



NEW ENGLAND LEGENDS BASEBALL LEAGUE

BYLAWS & RULES OF PLAY

2026

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PART 1. LEAGUE NAME & GOVERNANCE

1.1 Name and Organization

- 1.1.1 The name of this organization shall be the “New England Legends Baseball League” hereafter referred to as the “NELBL.”
- 1.1.2 The league shall operate as a voluntary corporation.

1.2 Purpose

- 1.2.1 The NELBL is formed for the purpose of providing the structure and opportunity for the league’s members to play organized amateur baseball.

1.3 Governance

- 1.3.1 The NELBL shall be directed by the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary—also known as the “Executive Council”—and the collective Managers and/or team representatives of each team and shall be referred to as “The Board of Managers,” or “The Board.”
- 1.3.2 The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be elected every two years by simple majority vote.
 - 1.3.2.1 In order to stagger terms for leadership continuity, in year 1 under these Bylaws the Secretary and Vice President will serve a one (1) year term, and the President and the Treasurer will serve two (2) year terms.
 - 1.3.2.2 Managers may also serve as league officers.
- 1.3.3 The hierarchy of the Executive Council shall be the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.
- 1.3.4 Any person wishing to resign from an elected position must do so in writing to the Board of Managers thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of resignation.
- 1.3.5 If any league officer, team Manager, or other team representative proves to be unsuitable, due to violation of NELBL rules, Bylaws or for other good cause as determined by the Board of Managers, the individual may be removed from the position by a two-thirds supermajority vote held at an official meeting that has achieved quorum.
- 1.3.6 Any person wishing to fill a vacancy of an elected position must first be nominated by an active Executive Council or Board of Managers member. The Board of Managers will then vote, and the nominated party must be approved by a simple majority.

1.4 Voting

- 1.4.1 Each team is entitled to one vote by the Manager or team representative on matters brought before the Board of Managers during regular or special meetings.
 - 1.4.1.1 Elected officers shall not vote, except as provided in the following 1.4.2 or 1.4.3 of this Article.
- 1.4.2 A Manager who may be an elected officer may vote as a member of the Board of Managers, but they cannot also render a deciding vote as an Executive Council member on a motion they have already rendered a vote on as a Manager.
- 1.4.3 In case of a tie vote, the President may only cast the final vote to break a tie so long as they have not already voted as a Manager.
 - 1.4.3.1 If the President also serves as a team Manager, they may vote as a team Manager on any motion, but they cannot also provide the deciding vote as the President on the same motion.
 - 1.4.3.2 If the President has already voted on a motion as a Manager and a deciding vote is required, the Vice President may cast the deciding vote so long as they have not already voted as a Manager.
 - 1.4.3.3 If the Vice President has also already voted on a motion as a Manager and a deciding vote is required, then the Secretary may cast the deciding vote so long as they have not already voted on a motion as a Manager.
 - 1.4.3.4 If the President, Vice President, and Secretary have all previously voted on a motion as Managers, then the Treasurer will render the final deciding vote.
- 1.4.4 A quorum of two-thirds (rounded up) supermajority of registered teams is required to be in attendance to vote on any league Issues.
- 1.4.5 The Board of Managers permits no rule or bylaw modifications without a completed “By-Law Change Request Form” submitted to the Board of Managers. All changes will be considered and must be passed via a two-thirds supermajority vote.

1.5 NELBL Meetings

- 1.5.1 Nominations and elections of the Executive Council will be held no later than the last meeting of each calendar year.
- 1.5.2 Special elections may be held as needed in order to fill Executive Council vacancies.
- 1.5.3 The league President shall call and set the agenda for all League meetings to conduct the operation of the league.

- 1.5.4 The NELBL will target calling eleven (11) league meetings per calendar year, and the dates & times of these meetings will be set at the last meeting of the year after selection of the Executive Council.
- 1.5.5 If a Manager is going to miss a league meeting, they shall appoint a representative in their stead.
- 1.5.6 If a Manager or team representative misses a second league meeting within a calendar year without appointing a representative in their stead, an explanation must be presented to the Board of Managers and accepted to avoid disciplinary action.
- 1.5.7 League Meeting format, structure, rules, decorum See Appendix A for further information on the league's requirements to conduct a productive meeting.

1.6 Duties of Officers, Managers, and Players

1.6.1 General Provisions:

- 1.6.1.1 No one person who is a league officer, Manager or player may make individual decisions on behalf of the league as related to the operation and general welfare of the NELBL league.
- 1.6.1.2 All league business will be conducted during Board meetings as per the league agenda.
- 1.6.1.3 Any/all league related matters or decisions must be made during league meetings and must be conducted with full disclosure given to each Executive Council and Board of Managers member.
- 1.6.1.4 Emergency Board Meetings can be scheduled via a conference call to discuss and decide upon league matters in the event an in-person league meeting cannot be logistically satisfied.
- 1.6.1.5 The same league procedures and voting privileges will be followed in Conference Call meetings as described in Article V section 4.

1.6.2 Officer Descriptions

- 1.6.2.1 **President:** Shall preside at all league meetings. The President may create and/or oversee committees to conduct the business of the league and appoint league members to specific "Special Positions" to conduct the business of the league. Committee members and Special Positions shall be approved by the Board of Managers. He also shall be responsible for appointments of special officers/aides (e.g., website Managers) and committees as described in Article VII.

