

***FORT SMITH CHURCH
BASEBALL LEAGUE
RULES***

2011

**JR. PEE WEE
PEE WEE
SUPER PEE WEE
BAMBINO
PONY
MIDGET
PREP
BABE RUTH
SENIOR BABE RUTH**

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE
FORT SMITH CHURCH BASEBALL LEAGUE, INC. AS AMENDED AND
ADOPTED MARCH 2011**

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

This organization shall be known as "FORT SMITH CHURCH BASEBALL LEAGUE, INC." and shall be referred to herein as the "CHURCH LEAGUE" or "FSCBL". Membership is open to all children ages five (5) through eighteen (18). The activities are sponsored and supervised by churches in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and the surrounding area.

**ARTICLE II
OBJECTIVE**

The primary purpose will be to instill in our community youth the ideal of Christian character that will aid in their development of the traits of honesty, loyalty, good sportsmanship, courage, and reverence so that they may be finer, happier, and stronger youth. Supervisors must keep in mind; winning of the games is secondary and that the molding of our youth as future citizens in an ideal way and the strengthening of the ties of our youth to their church are our goal and desire.

**ARTICLE III
GOVERNMENT**

- A.** The government of the CHURCH LEAGUE shall reside in a commission of two (2) representatives who are active members from each of the participating churches. Each church must present annually, at the first commission meeting after September 1st, a letter signed by the church's minister, identifying the churches two representatives. The designation as shall be effective for one year, or until revoked by the church's minister, whichever comes first. Each representative shall have one (1) vote. No church shall have more than two (2) votes.
- B.** The commission shall nominate a CHURCH LEAGUE president, first vice-president, second vice-president, secretary and treasurer at their first regularly scheduled meeting after September 1st. Election of officers is to be held at the second regularly scheduled meeting after September 1st. These officers shall hold office one (1) year, commencing immediately after said election. In the event of a vacancy of an office, the president shall appoint a replacement officer. In the event of a vacancy to the office of president, the first vice-president shall hold the office for the remainder of the term.
- C.** Any person who is elected to an office of the commission, and who is at that time not a member of the commission, shall upon said election become, without further formality of requirement, a member at large of the commission for the period of time coinciding with their term of office. Said officer at large, if acting as the presiding officer at said meeting, shall have the right to vote only in the case of tie vote by the regular commissioners present. The past president, if not a commissioner, shall be considered a member at large for one (1) year following his term of office.
- D.** Fund raising policies shall be determined by the commission as the need arises.
- E.** All CHURCH LEAGUE activities will be governed by the following named committees. The composition of the Executive, Scheduling, and Budget committees will be specified. All other committees will have a chairman appointed by the President. The chairman shall serve for a period of one (1) year and will select as many committee members as desired. The commission will allow a person who is not a member of the commission to serve as a committee chairman upon his nomination by the president and approval by a majority vote of the commissioners present at the time of the nomination.
1. EXECUTIVE - shall be composed of the five (5) commission officers, the six (6) individual league presidents, two (2) tournament directors, one (1) Senior Babe Ruth representative, the coordinator of Field Maintenance, the Director of Umpires, and the president of the Ladies Auxiliary. It shall be responsible for the supervision of all CHURCH LEAGUE activities. All executive committee members will have one vote at all commissioner's meetings.
 2. SCHEDULING - shall be responsible for the scheduling of all of the regular season games for all of the leagues. This five (5) person committee will be appointed by the President prior to the March meeting.
 3. BUDGET - shall be a standing committee and shall consist of three (3) members to be appointed by the president. This committee shall handle all financial budgeting of the league.
 4. PUBLICITY AND AWARDS - policies shall be determined by the commission in such a way that it will not add pressure to the winning aspect of the game.
 5. CONSTITUTIONAL - all constitutional changes shall be referred to this committee for appropriate action. In addition the chairman of this committee shall act as the commission parliamentarian.
 6. TOURNAMENT AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS - shall have the responsibility of running tournaments under the policies to be determined by the commission and shall handle all special programs including the arrangements for the CHURCH LEAGUE's season opening and closing ceremonies and awards.

- 7. INTER-CLUB RELATIONS - shall have the responsibility for maintaining the coordination with other city baseball programs of the surrounding communities.
- F. The following positions shall be appointed by the President.
 - 1. DIRECTOR OF UMPIRES - shall conduct umpire training sessions and coordinate umpire scheduling.
 - 2. COORDINATOR OF FIELD MAINTENANCE - will recommend a Director of Field Maintenance and be the liaison between said director and the commission.
 - 3. TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS – shall be in charge of all tournaments hosted by the League.
- G. The commission will approve the selection of the following position subject to the provisions of the position job description.
 - 1. DIRECTOR OF FIELD MAINTENANCE - shall be responsible for the ground crew and getting playing fields ready for games.
- H. The CHURCH LEAGUE president shall appoint a league president for each of the individual leagues. League presidents shall be appointed by the first meeting in January. Each league president may select a vice-president with the approval of the CHURCH LEAGUE President. The vice-president can carry a proxy vote to league meetings if the league president cannot attend the meeting.
- I. All officers, committee chairmen, and representatives are eligible for re-election.
- J. FSCBL will serve as the governing league for all sub-leagues. Each member Church will be considered a sub-league of the FSCBL and they are individually responsible for drafting teams according to the FSCBL by-laws. Each sub-league will participate under FSCBL by-laws and schedules.

**ARTICLE IV
MEETINGS**

- A. Each member church shall designate their two (2) representatives to the commission and two (2) representatives to the ladies auxiliary. Regular monthly meetings shall be held on the second Monday of each month beginning in October and continuing through March. Additional meetings shall be called by the President as needed.
- B. At least twenty percent (20%) of the commissioners must be present to constitute a quorum for the commission and a majority vote by those present shall govern, except in matters where it is specifically stated otherwise.
- C. The commission secretary shall record the minutes of all the meetings of the commission, which are to be kept on file as official records.
- D. All the meetings of the commission shall be open to anyone desiring to attend. It should be noted that only church appointed representatives to the commission are allowed to vote on issues before the commission.
- E. All rule changes must be completed at or before the first commission meeting in March. No new rule changes will be accepted after the first meeting in March. All proposed rule changes must be presented to the commission in writing. Team declarations will be at the March meeting.

**ARTICLE V
MANAGERS AND COACHES**

- A. Each member church will be responsible for the securing and supervision of all supervisory personnel of all of its teams.
- B. Each team shall have a person designated as manager, who may have as many assistant coaches as desired. The team manager shall be an active member of the church his team represents and shall participate actively in the coaching of his team. The manager shall be at least eighteen (18) years old.
- C. There shall be two (2) pre-season orientation meetings held in each league. All managers and coaches must attend at least one (1) session. Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of the first regularly scheduled season game.
- D. Any manager, coach, or representative from each team in each league shall attend at least one (1) work day at the ball fields. Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of the first regular season win.

- E. No convicted sex offender shall be allowed to manage or coach in FSCBL baseball.

ARTICLE VI MEMBERSHIP

- A. Any child living in the city of Fort Smith, regularly attending a member church of FSCBL or a church in Fort Smith, who meets the age requirements, and has not participated in any other organized baseball league during the current year, shall be eligible to participate in the FSCBL. Church commissioners and each league president are required to compile a master list of eligible players who are not on a team. Member church commissioners will provide this list to each applicable league president. All teams are required to use players from each league's master list as need to complete their team's rosters. Only after this list is depleted and approved by the FSCBL executive committee will non-member church players living outside of Fort Smith be eligible. A team will be allowed to compose no more than 50% of its roster with players who do not meet one of the following 3 criteria: 1) live in the city limits of Fort Smith; 2) regularly attend a member church of FSCBL; or 3) regularly attends a church in Fort Smith. Roster violations will result in forfeiture of all games. The FSCBL executive committee must approve any non-member church player(s) living outside of Fort Smith that is added to any roster after a team's original roster has been submitted.
- B. The executive committee shall have the authority to attend or exclude from participation in the CHURCH LEAGUE any team, team member, coach, manager, umpire, or other person(s) whose conduct is considered detrimental to the best interests of the program.
- C. The commission president, upon receipt of a charge of misconduct, shall notify the person so charged, within twenty-four (24) hours of the receipt of the charge. (In the case of a child, the manager of the team of which the child is a member shall also be notified. The manager shall be present at the hearing, in the capacity of advisor, before the executive committee will take any action.) There shall be a minimum of seven (7) committee members present and it shall require a two-thirds vote to take any action in suspending or expelling anyone accused of misconduct. The length of any suspension shall be determined by the executive committee.
- D. New churches may be admitted into the league with the approval of the commission and upon their compliance with Article VII, paragraph E.
- E. A member church may be expelled from the league by a 2/3 (two thirds) vote of the commission members present, with the representatives from the subject church not voting. In the event of expulsion, one-half of the church's original entry fees may be refunded if the commission so decides by a majority vote.

