version 1.4 – 7th April 2014 (see Section 26 revision notes)

Version 1.5 – 4th May 2015 (see Section 26 revision notes)

Version 1.6 – 5th April 2016, (see Section 26 revision notes)

Version 1.7 – 6th February 2017, (see Section 26 revision notes)

**ILLAWARRA BASEBALL LEAGUE
BY-LAWS AND PLAYING CONDITIONS**

CONTENTS

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Registration**
- 3. Clearances / Listing Players as Defaulters**
- 4. Procedure for Listing Defaulters**
- 5. Payment of Players**
- 6. General obligations of Clubs to the League and to Baseball**
- 7. Club Eligibility**
- 8. Club Uniforms**
- 9. Code of Conduct**
- 10. Protests and Appeals**
- 11. Game Results**
- 12. Scorers Statistic Sheets**
- 13. Finals Series**
- 14. Awards**
- 15. Representative and Finals prerequisites**
- 16. Responsibilities of Representatives Teams and Staff**
- 17. Spare Section**
- 18. Knockout Rules**
- 19. Blood Bin Rules**
- 20. Pitching Regulations**
- 21. Speed-up Rules**
- 22. Umpires**
- 23. Playing Conditions**
- 24. Forfeits**
- 25. Fees and Charges**
- 26. Revision Notes**

1. INTRODUCTIONS

The By-Laws and Playing Conditions of the League are intended to be principles and rules to allow the successful running of the domestic senior competition in Illawarra.

- (a) A Notice of Motion must be passed by a Management Committee meeting or at a Special general meeting of the League (called for that purpose) to effect a change in the By-Laws and Playing Conditions.
- (b) A Notice of Motion shall be passed in the following manner:
 - i. A notice must be sent to all members advising that a management or a Special general meeting is to be held to consider a Notice of Motion.
 - ii. The notice must give details of the proposed Notice of Motion in writing and give at least seven (7) days notice of the meeting.
 - iii. A quorum must be present at the meeting.
 - iv. To pass a Notice of Motion, a majority of over fifty (50) percent of those entitled to vote under the Constitution must be achieved.

2. REGISTRATION

- (a) A player is deemed to be registered with the league when their complete and correct details are on the “IMG” web site and ticked as paid in their respective “member Type”. All other officials and volunteers must also be on the “IMG” web site.
- (b) Once all persons are on the website the IBL registrar will be sent an email from that club advising that this is complete. All persons must be on the website before the season commences.
- (c) For additional player registrations after the commencement of the season, for single players only, the player’s complete details are to be placed on the result sheet and signed by an Umpire or opposing Manager/Coach. The player’s complete details are to be entered into the “IMG” database and the full details along with their ABF Number are to be submitted to the registrar by Wednesday in the following week via email.
- (d) A junior player playing major or minor league must be at least 14 years of age before they can play and comply with section 2. Registration (e).
- (e) No player may take part in a competition match from July 1, unless registered and has played at least one (1) competition game for that club before July 1. Compliance with this clause may be waived upon application to the Management Committee. The application in writing must be in the hands of the League Secretary prior to the 1st of July, clearly stating the reasons for the requested waiver.
- (f) Any Club playing any player not complying with any of the above section 2. Registration (a) to (e) will incur a fine of \$50 per player per game to a total fine of \$100 and one penalty point for each game in which the offending players participated.
- (g) Clubs intending to use a batboy / batgirl must register them as a financial member with the club on the “IMG” web site prior to them undertaking this activity. To be eligible for this role they must comply with the following:
 - i. Must be 12 year old at time of undertaking role.

- ii. Must have participated as a registered junior player with the IJBL or equivalent.
 - iii. Must at all times wear appropriate protective items such as shoes and double eared helmet. Males must also wear a protector box
- (h) For any exemption to Section 2 (g) (i) or (ii), clubs may apply to the IBL Executive clearly outlining justification for the exemption. A breach of Section 2 (g) will incur a fine of \$100 for the first offence by the club. Any further breach will incur fine of \$100 and one penalty point for each game in which the batboy / batgirl participated.

3. CLEARANCES/LISTING PLAYERS AS DEFAULTERS

- (a) The Illawarra Baseball League Secretary shall keep a list of player's names who have been declared defaulters by the League and/or other Leagues and Clubs affiliated with the New South Wales Baseball League. It is the responsibility of the Secretary to ensure this list is kept up to date upon receipt of notification from the aforementioned bodies.
- (b) The Secretary shall be responsible for distributing copies of the list of defaulters to each club affiliated with the Illawarra Baseball League at the monthly League management meeting. Each club shall be deemed as having received notification of current defaulters on the date of the meeting at which the list was issued. Non attendance at a Management Committee meeting by a club will not be considered an excuse for non-notification of defaulters.
- (c) Any player registering with a club shall be deemed as cleared unless his name appears on the most recent list of defaulters supplied to that club by the League Secretary.
- (d) If any player whose name appears on the list attempts to register with a club, that club shall inform the Secretary that the defaulter has attempted to register within a period of seven (7) days.
- (e) The League Executive may, at their discretion, call upon the defaulter to appear before the Committee to explain his indebtedness. The Committee, if not satisfied that the player has made all possible efforts to pay his debt, or lacks proof of payment, shall suspend the player from playing any competition match until such times as he has paid his debt. If the player refuses to appear before the Committee, then they shall be suspended in absence and the Committee shall ensure that all the usual steps are taken as would be with any suspended player.
- (f) Any club who knowingly (e.g. after notification) allows a defaulter to play a competition game after being notified shall incur a penalty of the loss of all competition points for the games in which the defaulter played and a fine totalling \$100 per defaulter.
- (g) Any club who knowingly (e.g. after notification) allows a defaulter to play any final series game after being notified shall incur a penalty of the loss of any final series win for the games in which the defaulter played and a fine totalling \$200 per defaulter.
- (h) Any registered individual or member of the League who knowingly plays with or against any branch association, club, team, affiliated body or member thereof under suspension or disqualification by the League, shall be liable to suspension from

competition games for a period of three (3) competition rounds from the date that this breach is reported to the IBL Management Committee.

- (i) It is the responsibility of all affiliated clubs and leagues to notify the League Secretary of any defaulting player/s within twelve months of the end of the season in which the default occurred. Failure to do so will result in the League not recognising the default. Reasons for listing a player as a defaulter may include, but not be limited to, non payment of fees, non return of uniform, etc.

4. PROCEDURE FOR LISTING DEFAULTERS.

- (a) Clubs are able to list defaulters using the steps listed below.
 - i. Step 1. A letter of demand is to be sent to the person for the payment and/or return of equipment. The letter is to state that the person has 21 days to pay outstanding money or return equipment and/or uniform. **The letter to be sent by registered mail.**
 - ii. Step 2. If after 21 days no action has been taken by the person to resolve the matter, clubs are to send photocopies of all correspondence **plus receipt of registered letter** (from Post Office) to the Secretary of the IBL, who will list the matter to be dealt with at the next Management Committee meeting.
- (b) A person who is found to be in default shall be considered a defaulter from the date of the meeting at which the offence was proven. He or she will be considered to be on the League's defaulters list from this date.
- (c) A player who has been listed as a defaulter is no longer considered a defaulter after the Club or association that listed the player as a defaulter has contacted the League Secretary to remove the player from the default list. The League Secretary will then contact all parties concerned.

