

Cheviot Hills Pony Baseball Association All-Star Policy

The Cheviot Hills Pony Baseball Association (“CHPBA” or “League”) is a non-profit community baseball organization that operates for the benefit of the families that participate in the community. As part of its activities, CHPBA sponsors and implements a yearly All-Star program (“All-Stars”). Unlike CHPBA’s regular season programs, where competition is limited to intra-league teams, the All-Star program sponsors teams that compete with teams from other communities in the region and, potentially, around the country. Therefore, the primary mission of All-Stars is to field the best teams possible, in accordance with guidelines as promulgated by the National Pony Baseball Association. However, the League also recognizes All-Stars as an avenue to develop player talent and interest in playing baseball competitively.

This Policy has been adopted by the CHPBA Board of Directors (“Board”) as a statement of guidelines, rules and procedures governing CHPBA’s All-Star program. The implementation of this Policy shall be carried out by the CHPBA All-Star Committee along with the participation and input of each CHPBA Division Commissioner and the CHPBA President. Each year no later than March, the Board will review this Policy to confirm that year’s process and structure and to consider improvements and modifications to this Policy. The most current version of this Policy shall be posted on the League website.

The All-Star selection process, from nomination to evaluation to participation at the Voting Meeting (discussed in Section 1.2 below), is mandatory for spring season Managers. However, if the Manager is unable to participate in the entire selection process, the Manager shall designate a coach (subject to approval by the Division Commissioner) to act as the Manager’s designee. If the designee is approved, all correspondence (including notice of the Voting Meeting) shall go to the designee instead of the Manager.

1. **PLAYER SELECTION PROCESS:** Unless otherwise approved by the Board, the Pony Division shall select one or more All-Star Teams (as defined in Section 1.3.1 below), and the Pinto, Mustang and Bronco Divisions shall each select two or more All-Star teams. Each year, the Board will confirm whether the Pinto, Mustang, Bronco and Pony All-Star Teams are division-wide or age-specific (e.g., in Mustang, “10 and under” and “9 and under”). If the Board has specified the selection of age-specific All-Star Teams, the players in that Division will be eligible for selection only to the team designated for that player’s age. **For the current season, the All-Star teams shall be division-wide for Pinto and Pony Divisions (i.e., there will be two "8 and under" teams and one "14 and under" team) and age-specific for Mustang and Bronco (i.e. there will be one "9 and under", one "10 and under", one "11 and under" and one "12 and under" team) (collectively, the "Mandatory All-Star Teams"), provided that the composition of Additional All-Star Teams (as defined in Section 1.2.2.4 below), if any, may be either division-wide or age-specific, as determined by the Division Managers in accordance with Section 1.2.2.4 below.** Each Mandatory All-Star team will consist of 12 to 14 players. The first 12 players shall be selected through a Voting Meeting of the Division’s Managers. If any of those 12 players declines the invitation, replacements shall be selected in accordance with Section 1.2.2.3 below. Before public announcement of any Mandatory All-Star Team, the All-Star Manager shall have the option of whether to carry a 13 or 14 player team but must select the additional player(s) from the Supplemental Round of the Voting Meeting as described in Section 1.2.2.3 below.

1.1. ***Nominations.*** Each Commissioner shall send a written notice to that Division’s team Managers (a) soliciting nominations from his/her team, (b) soliciting times to conduct the Voting Meeting (defined in Section 1.2 below) and (c) inviting Managers to gauge the level of interest in additional post-season teams beyond the Mandatory All-Star Team(s) in each Division. Commissioner solicitation notices should be distributed in enough time for Managers to provide nominations so that the All-Star Ballot (defined in Section 1.1.2 below) can be redistributed back to the Managers for them to become familiar with all the players nominated.