ARTICLE VII FINANCIAL POLICY

- A. The commission will decide all matters pertaining to CHURCH LEAGUE financial policy and affairs. Any contract over \$2,500 entered into by the CHURCH LEAGUE shall be in writing and signed by two members of the executive committee and placed into CHURCH LEAGUE records.
- B. Individual team expenses shall be the responsibility of the church that is sponsoring the team. **INSURANCE** – Each team must provide medical insurance for their players in Pee Wee, Super Pee Wee and Pony leagues. Each church must provide proof of insurance when teams are declared. The CHURCH LEAGUE will provide medical insurance for Midget, Prep and Babe Ruth players. The FSCBL will provide liability insurance for Midget, Prep and Babe Ruth leagues.
- C. The commission treasurer shall keep complete and accurate records of all financial transactions and shall submit a monthly financial statement to the commission and one at the close of his term of office. The office of treasurer shall be bonded each year in the amount specified by the commission. At the end of each year a public accounting firm shall produce a final year-end financial statement. At the end of each year an income tax report will be filed.
- D. Each church will pay an entry fee, to the CHURCH LEAGUE, for each of the teams that it has participating in the league. The fee for each team entered will be one hundred dollars (\$100.00). In addition each church will pay a fee of eighty dollars (\$80.00) to fund the Senior Babe Ruth program. The total entry fee for each church will be based on the number of teams entered in all leagues, plus the eighty dollar (\$80.00) Senior Babe Ruth fee. There shall be no refunds or allowances made for teams, which are canceled after said meeting. All team entry fees shall be paid to the commission treasurer by April 15th each year. Failure to pay all fees and assessments by April 15th will result in the Church's team not being scheduled and as such will not be allowed to participate for the affected season.
- E. 1. ***Effective January 1, 2011, Churches must pay a \$30.00 per player fee for all leagues to meet to the association's funding needs. The fees are payable to the Fort Smith Church Baseball League in one check per team in each league according to the player totals on the official team rosters. The fees are due by April 15th each year and shall accompany the official team roster. Players added to the roster after April 15th will be assessed player fees to be collected by the***

league president. Failure to pay fees and turn in completed, official rosters by April 15th will result in the non-complying team not being scheduled and as such will not be allowed to participate for the affected season.

2. Concession Duty: A significant portion of the league income is derived from concession sales. Every team shall participate in the concession stand by paying a fee of \$125.00 which must be made prior to your team's first regular season scheduled game. **For Starter League teams only, the concession stand fee will be \$100 per team.** Failure to pay the concession fee by the first regular season game will result in forfeiture of each game until paid, and the non-complying team will not be allowed to play until the fee is paid. This fee covers all workers for all the concession stand operations.
3. Effective January 1, 2009, Senior Babe Ruth Players must pay a \$40.00 per player fee to meet the association's funding needs. The fee is payable to the Fort Smith Church Baseball League and will be collected by the Senior Babe Ruth League President. Any financial hardships will be considered by the Fort Smith Church Baseball League Executive Committee on a case by case basis as requested by the Senior Babe Ruth League President.

- F. The entry fee for a new church to participate in the CHURCH LEAGUE shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.00). Any church which drops out of the league for at least one year shall be required to pay a re-entry fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) if the church re-enters the CHURCH LEAGUE within five years of the date they ceased to participate. If a church remains out of the CHURCH LEAGUE for more than five years that church must re-apply as if they were a new member. **If a non-member church wishes to sponsor only a 4 yr old Starter League team and has no other teams in the league, then the \$500 church membership fee and the \$80 Babe Ruth Fee will be waived. If the church sponsors the same or other teams the following year, then the church membership and babe ruth fees will be required.**
- G. Neither the CHURCH LEAGUE nor the commission shall be responsible for any accidents or losses to any individual during any activity that is included in the CHURCH LEAGUE baseball program.

ARTICLE VIII GENERAL POLICIES
--

- A. Smoking or the use of smokeless tobacco will not be permitted by coaches or players in the dugouts, on the playing field, or on the premises during the game. Smoking on game days, beginning one hour before the first game at the ballpark and ending one hour after the conclusion of the last game at the ballpark, shall only be permitted in the parking lots. Additionally at Flocks Field, smoking shall not be permitted within fifty feet of the stands or first base dugout, even in the parking lot.
- B. There will be no alcoholic beverages allowed on the premises or during any CHURCH LEAGUE activity.
- C. There will be no profanity of abusive language allowed during any CHURCH LEAGUE activity.
- D. No advertisements or sponsorship names shall appear on any part of the player's uniforms or equipment (batting helmets, bats, catcher's equipment, etc.) with the exception of the respective churches name, initials, mascot and/or the manufacturer of the equipment or uniform.
- E. All member teams within the FSCBL will be required to display their respective churches name and/or initials on the player's jerseys and players hats during all FSCBL season and tournament games.
- F. Any All-Star Teams formed with the FSCBL (all age divisions) for the purpose of representing the FSCBL will be required to display the words "Fort Smith Church League" or a form thereof on the player's jerseys for the purpose of representing the pride we have in our league and where the team is from.
- G. There will be no practice on the fields on a day a rain out has been declared by the CHURCH LEAGUE officials.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS

- A. Any additions, deletions, or changes to this constitution, and by-laws must be presented to the commission, for consideration, at a regular or special meeting. Written notice of the proposed amendment must then be given to all members of the commission prior to the meeting at which the amendment will be voted on. The amendment must receive a majority vote of the members present to be adopted and effective.

ARTICLE X

GENERAL

A. GENERAL RULES AND POLICIES

1. All players shall be placed in the various leagues according to their age, as follows;

STARTER : **Players must be four (4) years of age by August 15th of the current year, and may not be five (5) years of age on or before August 15th of the current year. Players also CANNOT be on any AA/Minor, AAA/American, or Major/National Division travel/select team roster.**

JR. PEE-WEE: Players must be at least five (5) years of age by **on or before August 15** of the current year and may not be six (6) years of age **on or before August 15** of the current year. Players also CANNOT be on any AA/Minor, AAA/American, or Major/National Division travel/select team roster.

PEE-WEE: PEE-WEE: Must be at least five (5) years old **on or before August 15** of the current year and may not be seven (7) years old before May 1 of the current year. Players also CANNOT be on any AA/Minor, AAA/American, or Major/National Division travel/select team roster.

SUPER PEE-WEE: May not be nine (9) years old before May 1 of the current year. The team roster cannot consist of more than 4 players who turn eight (8) years of age before May 1 of the current year. Players also CANNOT be on an 8U AA/Minor, AAA/American, or Major/National Division travel/select team roster.

BAMBINO: May not be nine (9) years old before May 1 of the current year.

PONY: May not be eleven (11) years old before May 1 of the current year. AMERICAN LEAGUE ONLY-- Players also CANNOT be on a 10U AA/Minor, AAA/American, or Major/National Division travel/select team roster.

MIDGET: May not be thirteen (13) years old before May 1 of the current year.

PREP LEAGUE: Must be thirteen (13) years old by August 1 of the current year, may not be fourteen (14) years old before May 1 of the current year.

BABE RUTH: May not be sixteen (16) years old before May 1 of the current year.

If fewer than eight (8) teams declare for Jr. Pee Wee, Pee Wee, Super Pee Wee or Bambino then the teams **MAY** be combined into Pee Wee and/or Super Pee Wee.