5. PAYMENT OF PLAYERS

No player shall receive pecuniary or monetary consideration for playing in a game of baseball.

6. GENERAL OBLIGATIONS OF CLUBS TO THE LEAGUE AND TO BASEBALL

- (a) Each club shall encourage their members to become accredited members of the Illawarra Umpires Association.
- (b) Each club aim to have all coaches accredited to minimum Level 2 under the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS).
- (c) All representative coaches must be accredited to a minimum Level 2 under the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS).
- (d) Coaches to be accredited by the NSW Baseball League or acceptable League.
- (e) Each Club shall provide labour during final, semi-final and grand final series, Country Championships, Knock-outs or other tournaments and any working bees as may be requested from time to time by the IBL Executive.
- (f) Each Club is committed to:

- i. Substantially improving playing facilities in their Club and the Illawarra.
 - ii. Substantially improving spectator facilities in their Club and the Illawarra.
 - iii. Substantially improving publicity within the Illawarra.
- (g) Clubs at each ground shall endeavour to provide shelter to the scorers. Permanent shelter should have equal priority as the dugouts. Temporary shelter should be provided on wet or windy days to those grounds without permanent shelter.
- (h) Each club shall have all scorers accredited to minimum Level 3. All scorers are to be members of the Illawarra Baseball Scorers Association.
- (i) Clubs are required to pay their Scorers Membership and Registration fees to the Illawarra Scorers Association.
- (j) Each club to purchase their score and line-up books through the Illawarra Scorers Association.
- (k) Each club to encourage more people to take up scoring so that each team has a different scorer.
- (l) Failure to comply with any of the above commitments and obligations may prevent any teams from that Club being admitted into the Illawarra competition or a fine to a maximum of \$250 may be imposed by the League.

7. CLUB ELIGIBILITY

- (a) The League, where applicable, shall consist of 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade in Major League and as many grades in Minor League as necessary to suit nominations.
- (b) To qualify for Major League a Club must be represented by at least three (3) teams, namely 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade, except if covered under point (e) below or by special exemption granted by the management committee.
- (c) A Club with less than three (3) teams shall participate in the Minor League grades, only while under an Improved Development Cycle approved by the IBL Management Committee.
- (d) The Club must make application each year for Improved Development Status, or they shall be refused entry. Application shall include the Club's 5 year development plan and past 12 months review.
- (e) A Club with more than (3) teams shall participate in Major and Minor League.
- (f) Two (2) or three (3) Clubs may, for the purposes of the draw apply to the League to share a 1st, 2nd and 3rd Grade membership, provided they cover all three (3) grades between them (e.g. Club X provides 1st and 2nd grade, Club Y provides 3rd grade). The League reserves the right to reject such application if it sees fit.
- (g) When sharing a membership, players cannot swap between clubs. There shall be no "pick-up" situations.

- (h) For a Minor League grade to be viable, it must consist of at least four (4) teams.

8. CLUB UNIFORMS

- (a) All teams and all team coaches shall be correctly attired in the accepted club uniform whilst ever being a participant in any competition, or finals series game.
- (b) In the event of clubs requesting a change of colour or style to their playing uniform, any change must be approved by the Executive Committee.
- (c) Uniforms shall have player's numbers on the back and must be a minimum of 150mm in height. Additional numbers on either the breast or the sleeve - preferably the one that faces the pitcher when the player is batting must be 100mm in height.

9. CODE OF CONDUCT

- (a) Club executives shall be held responsible for their players, non-playing members and supporters. The Club Executive shall answer for any penalties or fines resulting from any actions made by non-playing or non-registered supporters which may be against the laws or ethics of Illawarra Baseball or which brings the game into disrepute.
- (b) Players and coaches representing the League or their club are subject to the following guidelines:
 - i. There will be no participation in any activity which may bring discredit upon a team, a club, the League or the game of baseball.
 - ii. There will be no derogatory comments or verbal or physical abuse of any player, coach, official or spectator.
 - iii. There will be no criticising or arguing with an Umpires decision. If players disagree with a decision they will have their coach or manager seek clarification.
 - iv. There will be no throwing, kicking or projecting any object in rage, anger or frustration.
 - v. There will be no wilful damage of any equipment.
 - vi. There will be no use of illegal substances and no smoking while participating in a game.
 - vii. There will be no drinking of alcohol while in Club playing uniform.
 - viii. There will be no use of language which is foul or offensive.
- (c) In the event of any breaches of this code, one or any of the following steps may be taken:
 - i. Warning from a coach, official or office bearer of the League.
 - ii. Ejection from the game.
 - iii. A coach, official or any other witness to the alleged breaches can submit details of the incident in writing to the Secretary of the League. If the incident is considered serious enough, the IBL Executive, as per the IBL Constitution section 12 (f) (ix), may cite any member to appear before the Management Committee who will determine what action is to be taken. If necessary, the person's right of appeal will be explained to them.
- (d) In the event that an umpire ejects a player or official from a game the following steps should be taken:
 - i. An umpires report shall be submitted to the IBL Secretary within 48 hours of the event. The report shall be precise and detailed as possible.

- ii. Upon receipt of the umpires report, the IBL Secretary shall notify the Judiciary Chairman, Club contact for the person involved and other members of the IBL Executive.
- (e) A meeting of the Judiciary Panel, as per the IBL Constitution section 12 (f), shall be called to adjudicate on this matter.
- (f) The IBL Judiciary will use the following guidelines listed in Section 9 (g) to impose penalties on persons ejected from IBL Major Leagues and Minor League competition and finals games.
 - i. IBL Judiciary Hearings shall consider each case on its merits and circumstances when imposing penalties.
 - ii. IBL Judiciary Hearings, at their sole discretion, may impose penalties for offences not included in the guidelines as they see fit.
 - iii. IBL Judiciary Hearings will use the schedule of penalties for any given offence.
 - iv. IBL Judiciary Hearings will consider the circumstances of each case to determine the actual penalty.
- (g) Offence and penalties guidelines:
 - i. Equipment abuse, 1 game.
 - ii. Tobacco / Alcohol abuse, 2 games.
 - iii. Audible offensive language / swearing (repeated), 2 games.
 - iv. Unsportsmanlike conduct / language towards an umpire, player or spectator, 2 games.
 - v. Disobeying an Umpire's direction, 2 games.
 - vi. Dissent of an Umpire's decision, 2 games.
 - vii. Arguing balls & strikes, 2 games.
 - viii. Racial / Religious vilification, 4 games.
 - ix. Contempt of an Illawarra Baseball League Meeting / IBL Judiciary Hearing, 4 games.
 - x. Instigating / joining a fight, 4 games.
 - xi. Reckless play, 6 games.
 - xii. Dangerous play, 8 games.
 - xiii. Deliberate collision, 8 games.
 - xiv. Abuse of Umpire during / after Game (verbal and /or physical [threatened or actual]), 8 games to life.
 - xv. Striking another player, 12 games.

