

**ATWATER BOMBERS BASEBALL CLUB
BYLAWS 2024**

Age of Player per Division:

Minor Division	8-10 yrs old	
Major Division	10-12 yrs old	
Intermediate Division	12-14 yrs old	*Age as of July 31, 2024

Note: ALL DIVISIONS PLAY CONTINUOUS BATTING ORDER

1. A team must field no less than eight (8) players for a regulation game. Four (4) played innings constitutes a regulation game (EXCEPTION: See Mercy Rule)
2. The draft will follow the completion of player evaluations/try-outs. Players will be ranked by try-out scores in each division and enter the draft in their respective division. Players who have a parent/grandparent/guardian coaching may be assigned to that coach/team directly with no other coach drafting that player. (see Draft Procedures attached).
3. Any League Age ten (10) year old drafted by a Major team remains in the Major division and may not appear on any Minor team roster. If a player in the Minor League division is drafted during the season as a replacement player for a Major team, the player remains in the Major Division for the remainder of the season and may not appear on a Minor team roster.

An eight (8) year old may be placed onto a Minor Division team following formal evaluation and approval of the Board of Directors.

4. **Grounds Maintenance** – Coaches for both teams are responsible for putting out the bases, chalking the lines, chalking the batter’s box, putting out trash cans, dragging and watering the field. EXCEPTION: If Atwater Bombers Baseball has a Grounds Keeper, that person will be responsible for putting out the bases, chalking the lines, chalking the batter’s box, putting out trash cans, dragging and watering the field.

ALL COACHES are responsible for cleaning the dugouts **and surrounding areas** of their respective dugouts. Failure to fulfill their post-game field responsibilities are subject to referral to the Atwater Bombers Baseball Board of Directors for potential action at the discretion of the Board. (see Code of Conduct)

5. **Catcher's gear**- Atwater Bombers Baseball requires that catchers wear appropriate gear including a Dangling Throat Guard or a helmet fitted with a throat guard (i.e. Hockey style). Only a team’s catcher wearing the appropriate gear (including a cup) will be allowed to take the field.
6. **On-Field Play** – Only a Head Coach and two (2) assistant coaches will be allowed on the field of play during a game. No more than three (3) coaches are allowed in the team dugout, team assistants must remain outside the dugout and playing area. Only offensive coaches may be on the field at first and third base to coach, all other coaches **must remain inside the dugout.**

Bylaws adopted by the Atwater Bombers Baseball Board of Directors on April 23, 2024.

Amended on May 13, 2024. Amended on August 3, 2024.

At all times, at least one (1) of the following team officials (as listed on the team roster) must be on the field/in the dugout: Head Coach, 1st Assistant, or 2nd Assistant. In the absence of the team Head Coach or one of the two primary assistants listed on the team roster, an alternate coach may be allowed onto the playing field/in the dugout providing that person has notified the ABBC president at least 24 hours in advance of the game and has completed the required background check.

7. **On Deck Batters** – ABBC prohibits an on-deck batter on the playing field for players twelve (12) years and younger. This rule does not apply to the Intermediate division.

8. **Mercy Rule** - For all Minor and Major division baseball the Mercy Rule will apply as follows:

8 runs after 5 innings (4 ½) if the home team is ahead.

10 runs after 4 innings (3 ½) if the home team is ahead.

15 runs after 3 innings (2 ½) if the home team is ahead.

Intermediate Division –

8 runs after 6 innings (5 ½) if the home team is ahead.

10 runs after 5 innings (4 ½) if the home team is ahead.

15 runs after 4 innings (3 ½) if the home team is ahead.

9. A new inning starts the instant the last out of an inning is recorded. No new inning may start when only five (5) minutes remain in the game.

10. **Rescheduled Games** – If a team cannot field at least eight (8) players due to conflict with a school function, the game will automatically be rescheduled. The Head Coach must contact the ABBC Vice President at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled game to advise that they will not have enough players and state the reason why.

11. **Umpires** – ABB will supply an official Umpire. Head Coaches will direct all questions regarding the score only through the umpire. The umpire will call time and allow the scorekeeper to resolve any discrepancies before play continues. If no League umpire is available for a scheduled league or playoff game, the head coaches of the teams can mutually agree to stand in for umpire or umpires. Balls and strikes can be called from behind the pitcher's mound if necessary.