2. Players may play in a league older than their own age group, but may not return to a younger league after participating in one game.
3. Any game, in which an ineligible player, as stated in Section A & B of Article X, participates, shall be forfeited.
4. A child may play for only one (1) team and may not participate in non-CHURCH LEAGUE organized baseball. This rule shall apply to both regular season and tournament games. This shall not include school-sponsored teams. However, the games cannot overlap. Players on the AAA roster can also be on the AA roster as provided by American Legion Rules.
5. A child may play for a church other than the one they attend only if their church does not have a team for the age group they desire to play in. After participating in one (1) game the child may not then change to another team as long as they are in that age group, unless their church enters a team, in which case they must play for their home church. EXCEPTION: Should the CHURCH LEAGUE President feel circumstances warrant, the President may waive Article X Section (A) 4 and a player, as long as the Church the player attends does not have a team in the league in question, may change teams before play begins in the player's second season in the league. This change must be approved by both churches and both coaches and also approved by the commission.
6. A player may be transferred from one team to another by the roster committee upon receipt of a signed notice from a minister that the player has transferred their church affiliation to a member church.
7. It shall be the responsibility of the team manager to contact the league president or other duly authorized person for the official cancellation of games because of rain or other reasons.

8. It shall be the responsibility of the CHURCH LEAGUE Official on duty to post all re-scheduled game times on the official notice board within 12 hours of said cancellation giving a minimum of twelve hours notice of said game.
9. The commission will approve the baseball to be used in all leagues.
10. All participating personnel will gather before the game for prayer.
11. **Parents or friends of the game participants shall not interfere with the coaching or umpiring of the game and shall not enter the dugouts or the playing field except in the case of an emergency. There will be no photography on the field or from the dugout except by the official league photographer.** .
12. During tournament play each league president will insure that there has been a protest board appointed and that such board is present at the tournament site to take immediate action on all protests.
13. The commission president shall establish a protest board consisting of at least seven (7) members. At least three (3) such members will be selected by the president to rule on any individual protest from any league during the regular season play.
14. During the regular season play, a protest shall be considered only when it is based on the violation or interpretation of a playing rule or the use of an ineligible player. No protest will be considered on a decision involving an umpire's judgment. The protesting manager must immediately, and before any succeeding play begins, notify the head umpire that he is playing the game under protest. Following such notice the head umpire shall consult with his associates and if he is convinced that the decision is in conflict with the rules he shall announce that the game is being played under protest. The failure of the umpire to make such an announcement shall not affect the validity of the protest. Protests which are made due to the use of an ineligible player may be made at any time. Any protest for any reason whatsoever must be made, by the team manager, first to the head umpire on the field of play and then submitted in writing to the league president within twenty-four (24) hours with a ten dollar (\$10.00) protest fee; which will be returned upon successful resolution of the protest, otherwise the fee will go into the CHURCH LEAGUE general fund. The head umpire shall also submit a written report immediately. The protest board will hear and resolve any such protest involving the playing rules. The protest board will respond to the protest in writing within seventy-two (72) hours. If the protest is allowed the protested game will resume from the exact point where the infraction occurred. If a game is protested or suspended, the scorekeeper shall make note of the exact situation at the time of the protest or suspension, including the score, number of outs, position of the bas runners, and the ball and strike count on the current batter.
15. In all tournaments sponsored by the CHURCH LEAGUE all participating teams shall be composed of the same players, and only the same ones that made up the team of the regular season. There will be no all-star teams allowed. This rule will apply to all participating teams whether they are CHURCH LEAGUE teams or not, and the age limits of the CHURCH LEAGUE will apply to all participating teams. This does not apply to sanctioned USSSA, Super Series, and/or Babe Ruth tournament teams.
16. Profanity of any kind by players or coaches will not be tolerated. If a player or coach is heard using profanity he or she will be ejected from the game by the umpire. If the umpire desires, he or she can ask a CHURCH LEAGUE official to eject an offending coach. A CHURCH LEAGUE official shall be notified immediately if a coach is ejected from a game. If a coach is ejected for profanity two times in one season, including tournament games, he or she will not be allowed to coach in the FSCBL for the remainder of the season. An ejected player may remain the dugout but shall no longer be able to play in that game.
17. Any exceptions to these rules must be requested in writing and submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration. If the request for exception is in regards to which church a player is going to play for, the request must be accompanied by a letter of approval from each coach, commissioner, and Pastor of the churches involved. The Executive Committee will make a decision for approval or denial based on the best interests of the CHURCH LEAGUE program and not to be detrimental to any team.
18. Regular season schedule exceptions will be allowed when a conflict is anticipated with a church or school activity. These schedule exceptions must be submitted in writing to the league president for that team. The deadline for schedule exceptions is March 31 of the current year.
19. Players are encouraged to slide. When a defensive player clearly has possession of the baseball and is waiting for a base runner to advance to that base and the base runner deliberately, with force, crashes into the defensive player the runner is declared out and the base runner will be immediately ejected from the game and the ball is dead. All runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the collision.
20. At the conclusion of the regular season, all-star teams and coaches will be selected for the following leagues:
 1. All rules and policies pertaining to the selection and formation of Church League all-star teams will be

- standardized and uniform among all leagues.
2. All-star teams in all leagues may be comprised of no more than 15 players.
 3. Any league with fewer than ten teams will select one all-star team from each age group as defined in Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth rules.
 4. Any league with ten or more teams will select two all-star teams from each age group as defined in Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth rules. One team from each age group per division (e.g. American and National).
 5. The head coach of each all-star team will be determined by league (<10 teams) or division (10+) standings at the end of the regular season. Standings will be determined in the following order:
 - A. Overall record
 - B. Head to head
 - C. Run differential
 - D. Coin toss
 6. In leagues with less than ten teams:
 - A. The head coach of the first place team (overall league standings) will be given the option of coaching the all-star team of either of the two age groups in his respective league.
 - B. The head coach of the second place team (overall league standings) will be given the option of coaching the all-star team of the remaining age group.
 7. In leagues with ten or more teams:
 - A. The head coach of the first place team in each division (division standings) will be given the option of coaching the all-star team of either of the two age groups in his respective division.
 - B. The head coach of the second place team in each division (division standings) will be given the option of coaching the all-star team of the remaining age group in his respective division.
 8. All assistant all-star team coaches are at the sole discretion of the head coach and must be a coach on the official roster of a Church League team in that league / division.
20. At the conclusion of the regular season all-star players will be selected. Each team manager will submit to the league president a list of all-star nominees from their respective team only. There will be no restriction as to the number of nominees that each manager may submit.
1. Within one week of the end of the regular season, each league president will conduct a meeting for the purpose of voting on and selecting all-star teams. The time and place of the meeting will be determined by the league president.
 2. Each league president will compile a master list comprised of all players nominated for consideration. The list will be separated by division (if ten or more teams) and age (eg. 11, 12).
 3. In leagues with ten or more teams, the league president will conduct a separate meeting for each division.
 4. Only team managers may attend this meeting. In leagues with ten or more teams, team managers may only attend the selection meeting pertaining to their respective division.
 5. At the selection meeting, each coach will be provided with a voting form for each age group and a write-in ballot.
 6. After the master list has been compiled, each coach has the option of submitting a write-in ballot with up to three player(s) from each team in his respective league or division (10+ teams) whose name does not appear on the master list, but who he/she feels warrants consideration.
 7. Each team manager will be given time to “promote” and discuss the candidates that he/she nominated.
 8. After each manager has presented their nominees and discussion has concluded, each manager will submit their voting form(s). Each manager will vote a roster of ten (10) players in each age group. A player can only be voted on within their respective age group.
 9. After all voting forms have been submitted the league president will tally all votes and announce the ten (10) players in each age group with the highest number of votes.
 10. At the discretion of each all-star team head coach, he/she may add as many additional players as they would like as long as:
 - A. the total number of players on the roster does not exceed fifteen (15)
 - B. additional selections are made from nominees who are on the master list in that age group.
 - C. additional selections are made from that division if ten or more teams
 11. It is the responsibility of the all-star team manager to immediately contact all players on the all-star team roster to discuss practice times, tournament dates, playing time policies, player availability and willingness to participate.
21. If a player has played on an AAA/American or Major/National Division traveling team during the season, **the player may participate in FSCBL league tournaments**. An “A/Minor” division player may participate on an “AA/American” division team for weekend tournaments but cannot play for both teams on the same weekend.
22. For all age groups, if any coach, player, or spectator is noticed by an umpire or league official to be representing FSCL in an unbecoming manner that doesn’t reflect favorably on the organization, FSCL will notify the Pastor or Priest for that Church and let them know that there has been a problem and if it is not taken care of, the next

incident will result in a one game suspension for that coach, player, or spectator.