10. PROTESTS AND APPEALS

- (a) Clubs may appeal a decision of the Judiciary Panel , as per the IBL Constitution section 12 (f) (vii). The Executive Committee shall decide if an appeal is accepted or rejected. If the appeal is accepted it will be referred to the Judicial Panel, this time with the addition of one (1) member of the Executive, preferably the President.
- (b) In the event of an umpire giving an erroneous decision on a point of law and refusing to alter his decision, although his attention was drawn to the fact at the time on the field by the coach/manager of the team disadvantaged by the decision, then the team so disadvantaged shall have the right to protest to the Executive Committee, provided the intention to protest is indicated to the Umpire in Chief at the time of the disputed decision and before the next ball is pitched or before any intervening play occurs, and

the final protest is made to the Umpire in Chief within 15 minutes of the conclusion of the game.

- (c) If a protest is submitted to an umpire during a competition game in relation to Section 10 (b), then a written letter explaining the circumstances of the protest must be handed to a member of the Executive of the League by the protesting team no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the completion of the game. Failure to do so will result in no further action on the protest.
- (d) If a club wishes to lodge a protest in regards to a breach of the IBL By-Laws and Playing Conditions that has impacted the result of a competition or Final Series game, the protest is to be made the Umpire in Chief within 15 minutes of the conclusion of the game, then a written letter explaining the circumstances of the protest must be handed to a member of the Executive of the League by the protesting team no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the completion of the game. Failure to do so will result in no further action on the protest.
- (e) All protests, in regards to Section 10, apart from judicial matters, will be to the Executive Committee for adjudication. Any appeal of these decisions will be to a meeting the IBL Management Committee.
- (f) All protests and appeals must be accompanied by a \$50 fee. If the protest or appeal is lost or dismissed then the fee is forfeited to the League.
- (g) An affiliate wishing the IBL to hear an appeal on any decision, apart from Judicial Panel matters (refer to IBL Constitution), shall forward within 24 hours of such decision a clear statement on the grounds for appeal signed by the Secretary of the club.
- (h) Unless the grounds for appeal have been clearly substantiated, the appeals committee does not have the power to alter any fine or penalty imposed by the committee that first heard the case.
- (i) Provided that a person or body has made an appeal in the correct manner, as laid out in these rules, that person or body is permitted to play until the appeal is heard.

11. GAME RESULTS

- (a) Result sheets should be completed clearly and neatly in all appropriate places with players full details (first & last name) and only reserves players that have played in that game
- (b) In compliance with Section 2 Registration, any new player registrations are to be recorded on the result sheet.
- (c) At the conclusion of games, result sheets are to be finalised and signed in the proper places by umpires and scorers.
- (d) Result sheets must be collected and sent to the registrar by Wednesday of the following week by both teams.
- (e) Failure to provide any result sheets will result in the Club being notified via email and having until the following Wednesday to submit the requested missing sheets. The

club will be given three warnings throughout the season (including final series). After three warnings have been given to that club they will receive a \$20 fine each subsequent time a result sheet has not been submitted to the Registrar on time.

- (f) Results are to be phoned through to the Publicity Officer by the home team in accordance with the times set by the management committee each season. These times are currently 5:30pm on the day for Major League and 4pm for Minor League Games.
- (g) Clubs must have 1st grade Major League scorebooks with them whilst ringing and must notify the Publicity Officer if a camera and/or representative from one of the media organisations was present.
- (h) Failure to comply with section 11. Game Results (f) and (g) above may incur a fine of \$20 per incident at the discretion of the Publicity Officer and supported by the Management Committee.

12. SCORERS STATISTIC SHEETS

- (a) To be eligible for inclusion in calculation of game statistics, all Major League statistic sheets are to be in the hands of the nominated scorers contact within fourteen (14) days from the conclusion of the game and in the case of Minor League games within fourteen (14) days from the conclusion of the game.
- (b) The penalty for failure to comply will be the exclusion of the relevant game statistics from any game or player statistic calculated by the nominated scorers contact.

13. FINAL SERIES

- (c) The IBL Executive committee have total jurisdiction over all final series matters, including ground allocations and times/dates.
- (d) All grounds will be made available for the entire final series. Sundays will be used if necessary to play Major League final series games.
- (e) For the make-up of the final series all positions will be determined on
 - i. 'Game Percentage'.
 - ii. if teams are then tied, the positions shall be determined on 'Run Percentage'.
 - iii. if still unresolved the highest 'Total Runs For' between the tied teams shall determine the positions.
 - iv. if still unresolved the lowest 'Total Runs Against' between the tied teams shall determine the positions.
 - v. if still unresolved a single "coin toss" conducted by a member of the IBL Executive, preferably the IBL President, and a delegate from each of the clubs impacted shall determine the positions.
- (f) In the event that the game is 'washed out' or unable to be played for any reason then the team higher on the table shall progress through to the next series excluding the Grand Final series where a spare day shall be set aside for the rescheduled game.
- (g) All Grand Final games shall be on a single game basis.

- (h) All final series games, except for Major League 1st Grade, shall be limited to 2 hours duration. Major League 1st Grade shall be nine (9) innings. In the event of tied scores in Major League 1st Grade final series, extra innings shall be played until a result is achieved.
- (i) In the event of tied scores for all other grades in the final series the team highest shall progress through to the next Final Series game. In the event of tied scores in a Grand Final games one extra innings shall be played in an attempt to achieve a result. In the event of tied scores at the completion of this extra innings then the team that reached the Grand Final first would be declared the winner of the Grand Final.
- (j) In all Semi-Finals, Finals and Grand Finals, with a team leading by ten (10) or more runs at the bottom of the 7th innings, then time shall be called and the leading team shall be awarded the game according to the ten (10) run rule.
- (k) In all Final series games, except Grand Final, both teams are to supply game balls. The IBL will provide games balls for each Grand Final game.
- (l) In final series games the team finishing higher on the competition table shall field first and occupy the 3rd base dugout. For example,
 - i. Semi Finals - The team higher on the competition table at end of the regular competition games.
 - ii. Finals - The team losing the Major Semi-Final.
 - iii. Grand Finals - The team winning the Major Semi-Final.
- (m) For all Semi-Finals, Finals and Grand Finals the game time shall start thirty minutes earlier then the regular season game time as set down under section 23. Playing Conditions
- (n) A spare weekend is set aside to play or complete only grand final games.
- (o) To be eligible to play in the final series a player must be registered with the club in compliance with Section 2 Registration. In addition, a player must have participated in at least three (3) separate/individual competition rounds. Compliance with this clause may be waived upon application to the Management Committee. The application in writing must be in the hands of the League Secretary prior to the final series, clearly stating the reasons for the requested waiver.
- (p) The grade in which a player shall be eligible to participate in the final series shall be determined by the last 5 competition rounds in which a player has participated. A player must not participate in a lower grade unless the majority of their participation, as part of the starting line-up or fresh reserve, has been in the lower grades during the last 5 competition rounds in which they have participated. For an exception to this rule the club must apply to the Executive Committee in writing prior to the final series game.