- 1.6.2.2 Vice-President: Shall preside at all league meetings when the President is absent and shall assist in duties of President as agreed, needed or appointed.
 - 1.6.2.3 Secretary: The Secretary shall give notice and keep minutes of all meetings, distribute the minutes of the meetings, record changes to the Bylaws (including game rules), maintain Articles of Incorporation (if applicable), and disseminate all updated documentation to the Executive Council, Board of Managers, and to the league Webmaster for posting to the NELBL website.
 - 1.6.2.4 Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection and disbursement of league funds, keep proper financial records, file all necessary tax and insurance forms and submit financial statements to the Board of Managers.
 - 1.6.2.5 At the first meeting of the year, the Treasurer will present the financials of the league and make recommendations for team fees and overall league budget in the coming year which will then be voted on by the Board of Managers with a simple majority securing approval.
- 1.6.3 Managers shall:
- 1.6.3.1 Be responsible for submitting a team roster, registration, waiver forms and other information for the operation of the league to the league President as required.
 - 1.6.3.2 Enter individual player & game statistics into the NELBL website in a timely fashion.
 - 1.6.3.3 Support and cooperate fully with all league-sponsored activities.
 - 1.6.3.4 Be responsible for the utmost good sportsmanship of his team and the promotion of respect and goodwill toward league officials, umpires, Managers, other players, spectators and the properties on which their team plays.
 - 1.6.3.5 Be responsible for the orderly conduct of their players on the bench and on the field.
 - 1.6.3.6 Be responsible for adhering to and enforcing the rules of the league.
 - 1.6.3.7 Obtain an Official MLB rulebook along with the league rules and have them available at all games.
 - 1.6.3.8 Attend all meetings and functions or send a delegate to represent his team.
 - 1.6.3.9 Comply with all requests for information from the web administrator, secretary and treasurer in a timely manner.

- 1.6.3.10 Collect and deliver to the Treasurer all league fees as determined by the Board of Managers.
- 1.6.3.11 It is the player's team Manager who is responsible for making sure that a suspended player serves the suspension.
- 1.6.4 Players shall:
 - 1.6.4.1 Conduct themselves in a manner that will reflect good sportsmanship, respect and goodwill toward league officials, umpires, Managers, teammates, opposing players and spectators at all times.
 - 1.6.4.2 First year players shall complete and sign the NELBL "Player Registration Form and Waiver" prior to participating in any practice or game.
 - 1.6.4.3 Complete the season for the team originally registered with via his "Player Registration Form", unless a change of teams is requested through the player's Manager and the Board of Managers reviews and approves the request.
 - 1.6.4.4 Provide documentation confirming required age to participate in the league (see Part 2 Player Registration and Eligibility).

1.7 Committees and Special Positions

- 1.7.1 Committees, Committee Members, and Special Positions shall be approved by the Board of Managers and may include:
 - 1.7.1.1 Fundraising Committee: The Fundraising Committee shall be created for the purpose of generating revenue for League activities as dictated by the budget for that season.

PART 2. PLAYER REGISTRATIONS & ELIGIBILITY

2.1 Player Registration

- 2.1.1 An annual team registration fee and payment schedule for all teams shall be assessed in an amount determined by the Board of Managers at the first meeting of each calendar year. The annual league fee will be assessed based upon a prepared budget of projected costs. Each team Manager is responsible to collect all league-specific fees from their players in order to fulfill their financial obligation to the league.
- 2.1.2 Player Registration Forms **MUST BE FILLED OUT AND SIGNED** prior to participation in any League game or practice. If an active player has previously completed a registration form and continues to play in the league a new registration form is not required [PENDING CONFIRMATION WITH LEAGUE LIABILITY INSURANCE CARRIER].
- 2.1.3 A new player in the league must provide a valid photo identification and a league contract to their Manager, who then shares that information with the President. The President then confirms date of birth to confirm eligibility prior to participating in any official game. A state driver's license, state I.D, or military I.D shall be deemed acceptable to the Board of Managers.

2.2 Player Eligibility

- 2.2.1 A player on the roster must be of the age of 50 or older on or by December 31st during the calendar year of the season. There will be no exceptions to the age requirement.
- 2.2.2 Players must participate in a minimum of five (5) games to qualify for the playoffs. There will be no exceptions to this rule.
- 2.2.3 To qualify as a game played toward playoff eligibility, a player must play at least one (1) full inning in the field, or secure at least one (1) At-Bat (AB). In the case of a player who is unable to bat or play in the field, if they serve in a coaching or scorebook-keeping capacity for a minimum of four (4) innings in an official NELBL game, that will qualify as a game played toward playoff eligibility (this person must be added to the box score on the NELBL website for future verification purposes).
- 2.2.4 If players arrive after official game start-time, they will be added to the bottom of the lineup card by the team Manager/Coach. The team Manager/Coach/Scorekeeper will then notify the opposing Manager of the additional player(s) being added to the lineup card.
- 2.2.5 If a player is found to be ineligible, he will be removed from the league and the team will forfeit any games the ineligible player participated in. After review by the Board of Managers, the Manager of the team may be subject to temporary or permanent suspension from the league if the Board of Managers deems there was knowledge of the ineligible player by the Manager.

2.3 Rosters

- 2.3.1 There shall be a minimum of twelve (12) players on each team roster, unless otherwise agreed to by the Board of Managers.
- 2.3.2 The minimum roster for each team must be submitted with league fees and registration forms by a preseason date set by the Board of Managers. This date shall be established during the first meeting of the calendar year or as soon as practicable.
- 2.3.3 Roster changes during the season, such as addition of players, dropped players, or traded players must be updated within the league website, and all appropriate paperwork must be uploaded before the player takes the field.
- 2.3.4 Playoff rosters will be submitted the week before playoffs begin. Players must fulfill their eligibility requirements stated in Part 2, Article II, Section 2 in order to play in the playoffs.