- 1.1.1. Nominations should include the player's Name, League Age, Uniform Number, Division, Team Name, the player's top 3 positions and a brief player summary. Managers are encouraged to nominate 3 - 6 players who are capable of competing at an all-star level in post-season tournament play. While there is no specific requirement of nominees per league age or amount per team, Managers are encouraged to use their best judgment in nominating players with the requisite talent and interest level in participating in the All-Star program.
- 1.1.2. Each Commissioner shall compile all nominations for that Division into a single document (the "All-Star Ballot") to be used as a reference point and voting tool during the Voting Meeting. The Commissioners shall announce the time of the Voting Meeting (defined below) at the same time as the All-Star Ballots are distributed.
- 1.2. **Voting Meeting.** Each Commissioner shall conduct a meeting with that Division's team Managers at which the Managers will confidentially vote on and select their Division's Mandatory All-Star Team(s) (the "Voting Meeting") pursuant to the following procedure.
 - 1.2.1. The Voting Meeting shall take place no later than the last week in April (unless otherwise agreed upon by the Commissioner) at a location and time determined by the Commissioner. The Commissioner will attend and administer the Voting Meeting along with one member of the CHPBA Board of Directors (as long as that Board Member does not have a relative in the Division who has been nominated) but the President may waive the Board member attendance requirement. If the Commissioner is not available, then at least one member of the Executive Committee (without a relative who has been nominated) shall attend and administer the Voting Meeting. If the Commissioner or other Board member administering the Voting Meeting observes any potentially improper behavior (including but not limited to the trading of votes or conditioning of certain votes on the corresponding votes of others), they shall address such behavior at the Voting Meeting, including calling for re-votes in their discretion. Once the Voting Meeting has concluded, the team selected shall be final, subject to Section 1.2.2.3 below.
 - 1.2.2. Each Manager shall take into account each player's performance during the current season and consider the position strengths of the players listed on the All-Star Ballot, with a view toward having a well-rounded team that will have strength at all positions. Managers are instructed to vote based on their ongoing knowledge of the players, their personal observations and their assessment of the other Managers' views, concerns and observations, and to avoid being influenced by factors other than player performance and attitude. The League recognizes that statistics frequently are compiled by Managers. Those statistics may be shared, discussed and considered as part of the All-Star selection process. However, since the League does not have an unbiased or official statistician, Managers are cautioned not to give those statistics undue weight as compared to any other written or verbal observations that are shared by the Managers during the selection process. At the Voting Meeting, the Managers shall select that Division's Mandatory All-Star Team(s) by a vote that is secret to the other Managers (but each Manager shall write his/her name on the All-Star Ballots cast) in the manner set forth below.
 - 1.2.2.1. *Round 1:* Each Manager will vote for 12 players (Managers may not vote for less than the number of players remaining to be selected for the team) of his/her choice listed on the All-Star Ballot. The votes will be tabulated by the Commissioner and the attending member of the Board. Any player receiving a unanimous vote will be selected to the team. If fewer than 12 players are so selected, all remaining players on the All-

Star Ballot will be eligible for successive rounds of voting to fill the remaining opening spots.

1.2.2.2. *Successive Rounds:* For each successive round, each Manager will vote for however many players as there are available spots after the previous round. The votes will be tabulated and any player who receives a unanimous vote less 1 will be placed on the team after the second round, less 2 for the third round and so forth, so long as there is a majority of the Managers voting in favor of that player. In other words, under no circumstances will a player be selected in a successive round if that player does not receive votes from at least a majority of the Managers. This process will continue as necessary until all 12 players have been selected.

1.2.2.3. *Supplemental Round:* After 12 players have been selected, there will be one Supplemental Round of voting whereby each Manager will rank the top 6 remaining nominated players. The combined ranking of the Managers shall determine the order in which replacement players would be selected if any of the original 12 players declines the invitation to join the Mandatory All-Star Team. If the All-Star Manager decides to carry a 13 or 14 player team, the All-Star Manager must select the remaining additional players from the Supplemental Round but is not bound by the ranking determined by the Managers. Once the players from the Supplemental Round have been exhausted, the All-Star Manager may select players who were nominated in his/her sole discretion. No lobbying of the All-Star Manager with regard to the selection of optional players shall be permitted after the Voting Meeting has concluded.

1.2.2.4. *Additional Teams.* If the Division Managers determine at the Voting Meeting that there is sufficient talent and/or desire of players and families in the Division that year for additional post-season teams ("Additional All-Star Teams"), the following will apply:

1.2.2.4.1. The Additional All-Star Teams shall be selected by the Division Managers in the same manner as the Mandatory All-Star Teams, provided that there shall be no Supplemental Round, and if any of the original 12 players decline the invitation to join the Additional All-Star Team (or accept an invitation to join a Mandatory All-Star Team pursuant to Section 1.2.2.3 as a Supplemental Round player), the Manager for such Additional All-Star Team may complete the roster for such Additional All-Star Team by first selecting any remaining nominated players meeting the applicable age requirements of such Additional All-Star Team at such Manager's sole discretion, or if there are no remaining nominated players, then the Manager may select any other players who are rostered on a spring season team in the Division who meet the applicable age requirements for such Additional All-Star Team at such Manager's sole discretion. The Division Commissioner shall select a Manager for such Additional All-Star Team in the same manner as the Manager for a Mandatory All-Star Team is selected. .

1.2.2.4.2. Those Additional All-Star Teams shall have the names assigned to them by the Board from time to time and shall be entitled to participate in the Cheviot Memorial Day Tournament so long as the Board is satisfied that there will be a suitable ratio of Cheviot to non-Cheviot teams in the Tournament.

