



# Hamilton & District Baseball Association

## Discipline Policy

### **Introduction:**

This policy applies to all discipline issues related to the operation of the Hamilton & District Baseball Association Board of Directors, any HDBA Committees and the members of the Rep, Select and House League Divisions.

Discipline issues can arise as a result of the;

- i. actions of the members of the Board of Directors and/or those of HDBA Committees.
- ii. actions of the members of the Rep Division and Select Division and House League Division (i.e. actions of Affiliated Associations, Local Associations, Associate Members and Select member associations).
- iii. non-game related actions of individuals registered with Baseball Ontario (i.e. coaches, managers, players, and umpires).
- iv. actions of individuals during game situations (i.e. the umpires of the game will deal with on field situations. Further action may be taken by a Local Association, an Affiliated Association, a Select member association or Baseball Ontario depending on the type/severity of the on-field infraction).

The Bylaws and Policies & Procedures specify the approach to discipline taken with respect to the above categories of infractions. The following provides an overview of the discipline processes of the HDBA. The HDBA Bylaws and Policies & Procedures would need to be consulted for the complete list.

### **1. Actions of the BOD and Committees**

#### **Detrimental Conduct of the Board of Directors**

f) Any member of the HDBA Board of Directors may be removed from office for conduct detrimental to the HDBA at a meeting of the HDBA Board of Directors upon a resolution approved by 3/4 of the votes cast in respect of such resolution. Notice must be given at least 7 calendar days prior to the meeting to all members of the HDBA Board of Directors of the intention to bring such a resolution before the meeting.

### **2. Actions of the Affiliated Associations and Local Associations**

#### **Detrimental Conduct of Affiliated Associations**

b) Any Affiliated Association and/or officers of same, which fails to uphold the rulings and enforce the decisions of the HDBA will leave said Affiliated Association and/or officers open to suspension by the HDBA.

### **3. Actions of the Members**

### **Detrimental Conduct of the Members - Discipline**

1. Any member of the HDBA violating the HDBA By-Laws and/or Policies & Procedures, as applicable, or refusing to abide by the decisions of the HDBA Board of Directors or its committee(s) may be expelled or suspended.
2. Any Associate Member violating the HDBA By-Laws and Policies & Procedures may be expelled or suspended.

### **Detrimental Conduct of the Members - Discipline**

- a) Teams, officers or players may be suspended by the HDBA Board of Directors or Discipline Committee for knowingly:
  - i) Permitting betting or improper conduct by players or officers at HDBA games.
  - ii) Offering, agreeing, conspiring or attempting to lose any HDBA game or being interested in any pool or wager thereon.
  - iii) Playing with a team, Local Association or Affiliated Association that has been suspended or expelled.
  - iv) Having on its list of signed players any disqualified players.
  - v) Permitting officers to conduct business of Local Associations or Affiliated Associations against the best interests of baseball.
  - vi) Violating the HDBA Code of Conduct.
- b) Any team or player which shall play under an assumed name shall be suspended from the HDBA and any coach or manager knowingly permitting a player to play under an assumed name shall be suspended from the HDBA, subject to appeal.
- c) Any player found guilty of playing over the age limit permitted in the series in which he/she is participating shall automatically be suspended along with the manager of the team.
- d) Any team found guilty of playing a player over the age limit permitted in the series in which he/she is participating, shall automatically be suspended along with the manager of the team.
- e) Any manager or coach using an ineligible player in a Rep, Select or House League Tournament or a Rep, Select or House League Play-Offs shall be automatically suspended indefinitely. Any further penalty shall be decided by the HDBA Discipline Committee, as applicable.
- f) Any player, coach or manager making physical contact with an umpire will be immediately suspended indefinitely, subject to appeal.
- g) Suspensions issued by the Rep, Select or House League Division that are communicated to another Division, will be automatically accepted by that Division.

### **Special Playing Rules – Discipline**

- a) The following Progressive Penalties shall apply at all levels of baseball on minor offenses/infractions by a coach or manager:
  - i. On a first minor violation, the coach or manager shall receive a warning from the umpire.

- ii. If the coach/manager continues after being warned, or on any second minor violation in that game, the umpire shall order the coach/manager be restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the game.
  - iii. On any subsequent minor violation in that game, or refusal to remain in the dugout after restriction, the umpire shall eject the coach/manager from the game.
  - iv. The umpire in his/her sole discretion may elect to eject any coach, manager or player from the game without warning or progressive penalties.
- b) Any player, coach or manager ejected by an umpire from any game is suspended for 1 game, and this is to be the next scheduled game. The player, coach or manager may be subject to further suspension depending on the severity of the circumstances leading to the ejection at the discretion of the tournament host's Protest Committee and/or HDBA Discipline Committee.
  - c) The umpires, who umpire a game where an ejection occurs, shall file an ejection report within 12 hours. Failure to submit an ejection report shall result in the suspension of the umpire(s) until the report is filed.

#### **Playing Rules –Coaches & Managers**

- d) Managers and coaches will be responsible for the conduct of their players both on and off the field until departure from the park. An infraction may result in a suspension for the next scheduled game in that Rep Play-off or to further suspension depending on the severity of the circumstances of the incident at the discretion of the discipline committee.
- e) All coaches and managers come under the jurisdiction of the umpires during games and are subject to penalties. The umpires shall see that the rules governing coaches and managers in all games are strictly enforced.

#### **Ejections**

- f) Ejections: Each manager and head coach is responsible for the behaviour of all players, coaches, and spectators with their team. Should all present, roster listed coaches be ejected, the game will be forfeited
- g) In the event a player or coach is ejected from a game, the individual must leave the diamond and no longer be involved in that game. The player, coach, or manager ejected from the game is suspended for the next scheduled game.
- h) The HDBA Discipline Chair will review all ejections for possible additional suspensions. These additional suspensions will be advised of any additional suspensions prior to the completion of the team's next scheduled game. However, it is the responsibility of the head coach to find out about the possible increased suspensions of any suspended coaches or players.
- i) The umpire of the game where an ejection occurs, shall report verbally to the convenor immediately after the game ends (or is suspended) and files an ejection report with the HDBA.