2.4 Expansion

- 2.4.1 All new teams who apply to be included into the NELBL league must submit an application to the league President before the beginning of the calendar year. The criteria for new teams to be added to the league are as follows:
 - 2.4.1.1 Suitable home playing field
 - 2.4.1.2 Roster of at least fifteen (15) players and upfront league teams fees for the year (to be submitted on or before February 1st)
 - 2.4.1.3 All new teams that desire to participate in the NELBL must be approved by the Board of Managers with a two-thirds supermajority vote.
- 2.4.2 New Player Distribution & Sign-Ups
 - 2.4.2.1 There is no official league draft of new players. However, the League will endeavor to assist new teams (expansion teams) with the placement of new players on their roster, if applicable and necessary.
 - 2.4.2.2 New players who submit a league registration form or who inquire to play via direct contact to the league President (or any of the league Officers) via the website registration form will be automatically communicated to the Board of Managers for review.
 - 2.4.2.3 Any and all NELBL teams may recruit new players on their own at their discretion.

PART 3. NELBL RULE BOOK: RULES OF PLAY & PLAYOFF FORMAT

The New England Legends Baseball League (NELBL) shall follow and abide by standard Major League Baseball Rules of Play, except for defined modifications. The following baseball rules modifications are designed to promote fair play and minimize the possibility of injury for all NELBL teams and players. Last modified 2/11/2025.

3.1 Lineups

- 3.1.1 The Home team shall have first choice of the dugout.
- 3.1.2 Every eligible player who shows up to play must be placed into the batting order unless the player has some injury or valid reason not to bat, and has informed the other Manager prior to the game. No more than nine (9) fielders may play in the field at any time. The extra Batters will be called "Extra Hitters" (EH). Players have no defensive minimum number of innings they need to play.
- 3.1.3 Players arriving late to the game may be added to the bottom of the line-up at any time during the game.
 - 3.1.3.1 All games should be managed for the enjoyment of all players.
- 3.1.4 Players should not be held out of a game for competitive reasons.
- 3.1.5 Any player who feels they are being denied a reasonable amount of playing time should contact the Executive Council if unable to resolve the issue with the team Manager.
- 3.1.6 If, during a game, a Batter cannot bat due to injury or absence, they are removed from the batting order from that time. The injured players batting spot is skipped from that time forward, without penalty. A team shall not alter the batting order after the start of the game, except to add players to the bottom of the line-up. All reserve players must be placed at the bottom of the batting order.
- 3.1.7 An official game may not be played with fewer than eight (8) players in both batting and defensive line-ups, whether due to insufficient number of players or injury at any time before or during a game; when the number of available players falls below eight (8), that team will immediately forfeit the game. When a team is only able to field eight (8) players to start a game, the Manager with the player shortage must tell the opposing Manager during the pregame Home Plate meeting which method of player shortage accommodation they choose to move forward with:
 - 3.1.7.1 Option 1: The team with eight (8) players will bat eight (8) Batters and place eight (8) fielders in the field and will NOT be charged an automatic out for the ninth spot in the batting order, or
 - 3.1.7.2 Option 2: The team with eight (8) players will bat eight (8) Batters and borrow a fielder from the opposing Manager and WILL be charged an

automatic out for the empty ninth spot in the batting order; if the opposing Manager elects not to share a fielder, Option 1 must be used.

- 3.1.7.3 When a team's lineup is reduced to eight (8) players at any point in a game, the Manager with the player shortage must immediately tell the opposing Manager which method of player shortage accommodation they choose to move forward with from that point forward, whether Option 1 in 3.1.7.1 or Option 2 in 3.1.7.2.
- 3.1.7.4 Should a late player show up to a game at any point and increase the number of players to nine (9), regular rules apply and neither Option 1 nor Option 2 will need to be followed.
- 3.1.7.5 At any point in a game, if a lineup is reduced to seven (7) players, the game is automatically forfeited by the team with only seven (7) players.
- 3.1.8 There is free defensive substitution. This means that you can substitute defensively without any impact to the batting line-up. Substitutions should occur at the beginning of a half inning, unless a substitution is made because a player must leave due to injury, illness, or other commitment.
- 3.1.9 Any team Manager knowing that he will have less than nine (9) players available to take the field for an upcoming game may bring in temporary players from the "Reserve Players List." That list—if reserve players are available—will be found on the league website. Reserve players must fulfill NELBL age requirements as stated in Player Eligibility above and must abide by all NELBL rules including signing the NELBL Player Participation Contract before being able to participate in any NELBL game or activity. Reserve players may fill-in and play at any position **except Pitcher**. All reserve players must be placed at the bottom of the batting order.
 - 3.1.9.1 Reserve players should be called and asked to temporarily fill-in and play only when **necessary** to assure a minimum of eight (8) fielders for a particular game-day.

3.2 Stealing/Base Running

- 3.2.1 The NELBL will be using Major League rules for all overthrows, pass balls, wild pitches, etc. that stay in the field of play or leave the field of play.

3.3 Pitching Rules

- 3.3.1 Reserve players who have been called upon to temporarily play for a NELBL team that does not have enough players for a particular game may not pitch in the game.
- 3.3.2 A Pitcher may not pitch more than five (5) innings (or 15-outs) in any 9-inning game during the regular season and playoffs, Pitchers may not pitch more than five (5) innings (or 15-outs) in any 7-inning game. Note: Any inning that ends on the mercy rule (see

Rule 8) shall be considered one (1) complete inning (or 3-outs) pitched.

3.3.3 Major League rules for hit batsmen, Umpire discretion

3.3.4 Major League rules for intentional walks.

3.3.5 If a Pitcher is removed from a game in the middle of an inning, that Pitcher may not return to the mound until the next inning. The Pitcher does not need to remain in the field. A Pitcher may only re-enter as a Pitcher one (1) time during the same game.

3.3.6 A Pitcher is entitled to 10 warm up pitches to start a game and 10 pitches between innings. A new Pitcher will be allowed the same number of pitches unless entering a game due to injury during an inning.

