



BCML Travel Baseball

B Division

RULES AND POLICIES

SPRING 2019

A. PURPOSE OF THE LEAGUE

To provide an opportunity for youth baseball players to develop their baseball talent and participate in travel league competition. The BCML also provides value added services for member organizations; lowest cost team insurance, training for managers and players, plus health and safety information.

B. AGE GROUPS INVOLVED

8U Age Group: Cannot be 9 before May 1, 2019
9-10 Age Group: Cannot be 11 before May 1, 2019
11-12 Age Group: Cannot be 13 before May 1, 2018
13-14 Age Group: Cannot be 15 before May 1, 2019

C. ADMINISTRATION OF THE LEAGUE

The League is governed by the volunteer cooperative efforts of the BCML, Inc. Board of Directors, consisting of a CEO, CFO, and COO. All rules and regulations will be established and/or changed by the Board of Directors using a simple majority vote basis. Administration of the league is performed by the following positions; BCML Commissioner, BCML Vice-Commissioner, BCML 8U Division Administrator, BCML 9-10 Division Administrator, BCML 11-12 Division Administrator, BCML 13-14 Division Administrator, and a BCML 16U Division Administrator.

B Division registration forms are due by March 29, 2019. No Additional registrations will be accepted after this date. The first scheduled game for all teams will be April 7, 2019. All teams are requested to play in the BCML End of Season Tournament the weekends of June 22 and 23, 2019, the finals the weekend of June 29 and 30, 2019. Rain dates will be June 29 and 30, 2019 and July 6 and 7, 2019.

The B Division League registration fee is \$135 per team, which includes the End of Season Tournament.

All registration and insurance payments must be made online using a credit card when submitting forms.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

ALL teams MUST have individual team insurance coverage and provide additional insured certificates with BCML, Inc. named as additional insured. Note: only insurance policies that can or do provide additional insured certificates will be accepted, no exceptions.

The additional insured certificate must be received by the BCML before any team can be included on the official season schedule and must be included in the team binder, available at each BCML venue in the event it is needed.

Each player MUST have a medical release waiver signed by the responsible parent and retained in the binder as well. This is a requirement of the BCML insurance carrier and is not negotiable. If there is no signed waiver the player is ineligible to play.

Address to be used for Team Insurance "Additional Insured Certificates" (only):

BCML, Inc.
7358 Holestein Ave.
Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Teams may secure insurance thru the BCML as a value-added service to our participants if desired, insurance information is on the website.

Violations

Action taken for violations of the enclosed rules and regulations may result in game suspension, season suspension, or removal from the league for the manager. Forfeits are only awarded against teams not showing up for a scheduled game, all other former forfeit violations now result in a manager suspension, this rule change was implemented to eliminate penalizing the players for a manager's inability to follow rules. The BCML Commissioner or BCML Board of Directors must approve disciplinary action taken by the league against any player, manager, team or organization.

All league information will be disseminated using the BCML website and/or email - www.bcmlbaseball.org

Communication

It is important all communications regarding BCML matters be initially communicated or followed up by a clear and concise e-mail. Too many issues are communicated verbally with no verifiable facts to render concise decisions or clarify issues.

Communications between team managers and counterparts must be copied to the appropriate age division administrator and all others involved; managers, coaches, BCML officials, etc. The administrator will copy any additional BCML personnel as required. The e-mailer is not limited to who he can copy beyond those identified above. Any facts or communications not copied or directed as an e-mail to the division administrator and copied to all involved will not be utilized or considered in any decision-making process, no exceptions.

All agreements (not disagreements), on or off the field, must follow the procedure of e-mailing the division administrator at first opportunity. All participating managers are responsible to send an e-mail explaining the situation. If you have an agreement in the presence of an umpire; include the time, date, and location so the umpire can be questioned if required. All on field agreements must be disseminated to the umpire and e-mailed to the division administrator, no exceptions. *Any agreement on the field not clearly disseminated to the umpire will not be considered in decision rendering. Request the umpire to repeat the agreement in front of both managers to assure a clear understanding of the information disseminated, this will eliminate confusion during any resultant disputes.*

This revised rule has been implemented to minimize misunderstandings and protect those with good intentions.

