

HURON COUNTY FASTBALL LEAGUE
CONSTITUTION

- 1. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:**
- a) Any team wishing to play in the Huron County Fastball League must abide by this constitution. Player rosters must be controlled by the Huron County Fastball League (HCFL).
 - b) Any current players that have an opportunity to sign ISC 2 cards may do so with the pleasure of the HCFL.
 - c) Teams cannot add a player who holds ISC status, unless approved by the league representatives prior to play.
 - d) All teams who currently have ISC players may keep those players without having to obtain approval from the league. (Grandfather Rule)
- 2. PLAYOFF ELIGIBILITY:**
- a) To be eligible to play in the year-end tournament or playoffs, all names of Players and Coaches in attendance of any game must be put in scorebook for that game with first and last names included, which then each team will sign off on the others scorebook to approve the list of players that were in attendance for that game. With this format Players and Coaches that are in attendance will be counted for a game played. If a player has been deemed illegal, the offending team is to pay a fine of \$50
 - b) For a player to be eligible to pitch in the year-end tournament or playoffs they must have played (not necessarily pitched) in 1/3 of games and pitched fourteen [14] innings.
 - c) Ties in the league standings at the end of the regular season will be broken by the following.
 - 1ST Tie Breaker is HEAD TO HEAD VS TIED TEAM
 - 2ND Tie Breaker is RUNS FOR VS TIED TEAM
 - 3RD Tie Breaker is RUNS AGAINST VS TIED TEAM
 - 4TH Tie Breaker is RUNS FOR AGAINST WHOLE LEAGUE
- 3. YEAR END TOURNAMENT**
- a) If tournament is run by the league, all teams will contribute in organizing and running the tournament on the weekend. Up front expenses will be paid for by all league teams paying an entry fee high enough to cover all costs. Any profits made will be divided up equally amongst the teams and reimbursed at the end of the year.
 - b) If the tournament is run by a team, the league will pay for all baseball related expenses for the tournament which include the following: baseballs, umpires, diamond rentals and insurance for the games. The money to pay for this will be raised by each league team paying an entry fee. The amount would have to be determined each year when the expenses are known.
 - c) The host team will be responsible for all other expenses incurred other than what is mentioned above in b). This must include the following expenses: liquor license, liquor liability insurance, liquor, beer tent or facility rental for the beer tent, food booth, etc. All

revenues generated by the host team will be solely for the host team; no revenues would be owed to the HCFL and the HCFL will provide no reimbursement should the event not turn a profit.

d) The host team must have the proper facilities available to run a double knock out tournament. The league will insist that two ball diamonds with outfield fences be available (a team can rent and put up a temporary fence if needed). At least one diamond must have lights. Both diamonds do not have to be in the same town; however they must be close enough together to make travel back and forth by the competing teams practical. The tournament must be held in either the 2nd or 3rd weekend in September (host team's discretion).

e) A team that wishes to host must present their proposal to the HCFL at the spring meeting and be prepared to go forward. If a team does not come forward by the spring meeting the league would have to start planning to run the tournament. The league would review the team or teams' proposals at the meeting and the site would be decided by a consensus of the representatives at the meeting.

f) Double elimination tournament format will be used. Last game dubbed finals between the last two remaining teams will be a single elimination game in lieu of double elimination finals requirements.

4. PLAYER CONDUCT:

a) Any player whose conduct is unsportsmanlike will be dealt with. It is the responsibility of the affected HCFL team to make sure the offending players' suspension is carried out.

b) If thrown out of a game ----- suspended for next game.
Second Offense ----- suspended for the next two games.
Third Offense -----committee decision.

c) Any suspension occurring in the year-end tournament that results in un-served games. The remaining suspension will carry over to the following year.

d) The league president is to be notified of any players being ejected from a game and he will then notify all teams within the league of the situation by emailing each teams contact person.