3.3.7 The NELBL will not use a pitch clock nor batter's clock, and there is no penalty if a Pitcher disengages from the Pitcher's Rubber three (3) or more times during on At-Bat.

3.4 Bunting

3.4.1 A "Slash Bunt" is defined as when the hitter assumes the position for a bunt and then changes grip and takes a swing at the ball. As such, Slash Bunts are not allowed, and if attempted or executed it's an automatic out.

3.4.2 A "Suicide Squeeze" is defined as when the runner at 3rd Base takes off for Home as soon as the Pitcher begins the windup to throw the pitch, and before releasing the ball. As such, Suicide Squeeze bunts are not allowed, and if attempted or executed it's an automatic out.

3.4.2.1 Sacrifice bunts or bunts for a hit with a man on 3rd base is allowed.

3.5 Game Length/Time Limit/Tie Games

3.5.1 NELBL games shall be nine (9) innings in length or 3-hours in duration, whichever occurs first. Seven (7) inning games shall be 2 ½ hours in length, e.g. two hours and thirty minutes.

3.5.2 No new inning shall begin after 3-hours has elapsed. For example, if a new inning starts at 2 hours 55 minutes, the new inning started shall be completed without regard to the time limit. The bottom half of the inning does not get played if the Home team has the lead.

3.5.3 In the event that an official game is tied at the end of 9-innings, the game shall be continued if there is unused time remaining. However, no new inning shall begin after 3-hours. Thus, a game can result in an ultimate tie and be recorded as such in the standings.

3.6 Game Delays

- 3.6.1 In the event that rain or threatening weather delays the prior to the start of the game, the Home team Manager makes the call, at least ninety (90) minutes before game start. A 30-minute grace period shall be allowed without impacting the length of the game. Thus, a game scheduled to start at 12:00PM which is delayed until 12:30PM will be subject to the 3-hour time limit rule from the start of the game, or 12:30PM.
- 3.6.2 After the game starts, the Umpires own the outcome, delays, stoppage, etc.
- 3.6.3 A game called because of rain will be considered a complete game after 5 innings or 4 and a half innings if the Home team is leading.
- 3.6.4 A game that has been suspended due to weather before it became an official game shall be continued at another time and place to be agreed upon by both Managers. A game that has been cancelled shall be rescheduled at the next available opportunity. Rescheduling games are the responsibility of both team Managers and they are responsible for finding a field. The NELBL Executive Council can assist in coordinating Umpires and fields. Teams will pay for additional field or Umpire costs, if any.
- 3.6.5 When a suspended game is continued, it will begin from where it was suspended. The continued game may be played with any rostered players that are available for each team. **It does not have to be played with the same players who were playing when the suspended game occurred.** The continued game should be played to 9-innings, unless either team has another game scheduled the same day, in which case the continued game would be played to 7-innings.
- 3.6.5.1 If a Pitcher in the suspended game already satisfied the 5-inning pitching maximum, that Pitcher will NOT be available for the continued portion of the game.
- 3.6.6 The only other exception to the time limit would be in the case of serious injury that delays a game for more than 30 minutes, e.g., delays caused by medical treatment or ambulatory services causing a delay.

3.7 Maximum Runs Per Inning/Game (Mercy Rule)

- 3.7.1 Each team may score no more than 6-runs maximum per inning, through the end of the 8th inning, e.g., a team's offensive half of an inning will end after that team has scored 6-runs in any inning prior to the 9th. Once the game progresses into the 9th inning, the number of allowable runs scored by each team then becomes unlimited.

3.8 Courtesy Runners

- 3.8.1 If a player who reaches base is unable to run due to injury, or if they are the current Pitcher or Catcher of record, or two (2) other named players (discussed at the pregame Home Plate meeting) they may request a Courtesy Runner. The Courtesy Runner must

be the last player to be put out (and NOT the current Pitcher or Catcher or the two (2) named players requiring Courtesy Runners). If in the event that more than a total of four (4) Courtesy Runners are needed for any reason, Managers are at liberty to increase the number of Courtesy Runners if requested and agreed upon by both Managers.

- 3.8.2 On a hit by pitch, walk, or clean hit, e.g., the ball is not touched by a defensive player when hit through the infield to the outfield grass, a player that had been designated as requiring a Courtesy Runner on the lineup card or at the pregame Home Plate meeting with the Umpires can simply go back to the dugout and let the Courtesy Runner take his place on First Base.
- 3.8.3 There are no limitations on Courtesy Runners' ability to steal a base or advance at their own risk.

3.9 Base Running

- 3.9.1 A "Clean Hit" is defined as a batted ball that reaches the outfield grass without touching a defensive player and the batter is automatically awarded First Base.
- 3.9.2 On any Clean Hit through the infield or into the outfield, no defensive player will be allowed to throw out the Batter attempting to reach First Base. However, other Base Runners attempting to reach any other base on the Clean Hit can be thrown out.
- 3.9.3 Any base running activities, collisions, interference are Major League rules, and the Umpires will determine the outcomes.
- 3.9.4 The Catcher is not allowed to block Home Plate. Slide or Avoid Rule applies and expulsion is the Umpire crew's decision.
- 3.9.5 Dropped third strikes are now per MLB rules and the Batter may attempt to reach First Base.

3.10 Equipment

- 3.10.1 Rubber, plastic, or metal spikes (or sneakers) may be worn.
- 3.10.2 Only solid wood bats or wood-composite bats with a "BBCOR" or "BESR" indication are acceptable. Metal and metal-wood bats are illegal and bats cannot contain any metallic components.
- 3.10.3 Pitchers may not wear white or light color *long sleeves*.
- 3.10.4 Standard baseball batting helmets must be worn by all Batters and Base Runners and should be in good condition with no cracks. All batting helmets should have at least one ear flap (left for right-handed hitters or right for left-handed hitters) and preferably two (2) ear flaps.

