

TAMWORTH BASEBALL INCORPORATED

BY-LAWS PLAYER GRADING

8 February 2020

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

Tamworth Baseball Inc. Constitution
TBI By-Laws Tamworth Senior Baseball
TBI By-Laws Local Competition Regulations
TBI By-Laws Judiciary
TBI Code of Conduct

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1. PREFACE

These By-Laws Player Grading are intended to be principles and rules to allow the successful running of the domestic senior competition in Tamworth.

The Grading process is based on the principle that the best players will play in the highest grade and that players will commit to play an appropriate number of games in a season.

All players will be considered for representative teams for Tamworth unless exemption is indicated by the player to the Grading Committee at the time of player registration.

- 1.1 The constitution of Tamworth Baseball Incorporated (TBI) is the governing document for Tamworth Baseball and has precedence over these By-Laws in all matters and decisions.
- 1.2 The Board of TBI has sole and final adjudication of the Constitution and these By-Laws.
- 1.3 TBI has the power to make local competition by-laws as per the Australian Baseball Federation Official Australian Baseball Rules 7th Edition: "It is acknowledged that some rules may be amended to suit local competitions so it is advisable that Club Administrators are aware of any local competition by-laws."
- 1.4 All recommendations proposed by the Grading Committee will be presented and thence considered by the TBI Board.
- 1.5 The Board must ratify any change to the TBI By-Laws Player Grading to effect a change in these By-Laws.
- 1.6 All changes to the TBI By-Laws Player Grading must be ratified by the Board before the start of the senior competition unless warranted by legislation or direction from BNSW or there are extenuating or unusual circumstances.
- 1.7 Sole adjudication of these extenuating or unusual circumstances as per By-Law 1.6 shall remain with the Board.

2. DEFINITIONS

BNSW means Baseball New South Wales Incorporated acting as the umbrella entity for baseball in NSW and to which TBI is affiliated.

Board means the governing Board of Tamworth Baseball Incorporated.

By-Laws means the document called TBI By-Laws Tamworth Senior Baseball and refers solely to this document.

CLSC means the Country League Standing Committee of BNSW acting as the entity for country baseball in NSW

Constitution means the constitution of Tamworth Baseball Incorporated.

Delegate means a member of the Senior Committee nominated by affiliated bodies of TBI.

Executive means a member of the Senior Committee appointed by the TBI Board at its Annual General Meeting or at other times as resolved by the Board

Grading Committee means a committee of TBI, having delegated responsibility to determine and manage the player grading for Tamworth Senior Baseball.

Judiciary means the Judiciary Committee appointed by the TBI Board consisting of the Disciplinary Panel, the Technical Panel and the Appeals Committee

Registrar means the person appointed by TBI under the By-Laws Playing Conditions to manage the registration of players and officials, and to manage results and statistics of the competition as determined by Senior Committee from time to time.

Registry means the defaulters' registry maintained by the Registrar of players and officials who have defaulted in their financial obligations to TBI and their club.

Rules means the official baseball Rules of the Game as adopted by the Australian Baseball Federation

Senior Committee means the committee of Tamworth Senior Baseball, having delegated responsibility to organise and manage the senior baseball competition for Tamworth Baseball Inc.

Tamworth means the city of Tamworth and the surrounding region.

TBI means the entity Tamworth Baseball Incorporated with incorporation under NSW Fair Trading.

Website means the website by which all players and officials must register their intention to be involved in baseball for the current season as approved by BNSW or the Australian Baseball Federation. Payment of all fees is necessary for the completion of registration.

3. THE GRADING COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The Grading Committee shall be nominated by the Board before April 1 of each year.
- 3.2 The Grading Committee will exist of three members:
 - 3.2.1 the Registrar of the Association, who shall be the chair
 - 3.2.2 one board member of the Association
 - 3.2.3 one person of Tamworth Baseball as ratified by the Board
- 3.3 The duties of the Grading Committee will be:
 - 3.3.1 oversee the grading of all players to ensure an even competition across all grades
 - 3.3.2 approve the grading of players for the finals
 - 3.3.3 ensure that all statistics and documentation be kept for the Association,
 - 3.3.4 Registrar has prime responsibility for this function
- 3.4 The Grading Committee shall meet via such medium as it deems appropriate during the course of the season.
- 3.5 All decisions of the Grading Committee shall be ratified at the next Board meeting.

4. COMPETITION GRADES

- 4.1 The procedures outlined are applicable in the senior competition:
 - 4.1.1 to A grade when there are only two grades, and
 - 4.1.2 to B grade when there is a C grade.