23. For all age groups through Midget, only one coach from each team can discuss and/or question a call during a game with an umpire or league official. For the Pony and Midget Leagues, there will be ZERO TOLERANCE for questioning umpires on balls and strikes.
24. There will be a \$50.00 fee for any team forfeiting a Saturday makeup game. Teams will not be allowed to play subsequent games until the fee is received by their league president or an FSCL executive committee member.

B. ROSTERS

1. The team manager of each participating church shall submit to each league president, at the time designated by the commission prior to the first scheduled league games, a roster certified by one of the commissioners of the sponsoring church, for each team entered containing the following information;
 - (a). The name, address, and telephone number of the team manager.
 - (b). The name, address, and telephone number of one team assistant.
 - (c). The name, address, telephone number, and date of birth of each player.
 - (d). An indication showing where the player attends church.
2. Additions to the team's roster will be permitted when a request is submitted in writing, by the commissioner or team manager to the roster committee at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the official starting time of the game in which the player is to play.
3. There will be a penalty for late rosters that will be a forfeiture of all games until the roster is submitted to the league president.
4. Each team's official roster must be submitted to FSCL at team declaration night. All player waivers must be submitted by March 20th to the appropriate league president. No player submitting a waiver will be eligible to play in any game for seven (7) days after the waiver is submitted.
5. Teams will be allowed to add only one (1) player to their previous year official roster who was on an AA/minor, AAA/American, or Major/National Division travel/select team roster the previous year. New team rosters will be reviewed by FSCL before approval to the league will be allowed.

C. GENERAL PLAYING RULES

1. The official baseball rules of the National Baseball Congress shall apply except where CHURCH LEAGUE rules, USSSA rules in the case of the Midget League, or the Babe Ruth International Rules specifically provide otherwise.
2. A team must be ready for play at game time, according to the head umpire's timepiece. If a team is not ready within five (5) minutes after game time the head umpire will declare the game forfeited by the offending team.
3. Between innings and half-innings teams will have two (2) minutes to take the field, except for Babe Ruth where they shall have ninety (90) seconds. During this time the pitcher will complete his warm-ups, after which the umpire will call "batter up".
4. The so called hidden ball rule will apply, (I.E. a player may not hide the ball from a base runner for the purpose of catching them unaware). It will be the responsibility of the umpires to judge on any specified incident whether the ball was hidden by intent.
5. The "home team" dugout will be located on the first base side of the playing field.
6. Coaches shall restrict their players to their dugout during those periods when they are not actively participating in the game or are not the next to bat, at which time they should be in the "on deck" circle ready to take their turn at bat.
7. All batters and base runners shall wear approved protective headgear.
8. Any player, after leaving the game, may re-enter the game one time only, provided that the re-entry is on defense and that they bat in their original batting position and the player who is in that batting position must leave the game.

9. The "Infield Fly Rule" shall not apply in the Pee-Wee, Super Pee-Wee, Pony, or Midget Leagues.
10. **There will be no extra innings in the Starter League to break tie games.** Tie games **in other leagues** will be played off provided the tie is broken in not more than three (3) innings with an additional fifteen (15) minutes for the Pee-Wee League, fifteen (15) minutes for the Super Pee-Wee League, thirty (30) minutes for the Pony League, and thirty (30) minutes for the Midget League, in excess of the regular game time. In the Pony and Midget leagues ONLY, the game will continue using the "international Tie-Breaker Rule". Under this rule, each team starts the inning with the player who completed the last official at bat, as a base runner on 2nd base. Each subsequent inning will start the same until a winner has been determined or the 30 additional minutes have expired. In ALL leagues, games which still end in a tie will count as one-half (1/2) game won and lost for each team.
11. All innings started will be completed.
12. No steel cleats will be allowed in any league unless otherwise provided by these bylaws.
13. Each team must start with eight (8) players or more and finish with eight (8) players or more, otherwise the game must be forfeited. In the event a team is playing with eight (8) players, the ninth (9th) slot in the batting order will be declared an out each time. If the ninth player shows up after the start of the game, he may be inserted in the ninth slot.
14. Tournament brackets will be set up one week prior to the finish of the season, based on the league standings at the end of that week. Exception: If the end of the regular season and the start of the post-season tournament are separated by three days or more, the tournament brackets will be set up based on the league standings at the end of the regular season.
15. All leagues (PeeWee, Super PeeWee, and Pony) will start on the same date. Jr. Pee Wee will not play any 7:40 PM games on Monday through Thursday and Pee Wee will not play any 8:45 PM games on Monday through Thursday until school is dismissed for summer vacation. **Starter League games will be 5:30pm or 6:40pm games only. There will be no pre or post season tournament in the starter league.**
16. A practice schedule will be set up on the Pee-Wee, Super Pee-Wee, Pony, and Midget fields for the months of April and May as long as there are no scheduled games. Schedules are to be set up at the April meeting by the respective league presidents.
17. There will be no Wednesday night games scheduled during tournament week.
18. In the event an injury occurs after all substitutes have been used, an "already used" player may re-enter the game. Selection of this player must be made by the opposing coach. This type of re-entry can only take place when an injury prevents a player from continuing in the game. The injured player, once removed, cannot re-enter the game.
19. Catchers in all leagues will wear a throat protector and full coverage helmets for the purpose of ear protection.
20. There will be no time limit in the semi-final and championship games of the post-season tournament in the PeeWee, Super PeeWee and Pony leagues. Scheduled innings, as set in CHURCH LEAGUE rules will be played. Run rule, as set in CHURCH LEAGUE rules, will be in effect.
21. It will be the responsibility of the umpires to make sure each team keeps all equipment inside the dugout at all times unless being used by a player (Example: Batter on Deck).

D. UMPIRES

1. The umpire committee shall be composed of three members. Each person selected to umpire will be required to attend an umpire training program consisting of two to three instruction courses taught by the umpire committee involving the general rules of baseball and the CHURCH LEAGUE rules and by-laws. The training would also be concerned with on-field techniques, style, hustle, and sportsmanship of the umpires.
2. A director of umpiring will be established to oversee the umpires. This shall be a paid position. The salary will be established by the Budget Committee. The director would be in charge of preparing the umpires' schedule that would be posted on Fridays in advance of games, to enforce the dress code and to maintain the umpire and equipment room.
3. The pay of umpires will be based on previous experience umpiring CHURCH LEAGUE games. The pay per game for Pee Wee and Super Pee Wee will be at the following rates: Under 24 years old 1st year - \$6.00, 2nd year - \$6.25, 3rd year - \$6.50 per game, 24 years old and older \$10.00 per game. For Pony and Midget games the pay will be at the following rates: Under 24 years old 1st year - \$11.00, 2nd year - \$11.50, 3rd year - \$12.00 per game, 24 years

old and older \$12.00 per game. If an umpire is late, he must forfeit one game's pay. If an umpire does not show, he is placed on probation. Also, the umpires will be responsible for their own substitutes. In order to help umpires arrange a substitution, each umpire will be given a list of all eligible umpires with their telephone number.