- 3.10.5 Catchers must wear a protective mask with a helmet at all times while playing defensively.
- 3.10.6 Teams are required to dress their players in uniform. Minimum requirements include jersey and hat. Our goal is to give players a true baseball experience.
- 3.10.7 Rosin and pine tar are allowed in accordance with MLB rules.
- 3.10.8 At the pre-game managers meeting with umpires at the plate, umpires are to confirm that at least ONE of the competing baseball teams is equipped with a functioning Automated External Defibrillator (“AED”) before a game can be played. If neither team has a functioning AED, the game will NOT be played and each team will be responsible for paying their respective umpire.

3.11 Assigned Umpires

- 3.11.1 Two Umpires will be assigned to each NELBL game. It is strongly recommended that the Home team manger *phone and talk to both assigned Umpires* prior to the day of each scheduled game and get assurance that both Umpires will attend. In the event of only one Umpire showing up for a game, that game may be played without the second Umpire.

3.12 Playoff Format

- 3.12.1 Playoff “formats” and the number of teams eligible for playoffs will be determined by the Executive Council and the Board of Managers at our spring meeting.
- 3.12.2 Playoff format—for example-- involves two (2) brackets with four (4) teams playing a “Round Robin” tournament with the winner in each bracket playing a one (1) game championship. The 8th and 9th place teams in the standings at the end of the regular season will play a one (1) game elimination game prior to the Round Robin tournament to determine the 8th team. Playoff games have no time limit, no ties, no mercy rules, no substitute players allowed, and same game rules as regular season, except for the A/B rule as described in 3.12.7
- 3.12.3 Seeding for playoffs will be determined by team standings at the end of the regular season. Any regular season games that were postponed for any reason, **MUST, IF POSSIBLE**, be rescheduled, and played before playoff seeding begins. If the Board of Managers feel that a rescheduled game is not happening due to one or both Managers’ actions or inactions, then the Board of Managers may elect to take corrective actions, including forfeit(s) by one or both teams.
- 3.12.4 Playoff Seeding Determination at end of regular season (Points, e.g., 2-points per Win, 1-point per Tie, 0-point per Loss):
 - 3.12.4.1 Points
 - 3.12.4.2 Winning Percentage
 - 3.12.4.3 Head-to-head against tied teams
 - 3.12.4.4 Runs given up in regular season per game

- 3.12.4.5 Coin toss
- 3.12.5 The home team in the playoffs will always be the higher seed
- 3.12.6 Seeding at end of Round Robin Tournament for the Championship Teams
 - 3.12.6.1 Wins
 - 3.12.6.2 Record against tied teams in Round Robin
 - 3.12.6.3 Runs given up against tied teams in Round Robin
 - 3.12.6.4 Runs given up against all teams in Round Robin
 - 3.12.6.5 Runs scored against tied teams in Round Robin
 - 3.12.6.6 Seeding at the end of regular season
- 3.12.7 For the Playoffs ONLY, offensive lineups may be limited to the same number of batting positions as the team with the fewest batters. All players must bat unless previously agreed upon by both Managers; however, the team with the least amount of players cannot use the "A-B" batting order.
 - 3.12.7.1 Example: Team 1 has the least number of batters; in this example, they have a nine (9) batter lineup. To match the same number of positions in the opposing team's batting order, Team 2 may elect to bat the first six Batters as per normal, but can bat the next six (6) Batters in order as 7a, then 7b, then 8a, then 8b, then 9a, then 9b, e.g. each "A-B" batter in this 9-position lineup bats every other At-Bat throughout the game.

PART 4. MINOR & MAJOR INFRACTION GUIDELINES

4.1 Infractions & Ejections

4.1.1 Minor infractions (1-game suspension)

- 4.1.1.1 Throwing of equipment in a manner that endangers others on the field that results in an ejection.
- 4.1.1.2 Harassment or abusive language directed towards an umpire, Manager, player, or spectator and/or violation of NELBL rules or MLB rules that result in ejection from a game.
- 4.1.1.3 Alcohol or drug consumption on the field before or during games.

4.1.2 Major Infractions (violations that require at least a 2-game suspension and Board of Managers review)

- 4.1.2.1 Failure to leave the playing field in a timely manner after being ejected from a game (and/or additional unsportsmanlike conduct).
- 4.1.2.2 Continued verbal harassment, confrontation, or abusive language after ejection or that the opposing Manager deems severe enough to warrant further review by the Board of Managers.
- 4.1.2.3 Threatening physical harm to an umpire, Manager, player, or spectator before, during, or after a game.
- 4.1.2.4 Physical assault on an umpire, Manager, player, or spectator before, during, or after a game (Suggestion: 1-year minimum)
- 4.1.2.5 Intentionally or recklessly destroying property (personal, team, league, school, city, or state) belonging to an umpire, Manager, player, or spectator (Suggestion: 1-year minimum).
- 4.1.2.6 Two (2) or more offenses in a single season.

4.2 Interpretation and Enforcement of League Rules

- 4.2.1 The Board of Managers is responsible for the interpretation, adjudication, and enforcement of the league rules, infractions, and disputes and shall have the authority to issue suspensions, fines, or other penalties as specified under the infractions area of the league rules.
- 4.2.2 If a player is ejected by the umpire the opposing Manager must submit a “Request for Disciplinary Review” form and forward to the President within 48 hours of the ejection. If a player or Manager is ejected for a minor infraction, that player will be subjected to

at least a one game suspension without appeal without Board of Managers review.