D. MEETINGS

A manager and organization travel coordinator meeting will be held in December 2018 / January 2019 to review rule changes and policies/procedures. Any person(s) interested in registering for the Spring 2019 season or participating in a BCML venue or position is welcome to attend. The website notification will advise location, date and time.

E. GENERAL BASEBALL RULES

With exception to the specific rules herein, the Official Major League Baseball Rules will be followed for all age groups. All rule interpretations will be determined by the umpire(s) officiating the game, disputes should be finalized on the field. Inability to resolve a dispute shall result in a protest that must be filed on the field at the time of the protest. The protest rules (section F.1 Protest) must be followed for protest consideration, no exceptions.

It is the responsibility of the managers to maintain a current revision of the rules in the team binder and have present during all BCML games. Each manager should inquire of the umpire his reading and understanding of the BCML posted rules.

These rules apply for the 2019 BCML Spring season for the B Divisions.

1. GAMES

All games will be seven innings in duration, except for the 8U & 9-10 age groups, which will play six inning games. A game is considered official after four innings are complete (or if three and a half innings have been completed for 8U & 9-10) with the home team leading when the game is called due to inclement weather or darkness. Tournament games will be played in full, incomplete games will be considered suspended until completed.

The home plate umpire is responsible to determine if a game should be called once the game has started. Once the umpire halts play a game it is considered complete at the point of time that the umpire stops play.

If the game is a tied score and has reached the point in time to be considered an "official game" (first paragraph in this section) the score, batting statistics, outs, etc. reverts to the start of any inning if the umpire halts the game before the completion of any inning. If score is not tied when reverting to the start of the inning the game is considered officially complete and the team with the most runs is determined the winner.

Tie games or games with less innings played to qualify for an official game is considered a suspended game. Only these two situations can constitute a suspended game. Suspended games resume at the exact situation and point of time in the game when the umpire stops play. If both teams agree in writing to the division administrator, the suspended game can be determined a complete game with the final score being the actual score when the game was suspended. Note: each team would receive two points for a tie game.

The home team gets their choice of benches. The *home field* team is responsible for determining if fields are playable prior to the start of a game. The visiting team must be contacted a minimum of three (3) hours prior to the scheduled start of a game if the game is to be postponed due to inclement weather or unplayable field conditions. Each team is responsible for keeping their own score, but scorekeepers should verify scores with each other and the umpire during and after the game. Disputes are to be resolved by the umpire.

There **is no time limit for any BCML scheduled games**. Extra innings will be played to break a tie. If both teams agree and inform the umpire as such, the umpire can end the extra inning game as a "tied score" complete game.

8U, 9-10 B, 11-12 B, and 13-14 B division teams will be scheduled a double header every, including the BCML end of season playoff championship tournament. Game times to be determined based on field availability; default start times for games will be 10:00 am. Home teams may elect to request preferred start times.

If multiple games are played back to back on the same field, the second game will begin 15 minutes after the completion of the first game, or at the scheduled start time, whichever is later.

Forfeit time is twenty minutes after the scheduled starting time.

All registered teams qualify for the End of Season Tournament, fees for these tournaments are included in registration fee.

Each team will supply one new baseball to begin each game and any additional balls that are needed during the game will alternate between home and visitor. The 8U & 9-10 age groups will use Official Little League Baseballs; the 11-12 and 13-14 age groups will use Pony League Baseballs or equal. Each team is responsible for keeping its own score.

The home team's league contact person or team manager is responsible for determining if fields are playable prior to the start of a game. Teams **must** be contacted **at least three (3) hours prior** to the scheduled start of the game if the game is to be postponed due to inclement weather or unplayable field conditions exist.

2. UMPIRES

The umpire is responsible to control the game, not the teams, once the first pitch is thrown. The umpire is the person the BCML will confront to gather the facts for decision rendering. The BCML may elect to hear the facts as perceived by the manager(s), however this is not required or mandatory in any decision rendering.

