

# **Edgefield Dixie Youth Baseball By-Laws**

## **Article 1—The Corporation**

This corporation shall be known as Edgefield Dixie Youth Baseball, Inc. (EDYB)

## **Article 2—The Purpose**

The exclusive purpose of this corporation shall be education and fun. It shall strive to train the minds, bodies and spirits of youth in Edgefield County for the purpose of developing their capabilities. It shall seek to develop the future leaders of Edgefield County through the lessons learned through baseball.

## **Article 3—Governed and Supervised By**

EDYB shall be governed and supervised by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be elected by the managers, assistant coaches and other volunteers that attend the election meeting.

## **Article 4—Board of Directors**

The officers of the EDYB Board of Directors shall consist of: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Major League Commissioner, Minor League Commissioner, Coaches Pitch Commissioner, T-Ball Commissioner, Concession Stand Chairman and Equipment Chairman.

Each member shall serve a one-year term (September 1<sup>st</sup>-August 31<sup>st</sup>).

\*Any persons wishing to be elected as President, must have served on the Board for at least one year in the past five years.

### **The President**

- Be responsible for the overall operation of EDYB
- Preside over all meetings
- See that the organization adheres to the rules, regulations and policies as set forth in the EDYB By-Laws and in other referenced documents.
- Assure that each officer is aware of his/her duties and responsibilities
- Bring all disputes and protests to the Board for consideration
- Appoint, audit and be a standing member of all committees where necessary
- In conjunction with the Chief Umpire and the Edgefield County Recreational Dept. Director make the final decision concerning the playing fitness of the fields.
- Be responsible for communications between the Edgefield Recreation Dept. and the EDYB League

- Work closely with League Commissioners with regard to the regular season, post-season play, player drafts, schedules, etc.
- Work with the Edgefield County Recreation Director in ordering uniforms
- Along with the VP, coordinate registration dates, advertising, etc.
- After the regular season is complete, the President will work with the All-Star coaches of each league to make sure they have the proper paperwork, credentials, uniforms, release forms, insurance, schedules, etc.

### **The Vice President**

- Assist the President in all duties described above
- Act as President when the President is absent
- Assume the role of the President in the event that the President is no longer able to perform his/her duties
- Organize the EDYB Jamboree
- Distribute Board Nomination forms to all coaches
- Work with the Edgefield County Recreation Director in finding a photographer

### **The Treasurer**

- Be required to update the Board of Directors of the EDYB Leagues financial status at each meeting.
- Be responsible for maintaining fiscal integrity and assumes responsibility for all corporation finances.
- Sign checks and disburse funds as approved by the Board or as is necessary to meet the routine cost-of-business. Routine cost of business is defined as league fees, insurance, Post Office Box rental, or any other bills that are incurred on a regular basis.
- Disburse funds for major purchases such as baseballs, equipment, appliances, etc. Purchases of over \$200.00 in cost must be approved by at least five members of the Board.

### **League Commissioners**

- Shall be the primary point of contact for all issues in their respective leagues.
- Assist and be present at registration.
- Organize each player's registration form to be presented during the player draft.
- Find and suggest head coaches for each team to the Board.
- Once the head coaches are selected, the League Commissioner will be responsible for contacting the head coach to notify them of the date/time for drafting teams.
- Work with the coaches to organize practice times for the teams in your league.
- Review the regular season game schedule for conflicts that may come up with school activities and holidays.

- Responsible for distributing schedules and other notification forms to the head coaches in their league. The head coaches will then relay the information to their players and parents.
- Responsible for organizing the awards ceremony at the end of the season (times, field, trophies, food, drinks, volunteers, etc.). A plan must be presented and/or discussed with both the President and the Vice President at least three weeks in advance of the ceremony.
- Responsible for making sure their leagues field is kept up to playing condition and should notify the President and/or the Vice President of any thing that needs to be fixed or replaced. The Town of Edgefield will do everything they can to help mark the fields, drag the fields and keep the grass cut.
- After regular season is concluded, All-Stars will be chosen in all age groups except T-Ball. The EDYB By-Laws define the selection process for choosing All-Stars. The League Commissioner shall notify the President and the VP when meeting with the head coaches to select All-Stars.