For example:

- i. A player with 20% in 1st grade 30% in 2nd grade and 50% in 3rd grade, is not eligible for 3rd grade but is still eligible for 1st or 2nd grade.
- ii. A player with 50% in 1st grade and 50% in 2nd grade, is not eligible for 2nd grade but is still eligible for 1st grade.

- (q) The grade in which a player shall be eligible to participate in the final series shall not be (2) two grades lower than in which they started in the previous competition round. Note, forfeit, bye and washout constitute a game for the purpose of this rule. For an exception to this rule the club must apply to the Executive Committee in writing prior to the final series game.
- (r) All players, including a designated hitter, in the starting line-up for each grade in any final series game must be fresh players.
- (s) A player who has appeared, or will appear in the case of Minor League, in a lower grade final series game cannot appear in the first three (3) innings of a higher grade final series game.
- (t) Once a player has formed part of the starting line up of a higher grade in the final series that player will be deemed to be a player of the higher grade and shall remain in the higher grade for the duration of the final series. For an exception to this rule the club must apply to the Executive Committee in writing prior to the final series game.
- (u) Penalty for playing an in-eligible player shall be the game in which the player participates will be declared a forfeit and a 9-0 win recorded to the non-offending team. A final series game shall be either a Semi-Final, Final or Grand Final game.

14. AWARDS

- (a) The Club Championships shall be determined by multiplying the
 - i. 1st grade Major League percentage points by 10,
 - ii. 2nd grade Major League points by 7,
 - iii. 3rd grade Major League points by 5,
 - iv. 1st grade Minor League points by 3,
 - v. 2nd grade Minor League points by 2,
 - vi. 3rd grade Minor League points by 1 and then taking the aggregate.
- (b) If clubs have more than one team on a grade, these points are multiplied by the relevant factor and added to the overall points of the club.
- (c) Percentages are multiplied by the factor relevant to the grade in which the team is playing and not the grade that the team is within their club ie. If a club's Minor League 2nd grade team is playing in 1st grade Minor League, then its percentage will be multiplied by the 1st grade Minor League factor and not the 2nd grade Minor League factor.
- (d) The following is a list of trophies that are awarded each season where required:
 - i. All grades - Minor and Major Premiers
 - ii. Club Champions
 - iii. Illawarra Player of the Year (MVP) - Major League First Grade
 - iv. Illawarra Batter of the Year – Each Minor and Major League Grade
 - v. Illawarra Fielder of the Year - Major League First Grade
 - vi. Illawarra Player of the Grand Final - Major League First Grade
 - vii. Illawarra Umpires Best & Fairest - Each Minor and Major League Grade

- (e) The above team awards shall be determined by the team finishing first at the completion of the regular season for Minor Premiers and the team awarded grand final winners for the Major Premiers.
- (f) The individual awards shall be determined by the Executive Committee based upon nominations from individual clubs. For an individual to be considered, their club shall submit their nomination in writing with full statistics to support their nomination by the due date as set by the Executive Committee. These statistics will be verified by the League's Registrar.
- (g) The Player of the Grand Final shall be determined by the executive committee present and any other parties as the League President requests.
- (h) Umpires Best & Fairest shall be determined by the Illawarra Baseball Umpires' Association from games throughout the regular season. A list of names shall be handed to the League Secretary by 14 days prior the set date of the award ceremony.
- (i) All perpetual trophies are to be returned to the IBL Executive by the 1st of July the following year.

15. REPRESENTATIVE AND FINALS PREREQUISITES

- (a) To be eligible to represent Illawarra at Country Championships or other representative fixtures, a player must have participated in at least five (5) separate competition rounds or final series games.
- (b) Compliance with this clause may be waived upon application to the Executive Committee.
- (c) Any player who is unavailable for or withdraws from a representative team cannot play for his Club or any team during the period that such representative games are being played without the permission of the Management Committee.
- (d) Player shall also be responsible for any monetary cost resulting from his/her withdrawal unless such withdrawal is approved by the IBL executive.
- (e) Coaches, managers, scorers etc. will be called for by the 1st of May each year.

16. RESPONSIBILITIES OF REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS AND STAFF

(a) Selection Committee

The makeup and duties of the Selection Committee are set out in section 12.(e) of the IBL Constitution. In addition, the duties of the selection committee shall be:

- i. To select representative teams from those players eligible in accordance with the approved selection guidelines.
- ii. To select the teams at least six (6) weeks prior to any major series, e.g. Country Championships or any other representative fixture that may be relevant to requiring an IBL representative team.
- iii. To report the selection list to the Executive Committee for ratification to satisfy the league that all has been done within the guidelines.
- iv. To ensure that all players selected will be available, except for unforeseen circumstances, for all representative fixtures.

- v. To uphold and promote the reputation of the IBL by only selecting those players who are likely to represent the IBL in a sportsmanlike manner acceptable under the IBL code of conduct.

(b) Coaching Staff

The duties of the Coaching staff shall be:

- i. To run training sessions and communicate with all those selected.
- ii. To cut from the team those players that display poor performance, attendance or attitude that is deemed not acceptable.

(c) Representative Players:

The duties of the selected representative players shall be:

- i. To honour their selection in the IBL Representative team and to conduct themselves within the IBL code of conduct.
- ii. To attend organised training sessions and communicate with the coaching staff any related issues.
- iii. To inform the IBL Secretary within one (1) week of being notified of their selection of their unavailability. Any selected player that fails to inform the IBL Secretary of their unavailability within this period shall be suspended for the next three (3) competition games, unless the IBL Management Committee deem there are extenuating circumstances involved.
- iv. To pay, by one (1) week prior to the Country Championships, a minimum of \$100 to the Head Coach/Manager of the representative team. This shall be a deposit on expenses related to the team such as accommodation and/or travelling expenses. This deposit shall be deducted from final costs owing by the player. Late withdrawals from the team by players or failure to arrive or participate for the arranged tournament shall result in forfeiting of the deposit. This is subject to appeal by the player to the IBL management committee.

17. SPARE SECTION

This section left intentionally blank.

18. KNOCK-OUT RULES.

- (a) Teams are to be nominated by the requested date, information required with the nomination is name and regular grade of each player and coaches name and indicate if playing.
- (b) Each team to be restricted to sixteen players. If coach is player then he counts towards the 16.
- (c) No player or coach can participate for any other team.
- (d) Game durations, starting times and any handicaps will be decided by the Knock-out Committee.
- (e) No time will be added on for bad weather, stoppages or late starting.
- (f) The team in front at the completion of the allotted playing time is the winner. In the event of a draw, even innings will be taken into consideration, with the team in front on even innings count-back declared the winner. In the event of all innings being even, the toss of a coin will decide the winner.

(g) Handicaps to be doubled for the final.

19. BLOOD BIN RULES

- (a) Players who are injured and who require treatment to stem the flow of any body fluids may leave the game without penalty.
 - i. if on base, a courtesy runner may be used until replaced by the original player.
 - ii. if at bat, the player may obtain treatment and
 - iii. if unable to be treated within a reasonable period the player may be replaced or the batting shall continue with the count applied to a courtesy batter (the player if removed for treatment shall not bat until their turn in the line up again arrives).
 - iv. if in the field a courtesy fielder may be used while treatment is applied.
- (b) Soiled clothing shall be replaced.
- (c) Players who after treatment are unable to return into the game at the completion of three (3) further innings shall be replaced.
- (d) No ejected player may be used as a replacement. If no reserves, a person who has left the game may be used.

