**Constitution & By-Laws**

**Delta Youth Baseball & Softball Association**

**A non-profit Organization**

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**Article 1 Name, Purpose and Organization**

* 1. The name of the organization shall be Delta Youth Baseball & Softball Association, for purposes of abbreviation, acceptable name herein shall be DYBSA.
	2. The colors of the organization shall be Kelley Green, Dark Grey, Black and White
	3. DYBSA is a non-profit organization exempt from taxation under Section 501C (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
	4. It is the policy of DYBSA not to discriminate or tolerate discrimination based on race, sex, age religious beliefs or physical handicaps.
	5. The mailing address of DYBSA shall be P.O. Box 43 Delta Ohio 43515 unless otherwise designated by the Board of Directors.
	6. DYBSA is a member of the Fulton Lucas Henry Williams County Youth League (FLHWYL) and operates within the league rules and by-laws of FLHWYL. DYBSA constitution and By-Laws do not supersede that of FLHWYL.
	7. The purpose of DYBSA shall be to promote youth “boys” and “girls” sports in the Delta Ohio area and to further promote and develop leadership, character, sportsmanship, tolerance, discipline, and athletic ability, and to nurture youth fitness, volunteerism, and a lifelong love of sports. This organization is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, more specifically to provide sports participation and youth services for the youth of the Delta, Ohio area.
	8. **Mission Statement**
1. DYBSA will make every effort to make sure that every child with the desire to participate gets the opportunity to play, without regard to prior experience, athletic ability, or size.
2. We are committed to instilling honesty, loyalty, integrity, teamwork, discipline, sportsmanship, respect, leadership, trust, commitment, and the importance of education in our young participants. We believe these values and virtues are important to their growth and to them becoming active members to our community and society.
3. We will instill in our youth the challenge of competition, the joy of victory, the reality of defeat and the importance of commitment and community service.
4. These goals will be achieved through organizing our dedicated volunteers, caring parents and business associates who wish to partner with our great youth program.

**Article 2 Governance**

2.1 Governance of this organization shall be vested in the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors of DYBSA shall consist of the following people, each to serve an undesignated term until said member either resigns or is voted out by two-thirds vote of the remaining Board of Directors: President, Baseball Commissioner, Softball Commissioner, Treasurer, Secretary and Concessions Manager.

2.2 The Board has the authority to appoint standing committees or subcommittees that will aid in the administration and facilitation of the business of the organization under the direction and guidance of the Board.

2.3All new board members must be nominated by a Board Member and approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. If an open position is not filled due to the absence of a suitable candidate, duties of that position will be delegated by the Board, until a qualified candidate is selected and approved by the Board of Directors.

2.4 Board Members may only be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the remaining Board of Directors. Board Members being considered for removal from the board may not partake in a vote for his/her removal from office. In the event of death, resignation or removal, a successor shall be selected by the remaining Board of Directors.

Any Board Member may be removed from office when:

1. Whenever the best interest of DYBSA would be compromised by that individual being detrimental to the growth, reputation, or overall benefit of the organization.
2. Board member missing three (3) meetings in a calendar year without acceptable excused absence from the President are subject to suspension or removal from the Board. A two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors is required for removal.
3. Board member has not met requirements outlined in said Board Members Duties & Responsibilities Contract.
4. Board Member violates the Code of Conduct listed in this Constitution.

2.5 Meetings shall be held at a location designated by the Board President and there shall be a minimum of four (4) meetings in a calendar year designated by the Board.

 (a) A quorum (two-thirds) of Board Members must be in attendance in order to vote on any matter unless otherwise noted herein, at all Regular, Special and Emergency Meetings.

2.6 All matters of the Board Shall be voted on and approved by a majority vote of the members present, unless otherwise noted in this constitution or its by-laws.

2.7 Minutes of meetings shall be kept on file and archived by the Secretary.

2.8 A Board Member has the option of taking a leave of absence for one (1) calendar year due medical reasons, personal reasons, or military leave. This leave must be approved by majority vote of the remaining Board members. The terms of this leave are:

 (a) During said term, Board Member is not required to complete his/her assigned duties and responsibilities as outlined in this constitution and its by-laws.

 (b) During said term, Board Member relinquishes all his/her voting rights and is not required to attended Board of Directors meetings.

 (c) Board Member will retain their position on the Board of Directors after the term of one (1) calendar year.

 (d) If said Board member is unable retain the position after the term of one (1) calendar year, the remaining Board Members have the option of filling said Board Member’s position with a permanent or temporary Board Member that is voted in by a two-thirds majority vote.

