

MALTBY PONY BASEBALL BY-LAWS  
January 10, 2011

ARTICLE I:	NAME, AFFILIATION, AND OBJECTIVE	Page 02
ARTICLE II:	GOVERNMENT	Page 02
ARTICLE III:	DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	Page 03
ARTICLE IV:	MEMBERSHIP	Page 04
ARTICLE V:	PLAYER MEMBER REGISTRATION	Page 04
ARTICLE VI:	BOARD MEETINGS	Page 05
ARTICLE VII:	COMMITTEES	Page 05
ARTICLE VIII:	TEAMS, COACHES, UMPIRES, PARENTS	Page 05
ARTICLE IX:	LEAGUE RULES (ALL DIVISIONS)	Page 06
ARTICLE X:	SHETLAND, PINTO, MUSTANG, BRONCO DIVISION RULES	Page 07
ARTICLE XI:	PONY, COLT, AND PALOMINO DIVISION RULES	Page 08
ARTICLE XII:	PROTESTS, PENALTIES, AND MISCELLANEOUS	Page 10
ARTICLE XIII:	EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS	Page 11
ARTICLE XIV:	INSURANCE	Page 11
ARTICLE XV:	ALL-STAR AND TOURNAMENT PLAY; LOWER DIVISIONS (Shetland, Pinto, Mustang, and Bronco Divisions)	Page 11
ARTICLE XVI:	ALL-STAR AND TOURNAMENT PLAY; UPPER DIVISIONS (Cascade, Olympic, Colt, and Palomino)	Page 12
ARTICLE XVI:	DRAFTING RULES; PINTO, MUSTANG, AND BRONCO	Page 13
ARTICLE XVII:	FINANCIAL POLICY	Page 14
ARTICLE XVIII:	CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE BY-LAWS	Page 14

**ARTICLE I: NAME, AFFILIATION, AND OBJECTIVE**

**SECTION 1: NAME AND AFFILIATION**

The organization shall be called Maltby Pony Baseball, herein referred to as MPB, and is an affiliate of PONY BASEBALL U.S.A. For purposes of this document, the terms MPB, league, and organization are interchangeable.

**SECTION 2: OBJECTIVE**

PONY BASEBALL seeks to instill in its participants the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, discipline, and respect for authority, and that our youth will grow to be citizens whose adult lives will reflect those same values. These objectives will be reached by providing the highest quality of coaching and competitive games. The coaches shall bear in mind at all times that the attainment of exceptional athletic skill or the winning of games is secondary to the players' well being. It is the philosophy of MPB to have its coaches teach all player all the aspects of the game of baseball.

**ARTICLE II: GOVERNMENT**

The government of MPB shall be under the direct supervision of the following Board Member positions:

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:**

1. President
2. Vice-president
3. Treasurer
4. Secretary
5. Coach/Player Agent
6. Director of Umpires
7. Equipment/Uniform Director
8. Fund Raising Director
9. Shetland Division Director
10. Pinto Division Director
11. Mustang Division Director
12. Bronco Division Director
13. Pony/Colt/Palomino Division Director

In case of a vacancy in any of the officer or director positions, the President may appoint someone to fill the vacancy until the next scheduled election of board members. Nominations for board positions will be presented at the September board meeting and voted on at the October board meeting. Board positions are for a 1 year term.

Any decision by a Director, which affects the League in any way; (i.e. schedules, inter-league play, etc.), shall be subject to review and approval by the President.

All coaches, umpires, and board members will provide a photocopy of their Washington State Driver's License and be required to pass the 1st level background and nationwide sex offender check performed by a reputable investigations company. Additionally, board members who have signatory responsibilities on the League bank accounts will be required to pass a credit check. The President and Player/Coach Agent will be responsible for administering this process.

## **ARTICLE III: DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **SECTION 1: PRESIDENT**

Preside at all board meetings. Act as chief administrative officer and head of this organization. Vote only in case of a tie vote. Appoint committee chairpersons as needed. Send in papers and registration money to the National PONY Organization. Obtain appropriate accident and liability insurance before any player practices or plays. Have authority to call special meetings at his/her discretion. Process all background checks.

### **SECTION 2: VICE-PRESIDENT**

Assume duties of the President in his/her absence. Perform such duties as may be assigned by the President. Assist the President in the performance of his/her duties. Administer post-season or special tournaments with the assistance of the Division Directors. Solicit and obtain teams for the MPB hosted Tournaments. Solicit and obtain volunteers necessary to host quality tournaments. Represent MPB as necessary at monthly East County Park Board meetings. Work with the Park Board and the Monroe and Snohomish School Districts on scheduling requirements for practices, games, and tournaments, and also for any field improvement requirements or recommendations.

