



IRVINE PONY BASEBALL

ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN

UPDATED 12/29/11

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1. REGISTRATION

- 1.1. The IPB Board will establish registration dates, times and locations.
- 1.2. Registration of new players will not be completed without a Birth Certificate or Passport if requested by league.
- 1.3. Each player shall be notified via E-mail or by checking www.irvinepony.com of a date, time and place of tryouts if his/her division requires him/her to tryout. All players in Shetland, Pinto Machine & Kid Pitch, Mustang, Bronco and Pony divisions are **required** to tryout (except for travel teams, subject to pre-approval from the league, playing in the Pony, Bronco or Mustang divisions). League age seven (7) year olds have the option of trying out for Pinto Kid Pitch or staying in Machine Pitch. Player evaluation is important for the balancing of teams.
- 1.4. Any player having a brother/sister requesting to play together on the same team must so indicate this request on both registration forms.
- 1.5. Refund Policy
Refunds will be issued in the following circumstances:
 - 1.5.1. Drop requests prior to the final player evaluation date of the season: Refund in full, less a \$25 administrative fee, will be issued.
 - 1.5.2. If IPB is unable to place a player on a team for the season, a full refund or credit toward a future season will be issued.
 - 1.5.3. **No refund or credit will be given with respect to player drop requests:**
Shetland and above – no refund after the last player evaluation date.
T-Ball and Miteball – no refund after teams have been formed.
 - 1.5.4. Refunds may require up to eight (8) weeks for processing.

2. PLAYER ASSIGNMENT

- 2.1. All players will play in their assigned age division.
- 2.2. A parent may request not having a particular manager. Parents must notify the division VP in writing and present their reason for their disapproval of a particular manager. This reason must be deemed valid by the board or divisional Vice President. This is limited to one manager only. If request is granted, the VP or Commissioner of the division will notify the affected manager should he attempt to draft the player. This request will be valid for the entire season.
- 2.3. When there are more players registered than the league can accommodate, eligibility to play in IPB will be prioritized as follows:
 - 2.3.1. Relative of a manager or assistant coach.

- 2.3.2. Players registered with IPB for the season in order of date and time of sign-up.
- 2.4. The league has the discretion to require a player to play up or down a division for safety reasons.

3. MANAGER/ASSISTANT COACH SELECTION

- 3.1. The IPB Board of Directors must approve all managers, including returning managers from the previous season and managers of travel teams.
- 3.2. All managers new and returning must submit a completed Manager's Application Form.
- 3.3. All manager applications must be submitted by
 - 3.3.1. December 1st for the Spring season.
 - 3.3.2. August 1st for the Fall Season
- 3.4. All managers, assistant coaches and team moms may be required pass a **background check**. This background check is valid for the spring and fall of that particular calendar year. IPB is dedicated to keeping the field of play a safe environment for the children. Background checks are completely confidential. The President and the IPB legal counsel are the only individuals who have access to the background checks should any information cause IPB to address the standing of a manager, assistant coach or team mom. IPB is very discreet in this process to protect the reputation of those involved.
- 3.5. Factors for consideration in manager selection include but are not limited to:
 - 3.5.1. Compliance with league ideal and support league activities (i.e., opening day ceremonies, Memorial Weekend Tournament, coach's clinic, fund-raising functions, etc.).
 - 3.5.2. Ability to communicate with children and parents.
 - 3.5.3. Experience/knowledge within the division.
 - 3.5.4. Performance Evaluations
- 3.6. Provided there are no problems of a serious nature with a manager or coach's prior performance, the following priority may be used in determining final manager selection (listed in order of priority):
 - 3.6.1. Returning managers in the same division.
 - 3.6.2. National League assistant coach of record from the previous season whose spring manager does not return.
 - 3.6.3. Returning managers from the previous spring that desire to move up to a higher division (i.e., a Pinto manager to Mustang, Mustang Manager to Bronco, etc.).
 - 3.6.4. New managers - are defined as anyone not covered in the above paragraphs. This includes men or women who have previously managed or coached within IPB but have not progressed up in the normal manner, or men or women that have never managed or coached within IPB.