 (e) He/she may apply for an extension of their leave. The extension must be passed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

**Article 3 Duties of the Board of Directors**

 3.1 DYBSA shall consist of a President, Baseball Commissioner, Softball Commissioner, Treasurer, Secretary and Concessions Manager.

3.2 DYBSA Board of Directors holds the right to assign a new permeant or temporary voting Board position. This position and member must be voted on and approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors.

3.3 **Responsibilities and Duties.** Each Board Member is responsible for certain duties and tasks that are set specifically for each said Board Position and are outlined on each DYBSA Board Member’s Responsibilities & Duties Contract. Each contract must be signed, dated and kept on file by the Secretary.

3.4 The Board of Directors are responsible for handling all appeals and disciplinary actions of Coaches, Players and Parents.

**Article 4 Coaches**

4.1 Eligibility

(a) All coaches must be at least 18 years of age.

(b) Residents of the Pike-Delta-York school district will be given priority over non-residents for new coaching positions.

(c) Coaches must fill out DYBSA coaches’ application.

1. All coaches will be selected by DYBSA Board President and Designated Commissioner. If necessary, any discretions related to coaching selections will be brought to the Board for an official majority vote.
2. If deemed necessary by the DYBSA Board of Directors, all coaches are subject to any coaching orientation, training and/or coaches’ clinic.
3. All Head coaches are required to supply a Criminal Background Check before they are approved as a coach. Said Background Check will be approved or supplied by DYBSA.
	1. Requirements
4. All practices and field time will be scheduled with the DYBSA President and/or League Commissioner.
5. Coaches’ attendance at practices and games are essential to the development of our youth participants. Absence of three or more games/practices are subject to disciplinary action or dismissal at the discretion of the DYBSA Board of Directors.
6. Coaches are required to notify the league Commissioner or Board President of any misconduct
7. Coaches are required to sign out any DYBSA equipment and return it at the scheduled time and location. Coaches must notify the appropriate Commissioner of any equipment that needs to be repaired or replaced.

**Article 5 Umpires**

5.1 Selection and conduct of Umpires

 (a)The DYBSA President is responsible for selecting and scheduling umpires for all DYBSA home competitions.

 (b) All umpires are to be approved by the DYBSA Board of Directors.

 (c) OHSAA certified umpires shall have priority over non-certified Umpires.

 (e) All games must have at least one plate umpire, for game to be official.

 (f) Umpire pay is decided by the Board of Directors on an annual basis.

 (g) Umpires must give a 24-hour notice for any games they cannot attend.

 (h) Umpires are held to a higher standard and shall not subject themselves to use of foul language, excessive arguing with players, coaches, or parents, and/or any act that would be deemed unprofessional.

 (i) All non-certified umpires may be subject to attend a DYBSA-sanctioned umpire course, at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

**Article 6 Constitution and its By-Laws**

6.1 Amendments

 The procedure to amend the constitution and/or its by-laws shall consist of the following:

1. A member shall present an amendment in writing at a Board of Director’s meeting.
2. The President shall ask the Board to review said proposed amendment.
3. The board will make recommendations concerning said proposed amendment.
4. The Board of Directors will vote on the proposed amendment.

6.2 Ratifications

It shall require a two-thirds majority of the vote by the Board of Directors in favor of the amendment before it become effective. When an amendment becomes effective, a written revision of the constitution and its By-Laws shall be prepared by the Secretary and presented to the Board of Directors for final approval.

**Article 7 Protest, Appeals and Escalation Procedures**

7.1 Protests

If during the execution of a league game, a head coach deems it necessary to lodge a protest, the following procedures must be adhered to:

1. Continue the game until its completion.
2. Notify the opposing coach of the intent to protest the game.
3. Notify all umpires officiating the game.
4. Notify the appropriate Commissioner immediately following the game.
5. Provide Commissioner with a written explanation of events.

DYBSA Board of Directors has the final determination over the outcome of any/all DYBSA-sanctioned completions.

7.2 Escalations

 (a) **Umpire Complaints:** All comments/complaints/criticism of umpires during DYBSA-sanctioned games should be directed to the DYBSA President. The President will then notify the Board of Directors to resolve the issue.

 (b) **Player/Coach/Parent Complains**: All complaints related to Players, Coaches and/or Parents should be directed to the appropriate Commissioner. The Commissioner will then notify the Board of Directors to resolve the issue.