### **SECTION 3: TREASURER**

Keep records of all organizational finances, receipts, and expenditures. Ensure that a board-approved check request form is completed before issuing any expense checks. Support the Director of Fundraising in planning and coordinating fundraising activities. Keep record of all sponsors and their payments. Maintain current membership registration lists. Provide the Coach/Player Agent with a current master list at beginning of the season and as up-dated. Provide Division Directors with their respective division lists and up-dates. Responsible for ensuring that tax forms are prepared as necessary for the operation of the league and to maintain status as a tax exempt organization. Submit a monthly income and expense report at all monthly board meetings, and an annual income and expense report at the annual board meeting.

### **SECTION 4: SECRETARY**

Record minutes of all regularly scheduled board meetings. Notify officers and directors of all regular and special board meetings. Keep a file on all grievances and protests. Maintain a file of the organizational corporate records including by-laws and meeting minutes. Lead public relation activities including maintaining a league web site and publishing a periodic newsletter.

### **SECTION 5: COACH/PLAYER AGENT**

Oversee the league registration process. Maintain an ongoing file of player birth certificates. Keep a log of scholarship recipients by year. Provide player eligibility information to the Division Directors from current registrations. Preside over the draft of players. Address infractions of PONY Baseball rules and/or by-laws related to player welfare within 48 hours of notification. Mediate any request for an extreme hardship trade in conjunction with the Division Director and the affected coaches. Oversee the Coach Selection Committee; comprised of the President, Coach/Player Agent and each Division Director. Schedule and conduct mandatory coaches meetings.

### **SECTION 6: DIRECTOR OF UMPIRES**

Organize and conduct umpire clinics. Publish a list of qualified umpires. Ensure that all umpires have necessary tax information on file prior to scheduling them for any games. Distribute copies of game schedules to all umpires. With the exception of the Shetland and Pinto Divisions, schedule umpires for all regularly

scheduled league games. Schedule umpires for all make-up as requested by Division Directors. Act as liaison with the Division Directors to resolve any potential coach, umpire, or game conflicts. Provide a record of umpire services to the treasurer.

#### **SECTION 7: DIRECTOR OF EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS**

Be responsible for purchasing, storing, and issuing of all equipment and uniforms for the league including bats, balls, helmets, catcher gear, equipment bags, first aid equipment, hats, socks, and jerseys. Ensure all issued equipment and uniforms are signed for by each head coach and/or their designated representative. Ensure all issued equipment and uniforms are accounted for when returned to the league. Prioritize and handle requests for additional equipment and uniform needs. Maintain a supply of MPB left sleeve patches for team-supplied uniforms. Notify Division Directors of any conflicts with coaches in regard to equipment and/or uniforms. Maintain a current inventory of all league equipment and uniforms. Inspect all returned equipment and uniforms and purge as necessary. Submit an equipment and uniform budget proposal at the annual board meeting outlining items to be replaced.

#### **SECTION 8: DIRECTOR OF FUNDRAISING**

Assume primary responsibility for all fund raising activity approved by MPB Board of Directors.

#### **SECTION 9: DIVISION DIRECTORS**

Assist in the registration process. Sit on the Coach Selection Committee. Hold a meeting with the division coaches to review league rules and by-laws prior to the start of league play. Inform coaches of rule changes. Administer and enforce the rules of the division over which they preside. Discuss safety policies with division coaches. Prior to the beginning of league play, determine the manner by which the division championship will be decided. Create the game schedule for their respective division, and distribute copies to all officers and coaches three weeks prior to the start of league play. Provide weekly scores, standing, and news items to the Coach/Player Agent upon request. Approve make-up of games suspended or rained out. Review protests and ensure a timely resolution. Schedule dates and field times.

### **ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP**

Regular members of MPB shall consist of the aforementioned Board Members, coaches, umpires, and parents or legal guardians of player members.

Player members are any members meeting the age requirements as set forth by PONY Baseball, and who has also met the appropriate registration requirements.

### **ARTICLE V: PLAYER MEMBER REGISTRATION**

#### **SECTION 1: DATE**

The governing Board of MPB will establish the date, time, and location for player registration(s) each season. The Coach/Player Agent, in conjunction with the respective Division Director, will coordinate the placement of players in regard to a returning team, eligibility for draft consideration, or to a waiting list based on available roster space and/or needs of the league.

## SECTION 2: REGISTRATION FEES

Registration fees will be based on the division of play, and set by the governing Board of MPB each season. Registration fees pay for field rental, field prep and maintenance, lights, umpires, player accident insurance, and with the exception of the Olympic Pony level, and the Colt and Palomino Divisions, pay for uniforms and equipment. In case of need, the Board can override the player fee. No player will be refused because of lack of funds. Board Members receive a reduced registration fee for each of their children registered.