20. PITCHING REGULATIONS.

- (a) These regulations are to be applied based on the age of the player at the date of the game.
- (b) Players under 18 years cannot pitch and catch on the same day.
- (c) Players under 18 years cannot pitch in more than one game per round.
- (d) Players under 16 years shall be limited to 60 pitches and players under 18 years shall be limited to 100 pitches. They may complete the batter they are pitching to when the number of pitches is reached
- (e) The number of pitches made by each under 16 years and under 18 years pitcher must be listed on the result sheet.
- (f) Breaches of the pitching limits and restrictions that occur shall incur loss of points for the game plus the following fines.
 - i. \$50 for the first breach by the club in each season.
 - ii. \$100 for a second breach by the club in each season.
 - iii. \$200 for a third or subsequent breach by the club in each season plus a one round suspension of the team coach responsible. They may not participate as coach in any grade in the next scheduled competition round or final series round after the penalty has been imposed by the IBL Executive.

21. SPEED-UP RULES

- (a) POLICY AND INTENT

The Illawarra Baseball League has resolved to speed up the play of the games. The intent of these rules is to allow umpires, coaches and players to limit time-wasting and to encourage games to progress quickly and smoothly.

(b) UMPIRES RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCEMENT

Umpires are responsible for enforcement of the Speed-Up Rules and should wear a watch for this purpose. All violations of this section should be reported to the IBL Secretary and referenced in the Umpires' Written Report to the Management Committee.

(c) PENALTY

Failure by any Umpire to strictly enforce the Speed-Up Rules may result in the Chief Umpire being fined. Any fine will be determined by the Management Committee on the recommendation of the Judicial Committee.

(d) PRE-GAME PRACTICE

In no event should pre-game practice interfere with or delay the scheduled start of the game.

(e) 15-SECOND PITCH RULE

- i. Under the 15-second pitch rule, the pitcher must begin his pitching motion within 15 seconds of receiving the ball from the catcher, umpire or other player. This requirement shall not apply if the batter is granted time to leave the batter's box.
- ii. If the pitcher violates the 15-second pitch rule, then the umpire shall call a ball against the team in violation. If, in the umpire's opinion, the pitcher is intentionally violating the rule, he may eject the pitcher and/or the Manager from the game.
- iii. If the pitcher deliberately wastes time by throwing to the base(s) the umpire shall call a baulk.
- iv. If the batter violates the 15-second rule, the umpire shall call a strike against the team in violation.

(f) HITTER TO REMAIN IN BATTER'S BOX

- i. The hitter shall be required to remain in the batter's box. If the batter considers he is in physical risk, he may make a request for "time". If the umpire feels that there is risk present, he may grant time out.
- ii. The batter shall be expected to return to the batter's box promptly and the umpire may call "play". If he feels the batter is not returning sufficiently quickly enough, regardless of whether the batter has returned to the batter's box at the time, a strike shall be called on the batter.

(g) TIME LIMITATIONS BETWEEN INNINGS

- i. The team taking the field after making their third out must be ready to pitch to the opposing team within sixty (60) seconds. The plate umpire shall take all steps to insure that the game recommences without undue delay.

- ii. Batter not ready. If the batter is not ready to receive the pitch within sixty (60) seconds, the umpire shall award a strike to the batter. The batter then has fifteen (15) seconds before the Rule (e) is enforced.
- iii. Pitcher not ready. If the pitcher is not ready to deliver the pitch within sixty (60) seconds, the umpire shall award a ball to the batter. The pitcher then has fifteen (15) seconds before the Rule (e), 15-Second Rule, is enforced.
- iv. In the event of between-inning on field entertainment being scheduled by the home team, the umpire may extend the time permitted between innings.

(h) VISITS TO THE PITCHER'S MOUND LIMITED

- i. By Catcher. The catcher shall be permitted to make one trip per inning to the pitcher's mound.
- ii. By Manager or Coach. A Manager or Coach is permitted two (2) visits to the pitcher's mound to consult with the pitcher. A second visit in any one inning results in the automatic replacement of the pitcher.
 - 1. However a second visit is allowed to change the current pitcher to a fielding position if the Manager/Coach approaches the Plate Umpire and advises the Umpire of his intention.
 - 2. Failure to make the change through the Plate Umpire will then mean the rules of Baseball will apply and the pitcher must be replaced.
- iii. Player/Coach. A player who is also acting as a coach must be so nominated on the Line-Up sheet. Only a coach playing in the infield may request time to visit the pitcher. **Any such visit will be deemed a visit under this rule.**
- iv. The umpire will automatically call for the relief pitcher when this rule requires a change of pitcher.

(i) LIMITS ON WARM-UP PITCHES

- i. A pitcher entering a game to replace a pitcher, who has been injured or ejected, shall be permitted a maximum of eight (8) warm-up pitches.
- ii. Pitcher warming up prior to the start of an innings is limited to 60 seconds under Rule (g).

(j) DESIGNATED RUNNER FOR THE CATCHER

- i. A catcher **must** participate offensively until there are two (2) outs.
- ii. If on base, he must be replaced by a designated runner immediately the second out is achieved.
- iii. If at bat, he must be replaced once the play by which he gets on base is complete.
- iv. Failure to replace the catcher once this rule is brought to the offensive team's notice by an umpire will result in the player being called "out".

(k) DESIGNATED HITTER RULE FOR THE PITCHER

- i. As per current “Official Australian Baseball Rules”.

22. UMPIRES.

- (a) Where a bye exists in Major League 1st and 2nd grade, the Club that has the bye for that round will have at least two people per game per ground available at any ground where it has not been possible to appoint accredited umpires.
- (b) The Umpires co-ordinator shall contact the Club with the bye to inform them which grounds do not have accredited umpires allocated.
- (c) This shall be done no later than the 6pm Friday night before the weekend’s games.
- (d) In any event where an umpire or umpires (accredited or non-accredited) have been appointed to a ground and do not turn up, then the home club shall organise “volunteers” to fill the missing position/s (ideally the positions should be equally shared between the two clubs).
- (e) In Major or Minor League games where no umpires (accredited or non-accredited) have been appointed, the home club shall organise “volunteers” to fill the missing positions (ideally the positions should be equally shared between the two clubs).
- (f) Payment of Accredited umpires is initially the responsibility the Umpire’s Association. The League will bill the relevant Club as set out in Section 25 Fees and Charges.
- (g) Any non-accredited umpires that belong to the Umpire’s Association should be linked to a Club for insurance purposes, they are registered as an official and not as an umpire. If they then gain accreditation, they will then go through the umpires association.
- (h) Non-accredited umpires are expected to umpire to the best of their ability, in a non biased way and have an appropriate level of knowledge of the game.