5. THE SEASON AND SCHEDULED GAMES

- 5.1 The season consists of all scheduled season games as determined by the Senior Committee.
- 5.2 A player must meet the eligibility requirements as set out in these By-Laws to participate in the finals of Tamworth Senior Baseball.
- 5.3 An eligible game is one in which a player has played at least a full innings of baseball on a given day, but only one game is counted per day for eligibility.
- 5.4 If a player plays in two grades on a given day, then the higher grade will be the one considered for grading purposes.
- 5.5 A player will be eligible to play in the finals of the season if:
 - 5.5.1 they have played in over 50% of the weekend rounds e.g. in 8 rounds over a 15 week competition, or
 - 5.5.2 for a player registered after July 1, they have played in at least 5 rounds, and
 - 5.5.3 have been granted exemptions per By-Law 6
- 5.6 The Registrar will present any request for exemptions, as provided below in By-Law, to the Board for ratification
- 5.7 The Secretary shall provide the decision of the Board to all baseball clubs

6. EXEMPTIONS TO ELIGIBILITY

- 6.1 The following exceptions will apply to all players regarding their eligibility for finals
- 6.2 A player may have missed games, due to injury whether baseball related or otherwise, counted as eligible games subject to approval by the Grading Committee and then ratification by the Board:
 - 6.2.1 provided the club gives written notice to the Grading Committee of such injury within two weeks of the injury occurring
 - 6.2.2 an injury obtained during the course of a game should be noted on the line-up card by the umpire in chief.
 - 6.2.3 an injury occurring outside of a game situation may be required by the Grading Committee to be verified by a medical certificate.
- 6.3 Employment obligations may prevent a player from fulfilling their eligibility over the course of a season:
 - 6.3.1 the club must advise the Grading Committee as soon as possible with appropriate evidence, who shall determine the status of such request.
 - 6.3.2 any allowance of eligible games shall only apply after the date of submission and cannot be backdated.
 - 6.3.3 the Registrar is required to present each approved allowance to the Board for ratification

- 6.4 The following games will not be included in the season nor count toward a player's requirement:
- 6.4.1 June Long weekend carnival,
 - 6.4.2 Country Championship weekend, or
 - 6.4.3 any other weekend when the Association has not scheduled games
- 6.5 In the case of a player missing a competition game due to other baseball commitments sanctioned by the Association e.g. women's championship, Country representation, then those games shall be counted towards eligibility
- 6.6 In the case of a player missing a competition game due to other baseball commitments not sanctioned by the Association e.g. Masters carnivals, invitational tournaments and the like, then those games may be counted towards eligibility under the following conditions
- 6.6.1 it is the responsibility of a player or the club to make a written request to a meeting of the Association for approval prior to the weekend in question
 - 6.6.2 a player may applied after an event if circumstances prevented appropriate notification
- 6.7 The Registrar will record any allowances of game as ratified by the Board under this By-Law 6 to the benefit of the player's eligibility.

7. GRADING OF A PLAYER FOR THE FINALS SERIES

The Grading Committee of the Association shall be the arbiter of all players' status

8. PLAYER GRADING FOR THE FINALS

- 8.1 Clubs will provide their roster of graded players to the Grading Committee by the Nomination Date.
- 8.2 The Nomination Date shall be the 20th August of each year, subject to any determination by the Association.
- 8.3 If a Club fails to submit their rosters by the Nomination Date, the Grading Committee will grade players according to the records kept by the Registrar.
- 8.4 There will be NO right of appeal if a Club fails to nominate by the Nomination Date under By-Law 8.2.
- 8.5 Each club shall provide the following team rosters:
 - 8.5.1 For A Grade, a minimum number of 7 players
 - 8.5.2 If a club has a third grade, then a minimum number of 7 players for B Grade.
 - 8.5.3 If a club has two teams in one grade, then a list of 9 players minimum shall be provided for both teams.
 - 8.5.4 When a club has two teams in a higher grade, then replacement players from a lower grade can play with either team on a week to week basis.
- 8.6 The Grading Committee will present the approved final grading for all players in each grade in a written or email notification:
 - 8.6.1 to each club within two (2) days of the Nomination Date
 - 8.6.2 to the Board within two (2) days of the Nomination Date
- 8.7 The approved player grading for each team will be ratified at the next general meeting of the Association (generally at least 7 days before the start of the Finals series) given that:
 - 8.7.1 a Club can appeal the grading of any player for any club with appropriate reasoning at this Association meeting.
 - 8.7.2 An appeal under By-Law 8.7.1 must be received by the Secretary within two (2) days of the notification to clubs of player grading as per By-Law 8.6.
 - 8.7.3 The decision of the Association on an appeal shall be final and binding.
- 8.8 Ratified grading will be notified to all Clubs, Umpires, Scorers and any other relevant party within 24 hours from the close of the general meeting of the Association.
- 8.9 Any team that allows a player to play in a lower grade than their ratified grading, shall be deemed to have lost that game.
- 8.10 Junior players will be graded in the senior competition subject to the eligibility conditions stated in this By-Law.