Pitchers- are allowed to pitch only as indicated by the chart below:

Minors, Majors and Intermediate Divisions

Pitch 1 inning 0 days rest

Pitch 2 innings 1 days rest

Pitch 3 innings 2 days rest

Pitch 4 innings 3 days rest

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- No player may pitch more than 8 innings in a 7-day period.
- No player may pitch more than 3 innings in a single game in the Minor and Major Divisions.
- No player may pitch more than 4 innings in a single game in the Intermediate Division.

Scorekeeper- The Home team will provide the official scorekeeper and may also provide the number of innings a pitcher has pitched. The plate umpire will record the official score at the conclusion of the game and ask each head coach to sign the card.

12. **Umpire Rulings** – A No-Contest rule is always in effect. After asking for a time out, **only a Head Coach is allowed to approach the umpire(s)** and request that they confer with one another on a call. AT NO TIME may an assistant coach, player or spectator approach or speak to an umpire regarding a call.
13. **Replacement player policy**-if a team cannot field the required number of players, a replacement player may be requested from another team. The replacement player must ONLY play in the outfield positions, cannot pitch or play catcher, and must bat last in the line-up.
14. **Atwater Bombers Baseball is a Tobacco-Free/Vape Free Environment.** Tobacco/ Vape use is **only** permitted in the parking lot areas. (See Code of Conduct)
15. **Chanting** – no derogatory or demeaning chants are allowed by players, coaches, or spectators. (See Code of Conduct)
16. **Championship Games, Post-Season Playoffs, Standings** – The seeding for playoff games will be determined by the overall record of each team for the entire season. ABB uses a point system to determine standings and team records as follows:

Each win	2 points
Tie game	1 point
Loss	0 points

The following process will be used to break a tie in points: most wins, runs scored, runs allowed and/or a coin flip.

The Home team designation is determined by the teams' overall season record; the team with the higher standing/better overall record is the Home team.

Playoff games for all divisions will adhere to the 8/10/15 run rule with no time limit (see Rule 8 above).

Any protests will be decided upon before play resumes. If a protest is not decided upon within twenty (20) minutes, the remainder of the game will be rescheduled for a later date after the protest is ruled upon by the ABB Board of Directors. ***Protest may only be made based on challenging the rule call or player eligibility.***

17. **Formal Complaint Protocol** – Complaints are directed to the ABB Board of Directors. Any complaint received by the Board of Directors must be received in writing (email or text) within 24 hours of any incident. A written response from the Board of Directors will be returned within three (3) days after the next scheduled or specially called meetings of the Board of Directors.
Note: The findings of any accusations brought to and investigated by the ABB Board of Directors may result in disciplinary action as noted in the Code of Conduct Consequences for Violations as attached.
18. **Amendments to the Bylaws** require a two-thirds majority vote by the Atwater Bombers Board of Directors.
19. **Upon dissolution, also called “wrapping up”, of the non-profit corporation** known as the Atwater Bombers Fall Baseball Club requires the distribution of all assets including any monies on deposit with a bank, to be distributed to an organization recognized by the State of California as a non-profit organization. Under no circumstances may any member of the Board of Directors profit either in payment of services, gifts or any manner. Only reimbursement for Board approved expenses is allowed.
20. **Hit Pitch Rule:** If a **pitcher hits 3 batters** in an inning, the pitcher will be removed from the mound and may be replaced in another field position. A new pitcher must be brought in.
21. **Injured Player Rule:** If a **player is injured** and leaves the playing field, the player must sit out the remainder of the inning, or if it's the last out, half of the next inning for evaluation.
22. The Head Coach may only call **one time out per inning** to address his batter.
23. **Throwing the Bat Rule:** If a player **throws the bat** in an unsafe manner as adjudged by the umpire, the batter will be given a warning. If the player throws the bat a second time in the game, the batter will be called out.
24. **Player Leaves the Game:** If a player must leave the game the batting order will be adjusted accordingly and no out will be recorded.
25. **International Tie Breaker Rule:** **Major Division:** If after regulation play the game ends in a tie, the player who made the last out will be placed on second base and play will resume until the tie is broken. **Minor Division:** Tie games will be recorded as ties. **Intermediate Division:** If after regulation play the game ends in a tie, the player who made the last out will be placed on second base and play will resume until the tie is broken. **EXCEPTION: Playoff games to determine a Division Champion will use the International Tie Breaker Rule in ALL divisions.**
26. **Open Innings:** An open inning may be called by the umpire after the 5th inning in the Major/Minor Division; and after the 6th inning in the Intermediate Division at the discretion of the umpire and time permitting. Open inning may also be called in the last inning as time permits. A five-run rule is in effect in all divisions.