23. PLAYING CONDITIONS

Games conducted by the Illawarra Baseball League Incorporated will, in addition to the rules of Baseball, include:

(a) GAME DURATION AND TIMES

- i. All Major League 1st grade games will be of two and three quarter ($2\frac{3}{4}$) hours duration or 9 innings, whichever comes first. In the event of tied scores extra innings will only be played subject to Sections 23 (a) (ii) or (vii).

Examples for aid of interpretation only:

- i. If a game completes 8 innings in two and three quarter ($2\frac{3}{4}$) hours with tied scores. With less than 10 minutes to scheduled finish time, game ends.
- ii. If a games completes 9 innings in under two and three quarter ($2\frac{3}{4}$) hours with a result. Even with time remaining, game ends.
- iii. If a game completes 9 innings in under two and three quarter ($2\frac{3}{4}$) hours with tied scores. With

more than 10 minutes to scheduled finish time, extra innings may be played in an attempt to get a result. No new inning may be started with less than 10 minutes remaining to the scheduled finish time. If scores still tied at this point, game ends.

- ii. If the start of a Major League first grade game has been delayed for any reason that is deemed by the umpire to be beyond the control of the officials or players involved in the match, then the umpire may extend the match past the scheduled finish time for a period of time equivalent to the delay, but not exceeding fifteen minutes. Both team managers shall be informed of the revised starting, finishing and last inning cut-off time during the managers meeting at the start of the game.
- iii. All other games will be two (2) hours. In the event of tied scores no extra innings will be played or game time extended apart from an extension detailed in Sections 23 (a) (vii).
- iv. Game start times will be set each season by the Management Committee.
- v. Matches set down as competition fixtures must be played out for a minimum of seventy-five (75) minutes or five (5) innings, whichever is the sooner to constitute an official game.
- vi. In all competition games, with a team leading by ten (10) or more runs at the bottom of the 7th innings, then time shall be called and the leading team shall be awarded the game according to the ten (10) run rule.
- vii. No inning shall start with less than 10 minutes remaining to the finish time. Once an inning starts it must be played out for a result not for averages. No game shall be called with more than 10 minutes remaining irrespective of the score, unless due to bad weather.
- viii. Double Header Rule
 - 1. A double header in 1st grade major league shall be seven (7) innings or 2 ¼ hours whichever comes first.
 - 2. A double header in all other grades shall be five (5) innings or 1¾ hours whichever comes first.
 - 3. The duration between games of a double header, played on the same day, shall be a minimum of fifteen minutes to a maximum of thirty minutes.
 - 4. Any other decisions regarding double headers will be made by the IBL Executive Committee.

(b) WEATHER AND OTHER FACTORS

- i. If light, rain or any other factor prohibits a Grand Final game from being completed, it must be recommenced on a date arranged, from the position where the game was called. If at the rescheduled game no play

or limited play occurs, then result determined as per section 23. Playing Conditions (a) v. above or if this does not resolve the matter, then the team highest on the ladder moves forward in draw as the winner.

- ii. In the event of bad weather, the umpire shall have the power to determine whether or not the ground is in playing condition. If the umpire decides that games shall not commence, then all games scheduled for that ground that day shall be cancelled. If after a period of bad weather, the weekend is clear but the umpire feels the ground is too wet for the full schedule of fixtures, then he has the power to cancel lower grade games so the 1st grade game can be played if he feels the ground can be made playable for that fixture.
- iii. Club Executives have the authority to call off games due to ground conditions up to 2 hours prior to the game start. It is the responsibility of the home team to notify the Umpires Co-ordinator and the League Executive, Media Officer and Registrar of any cancellation. All games on Council controlled grounds must follow Council directions. Council controlled grounds are to be notified at commencement of each season.
- iv. If in the event of a ground being declared unplayable (by either Council or home team) every effort should be made to transfer the game to another venue. The Away Team's ground is to be considered first and if this too is unplayable then any approved senior ground not being used for that round may be used.
- v. Approved senior grounds are to be determined by decision of the management committee.
- vi. The decision to transfer any games to another venue must be made by 6:00pm the day before game day and approved by a member of the League Executive, preferably the President.

In the case of unforeseen events, such as overnight heavy rain, vandalism or other factors, occurring after the 6:00pm cut off, the move to another venue can still be made before 7:00am on game day provided it does not delay the scheduled start time of any game and it has the approval of Club Executives impacted and a member of the League Executive, preferably the President.
- vii. It is the responsibility of the Home Team to notify the Umpire's coordinator the League Executive, Media Officer, Registrar and all clubs impacted of any changes in venue.
- viii. In the case of venues with multiple approved senior grounds, if the scheduled ground is unplayable, club executives have the authority to move the game to another approved senior ground at the same venue.
- ix. The decision to move any games to another approved senior ground at the same venue can be made up to 2 hour prior to the scheduled start of

the game, and approved by a member of the League Executive, preferably the President.

(c) GROUNDS

- i. Approved senior grounds are those grounds approved by the IBL Management Committee.
- ii. Approved senior grounds shall be those grounds that meet the minimum dimensions required for senior play and will have either a fully enclosed field or such a field setup with temporary fencing and obvious markings to indicate a home run fence, foul lines and dead ball lines (eg witches hats or clearly mowed strips).
- iii. Approved senior grounds not under the control of individual teams or clubs (ie junior fields) that meet the minimum requirements for senior play may be used to avoid cancellation of games. These grounds may be used for competition, final series, country championships or similar tournaments and shall be deemed seniors grounds when set up in the approved configuration.

(d) TEAMS

- i. All players, including a designated hitter, in the starting line-up for each grade in any competition round must be fresh players. All players intending to be used in a game shall be listed on the line up sheet. Exemptions to this rule are outlined in point (iii) below and Section 24 Forfeits.
- ii. Players entering a higher grade after they have appeared in a lower grade, or will appear in the case of minor league, game must only enter after 3 completed innings have been completed in the higher grade, except under extenuating circumstances (or exemption granted by the management committee).
- iii. In the event a grade cannot field a full roster of nine (9) players in a competition round, excluding any final series game, to avoid a forfeit, a player may start in two grades in the same round. This exemption is subject to the following conditions:
 - a. In the event a Major League player is required to start in two grades in the same round, that player shall be considered to be a player of the higher grade after the player has been in the starting line up for four (4) rounds.
 - b. In the event a Minor League player is required to start in two grades in the same round, that player shall be considered to be a player of the higher grade after the player has been in the starting line up for six (6) rounds.
 - c. A club that continues to play players up beyond the allowed rounds shall be penalised one (1) competition point from the competition standings for that grade and for any further breaches of this rule

- d. For an exception from this rule the club must apply to the Executive Committee in writing. The rule is to be taken on a case by case basis.
- iv. No player who is scheduled to play in a higher grade game on any day in the same round will be permitted to enter a game in progress. That is they must be listed as being on the bench or have played in a lower grade in the same round.
- v. The names of fresh reserves and starting team must appear on the original team line up sheet. A player who has participated or will participate in a lower grade game in the same round shall not enter a game until after 3 complete innings of play have been completed unless extenuating circumstances occur.
- vi. When a player changes from Major league to Minor league it must be from Major league 3rd grade to Minor league 1st grade until the completion of one round by the player in Minor league.
- vii. During all games including competition and finals series games a player can not appear a game (2) two grades lower than in which they started in the previous round. Note, forfeit, bye and washout constitutes a game for the purpose of this regrade rule.
- viii. Where a protest is lodged before a game starts to the Umpire in regards to a breach of the By-Laws and Playing Conditions, the protest should be noted on the result sheet and the game will be played as normal. In addition, this protest must also be submitted in accordance with Section 10 Protests and Appeal.
- ix. Extenuating Circumstances - injury - to be ruled on by the Umpire. Any other circumstances shall be ruled on by the Executive Committee.

