**By-Laws**

**BY-LAWS (Version 16) Revisions are in RED**

Rainy River District Fastball League

Adopted - April 11, 1980, Revised - April 1985, Revised - May 1988,

Revised - May 1991, Revised - May 1993, Revised - April 17,1995

Revised - April 27, 1995, Revised - April 29, 1998, Revised - April 22, 1999,

Revised - April, 24 2002 Revised -April 24, 2003, Revised April 29, 2004,

Revised - April 25, 2005, Revised - April 20/06, Revised April 26, 2007

Revised - April 24, 2008

***1. Officers:***

To be elected at first league meeting each year if necessary. To consist of: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity Director, All Star Coordinator

***2. Executive Committee:***

The Executive Committee shall consist of the duly elected President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Publicity Director

***3. Team Representatives:***

Each team will appoint two (2) representatives

Each team to supply the following information
1. Names of representatives > 2. Phone numbers (home and business if applicable)

***4. League Meetings:***

First league meeting to be called approximately April 10 of each year. Second league meeting approximately 2 weeks after the first meeting to finalize the number of teams in league and to collect league dues. Teams will be fined $50 for each league meeting at which it has no representation. Special meetings to be called as necessary. Each team is allowed to send two (2) representatives to league meetings but will have only one (1) vote in league matters- -if no representatives present--no vote. Meeting sites to be determined by mutual agreement.

***5. League Dues:***

League dues will be determined at the first meeting each year and are payable at the second league meeting each year

***6. Schedule:***

A. Regular season games shall be played on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

B. Games at Sight & Sound shall be played on Thursdays at 8:00 p.m.

C. Number of games scheduled will depend on the number of teams in the league.

***7. Regular Season Games:***

A. Regular season games shall be seven (7) inning games and start at 7:00 p.m..

B. If a game is called on account of weather or darkness or an act of God before five (5) complete innings, the game will be replayed in its entirety; if called after (5) innings, the game will be awarded to the team that was ahead at the end of the last completed inning.

C. Total runs (for tie breaker purposes) will be considered official at the end of the last completed inning (home team may not require a last time at bat).

***8. Postponed Games:***

A. Games may be postponed by mutual agreement.

B. The teams must phone as early as possible if it is necessary to postpone a game

C. Postponed games are to be made up as soon as possible.

D. Home team must notify the publicity director of the postponed game by 10:30 game night.

***9. Forfeited Games:***

A. Teams will be assessed $100.00 for each forfeited game, to be added to their league dues the next year. $50 to the league and $50 to opposing team. The official score of forfeited games will be 7-0.

B. Any team failing to field 9 players 15 minutes after game time shall automatically forfeit. One (1) run and one (1) inning shall be scored every five (5) minutes.

C. A team may continue with 8 players once they have started with 9. When the missing player has his turn at bat, it will be recorded as an out. If a team is playing with eight players and a rostered player comes late, he can be put into the line-up where the missing player was.

D. Games can't be continued with less than 8 players.

E. After a game has been legally started, failure by one of the teams to be able to continue shall result in a default (not a forfeit, no fine).

F. The official score of a defaulted or forfeited game shall be 7 - 0.

G. Any team forfeiting two (2) league games during a season will be dropped from the league for the remainder of the season. All games played with the dropped team will be disregarded, including personal stats.

***10. Eligibility of Players:***

(A) A player cannot play for more than one Rainy River District Fastball League

Team, nor may a player switch teams during the current season unless cleared by the League

Executive Committee and all teams must agree.

(B) To be eligible for the playoffs, players must have played for a team

in three (3) Rainy River District Fastball League games.

***11. Rule Book:***

The C.A.S.A. rule book will be the official Rainy River District Fastball League Rule Book. All rules affecting the play of the game will be enforced.

***12. Pitching:***

A. The pitcher shall take the signal from the catcher with hands apart and the pivot foot in contact with the pitching rubber. The non pivot foot may be behind or on the rubber. The hands shall be brought together for at least one second prior to the pitch.

B. The pivot foot may be lifted off the pitching rubber but must come down on the rubber prior to the delivery of the ball.

C. The pitcher may leap but the forward motion of the pitching arm must be continuous motion during the delivery.

 D. The pitcher may not replant. A replant is defined as both the heel and the toe coming into contact with the ground prior to the release of the ball. Ruling : Illegal pitch: if the ball is hit the manager may choose the result of the play or the penalty for an illegal pitch. PENALTY. Ball is awarded to the batter and the runners advance one base.

***13. Batting Helmets*:**

Certified helmets will be mandatory, for the batter only, as of July 4, 1999 Players 16 and under will be encouraged to wear a helmet with face mask

***14. Umpires:***

Home team to provide at least one umpire for each league game. Teams may use a player to umpire the game. This player will also still be able to play later in the game.

***15. Minimum Age:***

There will be no minimum age for players. Managers are encouraged to use their younger players in the outfield

***16. Females:***

Are allowed to play

***17. Lining Out the Field:***

**Minimum,**

Base Lines, 8' pitching circle, 3' line along first base line

***18. Outfield Fences:***

All ball parks to have a home run fence.

***19. Official Ball for League Play:***

To be decided upon each year.

***20. Game Score Cards:***

A. To be supplied by the league for each home game.

B. To show the following: FINAL SCORE. HOME RUNS, WINNING AND LOSING PITCHERS, DATE OF GAME and PLACE OF GAME.

C. To be signed by representatives of both teams.

D. To be mailed or faxed to the Publicity Director no later than 10:30 game night.

E. A $10 penalty will be charged to the home team for not sending in results by 10:30 game night.

F. Postpones, Forfeit or Default games must be called in by 10:30 game night.

G. Publicity Director, shall forward the stats to radio, newspaper, statistician and website.

H. Statistician shall keep records of game stats.

I. Teams shall keep their score cards till the end of the season.

***21. Determination of Final Standings in League Play:***

Final League standings will be determined by the number of wins in regular

season play.

