

# **STONEY CREEK MIXED ADULT BASEBALL ASSOCIATION**

## **BY-LAWS (AMENDED February 2023)**

### **BY-LAW 1 – CONSTITUTION**

1. Teams must submit a complete copy of their Team roster to the League Secretary by July 15, 2023. Failure to comply will result in a fine of \$100.00
2. All roster changes are subject to SCMABA regulations and teams must inform the League Secretary of any changes. Cut-off date for additions and subtractions shall be determined by the Executive. (To occur around the midpoint of the season).
3. All players must be 19 years of age by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current season and must be able to show proof of age upon request to the League President.
4. Each team must consist of a minimum of 16 players (8 women and 8 men) up to a maximum of 22 players.
5. Executive members will serve a two-year term of office. Executive members must be current league members. If this status changes during their term of office, they must relinquish their Executive position. Exceptions - illness, injury or pregnancy. Executive positions shall be staggered with four positions being filled each year as follows:
  - President
  - Secretary
  - Statistician
  - Treasurer
  - Media Director
6. There may be a maximum of two (2) members of any one (1) team on the Executive.
7. There will be a General Meeting open to all current league members, prior to the “Playoff Meeting”, Elections of expired Executive positions (open to all current league members), proposed Rule changes and changes to the Constitution will take place at this meeting.
8. All Rule changes will be voted upon by all coaches and Executive members at the first meeting of the upcoming season. Only team reps who are League members from the previous season will be allowed to vote (one vote per team).
9. Any and all money submitted to SCMABA is not refundable. Any money submitted is considered a "promise to participate" and becomes the property of SCMABA. ALL league fees must be submitted by the start of the season. Any team that has outstanding money owed to SCMABA two (2) weeks after the start of the season will not be allowed to participate in any SCMABA league games until that team has paid in full all money owing.

If after four (4) weeks from the start of the season any team still has outstanding money owed to SCMABA, that team forfeits all money previously submitted (as per SCMABA's constitution) and will be removed from the schedule for the remainder of the season.

## **BY-LAW 2 – RULES**

All rules will follow the official playing rules of SCMABA except where current SCMABA by-law rules apply or following a decision of the League Executive under the direction of the League President.

1. Ten players constitute a team line-up.
2. There should be no more than six (6) men on the field at one time. A team will be allowed to play with nine (9) players, provided there are not less than three (3) women, and while at bat. If playing with 9 players then the tenth batter will be an out.
3. Seven (7) innings constitutes a game. If a game is called for any reason in which four(4) or more innings have been completed, (3 ½ if the home team is leading), the score will stand at the last completed inning.
4. Before each game, one player from each team will be declared as the team spokesperson having authority to question the violation of any of these rules. Any other player attempting to do so may be ejected from the game.
5. Players arriving late to a game will be allowed to play if they arrive before the end of the fourth inning or by mutual consent of the team representatives.
6. All players are NOT to sit 2 innings (offense & defense) in a row when in the line up. **Changes are to be at the top of the fourth inning.** If the full seven (7) innings cannot be played, the team representatives may adjust the inning in which changes are made by mutual consent.
7. It is the responsibility of the home team to prepare the diamond for the game (i.e. 1 vs.2 – 2 is the home team). Home teams are to supply pylons to mark an extension of the first and third foul lines. Pylons shall be placed in the outfield 85 feet behind first and third base respectively. A third pylon shall be placed in the outfield 58 feet directly behind second base.
8. The distance between the bases shall be sixty-five (65) feet.
9. All outfielders must position themselves 150 feet from home plate until the batter has made contact with the pitched ball.

10. A pitcher shall be able to pitch the full seven inning game. The pitchers starting distance will be between 50 to 60 feet. Distances will be chalked out before a game from the home team when setting up the bases.
11. A strike pitch is one that lands anywhere on the extended wooden plate, being pitched with an arc between 6 feet and unlimited.
12. An extended plate will be used for home plate, constructed of wood, measuring twenty-four (24) inches in width, thirty-six (36) inches in length and a minimum of one-quarter (1/4) inches thick.
13. No steel spikes are to be worn.
14. All fielders must wear gloves; trappers can only be used by first base, catcher or pitcher.
15. Team uniforms shall consist of matching tops of similar colours and materials.