- 3.7. In cases where there are more managers than teams in a given division the board of directors will approve the selections after the above procedures have been applied.
- 3.8. In certain circumstance the Irvine Pony Board may appoint a manager based on criteria such as: (i) exceptional service with Irvine Pony Baseball or (ii) have outstanding credentials as a manager. In this case, the manager would take priority over a former manager and/or coach. Potential managers falling in this category should submit a proposal to the Irvine Pony Board of directors for consideration.
- 3.9. Each team shall have one manager and one assistant coach of record. The names of coaches shall be given to the Division VP. A manager may select additional assistant coaches if desired, however, they will not be recognized as coaches of record.
- 3.10. The Irvine Pony Board may suspend, dismiss or discipline a manager or coach when their actions or conduct are detrimental to the best interests of Irvine Pony Baseball (see also section 13).
- 3.11. If a Manager or Coach misses a Irvine Pony scheduled game to attend a club game or tourney in their respective age division, they will be suspended for one week.

4. TEAM NAMES

Team names for non travel teams may be protected based on the following:

- 4.1. Returning managers, or previous coach of record, from the previous spring in the same division may protect their team name from the previous spring.
- 4.2. Returning spring managers who are moving up may protect their team names if available.
- 4.3. Should a protected team name not be available due to conflicts as specified, or the uniform is not available, the manager who lost the team name will be given the opportunity to pick from the remaining team names that are not already protected.
- 4.4. VP's have the discretion to assign team names based on service within IPB.

5. PROTECTED PLAYERS

- 5.1. All players in Irvine Pony Baseball (IPB) must be placed in the player draft for their division. A manager can protect a maximum number of three (3) players in Bronco, Mustang, Pinto KP & MP and Shetland. This applies to the same season (i.e. Spring to Spring – Fall to Fall).
 - 5.1.1. A Shetland manager may only protect protect 3 players and may only have a maximum of 3 players from a previous year All Star team. This also applies to the same season (i.e. Spring to Spring - Fall to Fall)
- 5.2. A manager may protect a player only if at least one of the following criteria is met:

- 5.2.1. The player was a member of a team managed by the manager or coach during the previous Spring season. This does not include fall ball, all star or Memorial Day tournament teams.
- 5.2.2. The player is a relative of the manager or coach from the previous Spring season. Managers/assistant coaches not protecting their own relative may not draft or later trade for their relative.
- 5.2.3. If one sibling is protected and must also play with the sibling, the sibling must also be protected and each will count as a separate manager's protected player. The total number of protections allowed shall not be exceeded by this situation.
- 5.3. Coaches may not protect players in the Spring from Fall ball unless they played for that coach the previous Spring.
- 5.4. Protections must be declared prior to the tryouts to the divisional Vice President or Commissioner
- 5.5. All returning IPB managers may not protect any new player to the league in Pinto KP and above.
- 5.6. To be considered a returning player a player must have played the previous Spring.
- 5.7. If a returning player is placed on a waiting list due to full registration that player may not be protected.
- 5.8. A player that drops out and does not complete his prior season cannot be protected.
- 5.9. Any manager has the right to question a protection. The affected VP or Commissioner will resolve all questions.
- 5.10. All protected players will be required to tryout at the designated time and place so they can be evaluated for team balancing.
- 5.11. An assistant coach becoming a manager may protect players from his previously coached team as long as his previous manager is no longer in the division. If there is more than one assistant coach from a specific team becoming a manager, those managers may only protect their own son.
- 5.12. In the Pony division (13-14 year olds), the 3 player protection limitation may not apply. At the VP and the Board's discretion, the Pony division may be "Coach Select." Coach Select means that new and returning coaches are allowed to recruit new players and encourage returning players to continue playing IPB by allowing them to be on that coach's team. There may not be any limitation to the number of players involved. Coach Select may, from time to time, take priority over balance of the teams. Managers may not recruit players from previous Coach Select teams.
- 5.13. The VP is responsible for ensuring fairness and balance of the teams.
- 5.14. Travel teams are not subject to provisions of this section 5.