#### **The Equipment Chairman**

- Responsible for making sure the equipment room is organized
- Take inventory of all equipment
- Notify the President and/VP of any equipment needs
- Make sure that each team receives the equipment they need to have a successful season
- Make sure that each coach returns ALL equipment that was given to them. If any item(s) is not returned, the Equipment Chairman must provide a written statement to the Board. The Board will then decide on how to handle the situation.

#### **The Concession Stand Chairman**

- Responsible for making sure the concession stand is clean
- Responsible for making sure the concession stand has at least two people working at all times (no one under the age of 15 is allowed to work).
- Responsible for turning in the money earned to the President. The President will then turn the money over to the Treasurer.
- Responsible for making sure the concession stand is stocked with food, drinks, candy, etc.
- Responsible for working with the President to create prices and a price list for all items.

### **All Board Members**

- Should strive to attend all Board meetings
- Should be willing to dedicate the time necessary to ensure the success of our league.
- Should be willing and able to:
  - Unlock doors and gates
  - Plug in scoreboards
  - Turn on sound system
  - Ensure the concession stand is ready for business
  - Turn on lights for all fields

### **Article 5—Board Meetings**

An open meeting for the public and all volunteers shall be held in August to elect the Board of Directors.

From that point on, the Board of Directors shall meet once a month:

- November
- December
- January
- February
- April (to discuss how the season is going so far)
- June (post season reports)

\*The majority of members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting and the majority vote of those present shall govern except when otherwise provided.

\*Any general meetings that are open to the public will be announced to the local papers and posted on the Edgefield Recreation Web site.

### **Article 6—Managers and coaches**

Managers will be selected and approved on by the Board and will be held accountable for the conduct of the members on the field. Each member will be responsible for finding two assistant coaches to help throughout the season. It will be the responsibility of the manager to notify the league commissioner on the coaches he/she chooses.

All coaches must complete a criminal background check.

Once a manager has been selected, he/she has the first right of refusal the following season to continue being that teams manager. If the manager refuses the position, then the assistant coaches will be offered the managers position. This is done to build stability among our coaching ranks.

A manager (head coach) may be an assistant coach on another team in another age group, but cannot be a head coach for both teams.

#### **Article 7—Code of Conduct**

It is the policy of EDYB, that no person (on or off the field), at any EDYB event, bears the right to conduct him/herself (physically or verbally) in a manner that negatively reflects on the children of our program.

In the event one EDYB Board Member is notified, by an adult, about any person who is in violation of this policy at an EDYB event, and the Board member is in agreement that the policy has been violated, the violator will be escorted out of, and banned from the event or playing facilities, for the remainder of the day. If the violator resists, the Edgefield Town Police Department will be notified.

In extreme cases, the EDYB Board may choose to ban a violator for longer durations, such as one week, one year or life. In these cases, a representative of the Edgefield Recreation Department and the Mayor of Edgefield will be consulted.

Any manager or coach involved with willfully hiding or covering up the abilities of a player from other teams or any prospect involved in such a scheme will be ineligible for any association or participation in EDYB.

A spirit of good sportsmanship is to prevail at all times, before, during and after the game.

#### **Article 8—Zero Tolerance Policy**

The Edgefield County Recreation Board of Commissioners has taken a “**NO Tolerance**” stance in order to help prevent severe situations from occurring on and within leagues operating on Edgefield County facilities. EDYB supports and follows the Recreation Boards stance. This includes unsportsmanlike behavior, verbal abuse, threatening physical abuse and actual physical abuse. The “**NO Tolerance**” Policy is as follows:

1. Fans should strive to develop a positive and friendly attitude toward each other, coaches and players of both teams, and officials.
2. No fan shall verbally confront or argue with an official, coach, player or other spectators; before, during or after a game. If this occurs, such person will be asked to leave the facility.
3. Any person who physically attacks an official, coach, spectator or player, may be subject to criminal prosecution as well as civil suit for monetary damages.
4. It is the goal of the Edgefield County Recreation Board of Commissioners and advisors that participation in recreational sports programs be individually and cooperatively a wholesome, fun and personally rewarding experience. Each participant, along with the coaches, should try to achieve a more positive attitude for the sport and its objectives than he/she had at the start of the season. All players, coaches, spectators and officials shall be guided by the National Youth Sports Coaches Association Code of Conduct.