4. Each coach will meet with the umpires, at the home plate, at least five (5) minutes before game time. They will furnish the head umpire two (2) copies of their starting lineup. The head umpire will furnish the official scorekeeper one (1) copy of each of the lineups and the opposing coaches the other copy of his opposition's lineup.
5. When, in the opinion of the head umpire, a team is "stalling" the head umpire will warn the coach of the offending team once. If the "stalling" tactics continue after the warning, the head umpire will award the offended team the game by forfeit.
6. When a game is called due to a run-rule or a forfeit, teams can remain on the field with umpire services until fifteen (15) minutes prior to the next beginning time. Exception: If the shortened game is the last scheduled game, the teams may play until 15 minutes before the time limit.
7. The head umpire will provide each competing manager with two (2) official lineup cards at least ten (10) minutes prior to the game's starting time.
8. Umpires must be thirteen years of age and will be required to wear an official uniform to be approved by the executive committee.
9. Umpires must be at their assigned field by 5:15 PM each game night with necessary equipment (tee, pitching machine, balls, scorebook, scoreboard, umpire gear, etc.). For the first game the pitching machine/tee should be set up and adjusted along with the scoreboard being properly filled out no later than 5:25 PM. Prayer will commence at this time and the first game started promptly at 5:30 PM. Umpires are not allowed to leave the field they are assigned unless relieved by or are needing assistance from a FSCBL official.

E. SCOREKEEPERS

1. The official scorekeeper will be provided by the home team and will be at least eighteen (18) years old. The team manager will arrange for the scorekeeper prior to the start of the game and will notify the head umpire of his selection. The penalty for non-compliance will be the forfeiture of the game.
2. Upon the completion of the game, the official scorekeeper will sign and date and obtain the signatures of all game umpires on the official score book in the place so designated. The umpires replacing the scheduled umpire will sign their name and indicate for whom they are substituting.
3. The official scorekeeper is responsible for recording the starting time and the ending time of the game on the official score book. The scorekeeper will obtain these times from the game's head umpire. The official starting time will be given by the head umpire to the official scorekeeper after the teams meet for prayer.
4. A coach from each team shall check the official score book after the game's completion for accuracy. The coach should check to be sure that their team is properly identified, runs totaled, and that the game date and time is recorded. Upon each coach's approval, the coach will sign on his team's score page of the official score book.

F. AUTHORITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL LEAGUE PRESIDENTS

1. Each league president shall act as the official representative of the commission president and will have the authority to act on all matters pertaining to his league as directed by the commission.

G. STARTER, PEE-WEE & JR. PEE-WEE LEAGUE (TEE BALL)

1. **Players who are listed on AAA/Major or American/National division Competitive League rosters are not eligible to participate in post season play.**
2. An official tee must be used in all games.
3. The batter cannot swing the bat until the umpire designates by placing the ball on the tee, thereby preventing possible injury to the catcher and other players.
4. The catcher must stay behind the plate and wear a protective helmet. Shin guards and chest protector are optional. Use of a catcher is required. **Except the Starter League. Starter League teams choosing to play without a catcher may use 5 outfielders.**

5. One player on defense must occupy the pitcher's mound before the ball is put into play.
6. The batter must hold both hands together on the bat in swinging position.
7. If the batter knocks the ball to the infield grass inside the baselines, it is a fair ball, even though the batter may have hit the rubber on the pitching tee, unless the tee falls to the ground. If the tee falls to the ground, the umpire will call a strike. If this is the third strike the batter will be out. The strike/foul line will extend all the way to the fence. **In the Starter League only, the tee falling to the ground does not indicate a foul ball. If the tee falls to the ground and the ball lands in fair territory, it shall be considered a fair ball and play shall continue.**
8. If the batter misses the ball completely, a strike is called by the umpire.
9. A batter is automatically out on the third strike.
10. A batter must take a full hard swing at the ball or it will be counted as a strike. Any ball not traveling to the strike/foul line shall also be counted as a strike. If this is the third strike the batter will be out.
11. Runners shall stay on base until the ball is contacted by the batter and shall be called out for violations. He may not advance until a fair ball is hit.
12. On an overthrow to first and third bases (only), all runners may advance one base only, at their own risk. (Example: runner going to first is limited to second base unless additional overthrow on another runner at third base). Note: an overthrow is not to be confused with a catching error.
13. First or third base coaches must be an adult.
14. One half inning will consist of five (5) runs or three (3) outs. No more than five (5) runs per inning will be counted in the final total score. 14. Games shall consist of five (5) innings; however, the game shall be called when one team has an eleven (11) run lead after three (3) innings of play. The score at that point is the official game score.
15. The bases shall be fifty-five (55) feet apart.
16. It is mandatory that games be called after a completed inning when **fifty-five (55)** minutes has elapsed from the official starting time. If a Game is called before time, because of the score, the umpire will permit continued play for the remaining time. If the game is tied at the end of regulation time the winning team will be the team with the most defensive outs, including strikeouts. If this is a tie, then additional playing time as governed by Article X Section C paragraphs ten (10) and eleven (11) will be allowed. If after additional playing time, the score is still tied, the winning team will be the team with the most total defensive outs, including strikeouts.
17. The game stopped because of rain or other reason, except time, shall be considered officially a complete game if two and one-half (2-1/2) innings were completed and the home team was ahead. A game stopped prior to completion of two and one-half (2-1/2) innings shall be rescheduled and played from the beginning.
18. The umpire behind the plate is to remove the tee from home plate when a play is anticipated in that area. He may also adjust the height of the batting tee prior to the batter's first swing.
19. Players shall not wear shoes with metal cleats.
20. Either wood or aluminum bats may be used. Maximum length 32" and maximum barrel diameter of 2-1/4". A batter shall be called out for using or stepping into the batters box with an illegal bat.
21. No more than two coaches are allowed on the field while their defense is in the field, and they must be within arms length of the dugout. While on offense, two coaches are allowed on the field, one coaching first base and one coaching third base. Coaches are not allowed to position any player's in the batters box. The umpire will assist the player if necessary.
22. A thrown bat in the judgment of the umpire is considered an out. There will be no warning. It shall be declared a dead ball and no runners may advance.
23. The game's official batting order will contain all players. Unlimited defensive substitutions will be allowed. Any player arriving after the games starting time will enter the batting order at the bottom of the line-up and must notify the opposing coach, umpire, and scorekeeper.
24. Play is dead when a player enters the pitching circle with both feet and the game ball OR play is dead once the lead runner is stopped and the umpire has declared the ball dead and called time. At that time any player less than halfway to the next base must return to the base from which he came, unless forced. If the player is over half way to the next base he may advance to said base. The pitcher will be given a chance to make a play on any base

when fielding a batted ball within the circle. **In the Starter League only play may be declared dead at any time by the game officials.**

25. No defensive player except the pitcher and catcher shall be closer than 50 feet to home plate, until the ball is put into play.
26. The defensive team may use 10 players. The extra player must be in the grass outfield.
27. There will not be any infield practice taken prior to the start of a game.

H. SUPER PEE WEE & BAMBINO LEAGUE RULES

1. **Players who are listed on AAA/Major or American/National division Competitive League rosters are not eligible to participate in post season play.**
2. The bases shall be sixty (60) feet apart.
3. A pitching machine shall be used.
4. A batter will be allowed three (3) strikes or 5 pitches. However, the batter cannot foul out. After a fifth pitch foul, the batter may receive another pitch until the batter either strikes at the ball and misses or the ball is put into fair play. A batter must attempt to hit the ball on all additional pitches, unless the ball is called a "no pitch" by the umpire. A "watched" ball on an additional pitch will be considered a strike and the batter will be out.
5. There will be no walks allowed.
6. An adult representative of the batting team will feed the balls into the pitching machine. The adult representative will not be allowed the use of a fielding glove.
7. All infielders (1st, 2nd, SS and 3rd) must have both feet within the dirt baseline when the pitched ball crosses home plate. The pitcher must have both feet in the pitching circle and shall be beside or behind the pitching machine when the pitched ball crosses home plate.
8. A ball hit through the pitching machine, without contact, will be called a live ball. If the ball hits the pitching machine or the batting team's representative, without touching a fielder, it will be called a "Dead Ball", with the batter being awarded first base, and base runners advancing one base only if they are forced by another base runner. Any intention on the part of the batting team's representative to contact the ball, while still in play, will result in batter being called out.
9. The speed of the pitching machine will remain constant throughout each game of the season, including preseason and post-season tournaments.
 - Super Pee Wee Only - The dial will be set at 52% which is equivalent to about 33 mph.
 - Bambino Only - The dial will be set at 55% which is equivalent to about 37 mph.
10. Strikes and "no pitch" balls are judgment calls by the umpire. A "no pitch" being declared will not count as one of the batter's five pitches or a strike.
11. The batter must take a full hard swing at the ball or it will be called a strike.
12. The catcher must wear a safety mask, leg guards, chest protector, throat protector, etc.
13. A runner may not leave the base until the ball reaches home plate. A runner is automatically out for leaving the base early.
14. On an overthrow to first base (only), all runners may advance one (1) base only, at their own risk. Note: an overthrow is not to be confused with a catching error.
15. Play is dead when:

SUPER PEE WEE ONLY - Play is dead when a player enters the pitching circle with both feet and the game ball. At that time any player less than half way to the next base must return to the base from which he came unless forced. If the player is over half way to the next base he may advance to said base. The pitcher will be given a chance to make a play on any base when fielding a batted ball within the circle, OR Play is dead once the lead runner is stopped and the umpire has declared the ball dead and called for time (as in Pony League).