- 4.2.3 If the opposing Manager believes that the offense warrants a suspension in excess of one (1) game, then that opinion should also be reflected in the “Request for Disciplinary” form submission.
- 4.2.4 The Board of Managers must vote and approve any suspension of two (2) or more games. Only specific league infractions as related to the Bylaws, game rules, and pre/post-game conduct will be considered by the Board of Managers.
- 4.2.5 For infractions not directly involving an umpire ejection, a request for review shall be initiated by a team Manager by completing a “Request for Disciplinary Review” form and submitted to the President.
- 4.2.6 If more than a one-game suspension is requested, the President will conduct a meeting within 48 hours of receipt of a completed multigame “Request for Disciplinary Review” form by the opposing Manager. At the discretion of the President, said meetings may be conducted in person, by e-mail exchange, or conference call and votes may be taken by telephone or e-mail poll. If the Board of Managers feels more information is needed, the President will communicate the request for information to the affected parties within 48 hours of the initial Board of Managers review. The suspended player will have the right to submit a defense in writing, or appear in-person to present their side of the story to the Board of Managers. Additional information will be obtained and reviewed as needed by the Board of Managers prior to the potential second game of the suspension.
 - 4.2.6.1 All disciplinary rulings of two (2) or more games shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Managers. All decisions will be final.
 - 4.2.6.2 The “Request for Disciplinary Review” form, all supporting documentation, and notes of the discussion by the Board of Managers shall be submitted to the Secretary to be included in league minutes of the next regular league meeting.

PART 5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST & PROVISION FOR DISSOLUTION

5.1 Conflict of Interest

5.1.1 Any possible conflict of interest on the part of any member of the Board of Managers or Executive Council of the NELBL, shall be disclosed in writing to the Board of Managers and made a matter of record through an annual procedure and also when the interest involves specific issue before the Executive Council and/or Board of Managers. Where the transaction involving an Executive Council member exceeds five hundred dollars (\$500) but less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in a fiscal year, a two-thirds vote of the disinterested Board of Managers is required for approval.

5.1.1.1 Each Officer, prior to taking his position on the Executive Council, and all present Officers shall submit in writing to the President of the Executive Council a list of all business or other organizations of which he is an officer, director, trustee, member, shareholder, employee or agent, with which the NELBL has, or might reasonably in the future enter into, a relationship or transaction in which the Officer would have conflicting interests. The President of the Executive Council shall become familiar with the statements of all Officers in order to guide his conduct should a conflict arise.

5.1.1.2 At such time as any matter comes before the Board of Managers in such a way as to give rise to a conflict of interest, the affected Officer shall make known the potential conflict, whether disclosed by his written statement or not, and after answering any questions that might be asked him, shall withdraw from the meeting for so long as the matter shall continue under discussion. Should the matter be brought to a vote, neither the affected Officer nor any other Officer with a pecuniary benefit from the transaction shall vote on it.

5.1.1.3 The Executive Council and Board of Managers will comply with all the requirements of the New Hampshire law where conflicts of interest are involved, including but not limited to the requirements of a two-thirds vote where the financial benefit to the officer is between \$500 and \$5,000 in a fiscal year, and to the requirement of a two-thirds vote and publication in the required newspaper where the financial benefit exceeds \$5,000 in a fiscal year. The New Hampshire statutory requirements are incorporated into and made a part of this conflict policy.

5.2 Provision of Dissolution

5.2.1 The provisions for disposition of the corporate assets of the charity in the event of dissolution of the organization are: Upon dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for the public purpose.

PART 6. APPENDICES

6.1 League Meeting Functions & Rules

- 6.1.1 All league meetings must be run by an agenda with the sole purpose of conducting the league's business. No one person or entity can dictate the outcome or decision of any agenda item outside of the majority voting procedure already put in place.
- 6.1.2 All league meetings must be conducted in an agreed-upon location to be determined by the Board of Managers.
- 6.1.3 Each team gets one (1) vote per motion per meeting. In the event that multiple league members of the same team attend the league meeting, only one person per team is allowed to cast a vote on agenda items.
- 6.1.4 Only Managers or designated replacement personnel are allowed to vote on league agenda items.
- 6.1.5 League meetings will be presided over by the President of the NELBL or the next-in-line league officer in event the President is absent. The President shall communicate to the Board as to the agenda to be followed for the league meeting no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled meeting.
- 6.1.6 Agenda structure and format will be run with each participating team being allowed to discuss each agenda item by time interval, to be allocated in the agenda schedule. The "floor" will be given to each Board of Managers member for no more than two (2) minutes in a round-robin method to voice their concerns, opinions, etc., in regard to each agenda item. If the Board of Managers member requires additional time to discuss their concerns etc., they will request an additional 2 minutes from the President (or Vice-President, etc.) and then the next Board of Managers member will have their turn.
- 6.1.7 Any league member, Board of Managers member, or league officer who interjects, interrupts, or takes over the league agenda while the floor is being taken by a team will be given a warning "strike" by the President and will be asked to wait their turn. If the individual refuses to concede the floor to the league member speaking, then that person will be asked to excuse themselves from the league meeting and hence will forfeit any voting privileges at the next league meeting. Repeat "offenders" of the league's meeting agenda structure and format may be subject to fines, league disciplinary action, or removal from further league meetings.