The umpire's decision will determine the results of any complaint by either manager for unsafe field conditions. If the umpire determines the field to be unsafe for any reason the game may be moved to the other team's field or the game may be considered postponed and rescheduled. Playoff games will be moved to another field if the umpire determines the field to be unsafe. If the umpire determines the field to be playable and either team does not or will not field their team the game is considered a forfeit.

The **home field** team is responsible for obtaining the services of an umpire(s); scheduling, communications, contracts, and coverage verification for each regular season home game. It is required to have a qualified **adult umpire** for each league game, if both teams agree two umpires may be utilized. Both teams will equally split the cost of paid umpires. If no umpire(s) show up for the game, every effort should be made to find adequate officiating in order to play. Teams may reschedule as a **last** resort with the consent of both managers. (See previous section 1.)

Adult umpire definition for this document content: Umpires must be a minimum of 18 years old and be certified by an established umpire association to umpire any BCML game. The home team manager will be suspended for 2 games for allowing any game to be scheduled with under aged umpires. Inexperienced umpires are the number one cause of unruly and unacceptable behavior from fans, managers, and players.

The umpire and the managers must control the game situations, inexperienced umpires inevitably allow the situation to get out of control. See Manager and Umpire Policy guidelines section E.7 below.

The BCML is responsible to arrange and scheduled umpires for all BCML tournament games, but both teams will be responsible to split the umpire fees for these tournament games.

3. TEAM ROSTERS

It is the team and organization's responsibility to comply with the BCML roster rules and policies. Failure of the manager or travel coordinator to be forthwith or withhold information from the BCML officials may result in the suspension of the team manager.

Ignorance of the situation is not a defense or excuse, seek clarification if you have any doubt.

B Division

The manager is required to have a copy of the team roster in the team binder at all times.

No current BCML A division or "Club Team" rostered players are permitted on a BCML B division team roster. Special consideration may be used for teams playing up in older age divisions. A maximum of five (5) older aged players for the division age group are permitted on any one B division team.

Any BCML non-A division in-house player within the same organization can be brought up to the B team roster for any game. Phone notification and an email approval by the division administrator is required. A maximum of three call ups allowed per player, the third call up requires permanent roster addition of that player.

- The initial rosters must be posted on the BCML website two weeks after season start. A maximum of 15 players allowed on the roster.
- Three weeks after season start, rosters will be locked on the BCML website.
- The division administrator must approve all additions or replacements, no exceptions including changes for injuries or circumstances that would reduce the roster below 12 players.
- Failure to post a roster on the team website by these dates will constitute the suspension of the manager until the policy is satisfied. **NO EXCEPTIONS; NO EXCUSES ACCEPTED.**
- Only 15 players allowed for the End of Season Tournament.

4. TEAM BINDERS

Each team is required to have and maintain a team binder with all required documents available for inspection. This binder must be available at each game and must be presented if requested by the umpire or if the other team has a question of player eligibility. It is the team manager's responsibility to make sure the information on the website matches the information in the binder. Due to identity theft concerns birth certificates are not mandated, however, the medical waiver requires a league age filled in and signed by the parent. The medical waiver is a legal document that shall not be falsified, falsified medical waiver will result in the **suspension of the player and the manager** for the remainder of the season. The parent signing the falsified Waiver Form may be prosecuted at the discretion of the BCML.

Binder must consist, but are not limited to, the following:

- i. BCML team roster, printed from the current team webpage.
- ii. Current insurance policy with additional insured adder per BCML rule F.9.
- iii. Parent medical waivers form for each player.
- iv. Contact information for the BCML division administrator & BCML executives.
- v. 2019 Spring BCML Rules.
- vi. BCML Manager and Umpire Policy.

5. PLAYING RULES

Fielding:

Pitching distances will be 40 feet for 8U; 46 feet for the 9-10 B age group; 50 feet for the 11-12 B age group, and 60'± 6" for the 13-14 B age group....54' – 0" if 90' diamond is not available. Distances between the bases will be 60 feet for 8U & 9-10 B age groups; 70 feet for the 11-12 B age group; and 90 feet for the 13-14 B age group. Teams may agree prior to the game to modify these distances due to field limitations. Home team gets their pick of bench.