BAMBINO ONLY - Play is dead once the lead runner is stopped and the umpire has declared the ball dead and called for time (as in Pony League).

16. The game shall consist of five (5) innings; however, the game shall be officially over if and when one of the teams have an eleven (11) run lead after three (3) innings of play or a six (6) run lead after four (4) innings of play. The score at that point shall be the official score.
17. A half inning will consist of either three (3) outs or five (5) runs. No more than five runs per half inning will be counted.
18. It is mandatory that the game be called after a completed inning when **sixty-five (65)** minutes have elapsed from the official starting time. If the score of the game is a tie then additional playing time as governed in Article X Section C paragraphs ten (10) and eleven (11) will be allowed. If and when a game is called because of the score, the umpire will allow play to continue until the official time limit is reached.
19. Any game stopped because of rain or any other reason, except time, shall be considered an official game if three (3) innings of play were completed before the game was stopped, or if two and one-half (2 1/2) innings have been completed and the home team was ahead. If two and one-half (2 1/2) innings of play were not completed the game shall be rescheduled and played from the beginning.
20. Coaches are restricted to a distance of arms length from their dugout while their team is on the field. When their team is at bat there may be three (3) coaches on the field (one at first base, one at third base, and one at the pitching machine)
21. There shall be at least one (1) adult present for each team on the field, during the entire game.
22. Either wood or aluminum bats may be used. Maximum length 32" and maximum barrel diameter of 2-1/4". A batter shall be called out for using or stepping into the batters box with an illegal bat.
23. The pitching machine shall be set before each game as agreeable by both team coaches. The umpire shall have the authority to adjust the machine to make the machine throw strikes at any time during the game.
24. The game's official batting order will contain ALL players. Unlimited defensive substitutions will be allowed. Any player arriving after the games starting time will enter into the batting order at the bottom of the line-up and the coach must notify the opposing coach, umpire, and scorekeeper.
25. A thrown bat in the judgment of the umpire is considered an out. There will be no warning.
26. The defensive team may use 10 players with the extra player being in the outfield. There must be 4 players in the grass outfield prior to the pitched ball crossing home plate.

I. PONY LEAGUE RULES

1. **Players who are listed on AAA/Major or American/National division Competitive League rosters are not eligible to participate in post season play.**
2. The base path distance shall be sixty-five (65) feet.
3. There will be a pitcher's rubber at forty-four (44) and forty-six (46) feet from home plate in the American League ONLY. Ten year olds playing in the American League must pitch from forty-six (46) feet. Nine year olds in American League can pitch from the forty-four (44) foot rubber, if they choose. All pitchers regardless of age in the National League must pitch from forty-six (46) feet.
4. The batter shall be automatically out on the third strike.
5. A runner may not leave base until the ball reaches the batter.
6. A base runner is automatically out for leaving the base early (until the ball reaches the batter).
7. All runners may advance only one (1) base whenever the ball, on an overthrow to first or third base, leaves the playing field.
8. All runners may advance only one (1) base, at their own risk, if on an overthrow at home plate the ball becomes lodged in the backstop.

9. Runners may steal any base, except home, at their own risk after a pitched ball has reached the Plate. Runners may steal home on a throw to any base, or on a wild pitch that falls outside the chalked Home Plate circle in foul territory. On a pitch that falls outside the chalked Home Plate circle in foul territory, the runner cannot advance Home on the throw back to the pitcher if the runner has already conceded and been run back towards 3rd Base by a defensive player. If the runner on 3rd Base crosses Home Plate illegally, he shall be declared out.
10. A ball shall be called in place of a balk, on any incomplete throw or motion toward home plate, or if the pitcher obviously breaks contact with the pitching rubber.
11. Games shall consist of six (6) innings; however, the game shall be called if an when one of the teams has an eleven (11) run lead after four (4) complete innings of play or a six (6) run lead after five (5) complete innings of play. The score at that point shall be the official score of the game. There will be a five (5) run rule per half inning.
12. It is mandatory that the game be called after a completed inning when **one hour and forty (1:40)** minutes has elapsed from the official starting time. If the score of the game is a tie then additional playing time as governed in Article X Section C paragraphs ten (10) and eleven (11) will be allowed. If and when a game is called because of the score, the umpire will allow play to continue until the official time limit is reached.
13. Any game stopped because of rain or any other reason, except time, shall be considered an official game if four (4) innings of play were completed before the game was stopped or if three and one-half (3 1/2) innings have been completed and the home team was ahead. If three and one-half innings of play were not completed the game shall be rescheduled and played from the beginning.
14. Coaches are restricted to a distance of arms length from their dugout while their team is in the field. When their team is at bat there may be two (2) coaches on the field (one at first base and one at third base).
15. There shall be at least one (1) adult present, for each team on the field, during the entire game.
16. Either wood or aluminum bats may be used. Maximum length 32" and maximum barrel diameter of 2-1/4". A batter shall be called out for using or stepping into the batters box with an illegal bat.
17. Pony League strike zone will be from the shoulder to knee.
18.
 - a. No Pony National League pitcher is allowed to pitch over three (3) innings per game, exceptions being extra innings, then the pitcher of record at the end of regulation play is allowed one (1) extra inning for a total of four (4) innings. One pitch constitutes an inning. Violation of the innings pitched rule will be forfeiture of the game.
 - b. No Pony American League pitcher is allowed to pitch over two (2) innings per game, exceptions being extra innings, then any pitcher is allowed one (1) extra inning for a total of three (3) innings. One pitch constitutes an inning. Violation of the innings pitched rule will be forfeiture of the game.
19. If a team has 10 players ready to play at the start of a game, the extra hitter (EH) must be used and will be considered a defensive position, and players can be substituted into that position. If a team begins the game using the EH position, they must complete the game with an EH position unless the 10th player has been injured and no additional players can be used. Then the subject team can bat with the remaining 9 players without the penalty of taking an out for the tenth position. A coach has the option to bat all players on the official roster that are present. If a team begins the game batting all players they must complete the game batting all players. If the extra batter(s) have been injured, then the subject team can bat the remaining batter(s) without penalty of taking an out for the extra batter position(s) unless their team is under nine players then the team must take an out. It's not mandatory that both teams bat the same number of players. All pitching rules and defensive substitution rules stay in affect.

Example:
Team "A" has 12 players and Team "B" has 12 players,
Team "A" may bat 12 players while Team "B" may bat 10 players and sub the remaining players into the game.
20. After four balls, the batter will advance to 1st base. If the catcher throws the ball back to the pitcher, the batter/runner must stop at 1st base until the next pitch. However, if the catcher throws the ball in an attempt to stop another runner from advancing, the batter/runner may advance past 1st base at their own risk.
21. A batter may not fake bunt and then swing away. If a batter shows a bunt and then pulls the bat back and swings, the batter will be called out and all runners shall return to their previous base(s).
22. Runners can advance, at their own risk, from 1st base or 2nd base to 3rd base on any pitched ball once it has crossed the plate, but CANNOT advance from second base to home plate on the same play, unless the defense attempts a play on that or another base runner. If the runner scores illegally, they will be called out.