Ties will be broken by the following procedure:

1. By league records between teams involved,

2. If still tied, by total runs scored in games between the teams involved,

3. If still tied, by total runs scored in regular season play.

The final standings are then to be used for playoff positioning.

***22. Playoff Format:***

A. All teams will participate in playoffs.

B. Type of playoff to be decided yearly by special meeting.

C. Home field advantage will be given to the team finishing higher in the standings.

D. Game time will be 6:30pm (8:00pm if Sight & Sound)

E. Playoff Semi-Finals and Final Game will be played at 6:00pm (All Teams)

F. All playoff games must be at least seven (7) innings.

G. Any game called before seven (7) completed innings will be replayed in its entirety (playoffs only).

H. The team winning the A side shall have home field advantage in the next game. If two teams with one loss each meet in the finals, the team finishing higher in the regular season shall have home field.

I. B side, first round match-ups will be based on regular season standings.

J. Highest plays lowest and second (2nd) plays third (3rd).

K. The League will pay for Umpires for the playoffs from the fourth (4th) round on. Pay will be $35.00 for the home plate Umpire and $25.00 for the base Umpire.

***23. All Star Game:***

A. League will pay for umpires and three new balls used during the game.

B. Start time will be 7:00 p.m. on a Thursday [8:00 p.m. if played at Sight & Sound]

C. There will be four (4) pitchers voted to play in the All-Star game.

D. (1st and 4th Team One) (2nd and 3rd Team Two)

E. Host team is responsible for diamond condition and acquiring umpires and balls.

F. 1st place team has home team advantage.

G. All-Star Team managers are responsible for calling their players.

H. Managers for the game will be from the final playoff game of previous season.

I. All Teams must be represented at the All-Star Game to be selected by Managers if necessary.

***24. All Stars:***

All Stars for the game will be selected annually by league teams for the following positions:
1. Pitcher
2. Catcher
3.First Base
4. Second Base
5.Third Base
6.Short Stop
7. Fielder
8. Fielder
9. Fielder
10. Utility
11. Manager

Additional awards for the banquet will be
12.  Home Run King
13.  Shane Jarvis Sportsmanship Award
14.  Jerry Harasymyk MVP Award
15.  Rookie of the year

***25. Procedures for All Star selection:***

A. League will send out roster forms for the regular season selection and the banquet selection.

B. Managers will indicate on the roster forms the names of players they wish to have considered for each position and then send the forms to the publicity director.

C. Maximum of two players per position [four players for fielders].

D. A player may be listed in one position only but can also be listed as manager.

E. The Utility player may NOT be listed at any other position than manager.

F. League will send out All Star selection sheets and 5 ballots to each team.

G. Teams will fill in the ballots, mangers must count his teams ballots and return them to the All Star Coordinator before the deadline stipulated.

H. TWO POINTS FOR FIRST PLACE VOTES, ONE POINT FOR SECOND PLACE VOTES.

I. Total of first and second place votes will determine the winners. J.**TEAMS CANNOT VOTE FOR PLAYERS ON THEIR OWN TEAM.**

K. Trophies will be awarded to selected All Stars at the annual banquet.

L. A scrap book will be kept up to date.

M. Participation in the All Star selection shall be considered an obligation of each league team.

N. Fines for not submitting all 10 completed ballots is $50.00

O. Players from teams who do not submit completed ballot results will not be eligible for the All-Star game or for the Awards Banquet.

***26. Guidelines for special awards***

 **SHANE JARVIS SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD**

The person in the league who displays a high quality of playing ability and who also shows great sportsmanship, on and off the diamond.

\*Due to the number of times that George Oltsher has been honored with this award, he has requested that he be no longer eligible for this award.

**GERRY HARASYMYK MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD**

The person who you feel is the best player in the league. Someone you would choose if you were picking first overall in a draft.

**ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The person [17 or under as of Jan 1] who displays a high quality of play and sportsmanship. This award cannot be won twice.

***27. Banquet:***

A. Teams not represented at the banquet will have their players ineligible to accept a year end award.

B. Responsibilities of team hosting the banquet: Bar, Meal, Master of Ceremonies.

C. Banquet to be held as soon as possible after the playoffs.

D. The Banquet shall be closed (Open to players and guests).

E. Teams not represented at the Banquet shall be fined $50.00.

F. All teams will be required to pay for 6 banquet tickets @ $15.00. Fees will be collected the same as fines. Payable to the league. The league will then pay this amount to the host team even if the default team does not enter the league the following year.

***28. All Star Game Rotation:***

2002 Big Grassy

2003 Sight & Sound

2004 Stratton

2005 Barwick

enter International Falls

2006 Rainy River

pass  Big Island

2007 Sabaskong

***Banquet Rotation***:

2002 Big Island

2003 Big Grassy

2004 Sight & Sound

2005 Stratton

enter International Falls

2006 Barwick

2007 Rainy River

2008 Sabaskong

New Teams will be inserted after the previous years host

***29. Teams with Outstanding Fines:***
Pinewood: 2005 No Ballots Banquet $50.00
Red Gut: 2005 Banquet tickets $90.00, Banquet Appearance $50.00, Banquet Ballots $50.00,  Thousand Dollar Draw $100.00, **Red Gut Total: $290.00**