6.2 NELBL Participation Contract

New England Legends Baseball League (NELBL)
Participant Contract/Agreement
 Updated April 7, 2024

Player Participation Agreement

First Name		Last Name	
Address		Apt	
City		State	
Zip		Home Telephone	
DOB		Work Telephone	
		Cell Telephone	
E-Mail Address			
Driver's License Number			

My signature at the end of this form attests that I agree to the following:

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT BY SIGNING MY NAME TO THIS CONTRACT, I HAVE READ ALL OF THIS AGREEMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING, AND I UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS AND WHAT I AM AGREEING TO. MY SIGNATURE MEANS THAT I FULLY AGREE TO ASSUME ALL RISKS OF INJURY, AND FULLY AGREE TO INDEMNIFY, NOT TO SUE, AND RELEASE FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY THE ORGANIZERS OF THE NEW ENGLAND LEGENDS BASEBALL LEAGUE, hereinafter referred to as the NELBL, FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE NEW HAMPSHIRE 50+ BASEBALL LEAGUE (NHBL50+). THIS ENTRY AND RELEASE IS A CONTRACT WITH LEGAL AND BINDING CONSEQUENCES AND IT APPLIES TO ALL GAMES AND EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE NELBL IN WHICH I PARTICIPATE, INCLUDING REGULAR SEASON GAMES, PLAYOFF GAMES, PRACTICE SESSIONS, AND OTHER NELBL ORGANIZED GAMES AND EVENTS IN WHICH I AGREE TO PARTICIPATE FULLY AT MY OWN FREE WILL.

I understand that whenever I play baseball or otherwise participate in any NELBL game, practice session, or event, I am participating on my own free will and at my own expense. I fully understand that the NELBL is an amateur, non-professional baseball league with the sole purpose of providing people age 50 and older a place to have fun and play baseball, and that the NELBL does NOT provide players with any compensation, medical insurance, nor liability insurance. I also understand that there is no guaranteed playing time on any given NELBL team associated with regular season, tournament, playoff games, and events except as stated in the NELBL League Rules and By-Laws.

In consideration of MY DESIRE TO PLAY BASEBALL IN THE NELBL, I hereby freely agree to and make the following contractual representations and agreements. I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT BASEBALL IS AN INHERENTLY DANGEROUS SPORT AND FULLY REALIZE THE DANGERS OF PARTICIPATING IN NELBL GAMES AND EVENTS, INCLUDING THE RISK AND DANGER OF SERIOUS INJURY OR POSSIBLE DEATH, whether as a player, coach, manager, observer, or otherwise, and I FULLY ASSUME ALL RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH SUCH PARTICIPATION INCLUDING, by way of example, and not limitation: the dangers of being hit by a baseball, collision with other players, collision with equipment, playing field hazards including fixed or moving objects; the dangers arising from playing field surface hazards, including holes and sprinkler equipment, inadequate field safety equipment,

use of equipment or materials provided by the NELBL and by playing field owners, THE RELEASEES' OWN NEGLIGENCE, the negligence of others, and weather conditions; and the possibility of serious physical and/or mental trauma or injury, or death associated with my participation in the NELBL.

For myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, assignees, and successors in interest (collectively "Successors") I HEREBY WAIVE, RELEASE, DISCHARGE, HOLD HARMLESS, AND PROMISE TO INDEMNIFY AND NOT TO SUE the Releasees including the NELBL commissioner, NELBL officers, NELBL team managers, NELBL team coaches, NELBL baseball players, and all sponsors, organizers and promoting organizations, property owners, law enforcement agencies, public entities, special districts and properties that are in any manner connected with NELBL games and events, and their respective agents, officials, and organizers through or by which the event will be held, (the foregoing are also collectively deemed to be Releasees), FROM ANY AND ALL RIGHTS AND CLAIMS INCLUDING CLAIMS ARISING FROM THE RELEASEES' OWN NEGLIGENCE, which I have or which may hereafter accrue to me and from any and all damages which may be sustained by me directly or indirectly in connection with, or arising out of, my participation in the NELBL or travel to or return from NELBL games and events.

I agree it is MY SOLE RESPONSIBILITY to be knowledgeable of NELBL rules of play and to observe at all times those rules and by-laws. I understand and agree that situations may arise during NELBL events which may be beyond the control of the Releasees, and I agree to participate so as to neither endanger myself nor others. I accept responsibility for the condition and adequacy of my own equipment, and equipment provided for my use, and my conduct in connection with NELBL events. It is MY SOLE RESPONSIBILITY to select my batting helmet and other protective equipment during games that can protect against head injury, and I assume all responsibility and liability for the selection and use of such safety equipment. I further state that I have no physical or medical condition which would endanger myself or others if I participate in NELBL games and events, or would interfere with my ability to safely participate in any NELBL game or event.

I agree, for myself and my successors, that the above representations are contractually binding, and are not mere recitals, and that should I or my successors assert a claim contrary to what I have agreed to in this contract, the claiming party shall be liable for all expenses (including legal fees) incurred by the Releasees in defending the claims. This contract may not be modified orally, and a waiver or modification of any provision shall not be construed as a waiver or modification of any other provision herein or as consent to any subsequent waiver or modification. I consent to the release by any third party to Releasees and their insurance carriers of my name and medical information that may relate solely to any injury or death I may suffer arising from participation in the NELBL. Every term and provision of this contract is intended to be severable. If any one or more of them is found to be unenforceable or invalid, that shall not affect the other terms and provisions, which shall remain binding and enforceable.