Pitching:

The pitching week runs from Monday thru Sunday. Managers are required to advise the opposing manager of the innings pitched in the current week by any pitcher when requested. Any game in which a pitcher is found to be in conflict with the following pitching limits, the team manager will be ejected and must serve a second game suspension for the next game. This ruling should be made by the umpire the day of the game as a result of a protest by the opposing manager.

The BCML website has recommended pitching safety documentation for the manager and parent to utilize when considering the safety of their player or son/daughter. The BCML is not responsible for over use of pitchers, this is strictly the responsibility of the manager and parent(s).

B Division Pitching

Pitchers hit two batters in one inning or 3 in a game must be removed from pitching and cannot pitch again in that game for all age groups.

Allowable innings for B division pitchers are as follows:

8U	2 / Game
9-10	4 / Day & 6 / week maximum At least 2 innings pitched each game by a 9-year-old
11-12	4 / Day & 7 / week maximum At least 2 innings pitched each game by an 11-year-old
13-14	5 / Day & 7 / week maximum At least 2 innings pitched each game by a 13-year-old

Any team not complying with the younger age pitcher or combination of younger aged pitchers completing 2 full innings as described below will result in the manager serving a two-game suspension. This would include games shortened by the slaughter rule. Weather shortened games are not included in this rule; note - darkness is not a weather-related reason for a shortened game.

Base Running:

The stealing of bases is allowed in all age groups, except 8U.

9-10 age divisions; the runner may not leave the base until after the pitched ball has crossed home plate. Therefore, stealing after a walk and before the ball is pitched to the next batter is prohibited unless there is a play on another runner prior to the next pitched ball. Players are permitted to steal home on a throwback to the pitcher from the catcher, other than a ball 4 pitch or the umpire has called time. 11-12 and 13-14 age group runners may lead off from and steal any base.

8U is the **only** division where the infield fly rule is not in effect.

8U division **will not** utilize the pitchers hand rule stopping all base runners. Play is stopped when the umpire stops play. The rule allows the base runner to advance only one base on any over throw or combination of over throws after a batted ball, no matter if it goes out of play or not, for any thrown ball.

The umpire will halt play; the following are examples or in the umpire's opinion the defense controls play - the ball is out of play, an infielder has control of the ball and calls timeout, or infielder has clear control of the ball after a throw from the outfield and is not making a play on a runner, or after any out.

Note: If the runner continues to advance to the next base when an infielder has clear possession and the infielder is not making a play on the advancing runner or any other runner the umpire will determine all runner locations around the base path relative to the mid-way base marks when the fielder achieved clear possession. The umpire's judgment call decision is final; no disputes will be entertained for rules interpretations.

The home team will install mid base perpendicular lines half way between the bases to assist the umpire in identifying the runner's location when the play is stopped.

Example of 8U over throw ruling: runner on first and the batter hits the ball to the short stop who throws to second base. The ball is then missed by the second baseman and goes into right field. The runner coming into second base is permitted to advance to third base at his own risk and the batter, after reaching first base, can advance to second base at his own risk. Subsequently, if the right fielder throws the ball to third base and the third baseman missed the ball, the runners cannot advance any additional bases, even if the ball goes out of play.

After an over throw and the runner(s) have reached the next base, safe or not, the play is dead for all 8U game situations. One extra base per player per batted ball.

Bunting:

There is no bunting in the 8U division. All other divisions are permitted to bunt at any time. Foul bunt attempt with two strikes constitutes the third strike and the batter is out.

6. SUBSTITUTIONS

Each team will have the option of batting and substitution as follows:

- A. Bat 9 and field 9. Once a player is removed from the game he may re-enter the game under the stipulation in option B below.
- B. Bat 10 and field 9, the 10th batter is a DH (designated hitter) and cannot be played in the field.
 - 1) If using Option A or B, starting players may be re-entered once. They must be re-entered in the same position in the batting order that they started. The pitcher must be removed on the second trip to the mound in the same inning and cannot re-enter to pitch. Also, if a player is injured after all eligible players have been used, the team may re-enter another team member (Injury Only).
- C. Bat your entire roster and field 9. You would have free substitution of players, except for the pitcher. If a player is injured or leaves the game for reasons other than ejection he will be called out the first/next time the player comes to bat only. Ejections result in an out being assessed for each at bat. Should a player arrive late he will be inserted at the end of the batting order immediately upon arriving.