(e) EQUIPMENT

- i. All teams shall be required to use double eared batting helmets, and all players shall wear them whilst batting and base running.
- ii. Base coaches shall be required to use a helmet or base coach protective cap while in the coach's box.
- iii. All Major League first, second and third grade teams are to use wooden or wood/composite bats as approved by the ABF. All other grades can either use aluminium or wooden/wood composite bats. The following exceptions apply to this rule:
 1. In third grade only, any player under 16 years at date of the game may use aluminium bats in line with what they use at Nationals.
 2. In all grades, any women players may use aluminium bats in line with what they use at Nationals.

- iv. In all grades, the home team shall field first and supply all League approved match balls.
- v. In Major league, all grades shall start play with at least one new league approved ball. 1st grade to have three baseballs, two new league approved baseballs and a third of reasonable condition and to be accepted by the Umpire. Minor league shall start play with a new or in good condition ball. Umpire to be the judge.
- vi. The League approved balls are those approved by the IBL Management Committee for use in major and minor league games. No other balls may be used in competition or final series games. League approved balls are as follows:
 - 1. Wilson - A1010 HS1
 - 2. Rawlings R100, R200
 - 3. Diamond Ace
 - 4. Easton 850, 750
 - 5. XPlate 3000S

24. FORFEITS.

(a) GENERAL

- i. Every effort is to be made to avoid a forfeit of the game/s.
- ii. In all competition games and Final Series games, where a club is unable to field a team at the scheduled start time of the game but have advised the umpire that players are due to arrive that will enable the game to proceed, The umpire may delay the scheduled start time by up to 15 minutes. The scheduled finish time will remain unchanged.
- iii. Forfeits, if declared, should be at the lowest grade level possible. Players from lower grade must be assigned to the higher grade. The intent is to prevent any forfeit in Major League and in particular 1st Grade.
- iv. If a club continues to forfeit games the club maybe asked the show cause, before the League Management Committee at the next General Meeting of the League, why the club should not be removed from any further competition.

(b) MINOR LEAGUE GAMES

- i. To avoid a forfeit, the Minor League will be permitted to allow players to play up from 2nd Grade to 1st Grade.
- ii. If in the event a minor league grade can not field a full roster of nine (9) players, following the period of the player playing up, each grade will be permitted to field eight (8) players with an automatic out when the vacancy comes up in the battery.

- iii. With agreement from both clubs a grade will be permitted to pick up a player to fill a roster from their opposition of the same grade or as in above point (a)i.

(c) NOTIFIED FORFEITS

A notified forfeit shall be:

- i. Where a club makes notification to the League Secretary that the club has been forced to forfeit its game/s for the upcoming round.
- ii. The notification must be with the league secretary no later than 48hrs prior to the scheduled time for the game/s for the upcoming round.
- iii. The notification shall be in form of an e-mail stating that the club will be forfeiting game/s and stating the reason for the forfeit of the game/s for the upcoming round.

(d) UN-NOTIFIED FORFEITS

An un-notified forfeit shall be:

- i. Where a club has made no reasonable effort to notify the league secretary in the time period allowed, that the club will be forfeiting game/s for the upcoming round.
- ii. Where notification that a club will be forfeiting game/s for the upcoming round inside the 48hrs notification period.
- iii. Where the club is unable to field a team at the scheduled start time of the game/s.
- iv. Where a club notifies the Umpires that the club is to forfeit the game prior to the scheduled start time game/s.

(e) PENALTIES

- i. Where a team forfeits a game it will be recorded as a 9-0 win to the opposing team.
- ii. In the case of a Notified Forfeit no other penalty shall apply initially.
 1. The league shall cancel the booking of the ground (eg with Wollongong Council) thereby removing the ground fees.
 2. The league shall notify the umpire's co-ordinator of the forfeit within 24hrs of the forfeit notification being received.
 3. The league shall notify the opposition club of the forfeit within 24hrs of the forfeit notification being received.
- iii. In the case of an un-notified forfeit the club that has forfeited shall also be liable for all costs incurred as a result of the forfeit. Which shall include but not limited to any council ground fees for game/s that were forfeited and the costs incurred for the umpires fees for the game/s that were forfeited.

25. FEES AND CHARGES

- (a) A nomination fee per team is payable to the IBL prior to the start of each season by each club nominating teams in the IBL baseball competition. The nomination fee is set at \$120

per nominated team and may be varied by decision of the IBL Management Committee at an ordinary meeting.

- (b) For each nominated team, clubs will be allocated four (4) tickets to the IBL annual awards presentation function. The fee for these tickets is set at \$40 per ticket and may be varied by decision of the IBL Management Committee at an ordinary meeting.
- (c) Each club shall pay a levy to help finance Illawarra representative teams competing in representative events such as NSW Country Championships. The levy is set at \$15 per registered player and may be varied by decision of the IBL Management Committee at an ordinary meeting.
- (d) Player registration and insurance fees are set by Baseball NSW. These are payable directly by clubs to BNSW.
- (e) Baseball grounds controlled by Wollongong City Council are booked for usage by the IBL on an hourly basis. Fees for the use of these grounds are set by Wollongong City Council and invoiced to the IBL. These charges are to be recovered from Clubs on the following basis:
 - i. The major league home team at each competition game, excluding final series games, will be charged the council fee.
 - ii. All major league teams scheduled to participate in a final series game will be charged 50% of the council fee for that game.
 - iii. The Minor league home team at each competition game, excluding final series games, will be charged the council fee.
 - iv. All minor league teams scheduled to participate in a final series game will be charged 50% of the council fee for that game.
- (f) Ground fees charged by any other council or authority will be allocated on a basis determined by the IBL Management Committee.
- (g) Ground fees for baseball grounds controlled and maintained by the IBL are set by the IBL Management Committee. The fee for usage is set at \$30 per game and may be varied by decision of the IBL Management Committee at an ordinary meeting. These charges are to be recovered from Clubs on the following basis:
 - i. The major league home team at each competition game, excluding final series games, will be charged the ground fee.
 - ii. All major league teams scheduled to participate in a final series game will be charged 50% of the ground fee for that game.
 - iii. The Minor league home team at each competition game, excluding final series games, will be charged the ground fee.
 - iv. All minor league teams scheduled to participate in a final series game will be charged 50% of the council fee for that game.
- (h) The umpire fee is set at \$45 per umpire per game and may be varied by decision of the IBL Management Committee at an ordinary meeting in consultation with the Illawarra Baseball Umpire Association. Payments are made by the IBL to the IBUA on behalf of clubs. Umpire fees are allocated to clubs on the following basis:
 - i. The home team at each competition game, excluding final series games, will be charged the Umpire fee.