1.2.2.4.3. Players that participate in the Additional All-Star Teams as authorized by the Division Managers shall be deemed "all-stars" in that they shall be eligible to

order league all-star jackets and any other league-sponsored item designating players as "all-stars."

1.3. Confidentiality & Announcement

1.3.1. The Managers and Commissioners shall keep confidential all discussions and communications involving the selection of the Mandatory All-Star Teams and the Additional All-Star Teams (collectively, "All-Star Teams"). The announcement of the All-Star Teams shall be made in accordance with Section 1.3.2 below.

1.3.2. The All-Star Manager selected pursuant to Section 2 shall contact the All-Star players that are selected and they shall have 24 hours to verbally commit to the All-Star Season as set forth in Section 3. Once the All-Star players have verbally accepted, the All-Star Manager shall notify the Commissioner who shall place a congratulatory announcement on the League's website. After that announcement is posted, the other Managers in the Division are allowed to congratulate players on their selection. This process should in all instances be completed in as close to 48 hours after the Voting Meeting as possible.

1.4. Substitute Players

1.4.1. If a Mandatory All Star Team expects to have less than 10 players for a scheduled tournament or game, the All-Star Manager *must* replace such missing players with substitute players who are rostered on the lower level All-Star Team (i.e., B Team or Additional All-Star Team) in that Division and who meet the applicable age requirements for such Mandatory All-Star Team (e.g., for the Pinto "A" Mandatory All-Star Team, players from the Pinto "B" Mandatory All-Star Team, and for the "9 and under" Mandatory All-Star Team, players from the "9 and under" Additional All-Star Team, if any). This process shall be referred to herein as a "Call Up". Call Ups are *mandatory* and players subject to a Call Up may not elect to decline and play for the team for which such player was originally rostered if such election will prevent such Call Up player from participating with the higher level Mandatory All-Star Team in need of a substitute player. If a B All-Star Team or Additional All-Star Team seeks a substitute player from a higher level Mandatory All-Star Team, that All-Star Manager shall first obtain the approval of the higher level team's All-Star Manager. In a Division with an age-specific format, the All-Star Manager shall obtain the approval of the Commissioner or President to use a player that is outside of the age range for that team. In all cases, the higher level team All-Star Managers are expressly encouraged to work cooperatively with the other All-Star Managers in the Division and give the other All-Star Managers as much advance notice as possible of any Call Up. The All-Star Manager may replace missing players with a substitute player who is not participating in the All-Star program only if he/she is unable to find a substitute player from within the All-Star program.

2. **MANAGER SELECTION PROCESS:** Each Division's All-Star Managers shall be selected by the Division Commissioner with approval of the Executive Committee pursuant to the following process.

2.1. Each Division's Commissioner shall solicit interested candidates to submit their names for consideration concurrently with player nomination solicitations.

2.2. In selecting All-Star Managers, Commissioners shall select an All-Star Manager using the following criteria: evidence of the knowledge of the game of baseball, evidence of ability to teach baseball and good sportsmanship to children, evidence of managerial skill, evidence of ability to draw upon talents of individual players to form the team into a cohesive unit, evidence of

commitment to make the team as competitive as possible over and above personal relationships, evidence of respect from players, other Managers, parents, umpires, etc., strong communications and organizational skills and previous All-Star experience, if possible.

- 2.3. Commissioners should generally be guided by and give preference to managerial candidates in the following order: (1) current Managers in the Division, (2) current coaches in the Division, (3) current Managers or coaches in other Divisions, (4) parents and (5) non-parents.
- 2.4. The final selection of the All-Star Managers shall be completed by noon of the day after the Voting Meeting is concluded.

3. **ALL-STAR SEASON:**

- 3.1. ***Player Commitment.*** Players must commit to (a) prioritize the All-star season over other sports team commitments and (b) attend a significant majority of practices and at least one-half of the tournament games that the All-Star Manager anticipates playing. The All-Star Manager is responsible for enforcing this rule and is encouraged to adjust playing time in a manner commensurate with the commitment that players are showing. No player is guaranteed a minimum amount of playing time during the All-Star season.
- 3.2. ***Mandatory and Elective Tournaments.*** Each All-Star Team shall participate in a minimum of 4 tournaments. The Mandatory All-Star Teams *must* participate in the Cheviot Memorial Day Tournament and the Pony National Tournament. The Memorial Day Tournament Committee shall coordinate with the Managers of Additional All-Star Teams to facilitate their participation in the Memorial Day Tournament if possible and consistent with Section 1.2.2.4.2. All Managers shall attempt to schedule the All-Star Team's tournaments in a manner that supports CHPBA's relationships with other leagues that are hosting summer tournaments. Managers may elect to participate in additional tournaments of their choice, provided those elective tournaments do not conflict with any of the mandatory tournaments.