Whichever batting arrangement you opt, you must declare which option prior to the start of the game and may not change once the game has started. You must start with at least 8 players and finish the game with 8 players. Failure to start with 8 players will result in a 6-3 forfeit loss, failure to finish with 8 players results in a 6-3 completed game loss, no matter the inning of the incident.

7. SAFETY RULE

For all age groups: A player **MUST AVOID CONTACT OR SLIDE**. Failure to avoid contact may result, in the umpire's judgment; being called out for a normal infraction and/or being ejected from the game for malicious intent.

There will be no head first sliding into a base in any age group under 13-14. Returning to a base head first is acceptable

8. GAME CONDUCT

No smoking or alcoholic beverages allowed on the field, bench area, or in the stands by coaches, parents or fans. If detected and not removed upon request, ejection from venue will be assessed by the umpire or field official.

Unsportsmanlike conduct by players, managers and coaches will not be tolerated. Razzing of opposing players is not allowed. The permissible number of warnings for infractions are detailed in the "Manager Umpire Policy."

Managers are responsible for their team, their conduct, and the conduct of the team's fans, failure to do so will result in the manager being issued the appropriate warning(s) by the umpire, and if in the umpire's judgment he has issued the appropriate warning (s) as listed below, with no positive results, the manager will be ejected and must serve a second game suspension for the next game. See Basic Manager/Umpire policy contents below:

Managers are to be exemplary figures and should conduct themselves accordingly, formal written complaints will be investigated and dealt with as the BCML management determines to be relevant to the offense.

The Manager/Umpire Interaction policy must be read and reviewed prior to the game during the ground rules. If the ground rules are completed without reviewing this policy to both manager's satisfaction.....ie, any objection to the detail reviewed constitutes non-satisfaction. Failure to satisfy both managers and the umpire constitutes the home field team manager being suspended for that game, no exceptions.

See Basic Manager/Umpire policy contents below:

Manager:

- No F Bomb profanity; no warnings for coaches, players, manager; one warning for fans
- All other profanity or player / coach misconduct – one warning; two warnings for fans
- No manager or coach can dispute balls and strikes; one warning.
- Only the manager is allowed to address the umpire; one warning.
- Overzealous actions or theatrics regarding calls or during disputes; one warning.
- Manager is responsible for player's and coach's behavior; one warning.
- Manager is responsible for parent's or fan's behavior; two warnings.
- Any player, coach or fan ejection also requires manager ejection.
- Any ejection constitutes all ejected plus manager suspension for the next league game.
- Once the game starts; no forfeits, less than 8 available players constitutes a 6-3 loss.

- Managers must present binder documents at request, failure constitutes ejection. Binder must consist, but are not limited to, the following:
 - i. BCML team roster, printed from the current team webpage.
 - ii. Current insurance policy with additional insured adder per rule BCML Rule F.9.
 - iii. Parent medical waivers form for each player.
 - iv. Contact information for the BCML division administrator & BCML executives.
 - v. 2019 Spring BCML Rules.
 - vi. BCML Manager and Umpire Policy.

Umpire:

- The number of warnings above must be complied with prior to ejection.
- A one-time clear concise explanation of a rules decision or disputable call is required.
- Fraternalizing on one team bench is prohibited, alternating is required.
- No coaching or advice offerings to players permitted without the manager being present and in agreement.
- Communicate loud and clear, repeat at least once if requested.
- The Umpire must have read and understand sections E and F of the BCML published rules, if not read them now. If not specifically addressed in the rules revert to Major League Baseball Rules.

The Manager/Umpire Game Conduct Policy must be read and agreed to by the umpires(s) and managers during the ground rules before each game, this is not an option. These policies are not negotiable and must be followed. This policy has been agreed to by the BCML and the Umpiring Associations. This policy has been implemented to eliminate any excuses for either the manager or the umpire for not acting as expected by the BCML or the BCML approved umpiring association.