For example.... runners on 2nd and 3rd, wild pitch outside the circle.... runner from 3rd slides into home safely. While making the play on the runner at home, the pitcher misses the ball and it goes into the playing field. The runner that advanced from second base to third base is NOT allowed to continue home on that same play unless the defense attempts to make a play on that or another base runner.

J. MIDGET LEAGUE RULES

1. The CHURCH LEAGUE Midget League playing rules and infield size will conform to the **USSSA** Rules of Baseball except where FSCBL rules provide otherwise in Article I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X A-F and K.
2. The FSCBL infield dimensions will conform to **USSSA** Rules. The bases will be seventy (70) feet apart and the pitchers rubber shall be forty-eight (48) feet from home plate. If Cal Ripken baseball makes the change to 50' the pitching distance shall be 50' from home base
3. The Midget League President will develop the league schedule. The season will run from approximately the first week of May until the end of June to allow an adequate number of games and to allow participation in Babe Ruth Congress sponsored post-season tournaments.
4. Games shall consist of six (6) innings; however, the game shall be called if and when one of the teams has a fifteen (15) run lead after four (4) complete innings of play or an eight (8) run lead after five (5) complete innings of play. The score at that point shall be the official score of the game. There will be a seven (7) run rule per half inning.
5. It is mandatory that the game be called after a completed inning when **one hour and fifty (1:50)** minutes have elapsed from the official starting time. If the score of the game is a tie then additional playing time as governed in Article X Section C paragraphs ten (10) and eleven (11) will be allowed. If and when a game is called because of the score, the umpire will allow play to continue until the official time limit is reached.
6. Any game stopped because of rain or any other reason, except time, shall be considered an official game if four (4) innings of play were completed before the game was stopped or if three and one-half (3 1/2) innings have been completed and the home team is ahead.
7. Coaches are restricted to a distance of arms length from their dugout while their team is in the field. When their team is at bat there may be two (2) coaches on the field (one at first and one at third base).
8. There shall be at least one (1) adult present, for each team on the field, during the entire game.
9. No pitcher is allowed to pitch more than four (4) innings per game, the exception being extra innings then the pitcher of record at the end of regulation play is allowed one (1) extra inning for a total of five (5) innings. One (1) pitch constitutes an inning. Violation of the innings pitched rule will be forfeiture of game.
10. The composition of an individual team is not restricted to the number of twelve year olds allowed per team.
11. A balk shall be called on any incomplete throw or motion to first base, third base or home plate, or if the pitcher obviously breaks contact with the pitching rubber during the delivery of a pitch
12. The bat shall be no larger than 2 3/4" in barrel diameter and 32" in length. A batter shall be called out for using or stepping into the batters box with an illegal bat.
13. Team awards for season performance final standings will be awarded in accordance with the format developed for the other CHURCH LEAGUE'S to be presented during the award ceremony the final night of the other leagues' post season tournament.
14. No player shall be allowed to fake bunt and then pull back and swing away. The player shall be called out for attempting to do so; no warning will be given.
15. If a team has 10 players ready to play at the start of a game, the extra hitter (EH) must be used and will be considered a defensive position, and players can be substituted into that position. If a team begins the game using the EH position, they must complete the game with an EH position unless the 10th player has been injured and no additional players can be used. Then the subject team can bat with the remaining 9 players without the penalty of taking an out for the tenth position. A coach has the option to bat all players on the official roster that are present. If a team begins the game batting all players they must complete the game batting all players. If the extra batter(s) have been injured, then the subject team can bat the remaining batter(s) without penalty of taking an out for the extra batter position(s) unless their team is under nine players then the team must take an out. It's not mandatory that both teams bat the same number of players. All pitching rules and defensive substitution rules stay in affect.

K. PREP LEAGUE (JR. BABE RUTH) RULES

1. The current official rules of the National Baseball Congress shall apply except in the cases where the Babe Ruth International rules provide otherwise. The FSCL teams will also be governed by all applicable rules found in Articles I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, and X A-F of the FSCL baseball rules except those listed below.
2. Communication of information soliciting players for participation in the Prep League will be the responsibility of the League President. Publicity should be to a degree that all eligible participants would be notified. Publicity should include but not be limited to notification of all CHURCH LEAGUE Commissioners, allowing them to contact their players and respective churches, as well as placement of ads in the local newspaper. Information to be communicated includes time and place for the organizational registration meeting, sign-up procedures, try-out dates, etc.
3. The Prep League schedule will be developed by the League President. Besides intra-league play, games will be scheduled with other area teams (such as Fort Smith Boys' Club, Van Buren Boys' Club, Greenwood, Barling, etc.) to complete a full season schedule. Scheduling of umpires will also be the responsibility of the League President and will be limited to properly sanctioned umpires used by the Senior Babe Ruth Leagues. Scorekeepers will also be scheduled by the League President to assure consistency in recording game outcomes and avoid confusion at game time.
4. Team awards for season performance final standings will be awarded in accordance with the format developed for the other CHURCH LEAGUE'S to be presented during the award ceremony the final night of the other leagues' post-season tournament.
5. At the conclusion of the regular season, an all-star team will be selected in a format to be determined by the League President. The coach of the all-star team will be the head coach of the team with the best regular season League record. If two or more teams are tied for first place at the end of the regular season, the coach will be determined by selecting the team that had the better head-to-head record against other teams in the tie situation. If this still produces a tie, a playoff game will be scheduled by the League President.
6. A one hour and fifty minute (1:50) time limit will apply. If at the end of the last inning played the score is tied and the time limit has run out, the game shall be recorded as a tie. If at the end of seven innings, the score is tied and the time limit has not been reached, the game will continue under international tie-breaking rules until one team is ahead at the end of the inning or the time limit is reached. The international tie-breaking procedure places the last batter to complete his at-bat from the previous inning at 2nd base to start each half-inning. The game proceeds normally in all other aspects. The standard 1:50 game time still applies, no additional game time is added for breaking tie games. Tie games will be recorded as one-half a win and one-half a loss in the standings. Tie games will be considered as final and WILL NOT BE REPLAYED even if determining a single winner could influence the final standings.
7. RUN RULE – The game shall be called when one of the teams has a fifteen (15) run lead after 3 innings, a ten (10) run lead after four innings or an eight (8) run lead after five (five) innings. The score at that point will be the official score of the game. In the event of a run rule, if both teams want to continue play, the umpires must remain on the field for one hour and thirty minutes (1:30) minimum from the game start time.
8. Steel cleats may be worn.
9. A coach has the option to bat all players on the official roster that are present. If a team begins the game batting all players they must complete the game batting all players. If the extra batter(s) have been injured, then the subject team can bat the remaining batter(s) without penalty of taking an out for the extra batter position(s) unless their team is under nine players then the team must take an out. The opposing coach has the option to bat the standard nine or ten batters. It's not mandatory that both teams bat the same number of players. All pitching rules and defensive substitution rules stay in affect.

Example:

Team "A" has 12 players and Team "B" has 12 players,

Team "A" may bat 12 players while Team "B" may bat 10 players and sub the remaining players into the game.

L. BABE RUTH RULES

1. The current official rules of the National Baseball Congress shall apply except in cases where the Babe Ruth International rules provide otherwise.
2. A one hour and fifty minute (1:50) time limit will apply. Tie games will be handled in accordance with Babe Ruth International Rules.
3. At the conclusion of the regular season, an all-star team will be selected in a format to be determined by the League President. The coach of the all-star team will be the head coach of the team with the best regular season League record. If two or more teams are tied for first place at the end of the regular season, the coach will be determined by selecting the team that had the better head-to-head record against other teams in the tie situation. If this still produces a tie, a playoff game will be scheduled by the League President.
4. **RUN RULE** - The game shall be called if and when one of the teams has a fifteen (15) run lead after three (3) innings, ten (10) run lead after four (4) innings of play, or an eight (8) lead after five (5) innings of play. The score at that point shall be the official score of the game. In the event of a run rule, if both teams want to continue play, the umpires must remain on the field for one hour and thirty minutes (1:30) minimum from the game start time.
5. The Hank Feldman award shall be presented each year to a Babe Ruth player. Each coach will nominate 2 players for the award, with no more than 1 player from his own team. The nomination shall be based on Christian attitude, sportsmanship, contribution to the overall CHURCH LEAGUE program, and playing ability. The selection committee shall consist of the CHURCH LEAGUE President, the Babe Ruth President, Prep League President Auxiliary President, Director of Umpires, and the American Legion Executive Committee member.
6. The composition of an individual team is not restricted to number of fifteen-year-olds allowed per team.
7. Steel cleats may be worn.
8. A coach has the option to bat all players on the official roster that are present. If a team begins the game batting all players they must complete the game batting all players. If the extra batter(s) have been injured, then the subject team can bat the remaining batter(s) without penalty of taking an out for the extra batter position(s) unless their team is under nine players then the team must take an out. The opposing coach has the option to bat the standard nine or ten batters. It's not mandatory that both teams bat the same number of players. All pitching rules and defensive substitution rules stay in affect.