## ARTICLE VI: BOARD MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the MPB Board will be held each month. Dates, times, and locations will be posted on the league website and are open to the regular membership. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the President. A quorum consists of at least 51% of the Board Members and include the President and/or Vice President. Only Board Members may vote at any meeting, except during the nomination or election of Board Members, during which any regular member of MPB may vote. Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings, except where those rules conflict with these by-laws.

## ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

The President may establish any special committee as deemed necessary by the MPB Board.

## ARTICLE VIII: TEAMS, COACHES, UMPIRES, PARENTS

### SECTION 1: LEAGUE AGES

- |             |                          |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Shetland | 6 years of age and under |
| 2. Pinto    | 7 and 8 years olds       |
| 3. Mustang  | 9 and 10 year olds       |
| 4. Bronco   | 11 and 12 year olds      |
| 5. Pony     | 13 and 14 year olds      |
| 6. Colt     | 15 and 16 year olds      |
| 7. Palomino | 17 and 18 year olds      |

League age is determined by the player's age prior to May 01st. MPB conforms to the age requirements set forth in the Official PONY Baseball rulebook, inclusive of the "and under" language allowing players to play up one age bracket.

### SECTION 2: MANAGER AND COACH DUTIES

Managers and coach duties are described in the Official PONY Baseball rulebook and in the Official Rules of Major League Baseball. For purposes of the MPB by-laws, the term Manager shall be interchangeable with the term Head Coach. In addition, MPB professes that the following statements are true and should be used to guide its managers, coaches, and Board members in the execution of their assigned duties:

1. Players in these age groups are very impressionable and the influence of a manager or a coach should be a strong and positive force in their development.
2. Coaches' attitudes will be reflected by the majority of their players, so it is important that the coaches lead by example and instruct their players that the relationship with umpires, managers, other coaches, other players, and parents, is of a friendly and respectful nature.

3. It is against the rules and spirit of PONY Baseball for players or coaches to use foul or abusive language, or to exhibit offense behavior, including razzing, towards other players, coaches, or umpires. Players should not be permitted to criticize other players, but taught to encourage them instead. Any player or coach failing to comply with these guidelines may be subject to disciplinary action.
4. The dedicated coach and leader explores avenues of improved self-performance through continuing education and applied critical analysis.
5. The privilege of helping to build better citizens through baseball can bring rewards far greater than any of the inconveniences encountered while fulfilling this important work.

Other Manager duties and responsibilities include:

1. Provide names and dates of birth for all their assistant coaches and parent volunteers that are assisting on the fields or in the dugouts.
2. Have valid and signed medical forms for each player on hand at all practices and games; (provided by the Player/Coach Agent or Division Director).
3. Have the plate umpire sign the home team scorebook after the completion of each game.
4. Attend their respective Division Director meetings and the mandatory coaches meeting as put on by the Player/Coach agent. If a manager is unable to attend any meeting, an assistant coach of that team shall attend in their place. All coaches from any team not represented at any mandatory meeting will be ineligible to coach on that division's All Star team.
5. Submit lineups to the opposing coach prior to the beginning of each game.
6. Strictly enforce the rules prohibiting the use of tobacco, alcohol, or any controlled substance in the dugouts, stands, or on the field. They are is expressly prohibited at all times

### SECTION 3: UMPIRE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Umpire duties and responsibilities are described in the Official Pony Baseball rulebook, and the Official Rules of Major League Baseball. Other duties and responsibilities include:

1. All umpires must attend the umpire clinic to be designated as a legal umpire. This requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Director of Umpires.
2. The plate umpire may suspend the game at any time when it is the best interest of PONY Baseball and/or the players, such as in the case of darkness or extreme weather.
3. Plate umpire should sign the home team scorebook after the completion of each game.
4. The umpire is required to record in the official scorebook the exact point in time which a game was protested. Example, base runner on 3rd, batter #5 up with a count of 2 balls and 2 strikes.
5. The umpire must report any protested game to the Director of Umpires within 24 hours, regardless of the outcome of the game. The Director of Umpires will notify the Division Director for resolution.
6. The umpire must warn the coaches and/or players of both teams before each game regarding the bat-throwing rule. (Usually at the pre-game coach conference, not to the players in the dugouts).