- ii. All major and minor league teams scheduled to participate in a final series game will be charged 50% of the umpire fee for that game.

26. REVISION NOTES

(a) Revision 1.1 16th April 2012 reflects an update to Section 23 (a) Game Duration and Times.

- Section 23 (a) (i) updated for correction of 1st grade game duration from 2 ½ hours to 2 ¾ hours or 9 innings, whichever comes first. This is in line with a previous IBL Management Committee decision that had not been reflected in the 2008 version of the Playing Conditions and used as the basis for the 2012 version.

(b) Revision 1.2 5th May 2013.

- Section 23 (e) (ii) Introduces the use of wooden/wood composite bats for third grade with exceptions for U/16 players in third grade and women players in all grades.
- Section 23 (e) (v) Lists league approved balls.
- Section 25 (a) Nomination fee variation process changed from “at an ordinary meeting prior to the start of each season” to “at an ordinary meeting”.
- Section 25 (b) Presentation ticket fee variation process changed from “at an ordinary meeting prior to the start of each season” to “at an ordinary meeting”.
- Section 25 (c) Representative levy fee variation process changed from “at an ordinary meeting prior to the start of each season” to “at an ordinary meeting”.
- Section 25 (g) IBL ground fee of \$30 per game included as new fee.
- Section 25 (h) Umpire fees increased from \$40 to \$42 from 2013 season. Umpire fee variation process changed from “at an ordinary meeting prior to the start of each season” to “at an ordinary meeting”.

(c) Revision 1.3 3rd March 2014.

- Section 2 (a) “IMG” replaces “My Club” data base.
- Section 9 (c) - Outlines that the “IBL Executive” may site members to appear before Management Committee.
- Section 9 (d) - New section outlining steps to be taken following ejection from game by an umpire.
- Section 10 (a) – New section to clarify that the appeal of a decision of the Judiciary Panel is to the Executive Committee to determine if it will be referred back to the Judiciary Panel.
- Section 10 (b) - Clarifies that a protest resulting from an erroneous decision by an umpire is to the Executive Committee.
- Section 10 (c) – Clarifies that section 10 (c) relates to a protest outlined in Section 10 (b).
- Section 10 (d) – New section to clarify the process for protests in regards to a breach of the IBL By-Laws and Playing Conditions.
- Section 10 (e) – New section to clarify that all protests, apart from Judicial matters, are to the Executive Committee and any appeals of these will be to the IBL Management Committee.
- Section 10 (f) – IBL Protest Fee increased from \$20 to \$50.
- Section 23 (e) ii - Base coaches required to wear helmet or base coach protective cap.
- Section 23 (e) vi - “XPlate 3000S” added to approved balls list.

- Section 25 (a) - Team nomination fee increased from \$60 to \$120 per team.
- Section 25 (b) - IBL Awards Presentation ticket fee increased from \$30 to \$40 per ticket.
- Section 25 (e) ii - Major League Final Series council fee allocation process changed from “all clubs in grade” to “clubs in Final Series game in grade”.
- Section 25 (e) iii - Competition game council fee allocation process changed from “minor league club running the canteen” to “minor league home team”.
- Section 25 (e) iv - Final Series council fee allocation process changed from “all minor league clubs in grade” to “minor league clubs in Final Series game in grade”.
- Section 25 (g) ii - Major League Final Series ground fee allocation process changed from “all clubs in grade” to “clubs in Final Series game in grade”.
- Section 25 (g) iii - Competition game ground fee allocation process changed from “minor league club running the canteen” to “minor league home team”.
- Section 25 (g) iv - Final Series ground fee allocation process changed from “all minor league clubs in grade” to “minor league clubs in Final Series game in grade”.
- Section 25 (h) - Umpire fees increased from \$42 to \$45 from 2014 season.
- Section 25 (h) ii Final Series umpire fee allocation process changed from “all clubs in grade” to “clubs in Final Series game in grade”.

(d) Revision 1.4 7th April 2014.

- Section 2 (g) – Outlines batboy / batgirl participation requirements.
- Section 2 (h) - Outlines Section 2 (g) exemption requests are to the IBL Executive and the penalties for a breach of Section 2 (g).

(e) Revision 1.5 4th May 2015

- **Section 13 (e) iii.** – Defines determination method for Final Series positions. Changed from “Total Runs For” to “highest Total Runs For”.
- **Section 13 (e) iv.** – Defines determination method for Final Series positions. Changed from “Total Runs Against” to “lowest Total Runs Against”.
- **Section 13 (e) v.** – Defines determination method for Final Series positions. New section to add “coin toss” as tie break.
- **Section 20 (a)** – New section to clarify that pitching regulations apply to age of player at date of game.
- **Section 20 (b)** – Clarifies application of pitching regulations. Changed from “under 18” to “under 18 years”.
- **Section 20 (c)** – Clarifies application of pitching regulations. Changed from “under 18” to “under 18 years”.
- **Section 20 (d)** – Clarifies application of pitching regulations. Changed from “under 16” to “under 16 years” and “under 18” to “under 18 years”.
- **Section 20 (e)** – Clarifies application of pitching regulations. Changed from “under 16” to “under 16 years” and “under 18” to “under 18 years”.
- **Section 20 (f)** – Revised penalties for breach of pitching regulations by club and coach.
- **Section 23 (a) i.** – Details game duration for 1st grade Major League. In the event of tied scores extra innings may be played if time permits as per section 23 (a) (vii).

- **Section 23 (a) iii.** – Details game duration for grades other than 1st grade Major League. In the event of tied scores no extra innings unless time permits as per section 23 (a) (vii).
- **Section 23 (e) iii. 1.** – Clarifies use of aluminium bats by junior players. Changed from “U/16” to “under 16 years at date of game”

(f) Revision 1.6 5th April 2016

- Section 13 (g) - Reflect decision to make 1st Grade Major League Grand Final a single game and not the best of three series.
- Section 13 (i) – Reflects decision to play one extra inning to break a tied Grand Final Game in all grades except 1st grade Major League.
- Section 13 (m) – Reflects decision to start all Final Series games thirty minutes earlier than competition games.
- Section 13 (n) – Clarifies that spare weekend is to play or complete only Grand Final games.
- Section 23 (b) vi. – Reflects decision to add option of transferring games to another venue before 7am on game day with agreement of both clubs impacted.

(g) Revision 1.7 6th February 2017

- Section 9 (f) – New section that outlines the Judiciary process guidelines.
- Section 9 (g) – New Section that lists the offence and penalties guidelines used in the Judiciary process.
- Section 13 (i) – Clarifies that in the event of tied scores at the end of a Grand Final then the team to reach the Grand Final first will be declared the winner.
- Section 23 (d) (i) Clarifies that all players including the Designated Hitter (DH) must be fresh players.
- Section 23 (d) (viii) – Clarifies that protests and appeals in regards to this section are the same as Section 10 (e).
- Section 23 (d) (ix) – Updated to show that the initial ruling on other extenuating circumstances is by the Executive Committee.

.....End of By-Laws and Playing Conditions.....