6. PLAYER DRAFTS

- 6.1. Only managers and coaches are allowed at the draft.
- 6.2. The VP or Commissioner shall conduct all divisional drafts and/or team selections.
- 6.3. In the absence of a team representative, the division VP may appoint a representative to draft in lieu of the manager or assistant coach.
- 6.4. Each divisional VP shall provide a list of all draft-eligible and protected players to the managers/coaches prior to the draft.
- 6.5. Once the National League draft is completed, a list of American League eligible players will be made available to the American League Managers.
- 6.6. Each player is assessed a value at tryouts. The value will determine what round the player may be drafted in at draft time. Prior to the draft, any manager can challenge a players rating.
- 6.7. The VP or Commissioner will review player ratings with managers and make adjustments as deemed necessary.
- 6.8. The selection of players shall be as follows:
 - 6.8.1. Protected players (freezes) will be placed into the round in which they were evaluated.
 - 6.8.2. Managers without a first round pick will draw numbers for first round draft order.
 - 6.8.3. The total value of all player ranks will be added at the end of each round and managers will select in order of highest cumulative ranking total. The process will repeat itself for each round until the teams are complete.
- 6.9. Players ranked in the first 8 rounds must be selected for National League (or Pinto Kid Pitch).
- 6.10. The divisional VP will set a maximum round below which no player can be drafted to National League (or Pinto Kid Pitch)
- 6.11. Unprotected players missing tryouts for any reason will not be eligible to be drafted into any NL division. Divisional VP's or Commissioners can make exceptions based on knowledge of given player. This player must be given a rating based on this knowledge.
- 6.12. At the conclusion of the division draft, the managers will be allowed 10 minutes to attempt to execute a trade. Any manager may trade any player(s) on his team, in exchange for any player(s) on another team only with the approval of the other team's manager and the VP or Commissioner. A trade can only involve a player drafted in the same round, or one round prior to or after the round in which the player was selected. (No multiple trades will be permitted that would violate this plus or minus one round rule). Trades shall only take place during this time and in the presence of the other managers and must be approved by the Divisional VP or Commissioner.

- 6.13. Once the VP or Commissioner declares the draft closed, no trades shall be permitted without their approval. This trade rule does not allow the trading of sons or daughters of managers. Protected players cannot be traded.
- 6.14. The teams will not be declared official until all players have been contacted by their manager.
- 6.15. Travel teams are not subject to this section 6. Further, travel team managers and coaches are prohibited from attending or participating in player evaluations, unless otherwise requested by the division VP.
- 6.16. For Shetland, T-ball & Mite Ball Divisions:
 - 6.16.1. For T-ball and Mite Ball divisions, the priority is to form neighborhood teams and to allow players to play with their friends.
 - 6.16.2. Teams will not be official until the VP or Commissioner approves them based upon team balancing.

7. MEMORIAL DAY & ALL STAR TOURNAMENT PLAY

- 7.1. The Irvine Pony Baseball Memorial Day tournament is the premier tournament in California. We have ball players of all ages ranging from 3.5-14 years old. With over 100 teams from all over California, Arizona, Colorado and Mexico.
- 7.2. Tryouts
 - 7.2.1. Machine Pitch and Shetland divisions may have open tryouts for the IPB Memorial Day tournament unless the selection process is changed by the Divisional VP.
 - 7.2.2. The managers, VP and Commissioners will select the players.
 - 7.2.3. IPB will field as many teams as the Board determines can be competitive. In Mustang or above, one team may be comprised of all AL players.
- 7.3. Player Selection
 - 7.3.1. Selection of All Stars is governed by the National PONY residency requirements.
 - 7.3.2. Each manager from each team in each division participates in the selection process.
 - 7.3.3. Each NL manager ranks, in his opinion, the top 30 players in the NL in order from highest to lowest. All the rankings are then added together.
 - 7.3.4. Players are ranked based on a number of factors including: ability, versatility, attitude, sportsmanship and positive behavior demonstrated throughout the season by the player and their parents. This means that poor behavior by parents can adversely impact a player's ability to be on an All-Star team.
 - 7.3.5. The rankings are turned into the Vice President or Commissioner of that division for calculation
 - 7.3.6. The first ten players with the highest numbers are on the "A" team