 (c) **Board Member Complaints:** Any complaints alleged towards an DYBSA Board Member should be directed to a DYBSA Board Member that the complaint is not against. The DYBSA Board will then hold an Emergency Meeting to resolve the issue.

**Article 8 Code of Conduct**

8.1 It is the expectation of all players, coaches, officials, and parents to conduct themselves appropriately at all DYBSA-sanctioned events. Any physical or verbal abuse by coaches, players or parents towards any coach, participant, player, umpire, or parent will not be tolerated. Any such act is immediate grounds for removal and/or ejection from the game. Any person removed and/or ejected from the game will be removed from the facility where the game is being played, in order to prevent further escalations and/or problems. Law enforcement will be called in when necessary and appropriate.

8.2 Expectations

Each role Board Member and Volunteer, Coaches, Spectators and Players all follow specific guidelines set and listed below.

Board Members, Officials and Volunteers

1. Consider the well being and safety of participants over the development of performance.
2. Make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability and experience of those taking part.
3. Promote the positive aspects of the sport.
4. Display consistently high standards of behavior.
5. Never exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
6. Never condone rule violations, rough play or the use of prohibited substance.
7. Encourage participants to accept responsibility for their own performance and behavior.
8. Encourage participants to value player/team improvement, not wins and losses.
9. Shall not use their position to promote political ideals and/or agenda. And is not to wear clothing promoting a political party while representing DYBSA.
10. Do not do anything that is likely to intimidate, insult, offend, humiliate or discriminate against any other person on the grounds of gender, race, disability, age, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or social background.

Coaches

1. Arrive early to all practices and games for setup and warmup purposes.
2. Keep yourself informed about coaching practices and techniques.
3. Promote fundamentals and personal/team improvement over wins and losses.
4. Never ridicule a participant for making a mistake or error.
5. Teach players to know and follow the rules.
6. Divide your time equally among all players, regardless of playing ability, size and relationship to player and/or parent.
7. Coach is responsible for his/her coaching staff and players, to ensure respect is given to all umpires, opposing teams, players, coaches, and spectators.
8. Follow advice from professionals when determining when/if injured player can return to play.
9. Shall not use their position to promote political ideals and/or agenda. And is not to wear clothing promoting a political party while representing DYBSA.
10. Do not do anything that is likely to intimidate, insult, offend, humiliate or discriminate against any other person on the grounds of gender, race, disability, age, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or social background.
11. Coach will ensure that all players are wearing DYBSA-sanctioned jerseys to all League games.

Players

1. Respect coaches, teammates, opponents, spectators, and umpires at all times on and off the field.
2. Swearing and/or inappropriate language will not be tolerated.
3. Always support teammates and team.
4. Maintain a positive attitude.
5. Be the first to praise others and the last to brag. Stay humble.
6. Be responsible clean dugouts, field and ballpark after all practices and games, whether at home or away.
7. Harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.
8. Do not do anything that is likely to intimidate, insult, offend, humiliate, or discriminate against any other person on the grounds of gender, race, disability, age, size, athletic ability, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or social background.
9. Wear only league-sanctioned jerseys while playing for DYBSA.

Spectators

1. Swearing and/or inappropriate language will not be tolerated.
2. Verbal and/or physical harassment of any kind to players, coaches, umpires or other spectators will not be tolerated.
3. Yelling at umpires in any manor will not be tolerated.
4. Refrain from correcting players and/or shouting advice during all games.
5. Do not do anything that is likely to intimidate, insult, offend, humiliate, or discriminate against any other person on the grounds of gender, race, disability, age, size, athletic ability, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or social background.

8.3 Discipline and Sanctions

If anyone affiliated with, participating in, or attending a DYBSA-sanctioned sporting event violates the rules and guidelines, The Board of Directors reserves the right to subject him/her to any of the following discipline or sanctions at the Board’s discretion. The Board of Directors are responsible for handling all appeals and disciplinary actions of coaches and participants as outlined herein:

 (a) Written Warning

 (b) Game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by the organizations involved.

 (c) Game forfeiture

 (d) Season long suspension.

**Article 9 Finance**

9.1 Expenditures- no expenditure shall be made without authorization as hereinafter.

 (a) All expenditure over the sum of $50 will require approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

 (b) Expenditure less than the sum of $50 may be authorized by the President or Treasurer.

9.2 Deposits and Reports

 (a) Deposits are to be made within three (3) business days of cashed received.

 (b) Financial reports are to be given at Board Meetings no less than twice per calendar year.

 (c) The Concessions Manager is responsible counting and collecting all monies from concessions and giving it to the Treasurer to deposit.