### ARTICLE IX: LEAGUE RULES (ALL DIVISIONS)

The rules for all divisions shall be as published in the Official PONY rulebook, and the Official Rules of Major League Baseball rulebook, with the following exceptions, (including Division Rules):

1. The home team will occupy the 1st base dugout and the visiting team will occupy the 3rd base dugout.
2. No player shall throw the bat in a way that might possibly harm another player (This includes the catcher, umpire on deck batter, pitcher and fielders). PENALTY: The umpire shall issue a warning to the offending player and Manager of the team. If a player commits a second offense in the same game the player is no longer allowed to bat for the rest of the game. Any results from their at bat will stand, including advancing through the bases until he scores, is put out, or the inning ends. There is no

further penalty to the team or to the player who committed the offense. The player is allowed to continue playing defense, and his position in the batting order is skipped without penalty of an automatic out.

3. A player may be pulled from a game prior to completing their minimum innings of play for disciplinary reasons. The umpire and the opposing head coach must be notified at the time such disciplinary action is taken.
4. All runners must slide or avoid contact, or the penalty is an automatic out for the runner. If there is any intentional malicious contact by the runner, in the judgment of the umpire, in addition to being called out, the guilty player may be ejected from the game. Likewise if there is intentional malicious contact by a defensive player, they too may be ejected.
5. The umpire crew may extend the official start time of a game for a period not to exceed 15 minutes, at which time the umpire may declare the game a forfeit for the team causing the delay.
6. All disciplinary action shall be reported to the Division Director and the Coach/Player Agent.
7. Only one offensive time out per inning per team will be allowed.
8. Games played outside of the MPB league must be pre-approved by the Division Director.
9. Any team coach who withdraws a team from the field under any circumstances prior to the official completion of the game, shall be subject to forfeiture of the game. Said forfeiture is decided through the protest procedure.
10. A person will only officially coach or assist on one team, (for purposes of drafting rules).
11. The head coaches of both teams are responsible for restoring the areas around home plate, the pitcher's mound, infield, infield bases, and dugouts prior to and at the completion of each game.
12. Winning coaches must call in the score within 24 hours of completion of each game to the Division Director, or his/her designee.
13. Home team coach must notify Division Director and the Director of Umpires of a rainout or cancellation of a game within 24 hours.
14. If for any reason a substitute umpire must be used to complete a scheduled game, the participating Head Coaches will agree upon a substitute umpire.

## **ARTICLE X: SHETLAND, PINTO, MUSTANG, AND BRONCO DIVISION RULES**

### **SHETLAND**

The following rules modify the league rules of Article IX for the Shetland Division:

1. A batting tee may be used for all players. If a batter is unable to put the ball in play after three coach pitches, a batting tee must be used. There are no strike outs or walks.
2. The pitching coach may stand or kneel anywhere most comfortable for the batter.
3. Games shall consist of four innings. No inning may start after one hour after game start time.
4. No player shall sit out on defense more than one inning per game.
5. 10 defensive players in the field; (4 outfielders as with Pinto).
6. When the pitcher fields a batted ball, they must make an attempt to throw the ball to another fielder covering a base. They are not allowed to "run down" and tag a base runner.
7. 50' bases.
8. There will be no tryouts for the Shetland Division. Players will be drafted as fair as possible with an equal amount of 5 and 6 year olds and boys and girls.
9. Score may be kept for the games, but no official standings will be kept. This is an instructional division designed to be fun for the kids and prepare them for the higher divisions.

## PINTO AND MUSTANG

The following rules modify the league rules of Article IX for the Pinto and Mustang Divisions:

1. Teams to be determined as per the drafting rules stated in Article XV.
2. Feet first sliding only with the exception of returning to a base.
3. Steel cleats are not allowed.
4. Teams with 12 or more players present at a game, must play each player at least 2 innings, 3 innings are recommended. Teams with 11 or less players present at a game, must play each player a minimum of 3 innings except for disciplinary reasons.
5. The Mustang Division Director and coaches will determine leading off and base-stealing rules prior to the beginning of each season.

## BRONCO

The following rules modify the league rules of Article IX for the Bronco Division:

1. Teams to be determined as per the drafting rules stated in Article XV.
2. Head first sliding is not allowed except when returning to a base.
3. Steel cleats are not allowed during regular season play. Steel cleats may be worn during sanctioned All Star play unless otherwise prohibited.
4. Teams with 12 or more players present at a game must play each player at least 2 innings, 3 innings are recommended. Teams with 11 or less players present at a game, must play each player a minimum of 3 innings except for disciplinary reasons.