**16. COMMITMENT LINE**

- a) A commitment line will be drawn twenty (20) feet from the top left corner of home plate and perpendicular to the third base line.
  - b) A base runner who touches the commitment line with one foot or places one foot on the ground past the commitment line, between third base and home plate must continue on towards the scoring line.
  - c) The scoring line is an extension of the first base foul line which extends back to the backstop.
  - d) "TAG" plays are not allowed after the base runner has passed the commitment line. In all cases, they shall be deemed "forced plays".
  - e) A base runner attempting to score a run must do so by touching the scoring line with one foot or by placing one foot on the ground past the scoring line in foul territory in order to be counted as a run.
  - f) If a base runner touches or attempts to jump over the wooden home plate, they will be called out.
17. Courtesy runners can be used a maximum of 5 times per game. Only players in the line-up will be eligible to be courtesy runners, the same runner may be used more than once. A courtesy runner may be used for a courtesy runner. If there are no courtesy runners or substitutes available to take the place of a courtesy runner who is on base when that player is to be up to bat, an out shall be declared. A male must be used for a male, a female for a female, or a female for a male
  18. Injured Batter Rule – if a player is injured or is unable to run the bases then he/she can evoke the "Injured Batter Rule". This will usually happen the first time at bat and he/she makes it to 1<sup>st</sup> base then they will evoke the Man Rule and will have someone run in their place. Male for male, female for male or female and this will not count as a courtesy runner.

19. The maximum numbers of runs that can be scored by a team in one inning are five (5). After the fifth run has scored, the half inning is over, regardless of the number of outs. This rule does not apply in the final inning where any number of runs can be scored.
20. A batted ball which contacts home plate and goes into fair territory shall be called a "Fair ball".
21. If a male batter is walked intentionally, he will be awarded 2nd base, if the pitch count includes a strike and four balls, the batter will be awarded 1<sup>st</sup> base and the following female batter will bat.
22. The **INFIELD FLY RULE** will be enforced, being clearly defined as follows: An infield fly is a fairly batted ball (not a line drive) which can be caught with reasonable effort when first and second, or first, second and third base are occupied with less than two (2) out. The pitcher, catcher or any outfielder who positions her/himself in the infield area on the play shall be considered infielders for the purpose of this rule.  
**The ball does not have to land in the dirt or stone area to be considered an infield fly. Umps Discretion.**
23. All foul balls caught by the catcher in the air will be declared an out. No perceptible arc is required.
24. **SLIDING is Allowed.** Players are allowed to slide at 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base or dive back to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base. If a player is injured during a slide and the wound is bleeding then the player will not be allowed to re-enter the diamond until wound is bandaged.
25. NO ANTICIPATION allowed when batting
26. The ball will remain in play until it is in the possession of the pitcher, and the pitcher is within eight (8) feet of the pitching plate or the umpire calls time.
27. **INTERFERENCE:** Based on the discretion of the umpire.
  - a. If a base runner charges a defensive player who is in the act of fielding a ball, the runner may be thrown out of the game. All other runners will only be allowed to advance to the base they were going to.
  - b. If a defensive player interferes with or blocks a runner, the runner will be ruled safe at the base he/she was going to and be advanced one additional base.
28. **UMPIRES-** Carded umpires will be employed for all games - regular season and playoffs.
29. All players must remain at the bench area when not on the playing field.
30. When a ball is hit in the outfield a player CANNOT throw the ball to first base to get the player out. Can relay the ball from second to first though.

**31. NO SMOKING AND DRINKING ON THE PLAYING FIELD BY THE PLAYERS, COACHES OR UMPIRES.**

32. Team Members/Supporters shall not entice, or try to entice by word, sign or demonstration, either opponents and/or spectators. Use language which will in any manner refer to or reflect upon opposing players, teammates, umpires or spectators. Commit any act that could be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and suspension is possible upon review.