Example:

Team "A" has 12 players and Team "B" has 12 players,

Team "A" may bat 12 players while Team "B" may bat 10 players and sub the remaining players into the game.

M. AMERICAN LEGION & SENIOR BABE RUTH

1. The sponsor, manager, and coaches must be approved by the CHURCH LEAGUE commission before any practices begin for the year. The President of the CHURCH LEAGUE, President of the American Legion, and the sponsor will serve as liaison for the commissioners on the selection of the American Legion coaches.
2. The teams will be governed by articles VI B, VI C, VII, and X. This will include both home and away games.
3. Steel cleats may be worn.
4. The current rules of the International Baseball Congress shall apply except where Babe Ruth International or American Legion rules provide otherwise.
5. The Senior Babe Ruth program will be administered by the Prep League president. All money received from high school baseball fees will be allocated to Sr. Babe Ruth.
6. Each American Legion Team (AA), (AAA) shall have one voting member of this commission and a member on the Executive Committee. The American Legion President and Sponsor will be voting members of the commission. The Sponsor will be a member of the Executive Board.
7. Any player over 12 years old on more than one CHURCH LEAGUE roster shall be ineligible for play on any CHURCH LEAGUE teams excluding the Prep, Babe Ruth, and Senior Babe Ruth all star teams. Players can only play on the all star teams of the league in which they played during the year, unless approved by the Executive Committee by June 15. Players on the AAA roster can also be on the AA roster as provided by American Legion rules.
8. The cost of the Senior Babe Ruth program shall be borne by the players unless otherwise provided by this commission. The cost of the American Legion program will be borne by the sponsor unless otherwise provided by

this commission.

- 9.** The commission must approve any games where admission will be charged. No person will be denied admission because of his or her inability or refusal to pay an admission fee. No admission fee will be charged to any person under the age of 18 years. All admission fees will be deposited into the CHURCH LEAGUE bank account.
- 10.** All Senior Babe Ruth players will be released at the end of each year so they will be eligible to play American Legion ball the next year.

2011 Officers

President	Address	Zip	Home	Business	Email
Don Eveld	6401 Carthage St	72903	452-9850		doneveld@swbell.net
1st Vice-President					
Eddie Norman	3415 S. 29th Circle	72901	646-9602		Eddie.Norman@ryerson.com
2nd Vice-President					
Donald Schwartz	2510 So. M St.	72901	785-4196	459-3731	donschwartz@hotmail.com
Secretary					
Brent Lewis	3004 104th	72903	883-3779		Brent_lewis@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer					
Pat Mickle	6601 Woodland Circle	72916	648-2921	649-8484	pmickle@mwc-engr.com

League Presidents

Pee Wee					
Robert Burris	36 Vista Blvd.	72901	652-0096		refburris@cox.net
Super Pee Wee/Bambino					
Mark Nelson			459-3514	501-570-6888	Mnelson6262@gmail.com
Pony					
Jason Brasher	3209 S. 55 th	72903	484-1993	462-8525	jmckmb@att.net
Midget					
Bobby Aldridge	3004 Briar Cove		414-1013		Bobby.frontiereng@gmail.com
Prep & Babe Ruth					
Doug Faries	1219 Woodland Creek Circle		471-5240	883-1905	d.faries@lilly.com
(VP) Mark Haywood	3011 Michelle Dr. Van Buren	72956	652-7474	651-4615	mahaywood@cox.net
Sr. Babe Ruth					
Rodney Woods	8524 S. 17 th	72908	646-6228	629-1957	Rhwoods@cox.net

Other Officials**Director of Umpires****Tournament Director**

Wes Young 3610 Eastland Circle 72903 452-4983 474-5211 RWYoung001@aol.com

Field Maintenance

Doug Schwartz 4410 S. "R" Circle 883-7612 dougseast@cox.net

Concession Coordinator

Annie Peterson 883-0410 Gracie60@earthlink.com

Concession Stands & Rain

Out Info **783-7371**

Reynolds (New)

Concession **785-1149**

Commissioners						
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

Butterfield Assembly	(last team 2010)					
Doug Faries	1219 Woodland Creek Circle	72956	471-5240	883-1905	d.faries@lilly.com	
Mark Haywood				651-4615	mahaywood@cox.net	
Central Presbyterian Church	(last team 2009)					
Christ The King	(last team 2010)					
Doug Schwartz	4410 South R Circle	72903	782-4604		dougseast@cox-internet.com	
Donald Schwartz	2510 So. M St	72901		459-3731	donschwartz@hotmail.com	
Community Bible Church	(last team 2010)					
Matt Whitson	9201 Dallas	72903	452-9201	650-8698	matt@communitychurch.com	
Mark Nelson				501-570-6888	mnelson6262@gmail.com	
Eastside Baptist Church	(last team 2010)					
Brent Lewis	3209 Ramsgate Way	72908	649-8311	883-3779	brent_lewis@sbcglobal.net	
Jason Brasher	3209 S. 55 th	72903	484-1993	462-8525	jmckmb@att.net	
Greg Farris			650-4574			
First Baptist Church	(last team 2010)					
Rick Hensley	PO Box 609	72902	788-6165	769-0572	rhensley@fsfbc.org	
Michael Clark	2519 So. N	72901	785-3115	739-7435	k_mclark@cox.net	
Drake Smith	1022 S. 26 th	72901	782-3801		dsmith@newroadstelecom.com	
First Baptist of Greenwood	(last team 2010)					
Wes Sadler	909 Bonnie Bell Ln	72936	996-8816	806-8713	5sadlers@centurytel.net	
Darel Williamson II	4706 Hwy 10 W (Hackett)	72937	996-7597	651-2032	darel.williamson@red-man.com	
First Baptist of Lavaca	(last team 2005)					
First Presbyterian Church	(last team 2007)					
First United Methodist Church	(last team 2010)					
Stephen Coburn						
Goddard United Methodist Church	(last team 2007)					
Grace United Methodist	(last team 2010)					
Michael Taylor			459-4164			
Steve Forsgren			353-0504			

Grand Avenue Baptist Church (last team 2010)

Brett King

Michael Wesson

bkelectricinc@cox.net

mwesson@qualservcorp.com

Harvest Time Tabernacle (last team 2010)

Cy Walden

cwalden@arkoma.k12.ok.us

Immaculate Conception (last team 2010)

Trey Jackson

Philip Doss

Tom Caldarera

226-2855

739-8782

719-6617

tjackson@pruitttool.com

Philip.Doss@bxs.com

tcaldarera@cox.net

Lutheran Churches (last team 2007)

St. Boniface Catholic Church (last team 2010)

Mike Bishop

stringerbishop@hotmail.com

St. Paul United Methodist Church

(last team 2010)

Darrell Stovall

Brother Alexander

901 S. 25th

4112 S. 89th.

72901

72903

785-4022

434-4204

461-4101

462-8567

dstovall@sednaenergy.com

Brother.alexander@fbic.com

River Valley Community Church

(last team 2010)

Jimmy Thibodeaux

Scott Archer

479-420-9702

651-1483

Jthib12@cox.net

scott@ets-tab.com

**Fort Smith Church
Baseball League
Web Site**

www.fscl.org