#### **Article 9—Suspension**

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to suspend any coach, player, Board member or volunteer whose conduct is considered by a majority of the Board to be detrimental to the best interests of EDYB.

Members of the Board of Directors shall, upon evidence of the misconduct of any player in connection with the activities of EDYB, notify the team manager of which the player is a member. The manager shall appear with the player's parent in the capacity of an advisor before the next scheduled game.

Any member of the Board of Directors, who misses 3 meetings throughout the year (without a valid excuse), will be removed from the Board.

Any coach (head or assistant) who is ejected from a game (regular or post season) by the umpire will serve a mandatory minimum one game suspension, the following game.

Any player who is ejected from a game (regular or post season) by the umpire will serve a mandatory minimum one game suspension, the following game.

**Article 10—Finances**

The Board of Directors shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of EDYB.

The Treasurer will be responsible for being able to give a report on the financial status during each Board meeting.

The funds of EDYB are set up to support/pay for items that the County will not cover.

**Article 11—Player Draft Selection**

Each league commissioner will contact the head coaches in their league to set up a draft selection meeting.

A manager may freeze three players that will be returning to the same league and on the same team as they played the year before.

The manager (and any of the assistant coaches) MUST use their child as a freeze. A scoring system must be in place and all coaches must agree on the ranking of each player. At the end of the season, each manager will be asked to rank his/her entire team (1-weakest/5-strongest) based on the following: Pitching, hitting and fielding. Any evidence of a coach knowingly or intentionally not grading his/her players correctly will result in suspension from coaching the following season.

The coaches will draw numbers/straws to decide on who will draft first, second, third, etc.

Protected players must be selected in the round in which they are ranked. Example: If Player 1 is ranked as his former teams number one player, then his coach (father) will have to draft him in the first round. If Player 2 is ranked as his former teams number two player, then his coach (father) will have to draft him in the second round.

Players moving up to the next league may be frozen if their parent is coaching them, but must be one of the three players a coach freezes.

No coach may freeze (3) A players.

If twins are frozen, that is considered two selections for the coach (which would allow him/her to freeze one more player before the draft begins).

The Board of Directors reserves the right to change player rankings and sit in on any of the draft selections.

A new draft will be conducted each year for each age group. Only the team manager (or delegated assistant coach) may participate in the draft. No team shall have two coaches in the draft selection.

Any player refusing to play on a team for which he/she is drafted shall be ineligible for participating anywhere in the EDYB program for the current season. If they feel compelled, they may submit a written statement to the Board as to why they prefer not to play on that specific team and the Board will take it under consideration.

### **Article 12—Registration and tryouts**

The dates for registration, tryouts and the draft are to be set by the Board of Directors.

It will be up to the Board of Directors as to whether or not tryouts should be held in order to rank players for the draft.

All players must fill out a registration form, pay the entire registration fee and submit a birth certificate before being able to play/practice baseball.

Players may register on the assigned registration dates or submit their form/money to the County Recreation Director before deadline.

There will be 3-4 registration dates set by the Board of Directors. A deadline will also be set by the Board. After that date, no forms will be accepted.

\*\*If there is a child that has moved into the county after the season begins and would like to play, they must submit a reason for their late entry and it must be approved by the Board of Directors. If approved, a registration form, money and birth certificate will need to be turned in ASAP.

\*\*It will be up to the league commissioner (and Board if needed) to decide on which team the child will play on based on draft selection and how to rank the player. It may be recommended that the child demonstrate hitting, throwing and catching to determine the team he/she will play for.

It is the responsibility of the Board to advertise the registration dates and location through school flyers, road signs, print media, electronic media and word of mouth.