- 7.3.7. The coach can then choose two to five players at his discretion from the top 24 to form his minimum 12-man, maximum 15-man roster.
- 7.3.8. Once a player has been notified of their selection he has 24 hours to accept the position on the team. Parents will be required to sign the IPB All Star Family Contract. The reason for this is to ensure that he and his parents understand the commitment both financially and in terms of time (i.e., practices and playing into the month of July and/or August). If he decides that he does not want to play, the coach will then pick a player from the remaining players before the "B" team (if applicable) can be contacted.
- 7.3.9. The A and B All Star team rosters will be posted on the league website: www.irvinepony.com
- 7.3.10. If the player is chosen to the A team and does not want to accept being on that team he **cannot** move down to the B team. The vacant spot will be filled as noted above.
- 7.3.11. Players 13, 14 & 15 on the "A" team will be given the option to choose to be on the "B" team.
- 7.3.12. The "B" team will be 10 players from the next 15 highest point selections. The coach may choose up to two to five players at his discretion outside of this list of 15 highest remaining players. In the event that players do not accept positions on the "A" or "B" teams such that the top 10 players available on the "B" team extends beyond the 30th ranked player, then the coach may choose the balance of players beyond the 30th ranked player at his discretion. Player's chosen by coach's discretion may be from either the National or American League and require approval of the VP.
- 7.3.13. Once All Star Playoffs begin we are mandated to follow Official Major League Baseball Rules. Each team will bat 9 players and substitution rules are strictly enforced. Except in the Machine Pitch and Shetland divisions where the entire roster must bat. The coaching staff will have full discretion as to how to make their line up. There are *no guarantees* for a minimum amount of playing time. The coaches make every effort to get all players in the game but it is possible that players will have little to no playing time. We feel it is very important for players and parents to understand these guidelines before accepting a spot on the roster.
- 7.3.14. Any player who withdraws from All Stars during the post season for any reason deemed non valid by the board, will not be considered for future All Star teams or be protected by their previous spring manager.
- 7.3.15. Over the years we have found that this procedure is the fairest to all players.
- 7.4. Coach Selection
 - 7.4.1. The manager for the "A" All Star team is based on coaches voting with the VP or Commissioner casting a tie-breaking vote. Managers are allowed to vote for themselves.

- 7.4.2. In the event the manager selected for the "A" All Star team has a son voted onto the B team that manager may decide to manage the B team.
- 7.4.3. The VP will select the B team manager from the remaining managers and assistant coaches . Assistant coaches may be considered for the B team coach. All assistant coaches will be selected by the manager, subject to approval by the Divisional Vice President.
- 7.4.4. If the Commissioner and VP are coaches in the division then final selection will be passed onto another division for oversight. Any and all disputes will be referred to the board for final resolution if necessary.
- 7.4.5. It is the board's position that equitable treatment of the players is the goal. The intent is to maintain a system that is consistent from year to year and division to division.
- 7.4.6. All stars will be selected prior to the IPB Memorial Day Tournament unless the Divisional VP, with input from the Managers, decides to select the team earlier than this date.