I AGREE THAT MY SIGNATURE BELOW SHALL REMAIN VALID FOR ALL OF THE ABOVE AGREEMENTS FOR AS LONG AND AS MANY YEARS THAT I DECIDE TO PARTICIPATE IN NELBL GAMES and EVENTS:

Player's Signature

Date

Manager's Signature (WITNESS)

Date

6.3 NELBL By-Law Rule Change Request Form

<p style="text-align: center;">New England Legends Baseball League (NELBL) By-Law Rule Change Request Form Updated November 4, 2024</p>

Date Submitted:

Submitted by (Name, Title):

E-Mail address:

Submitted to – NELBL Board of Managers

Summary of proposed change (please include reference to or pasted section of existing NELBL By-Law):

Explanation and Rational for Proposed Change:

6.4 NELBL Player Release Form

<p style="text-align: center;">New England Legends Baseball League (NELBL) Player Release Form Updated November 4, 2024</p>

Team:

Player:

Team Manager:

Effective Date of Release:

All fees paid to current team (circle one): Y N

If no, when will fees be paid?:

Reason for Player resignation:

Manager must attach revised roster to this document to complete the release process

Submit finalized Release Form to: NELBL Secretary

6.5 NELBL Request for Disciplinary Review

New England Legends Baseball League (NELBL)
Request for Disciplinary Review
 Updated November 4, 2024

Request for Review by NELBL President & Board of Managers

Please submit to the NELBL President for review

Review Information

Today’s Date:

Name:

Team:

Team role (player, coach, Manager):

Date of Incident:

Opposing Team:

Rule in question:

Incident in question (describe the incident in detail including all players involved):

Reason for rule review (what is impact to the team and/or player, Manager):

Do you believe this incident warrants a:

- One (1) Game Suspension Multiple (1+) Game Suspension

Please attach additional information to this note, if necessary.

6.6 NELBL Return of AED Clause

New England Legends Baseball League (NELBL)
Return of AED Clause
 Updated March 9, 2026

Whereas the NELBL believes that the required inclusion of an Automatic External Device (“AED”) at baseball games is a reasonable measure to help ensure the safety and enjoyment of all of our ballplayers, the NELBL Board of Managers has seen fit to purchase AED devices for each team in the league.

Furthermore, the NELBL requires the presence of at least one (1) functioning AED—to be verified by the umpire(s)—before an official game can be played.

Because the NELBL has paid for each team’s AED, should an NELBL team fold or otherwise withdraw from the league, that team’s AED will need to be returned to the NELBL in the original operating condition, and good physical condition, accepting reasonable wear and tear (as assessed by Board of Managers). If the AED is not returned in this condition, an additional fee may apply.

The device condition will not be final until a review has been performed by a member of the Executive Council.

The below signed agrees that their team’s AED is the property of the NELBL and will be returned to the NELBL should that team withdraw from the league.

X

Manager's Signature Manager's Team

6.7 NELBL Bylaws Glossary of Terms

Board of Managers (or “**The Board**”): The NELBL Board of Managers is the legislative and governing body of the NELBL comprised of team Managers—or designated representatives—who may vote in the Manager’s absence. Individual board members generally have one vote each and collectively decide the direction that the NELBL organization should take.

Executive Council: The NELBL Executive Council is maybe up of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Quorum: A quorum is the minimum number of voting members who must be present at a properly convened meeting in order to conduct business. The NELBL suggests that two-thirds—rounded up—of the Board of Managers must be present in order to call an official meeting. In a nine (9) team league, for example, $9 \times .66 = 5.94$, rounded up = 6. Should the NELBL expand to ten (10) teams in the future, the quorum number would increase to seven (7, e.g. $10 \times .66 = 6.6$, rounded up = 7). Should the league contract to eight (8) teams, the quorum number would decrease to six (6, e.g. $8 \times .66 = 5.28$, rounded up = 6).

Simple Majority: A simple majority, also referred to as a simple plurality, is defined as when more than half of the votes cast are in favor of a particular option or candidate. This type of majority is commonly used in various voting situations, including elections and organizational decisions. For example, in a scenario with 100 votes, achieving a simple majority would require at least 51 votes in favor of a motion or candidate.

Supermajority: A supermajority is a specific type of majority that requires a higher percentage of votes than a simple majority for a decision to be valid. Typically, this threshold is set at two-thirds (66.67%) or three-fourths (75%), depending on the governing rules; the NELBL suggests a two-thirds majority for critical decision making such as constitutional amendments, significant legislative changes, or other pivotal actions that could have lasting impacts on governance or organizational structure.

6.8 Index of Updates

2026-01-12: 1.4.2 & 1.4.3 (and underlying subsections) updated to clarify process whereby members of the Executive Council who are also managers can vote as representatives of their team, but cannot cast a deciding vote as a member of the Executive Council.

2026-01-12: Deleted original sections 1.4.4 & 1.4.5, which are handled by updated sections 1.4.2 & 1.4.3.

2026-01-12: 2.2.2 updated to require minimum 50% of regular season games played for players in their first three years in the NELBL to qualify for playoffs, while dropping that minimum for players after three years to 25% of regular season games played to qualify for playoffs.

2026-01-12: 2.2.3 added to accommodate players who are unable to physically bat or play in the field, but who are interested in keeping score or serving as base coaches for at least four (4) innings, and thus qualifying as a game played toward playoff eligibility.

2026-01-12: 3.3.7 added to emphasize that the NELBL will not use a pitch clock nor batter's clock, nor will a pitcher that disengages from the pitcher's rubber three (3) or more times during an At-Bat.

2026-01-12: 3.12.4.1 & 3.12.4.2 swapped, moving Points to first consideration, and Winning Percentage to second consideration in Playoff Seeding.

2026-02-09: 2.2.2 simplified to state that all players must participate in a minimum of five (5) games to qualify for playoffs.

2026-02-09: 2.2.3 added to provide an option for players that are physically unable to play in the field or bat but would like to keep the scorebook or serve as a base coach for at least four (4) innings to qualify as a game played.

2026-03-09: 3.10.8 added language requiring at least one (1) functioning AED per each official NELBL baseball game.

2026-03-09: Appendix 6.6 added Return of AED Clause

6.9 NELBL Bylaws Approval

The foregoing Bylaws were adopted by a simple majority of the NELBL Board of Managers then in office at a meeting of members of the NELBL Executive Council and Board of Managers held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at which time a quorum was present. Additional updates were made in January, February, and March 2026, and were also adopted by a simple majority of the NELBL Board of Managers during meetings when quorums were present.



Timothy Koukos
Secretary