**Article 13—Schedules, time limits and make-up games**

The Board of Directors will be responsible for preparing practice and regular season schedules.

All games played will fall under the national Dixie Youth Baseball guidelines.

A team leading by 10 runs or more after four full innings shall be declared the winner.

Game participants must remain in the dugout except when at bat, on deck or in the field. Managers and assistant coaches may stand in front of or next to the dugout. Only one manager or coach at a time will be allowed on the field to discuss a play situation with the umpire.

The Board will be responsible for scheduling enough games in the regular season, so that there isn't a need for make-up games or a rain plan must be in place if any games get cancelled. All sanctioned league teams must complete the number of games necessary to qualify for All-Stars.

Make-up games are to be made up on the earliest possible date as determined by the President and League Commissioner.

**Time Limits:**

T-Ball—1 hour or 3 innings (whichever comes first)

Coaches Pitch—1 hour and 15 minutes or 6 innings (whichever comes first)

Minor League—1 hour and 15 minutes or 6 innings (whichever comes first)

Major League—1 hour and 15 minutes or 6 innings (whichever comes first)

Do not start an inning after 1 hour and 5 minutes. If the game is close to 1hr and 15 minutes and the home team hasn't batted, the game can go over the scheduled time to allow the home team an at-bat.

It is the responsibility of the League Commissioner to discuss the playing rules and guidelines of their respected league with the Board and then relay it to the head coaches of that particular league.

**Article 14—Umpires**

The Chief Umpire will be EDYB's liaison with the umpire's association being used. He/she shall be responsible for making sure the umpire's association knows the game (including make-up games) schedule and the number of umpires required for each game.

No umpire may call a game from behind the plate in which his/her child participates. Except in cases of emergency.

In the event that an umpire does not show up, the Chief Umpire and the President may work together to decide on an appropriate substitute/solution.

**Article 15—Procedures for selection of All-Stars**

The President and League Commissioner shall call a meeting after or near the end of the regular season with team managers for the purpose of selecting players for the All-Star team(s).

Each manager can nominate players from his team or any team within the league.

Once the list of nominations are on the table, each manager must write down the names of 12 players they think are able to play on the All-Star team. Those names that appear on all of the coach's lists will be selected for the team.

All managers must agree unanimously on the players selected for the All-Star team. If an agreement cannot be met, the President and the rest of the Board must be brought in to make a decision.

The All-Star team must consist of the maximum number of players (including alternates), that the national Dixie Youth Baseball league will allow.

Any manager, group of managers or coaches who conspire to fix or attempt to fix the All-Star selection process, will be banned from EDYB.

The regular season manager of the team with the best win-loss record in each league will be selected as the All-Star manager. If that individual declines, the second place manager will be selected as the All-Star manager and so on.

The All-Star team manager will select his assistant coaches from among the managers and assistant coaches in the league. No other individual is eligible to become a volunteer All-Star coach.

Each coach is strongly urged to keep up with his/her player's stats throughout the season. Batting avg., pitching performance and fielding performance will help in selecting the All-Star's.

**Article 16 —Constitution and By-Laws**

This constitution and by-laws, or any section thereof, may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors present at any stipulated meeting; provided that written notice of such proposed changes over the signature of the President shall be made available to each member of the Board at least 7 days prior to the meeting at which such proposed change shall be submitted to vote.

**Article 17—Edgefield Dixie Youth Baseball Volunteers**

As a volunteer in the EDYB program, I promise to:

- Regard EDYB as a proud community asset and help endow it with the highest personal standard.
- Respect all players and try to understand his/her capabilities, limitations and problems of growing up today.
- Be exemplary in the growing movement of Dixie Youth Baseball, ready to improve the estate of our youth whenever possible, and to find honest enjoyment in the creative service and teaching the program affords.
- Recognize obligations in teaching the players fair play, discipline and teamwork.
- Cooperate in diligent observance of the rules and regulations on a national and local level.
- Support the elected officials and commissioners of the EDYB program and abide by the policies and decisions made by them.
- Encourage volunteer support of parents, educators and all agencies devoted to the welfare of Edgefield County youth.