9. SLAUGHTER RULE

A 10 run Slaughter Rule is in effect if after 4 innings for 8U & 9-10 or after 5 innings for 11-12 or 13-14, if one team is behind by ten (10) or more runs [maximum runs allowed to be scored in any one inning for 8U division is five (5)], except the losing team in the last inning. The game will end at the end of the inning unless the home team is the team ahead by 10, then it will end after the visiting team has batted.

If the game is suspended for any reason with one team ahead by 5 or more runs the managers may consent to end the game. The umpire must be notified as such before he leaves, and he will call the game as complete.

F. MISCELLANEOUS

1. PROTESTS

Any on field disagreement is only settled one of two options; 1) the umpire's decision on the field (BCML preferred option), or 2) a formal protest.

Do not attempt to circumvent this policy. If the umpire makes a decision that is not considered to be within the posted rules, you will need to follow the formal protest procedures explained below. Important: if you do not formally file a protest to the umpire, at the time of the questioned issue, the protest is invalid.....only the umpire can verify the legality of the filed protest. The umpire must acknowledge and announce to both teams that the game is being played under protest, If a manager expects the game is being played under protest it is the manager's responsibility to make sure the umpire hears and announces any intent for a formal protest, if the umpire does not formally announce the protest to both managers there is no protest considered.

Every effort is to be made to resolve all disputes on the field, however, managers must keep the game moving and remember it's about the kids, not the manager or the umpire.

The protesting team must advise the League Commissioner within 24 hours of the protested game's end time. The League Commissioner or Board of Directors will resolve the protest. A \$30.00 protest fee must be submitted to the League Commissioner before a ruling will be given on any protest. Failure to provide the \$30.00 fee within 5 days of filing the protest constitutes withdraw of the protest; however, the \$30.00 protest fee is still required. Successful protesters will get a full refund of the protest fee.

2. UNIFORMS / EQUIPMENT

Members of each team must be outfitted in a complete uniform, meaning all team caps, matching shirts with jersey numbers, and baseball pants. Players not wearing the specified uniform will not be permitted to play. Teams may use a temporary written waiver by a BCML official if uniform delivery timing is an issue.

NO STEEL SPIKES will be allowed, except 13-14 B division. Catchers must wear a protective cup, throat protector, catcher's mask with a cap, and use a catcher's mitt during the game and warm ups.

Bat legality as indicated below:

8U	No restrictions
9-10 B	USA Certified Bats
11-12 B	USA Certified Bats
13-14 B	-3 BBCOR Standards

Information for BBCOR is on the BCML website under "BCML Training & Health Info" menu.

Authentic wood bats will state it is "Authentic Wood Bat" on the bat and they are permissible, composite wood bats must have a BBCOR identifier permanently affixed to the bat the same as all metal or composite bats (Non-Wood).

3. GAME SCHEDULE CONFLICTS

Every effort should be made to play every game. However, conflicts and field unavailability may arise; therefore, the manager from each team should try and work out another date to play within two weeks. The league is not responsible for rescheduling missed games.

- All correspondence for making up games must be in the form of e-mails that are copied to the Division Administrator.
- The sooner a game is rescheduled the easier it is to play the game.
 - Within 3 days of the postponement, the home team must supply the visiting team 3 optional dates and time. Division Administrator must be copied in this communication.
 - If the visiting team cannot make up the games on the proposed dates and time offered by the home team they will offer the home team 3 alternative dates and times.
 - If there can be no agreement on the new date and time for the rescheduled game and the Division Administrator deems the negotiations fair and reasonable, both teams will be awarded a "no play" status for that game, and no points will be awarded to either team.
- Home field teams are responsible to updating the status of scheduled games; including revising date and time on the website schedule as per the rules herein.
 - TBP (To Be Played) cannot be the status of a game with a past date. The status must be revised to CAN (Cancelled) or PPD (Postponed).