8. SCHEDULING

- 8.1. The Divisional VP and Commissioner will schedule all games. The VP or Commissioner will do all changes to the schedule.
- 8.2. Do not assume a game is canceled. Always check with the MUDD Line (949-724-MUDD).
- 8.3. Rained out games may be rescheduled if time and field availability permits or if the outcome effects playoff seeding. This may include the playing of games on Sunday if necessary.
- 8.4. Post-season tournaments will consist of each participating team competing in a playoff format determined by the IPB Board. Seedings will be based upon overall record. In the event of a tie in standings, seedings will be determined by the outcome of the regular season games:
 - 8.4.1. Overall record.
 - 8.4.2. Played head to head, if a tie still exists
 - 8.4.3. Coin toss

9. GENERAL RULES

- 9.1. Each division will have their rules established prior to the beginning of the season. These rules will be posted on the website under each divisions link.
- 9.2. Coaches are expected to carry the rules with them during all games.
- 9.3. Any manager wishing to contest a rule must present the rule in question to the umpire within 90 seconds.
- 9.4. Managers failing to comply with rules as set forth by Irvine Pony Baseball will face disciplinary action (see section 13).

10. SAFETY

- 10.1. A player will not be allowed to play with a hard cast. A player may play with a soft cast provided he or she has a doctor's written release.
- 10.2. A player coaching a base must wear a helmet.
- 10.3. Hard cups are required for all male players Shetland and up.

11. PLAYOFFS

- 11.1. Time limits and complete game innings may be adjusted according to field allocation.
- 11.2. Once an inning begins, every effort will be made for it to be completed.
- 11.3. Post-season tournaments will consist of each participating team competing in a playoff format determined by the IPB Board, Divisional VP and Commissioner. The winner of each game is responsible for reporting scores to the VP or Commissioner and for updating the scoring on the website.
- 11.4. Trophy awards will be given to players on the Championship and runner up teams resulting from playoffs in each division.
- 11.5. No playoff games for the Mite Ball & T-ball divisions.

12. CONDUCT

- 12.1. Managers and coaches are required to sign and agree to abide by a managers code of conduct.
- 12.2. Parents of players are required to sign and agree to abide by a parents code of conduct. Managers are required to keep all signed code of conducts in the player files.
- 12.3. Mechanical noisemakers are not permitted at any game. There will be no distracting chatter by the players, coaches or spectators during the game.
- 12.4. Any player, manager, coach or spectator ejected from a game will not be allowed to participate in the next scheduled game. If this is the second time that they have been ejected then they will sit out the next two scheduled games. A third ejection may result in immediate suspension from Irvine Pony Baseball for the remainder of the season.
- 12.5. Any player, manager, coach or spectator ejected from a game must leave the field and/or stands immediately. Such person may not communicate in any such manner with any player, manager, coach, umpire and/or spectator during the remainder of the game.
- 12.6. If a player is ejected from his last regular season game that player will be suspended for the first playoff game.
- 12.7. Any manager, coach or spectator ejected from a game must leave the area of the playing field and is not allowed to participate in any of the game or the next scheduled game. Refusal to comply constitutes as a forfeit of that game and the next if the offender refuses to observe his suspension for the next game.

- 12.8. Any player, manager, coach or spectator physically abusing any player or other participant, will be immediately suspended until reviewed by the IPB Board.
- 12.9. The managers and spectators of both teams are responsible for cleaning up trash from their respective dugouts, from the field and from the stands upon the completion of the game.
- 12.10. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products are not allowed at any IPB field or surrounding area.
- 12.11. Any player or coach who throws a helmet, bat or any other piece of equipment in an obvious display of anger, or engages in heckling of opposing players, or attempts to distract a batter or pitcher in any way, or commits any other obvious acts of poor sportsmanship is subject to immediate ejection from the game by the umpire.
- 12.12. Managers, coaches, players and spectators are responsible for their actions at games. All will be subject to disciplinary action for behavior that is not in the best interest of IPB in accordance with the IPB Code of Conduct. This includes harassment of umpires.
- 12.13. Use of cell phones on the field of play is prohibited.
- 12.14. MANAGERS ARE ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE PLAYERS AND PARENTS OF THEIR TEAMS.
- 12.15. By virtue of registering their child in Irvine PONY Baseball, parents represent that, on behalf of their child, they are committed to making Irvine PONY Baseball a priority over travel baseball, club baseball or any other baseball organization during the Irvine PONY Baseball season, to the extent potential conflicts through participation in such organizations arise. Parents must understand that participation in Irvine PONY Baseball is a player/family decision, completely voluntary and without any pressure or coercion. Further, parents must understand that the that the process of player evaluation and constructing teams within Irvine PONY Baseball is completed with the primary goal of achieving balanced teams and maintaining fairness throughout each division and that failure to honor our commitment may negatively impact this important goal and affect your players ability to participate in tournament or all star play.

13. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- 13.1. The Irvine Pony Board has the authority to forgive, suspend, discharge or otherwise discipline and play, manager, coach, umpire, league official, spectator or any other person whose actions or conduct is in violation of:
 - the code of conduct
 - rules as set forth by each division
 - rules as set forth by PONY Baseball Inc.
 - any action considered to be detrimental to the best interests of Irvine Pony Baseball

- 13.2. Different infractions carry different penalties depending on the severity of the infraction. Irvine Pony reserves the right to employ any, or a combination of the following disciplinary actions:
 - 13.2.1. Warning: Offender will be notified in writing of the offense and warned that further infractions will carry a more severe penalty.
 - 13.2.2. Suspension: Offender will be notified in writing of the offense and notified that they are suspended from participating in any number of events for a specified time period
 - 13.2.3. Dropped from league: Offender will be notified in writing that they have been dropped from the league for the remainder of the current season.
 - 13.2.4. Banned: Offender will be notified in writing that they have been dropped from the league and banned from any future participation in the league. This could be a temporary ban for a specified number of years or it could be a permanent ban.
- 13.3. Player Disciplinary action
 - 13.3.1. If a disciplinary action, such as "benching" a player, is to be taken by a manager during a game, the manager must immediately notify the opposing manager, the umpire and the official scorekeeper.
 - 13.3.2. If disciplinary action is being considered before a game then the manager must discuss and review such action with the players parents before it is enforced.
 - 13.3.3. A player that has been ejected from a game and suspended from his next scheduled game may suit up and sit in the dugout if the manager chooses, but may not take part in the game.
- 13.4. Any manager who fails to abide by the playing rules as set forth by the league for that division will be suspended for his next scheduled game. If a second infraction occurs the manager could be dismissed or face other disciplinary action as prescribed by the Irvine Pony Board.

14. PROTESTS & DISPUTES

14.1. There are no protests allowed.

14.2. Disputes

The umpire is the final decision-maker in all cases. Managers may ask for time and when time is granted they are allowed to discuss rulings on the field. Here are some examples of what is allowed and what isn't. Asking why a balk was called, why obstruction or interference was called, etc. all of these are perfectly OK to question. Out and safe, fair or foul may be discussed on a limited basis. Discussing and/or arguing balls and strikes is not permitted.

Disputes must be resolved in a calm, professional manner. Anyone violating this rule may be ejected and further violations may result in forfeiture by the offending teams at the umpire's discretion.

15. SNACK BAR

- 15.1. All parents must expect to work the snack bar. The snack bar is a major fundraiser for our organization. We use these funds to pay for equipment, field maintenance and improvements. We must have FULL participation from our teams in order to make this work.
- 15.2. All teams must work their scheduled snack bar shift. Teams may trade their shift with another team, but must notify the snack bar manager. Should a team fail to show for their snack bar shift, the penalty will be a \$150 fine. This fine must be paid or the team will not be eligible for playoffs and will not receive their post season trophies.
- 15.3. We do not ask our parents to sell candy or fundraise in any other way as the other leagues do. We only ask that 4 people work the snack bar shift from each team (Mite Ball may have 2 teams assigned to each shift as the teams are smaller. They will only send 2 people per team if there are 2 teams assigned to that shift).