## **ARTICLE XI: PONY, COLT, AND PALOMINO DIVISION RULES**

### PONY DIVISION

The Pony Division shall be divided into two levels; Olympic and Cascade. The following rules modify the league rules of Article IX for the Pony Division:

#### OLYMPIC LEVEL

The Olympic level is structured to compete with "select" teams at a more competitive or higher level of play. Teams should be compiled of qualified players and coaches capable of competing at this level. Any returning Pony coach and/or assistant coach, or any Bronco coach and/or assistant coach moving up, regardless if from MPB or another league, is eligible for Olympic consideration, provided they have a minimum of 8 protected players. There is no provision prohibiting a coach from submitting an entire team for consideration. Teams at the Olympic level can be 13-U or 14-U. Rosters should be submitted to the Division Director by September 01st. Teams unable to meet the 8 player minimum may have to reapply as a Cascade Team, or disband to allow those players a chance to tryout and potentially be drafted to another Olympic team. Exceptions can be made if there are a sufficient number of qualified players trying out for the Olympic level. Such exception may require a vote by MPB Board. Provided there is a need, Olympic tryouts should be conducted in late September or early October. Players trying out will be required to register and post a refundable \$100 deposit. Olympic coaches likewise will need to submit registrations and a \$100 deposit for each protected player at that time. In the event there are no identified Olympic teams, and/or Olympic teams in need of additional players, the Division Director can still elect to hold tryouts for the purposes of determining if there is a sufficient number of players present to qualify for this level of play. Creation of such an expansion team would then be dependent on recruiting a coach. If an Olympic draft is warranted, it will take place within 5 days of the tryout. The draft will be two part; first the 14 year olds followed by the 13 year olds. Coaches/teams drafting 14 year olds will draw numbers from a hat to dictate draft order. Order will be 1-2-3, then reverse itself 3-2-1 until either all the draftees are selected or coaches pass on the remaining draftees. Likewise coaches/teams drafting 13 year olds will draw numbers from a hat to indicate draft order, then proceed 1-2-3, then reverse

itself 3-2-1 until all the draftees are selected or coaches choose to pass. The draft process will conclude once all the draftees are selected or each coach/team has a minimum of 10 players. While 12 players is the preferred minimum, it is recognized that there may be an insufficient number of qualified draftees to attain that number. All trades must be completed within 48 hours of the draft and submitted to the Division Director for approval. At that time, the draft shall be finalized and the Division Director will notify all participants of the outcome. Those drafted will receive their respective coach information and those that did not get drafted will be added to the Cascade tryout list. Players not opting for the Cascade level will be granted a refund upon request. Additionally, those players that tried out for an Olympic team but did not get drafted, will be placed on an eligibility list and their information will be made available to the Olympic coaches wishing to take a second look at one or more of those players. Player registration fees are to be determined before tryouts by the MPB Board. Non-protected players need to submit a registration form and \$100 deposit prior to being eligible for draft considerations. Coaches will need to have pre-registered and pre-paid their protected player's \$100 deposits to be eligible for Olympic consideration. No player can participate in any team practice until having registered and paid their deposit. Any player that chooses to move to a different team from the previous year can do so as a protected player of another team, or by re-entering the draft process. This includes moving to a Cascade team. Any player that is drafted and then chooses to quit that team, cannot become a free agent and be picked up by another team. The sanction for that player is to enter the Cascade draft. Any team that loses a protected player before the season starts, can replace that player from the players remaining from the tryouts. This must be accomplished before the Cascade level has their draft tryout. Although there is no guaranteed playing time at this level, the league's objectives as stated in ARTICLE I, SECTION 2, take priority, including the practice of batting the roster in regular season play.

#### CASCADE LEVEL

The Cascade level is similar to the Olympic level but less competitive and has a shorter game season. It is typically comprised of those players not selected or not interested in the Olympic level. As with the Olympic level, any returning Pony coach and/or assistant coach, or any Bronco coach and/or assistant coach moving up, regardless if from MPB or another league, is eligible for Cascade consideration. Coaches forming a team prior to the Cascade tryouts, must have a minimum of 6 protected players. There is no provision prohibiting a coach from submitting an entire team for consideration. All teams at the Cascade level compete as 14-U; there is no special consideration for a 13-U team. Rosters need to be submitted to the Division Director by December 01st. As there are no cuts at the Cascade level, the Division Director will closely monitor the number of protected players enrolled, plus the number of players that tried out but did not get drafted at the Olympic level, and then determine how many roster positions remain available. Late registrations will be placed on a waiting list pending enough new players to form another team. The Cascade level will likewise conduct tryouts in early February, provided there is a need, and the draft will follow within 5 days. The draft will follow the same protocol as in the Olympic level with the exception that all eligible players will be drafted. Teams cannot leave the draft until their rosters are full; a minimum of 12 players, unless there are an insufficient number of draftees. Any returning player that chooses to re-enter the draft must be selected, but not the same team the player is leaving. If a team loses a player after the draft, they must choose a player from the waiting list held by the Division Director. Each player must play a minimum of 2 innings and bat once, except for disciplinary reasons. The disciplinary action must be reported to the opposing manager and the umpire at the time of said action. If a game is suspended or concluded, (includes the 10 run rule), for any reason, the players who did not complete their 2 complete innings must start and play the first 2 innings of the next game.