- Once a new date is determined the status is then TBP.
- BCML strongly encourages teams to reschedule games within 2 weeks of the original date!! Please include an administrator in all emails rescheduling games.

4. **AWARDS**

No awards are given for league play, league play is used to establish seeding for the end of season tournament. For the 13-14 B Division, individual tee-shirts for Champion roster players and tee-shirts for Finalist roster players as well as a team trophy for the champion and finalist will be awarded (maximum of 15 individual awards per team). 8U, 9-10 B, and 11-12 B champions and finalist will receive player trophies. A consolation champion team trophy will be awarded for each division.

All-star MVP plaques will be awarded to a player for each all-star team, selection by opposing players.

5. **ALL-STARS**

The BCML will host all-star games for each division and age group, the games will be scheduled Wednesday or Thursday, June 19 or 20, 2019. The BCML will determine the number of players to represent each team, dependent on the number of team in a division age group. All player selection **MUST BE** selected by the players on the team. Alternates will not be permitted unless requested by the BCML. Do not promise a player that he is an alternate, we will not adjust policy to prevent manager embarrassment.

6. **FORFEITS**

Teams that do not show up on game day without at least a 3-hour notification or does not have enough players when the game is scheduled to start must pay the total cost for the umpire costs and will be awarded -3 points in the point's standings for their actions. This is the only pre-game infraction resulting in a team forfeit and will result in the team being assessed a \$25 forfeit fee. Reiterating; the forfeiting team must pay for both team's umpire fee.

Any other issue(s) normally or previously assessed forfeits will now be handled via a manager suspension for the duration of the stated policy or if not specifically stated, the discretion of the BCML management dependent on the severity of the infraction. This rule change was implemented to protect the players from suffering a penalty for the manager's inability to understand or follow the rules.

Forfeit fees must be paid before team will be permitted to play the next scheduled league game or carries over to the following season or until fee is paid. **NOTE:** If your team reports for a game and the other team is not present and you have not been notified, contact the division administrator before you leave the field.

7. **SCORES**

Scores are to be input on the website by the winning team within 2 days of the game completion. Contact the division administrator for teams who fail to show for a scheduled game. Contact the division administrator if teams are deviating from the schedule for other than weather related reasons.

8. **MANAGER PREGAME COMMUNICATION**

It is not possible to regulate and enforce a hard-fast rule for manager communication but if we could we would! Managers **must** contact the opposing manager by at least Thursday before the scheduled game to discuss the game criteria and clarify any outstanding issues. If there are any issues that cannot be resolved during this normal communication this should give ample time for the division administrator to clarify said issues. It is suggested to discuss and confirm at the very minimum the following during the manager discussions:

Game location including field #, any parking issues to be conveyed to the parents, game start time(s), verify umpires arranged (home field not home team is responsible to arrange umpires), umpire cost, who will post the score, restrooms or not, concessions or not, permanent spectator seating or not.

9. SEASON END TOURNAMENT

The Season End Tournament will be scheduled for the weekends of June 22, 23, 29, and 30, 2019, with rain dates June 29 and 30 and July 6 and 7, 2019. There will be no additional cost to participate in the event for BCML teams. However, teams will be responsible for splitting umpire fees and supplying game balls.

Home teams (bats last) are as follows:

3 game series - first game is lowest seed, games 2 and 3 (if Nec) are highest seed

Bracket play – Highest seed is home team

Round-robin play – highest seed is home team

Pitching rules in section 4 of this document will apply for the tournament: The pitching week will run from Monday thru Sunday.

Teams may start the game with eight players and may finish with eight players, players arriving late must be entered at the end of the lineup immediately upon arrival dependent for the batting (all) option.

10. ETHICAL PROVISIONS

Any and all information pertaining to participating organizations, teams, players, etc. obtained from the website, e-mails, or any other communication is strictly forbid to be used for any purpose other than official BCML functions or activities.

Participating managers or coaches soliciting players from other BCML teams may be suspended as the BCML officials determine.

Managers, coaches or parents violating this rule are subject to suspension at the discretion of the BCML Board of Directors.

The BCML considers breach of privacy a major violation of the rules and acceptable human conduct.