33. Games must start at the scheduled time if at all possible. A ten (10) minute grace time will be allowed. This applies to the first game only.

34. 6:30pm games curfew = 7:35pm with **no inning to start after 7:30 pm.**

7:35pm games curfew = 8:40pm with **no inning to start after 8:30 pm.**

8:45pm games curfew = 9:50pm with **no inning to start after 9:45pm.**

9:50pm games curfew = 10:55pm with **no inning to start after 10:45pm.**

35. Intentional delay of game will be an automatic loss of that game.

36. League standings will be determined by point system (2 point for a win, 1 point for a tie and 0 points for a loss). Play-off Format to be determined by executive members before playoff weekend.

37. Representatives of the winning teams are required to call in the game score to the Statistician within forty-eight (48) hours but no later than 11:00 p.m. Failure to comply will result in a fine of \$25.00.

**38. CANCELLED OR RAINED OUT GAMES**

a. In the event of a rain-out/canceled game once the game has started, the Statistician must be notified within forty-eight (48) hours.

b. On games cancelled due to weather or diamond conditions, team representatives are required to inform the Statistician the same night, so that the league will not be charged for the diamond.

c. If a game is cancelled it will result in a 7-0 for the other team, no fee if cancelled ahead of time (24 hours)

d. If team cancels the game the day of, the other team wins 7-0 and the cancelling team will be charge \$50.

39. Due to weather, both team representatives will decide if the field is playable. Both teams must agree otherwise it will be considered a “no game” and the game will be replayed at a later date.

40. All teams at zero or below the \$100.00 buffer must bring the buffer back up to \$100.00 – to be paid to any member of the league executive – to be eligible to play the next game. It must be above zero before playoff weekend to be eligible to participate in post-season play.

41. The consumption of alcoholic beverages is **FORBIDDEN** on city property during any league game, in the bench area, on the playing field or in the parking lot. Playing under excessive influence of alcohol or any other substance is prohibited. Violations will see the Player(s) and Coach ejected for that game and player(s) will also be given 1 game suspension. Reoffenders shall be brought to the attention of the league Executive and will be dealt with accordingly.
42. If there is any form of fighting or retaliation, a **minimum** three (3) game suspension will be levied for the first offence. If a second offence occurs by the same person or persons, the League Executive will take action at its discretion.
43. If a player is ejected from a game by an Ump for any reason he/she will be suspended for 1 game and the Executive to discuss further action.
44. A ball hitting a light standard/tree is a live ball. The light standard/tree is considered a part of the ground and therefore a fly ball "out" cannot be called.
45. Jewelry can be worn at the digression of the player.
46. All bats that are higher than 1.20 BPF are disallowed. Umps Discretion. (Thumb print bats)
47. Injured Players: Email the President the player's name and date off and when he or she is returning back to playing. Players can be added to roster upon the executive discretion.
48. Switching Players: Call for a timeout, inform the umpire and the other coach what is happening. Must switch the player for the other player that was playing if it is a 50/50 split. If for a full game, can switch for another player on the bench.
49. **BY-LAW 3 – PROTEST**
  - I. A protest must be submitted in writing to an Executive Member (or postmarked) within forty-eight (48) hours of the games end, detailing the reason for the protest, the date, time, place, inning, score at the time in question and the name of the umpires and the final score. The protest must be accompanied with \$100.00 in the form of cash or certified cheque or money order made payable to SCMABA (refunded only if the protest is upheld).
  - II. In the event of a valid protest, the League Executive will make a decision within one (1) week of the time of the submittals, after which the parties involved will be informed of the decision.
  - III. Protests will not be considered if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy or judgment of the umpire but rather a gross misinterpretation of a playing rule or by-law.
  - IV. All protested games to be replayed will be scheduled by the Statistician.

V. In the event of problems during any league game involving either teams or spectators, the Association's Executive Committee shall have the authority to take any action deemed necessary to prevent reoccurrence.

By-Law Fine Structure

Late Roster	\$100.00
Defaults	\$50.00
Missed Meeting	\$25.00
Late Scores	\$25.00