#### OLYMPIC AND CASCADE LEVELS

All disciplinary action must be reported to the Division Director and Coach/Player Agent within 24 hours of the action. Before any practices are held, all league approved paperwork must be filled out completely and signed, including but limited to, Coaches Code of Conduct form, Background check, and all player registration/medical release forms. The Coaches Selection Committee must approve all coaches.

## COLT LEVEL

The following rules modify the league rules of Article IX for the Colt Division

Any returning Colt coach and/or assistant coach, or any Pony coach and/or assistant coach moving up, regardless if from MPB or another league, is eligible for MPB Colt consideration. Once approved as a MPB Colt coach, a team roster must be submitted to the Division Director before they are considered sanctioned. Registration fees, birth certificates, and medical releases must be on file before receiving any equipment or field time. There is no draft at the Colt Division. Tryouts are conducted continuously as needed, and are the responsibility of each team manager.

## PALOMINO LEVEL

The following rules modify the league rules of Article IX for the Palomino Division

Any returning Palomino coach and/or assistant coach, or any Colt coach and/or assistant coach moving up, regardless if from MPB or another league, is eligible for MPB Palomino consideration. Once approved as a MPB Palomino coach, a team roster must be submitted to the Division Director before they are considered sanctioned. Registration fees, birth certificates, and medical releases must be on file before receiving any equipment or field time. There is no draft at the Palomino Division. Tryouts are conducted continuously as needed, and are the responsibility of each team manager.

## **ARTICLE XII: PROTESTS, PENALTIES, AND MISCELLANEOUS**

### **SECTION 1: PROTESTES AND PENALTIES**

All rules and regulations in the Official Pony rulebook apply except the following: *protest must be based on an interpretation of the rules*. The objecting coach must, at the time the play occurs, notify the plate umpire, the opposing head coach, and the official scorekeeper, that the game is being played under protest. He/she must then submit a written protest to the Division Director within 24 hours of the completion of the game, regardless of the outcome.

### **SECTION 2: DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

The MPB Board shall have the authority to suspend, discharge, or otherwise discipline any player, manager, coach, umpire, league officer, parent, or other person whose conduct is in violation of the rules and regulations of PONY Baseball and these by-laws, and/or is considered detrimental to the best interest of the organization. Persons subject to disciplinary action shall have the right to a hearing before the MPB Board before such discipline is imposed. In the event the discipline procedures involve a player under the age of 18, that player's parents or legal guardians shall be requested to attend the hearing with the player concerned. Persons, youth or adult, who refuse to comply with the rules of baseball, PONY Baseball, or the MPB organization, may be considered for disciplinary action. The MPB Board may impose one of the following penalties, which, in their opinion, seems to match the severity of the offense:

- Written warning. Typically for the first offense, the written warning serves to put the offending party on notice that such behavior is not within the spirit of MPB, and that furtherance of such behavior will be grounds for a more severe penalty.
- Suspension. Typically for a second or subsequent offense, a suspension serves to alert the offending party of the severity of their action and that MPB will not tolerate said action. The offending person is to be advised in writing that he/she has been suspended from all league activity for a specific number of games and/or days.
- Dismissal/Barred. Typically for a third or extremely severe incident, a dismissal serves to protect the player members and league members from repeated extreme intolerable actions. The offending person

is to be advised in writing that he/she has been barred from present and future participation in the league for a specified length of time.

### SECTION 3: COMPLAINTS, GRIEVANCES REGARDING COACHES

Any complaints against a coach's behavior towards players, other coaches, parents, umpires, or directors should be reported to the Coach/Player Agent and the Division Director. Complaints may include, but are not necessarily limited to, abusive or inappropriate language and/or unsportsmanlike conduct. Any complaint must be made in writing, and be very specific in nature. All written complaints will be brought before the Board for review and action. The President may choose to defer the matter to the Grievance Committee for further review before recommending Board action. Actions taken by the Board will meet with the provisions outlined in the Disciplinary Actions of the MPB by-laws. The Coach/Player Agent will serve as the advocate of the accused coach or player and present his/her recommendations prior to the Board imposes any disciplinary action.

### SECTION 4: MISCELLANEOUS

Refer to the Official Rules of Major League Baseball handbook, as sanctioned by PONY Baseball, and as authorized through the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball for any definitions or terms not herein defined.