16. TEAM BINDERS

16.1. Teams are required to keep a Team Binder with the following information:

- Copy of Birth Certificate
- Team roster
- Signed Codes of Conduct
- Player Medical Release forms
- Player Registration forms

17. SCHOLARSHIPS

- 17.1. Each year Irvine Pony gives out a limited number of scholarships to players experiencing financial hardships. Players falling into this category should submit a request for scholarship to Families Forward for consideration.
- 17.2. Scholarship recipients who withdraw from a team before the end of the regular season will not be considered for a future scholarship.
- 17.3. There are no scholarships given for All Star and/or Tournament play.
- 17.4. All scholarship recipients shall be required to work in the snack bar during Tournament and/or All Star play as posted by Irvine Pony. Failure to work required snack bar shifts will exclude the recipient from future scholarship consideration.

18. FARM RULES

To avoid going to 8 players (or 9 in Pinto & below) a farm system has been established. In order for this rule to take effect and be utilized without abuse the following rules will apply:

- 18.1. Only sanctioned and appointed divisions by the commissioner may be utilized for farm team activity. Hierarchy for farm team status is shown below.

DIVISION	FARMS FROM
Pony U14	Pony U13
Pony U13	Bronco Select or Bronco NL
Bronco Select	Bronco NL
Bronco NL	Bronco AL
Bronco AL	Mustang Select or Mustang NL
Mustang Select	Mustang NL
Mustang NL	Mustang AL
Mustang AL	Pinto Kid Pitch

Pinto Kid Pitch	Pinto Machine Pitch
Pinto Machine Pitch	Shetland
Shetland	T-Ball
Tball	Miteball

Notwithstanding the above, and subject to the same player-count criteria outlined below, travel teams may obtain farm players from younger teams within such travel team's club, as long as the younger team is not in the same division. For example, The Diamondbacks 10u team, playing Mustang Select, may obtain farm players from the Diamondbacks 9u team or Mustang NL.

- 18.2. A manager may not go to a farm division unless the following criteria is in place:
 - 18.2.1. The manager has reason to believe his team will fall to 9 players (or less) in Pinto Machine Pitch and below, or 8 players (or less) in Pinto Kid Pitch and above at or during a scheduled game.
 - 18.2.2. A Commissioner has been notified prior to game time for approval. If the commissioner is unavailable, the VP of the league must be notified. The commissioner has the final approval on the use of a farm team.
 - 18.2.3. The opposing manager is notified prior to game start time that you are using a farm team player and the names of your absent players. If rules for farm team usage are not adhered to, the manager must be notified by the opposing manager and corrective actions taken. If the situation is not corrected, the game will be forfeited by the team utilizing the farm advantage.
- 18.3. A team may farm players as necessary to complete a 9-person roster in Pinto Kid Pitch and above, or 10-person roster in Pinto Machine Pitch and below, may be acquired through the approved channels.
- 18.4. The VP is the only person other than the rules committee that may assign farm team status. This must be completed prior to the first scheduled league game.
- 18.5. It is to the advantage of all concerned to attempt to supply the most talented child available when you are asked to supply a farm team player. You must discuss this with your team parents and let them know this policy is being adopted. Most kids and parents really like the opportunity to play with another team as a farm player.
- 18.6. The farm player may be brought up only after confirmation that there will be no more than 8 players at the game in Pinto Kid Pitch and above, or 9 in Pinto Machine Pitch and below. If a extra player shows up prior to game time unexpectedly, the manager will discuss the situation with the child's parents and be sure that there is an understanding of commitment to game schedules. This child may play in the game; however, he/she will not be allowed to play more than every other inning for the duration of the game.
- 18.7. A farm player **must** play in accordance with the minimum play rules for the respective division.

- 18.8. The farm player **may not pitch** under **any** circumstances. In addition, he may not play the infield more than two consecutive innings.
- 18.9. The sole purpose of the farm team is to avoid recording an out when batting short and to compete evenly on defense; it is not to bring in ringers and high-grade talent. The positions that are to be filled should be positions that will not upset your current roster.
- 18.10. The farm player(s) must be put at the bottom of the batting order – no exceptions. Any unresolved infractions of the above stated rules will result in a game forfeiture.