5. GAMES:

a) All regular season games will consist of seven innings played, unless the mercy rule comes into effect (seven [7] run differential after five [5] complete innings) or in the event of a rain out after 5 complete innings. In the event of a tie game after seven complete innings, only 1 extra inning will be played under international rules and the game could potentially end in a tie if still tied after the extra inning.

b) Any cancellation of games must be made 24 hours before scheduled date with other team unless weather related. Any games cancelled must be re-scheduled to a future date and reported to the statistician within 7 days of the cancelled game. Any team failing to complete games will be fined \$250.00 payable to the Huron County Fastball League.

c) If a scheduled game is cancelled for a second time by the same team for reasons other than inclement weather, the team that is able to field enough players will be awarded the win and every player on the winning team's roster will be awarded a game played. Players on the losing team's roster will not be awarded a game played.

1st Offence – see section (c) above

Subsequent Offences – **Forfeit** applies see section (d) below

d) **FORFEIT** – is described as a game being cancelled by a team not being able to field enough players for a game before the deadline of completed games for that season. The team unable to field a team would be fined \$250.00 payable to the HCFL and would take the loss. The team able to field enough players would get the win and each player on that team would be credited with 1 game played for statistical purposes. The losing team would not receive any games played on their roster. If any game expenses are incurred the HCFL will reimburse the non-offending team. The fine must be paid at the next regular league meeting, if the fine is not paid at the next regular meeting the team will forfeit all future games until the debt is paid.

d) **INCOMPLETE** – is described as a game being cancelled between two teams before the deadline of completed games for that season because of weather related issues. No wins, losses or games played are to be counted.

i) A single game cannot be counted as two games i.e. ("four point game" where the winning team would be awarded four points for the win).

ii) League rules for regular season games shall apply to playoff games in series play with the following exceptions:

iii) Teams must have a minimum of eight (8) eligible players with the ninth position being an automatic out. Any team having less than eight (8) players present 15 minutes after game time will forfeit game.

iv) Teams cannot begin a game with nine (9) eligible players and finish the game with eight (8) eligible players. If a player reduction from nine (9) eligible players to eight (8) eligible players is the result of a player ejection the offending team will forfeit the game. This rule does not apply if the player reduction from nine (9) eligible players to eight (8) eligible players is due to an injury during the course of the game.

6. FORFEITS/PROTESTS:

a) A performance bond of \$250 is to be paid by all new teams to the HCFL.

b) Game protests shall be accompanied by \$25, which shall be refundable if the team lodging the protest wins the protest.

7. MEETINGS:

a) All meetings must be attended by one or more representatives from each team. Unattended teams will be fined \$25 for each missed meeting. Teams will then have until the next meeting to pay the fine or fines will double for consecutive meetings missed. Therefore the 2nd consecutive meeting missed is a \$50.00 fine, the 3rd consecutive

meeting missed is a \$100.00 fine and so on. A maximum fine value will be determined at the year end meeting.

b) One vote per team per meeting.

c) Any team fined under the provision 6(a) has the right to appeal the fine at the next regular meeting.

8. BANQUET:

a) If applicable - South division teams will host the banquet on even years. North division teams will host the banquet on odd years.

b) If applicable - Each team must buy ten (10) tickets. Funds will be paid to the HCFL.

9. ALL-STAR GAME:

a) If applicable - South division teams will host the all-star game on odd years. North division teams will host the banquet on even years.

10. AWARDS

a)batting title – players are required to have a minimum of 48 plate appearances to be eligible for the batting title or the equivalent of 2 plate appearances per game should the schedule change from 24 games.

b)pitching title – pitchers are required to have a minimum of 42 innings pitched to be considered for the pitching award or the equivalent of $\frac{1}{4}$ of the innings each team is scheduled for that season.

11. NEW TEAMS:

New Teams that enter the Huron County Fastball League starting in 2018 and beyond must play at least TWO full seasons in the league before they ask to have their \$250 dollar Bond back.