## **ARTICLE XIII: EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS**

### SECTION 1: EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS

The Equipment and Uniform Director shall issue all MPB equipment and uniforms. The equipment and uniforms issued by MPB, (excluding hats and socks), are the property of MPB and must be returned at the end of the season. Parents or legal guardians shall be charged for any uniforms or parts of uniforms not turned in. Each head coach shall be held financially responsible for the equipment and uniforms issued to them by MPB. Only teams at the Pony age Division will be allowed to provide their own uniforms. All uniforms at the Pony Colt, and Palomino Division must display the Maltby Pony Baseball patch on the left shoulder, or incorporate "Maltby" with their team name on the front of their uniform jersey. During sanctioned tournament play, uniform jerseys must display the PONY baseball patch on the right shoulder.

## **ARTICLE XIV: INSURANCE**

MPB shall provide secondary accident insurance and liability insurance.

## **ARTICLE XV: ALL-STAR AND TOURNAMENT PLAY; LOWER DIVISIONS (Shetland, Pinto, Mustang, and Bronco Divisions)**

### SECTION 1: ALL STAR RULES AND REGULATIONS

The rules and regulations for tournament play found in the official PONY Baseball rulebook should govern all tournament play. The number of official PONY sanctioned All-Star teams from Shetland, Pinto, Mustang and Bronco divisions will be determined by the current PONY Baseball rulebook.

There are no provisions that prohibit the formation of additional tournament teams.

All players, parents, managers, and coaches must agree to the financial and volunteer commitments as outlined by the Division Director for their respective tournament play, including advancement to out-of-state play.

## SECTION 2: ALL-STAR MANAGER SELECTION

Any manager or assistant coach of record from their respective division shall be eligible for consideration as an All Star Coach, provided they are approved to coach at this level by the Division Director. The Division Director shall then prepare a list of approved applicants and submit that list to their respective team managers and assistant coaches of record for a majority vote with each team having 2 votes. This vote should occur around May 1st so as to allow sufficient time for tryouts and pre-tournament practice time. If an applicant is not approved by the Division Director, they shall be allowed to make an appeal to the Board of Directors prior to the voting process. Once elected, the All Star Tournament Team Managers will select their own assistants from managers and assistant coaches of record in their divisions, and all must commit to competing through all advancement rounds.

## SECTION 3: ALL-STAR PLAYER SELECTION

All parents and players must sign an All-Star Code of Conduct to be considered for the team.

Players may only try out and play for an All Star team from the division that they played during their regular season, (inclusive of those players that "played up" during regular season play). Players must also satisfy the requirement of having played over 51% of that season in that division.

All-Star player tryouts will be held following the All-Star manager selection meeting. Following the tryouts, the managers and one assistant coach from each team in the division that attended the tryouts, will vote for 9 players. A player must participate in at least 1 tryout to be considered for vote by the coaches unless their absence is noted and approved by the Coach/Player Agent and the Division Director. The 9 players receiving the most votes shall be assigned to the All-Star roster for their respective division. The All-Star Manager shall fill in the remaining roster vacancy with any eligible division player at his discretion but not to exceed official PONY limits. If a player selected chooses not to participate on the All-Star team, he may only participate on another tournament team with the approval of both managers and the Coach/Player Agent.

If a roster vacancy occurs for any reason, the All-Star Manager shall fill the vacancy with any division player at his discretion.

## SECTION 4: OTHER TOURNAMENT PLAY

MPB allows for teams to compete in other sanctioned or invitational tournament play provided it does not interfere with regular season play and/or conflict with All Star Tournament play, including the selection of All Star players.. Any coach or assistant coach of record can enter an existing team, or create a team from existing league players within that division, for the purposes of competing in tournament play; provided, a) they have pre-approval from the Division Director, b) assume all costs associated with that tournament play, and c) have permission from each player's coach if soliciting players from other league teams. There is no coach or player selection process for non-All Star Tournament play.

## **ARTICLE XVI: ALL-STAR AND TOURNAMENT PLAY; UPPER DIVISIONS** (Cascade, Olympic, Colt, and Palomino)

### SECTION 1: ALL STAR TOURNAMENT PLAY

MPB sanctions one 13-U Pony All Star team and one 14-U Pony All Star team. Typically this is reserved for the Olympic level, and since the Olympic level is equivalent to a select program, it is permissible for those teams to stay intact and compete as an All Star team in either the 13-U or 14-U division. In the event of multiple teams applying for consideration, and neither willing to merge their better players, there will be a one game playoff, with the winner representing Maltby as that sanctioned 13-U or 14-U team. If an Olympic team

does not have a sufficient number of players, and/or two or more teams are competing for other Olympic players to fill their roster positions, then those All Star teams will be formed in compliance with the guidelines set forth in Article XV; *Tournament Play*. At this time, Cascade players would be eligible to try out for an Olympic All Star position. There are no provisions for a sanctioned Cascade All Star team unless there is no 13-U or 14-U Olympic team entering All Stars. In this event, those All Star teams will be formed in compliance with the guidelines set forth in Article XV; *Tournament Play*. At this time, Olympic players would be eligible to try out for a Cascade All Star position. Any Pony team can field their own All Star tournament team at their own expense with approval of the Division Director and/or the Board of Directors. There are no provisions for MPB sanctioned Colt and/or Palomino All Star teams.

## SECTION 2: OTHER TOURNAMENT PLAY

All upper division teams are eligible to compete in invitational tournaments at their own expense.

## ARTICLE XVII: DRAFTING RULES; PINTO, MUSTANG, AND BRONCO

### SECTION 1: TRYOUTS

Tryouts shall be held to determine player ability. Only new players in each division and those players choosing to re-enter the draft are required to attend tryouts. Coach's sons or daughters are considered protected and shall not participate in the tryouts. Likewise, returning players within each division shall not participate in the tryouts.

### SECTION 2: DRAFTING RULES

Draft positions for each age group will be "progressive" and determined by "blind draw". Prior to the beginning of division tryouts, an authorized representative of each team will draw their draft position out of a hat. Drafts shall be 1, 2, 3, 4, 4, 3, 2, 1, and so on. After all the teams have completed their roster of returning players, and identified all player conflicts, the draft shall begin. If a mutual agreement cannot be reached regarding a player conflict, then that player will be removed from draft consideration and placed in a "hat pick" at the conclusion of the draft.

Teams will be drafted by age group within each division, oldest first. All teams eligible to draft older players in their division will have first round selections. After the first round, the team(s) with the fewest number of players in that older group, will make a second round draft pick, and this process will continue until each team has an equal number of players in that older age group, or until the pool of remaining players for the older age group is less than the number of teams drafting, at which time that portion of the draft shall be considered completed and they will be placed in the pool of players from the younger age group. The draft and draft order shall then resume for the remaining pool of players.

Similarly, after the first round of draft picks with the younger age group, the team(s) with the fewest number of players shall start the next round, and continue filling draft slots until they have an equal number of players as the team(s) with the next fewest players. This process will continue until all draft slots and teams are filled.

Head coaches shall be able to select an assistant coach for each age group, whose child will then be protected using his/her team's first round draft slot in that child's age group. With the goal being succession in coaching, the assistant coach from the younger age group should be willing to take over head coach responsibilities for that team, the following year as needed. While priority may be given to that assistant coach, their appointment to head coach must still be approved by the Coach Selection Committee prior to tryouts and/or the draft.

Brothers and sisters of returning players shall automatically become protected players and follow their family onto the same team, unless otherwise requested by their parent or legal guardian. The brother or sister shall fill the last draft slot for their age group.

Each drafted player, if league permits, shall remain on that team's roster the following season unless he/she elects to re-enter the draft in which case he/she must attend the division tryout. That player cannot be drafted by the team they chose to leave, nor can they be protected by another team by naming their parent as an assistant coach. If that player fails to appear at the tryouts, they become a "hat pick" at the conclusion of the draft.

After the draft, coaches may trade players with other teams provided the following conditions are met:

1. The players traded are the same age.
2. The trade is made within 48 hours.
3. The Coach/Player Agent and Division Director are notified prior to the trade, at which time the reason must be explained. If approved by the Coach/Player Agent, the Division Director will make a written record of the trade. A player after being drafted or traded must play that season with the team that drafted him/her.

No returning head coach shall be allowed to leave his/her present team and take over an expansion team. Assistant coaches shall be permitted to do so for the purposes of moving up to a head coaching position. In this event, protected player rules still apply. Sons or daughters of the assistant coach become protected players on the new franchise team.

The Coach/Player Agent and the Division Director shall coordinate the placement of players not present at the draft or who registered late, based on team vacancies, age of player, and/or next in draft order.

## **ARTICLE XVIII: FINANCIAL POLICY**

### **SECTION 1: FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year shall begin on the first day of September and shall end on the last day of August.

### **SECTION 2: DISSOLUTION OF PROPERTY**

Upon dissolution of MPB and after all outstanding debts and claims have been satisfied, the Board shall direct the remaining property of MPB to another Federally incorporated entity which maintains the same objectives as set forth herein, which are or may be entitled to exemption under Section 501-(c)-(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or any future corresponding provision.

## **ARTICLE XIV: CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE BY-LAWS**

Requests for changes in these by-laws must be submitted to the Board by the November board meeting, and changes shall be voted on at the December board meeting.