27. **Protests:** A coach may protest a game based on violation of the rules. The protest must be issued directly to the Plate Umpire BEFORE the game ends. The umpire will notify the official scorekeeper or League official (if present) who will note the time, number of persons on base (if any), the number of outs, the inning and the player at bat. **THE GAME WILL CONTINUE UNDER PROTEST. IF, a coach and players leave the field before the end of the game, it will be recorded as a forfeit on the part of the team who left the field.**

(See attached Addendum)

**Addendum to ATWATER BOMBERS BASEBALL BYLAWS
CODE OF CONDUCT**

I understand that ABB Board of Directors will enforce this code of conduct upon any individual(s) regardless of whether they have signed this Code of Conduct or are unaware of its existence.

I understand that ABB defines and enforces this code of conduct over all facilities used by ABB including parking lots. The jurisdiction of this code of conduct also encompasses all ABB sanctioned events and activities at their respective locations, and will include, but is not limited to, Board meetings, team drafts, fundraisers, registration, training events, and all off-site games/tournaments.

I will not initiate or contribute to any activity or behavior that is or may be determined by ANY League official to be inappropriate, confrontational, illegal, violent, threatening, unethical or unsportsmanlike.

At NO TIME will I indulge in an abusive verbal or physical confrontation with another player, parent, coach, spectator, or League official during or following any ABB game; nor will I allow myself to be drawn into any verbal or physical confrontation.

As a player, parent, spectator, or coach, I will not engage in an argument or discussion of the rules by an official, or a call made by the umpire. As a COACH, I may question a ruling and I will do so with respect and composure. I may exercise my option to protest a game but will continue to play the game in a respectful and positive manner.

I will not engage in confrontational behavior to a coach for any reason prior, during or immediately following a game, unless it is considered an emergency for the physical well-being of a participant.

I will not use profanity or other offensive language, nor will I demean or taunt other players, coaches, or League officials.

I will not indulge in any drug/alcohol/tobacco/vape use while present at any ABB activity or event.

I will be responsible for the conduct of my team's spectators' behavior and understand that violations of conduct (use of profanity, abusive comments, derogatory statements and any other actions deemed inappropriate by the umpire) may result in ejection of the offending

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individual(s), forfeiture of the game no matter the current score, ejection of the Head Coach, and/or calling for police intervention.

I WILL ADHERE TO THE RULES GOVERNING ELIGIBILITY, COMPETITION, CONDUCT, AND ACCEPT ANY CONSEQUENCES PLACE UPON ME AS AN INDIVIDUAL OR MY TEAM FOR MINE OR THEIR ACTIONS.

CODE OF CONDUCT CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS

Any physical abuse violation may result in immediate and permanent dismissal from ALL ATWATER BOMBERS BASEBALL events and activities.

Violations of the Code of Conduct, other than physical abuse, will prompt an examination and assessment of the severity of the violation by the Board of Directors. Disciplinary actions are detailed as follows:

1. A **first violation** will result in referral to the ABB Vice President for assessment and referral to the President for possible Board action. Violators will be suspended from all ABB activities and events until such time as the Board of Directors has reviewed the findings of the Board of Directors and issued a finding, a warning or suspension from all ABB activities and events for as much as 10 days. (NOTE: the individual(s) committing the alleged violation may appear before the Board to provide information)
2. A second violation will result in referral to the ABB Vice President for assessment and possible recommendation to the Board for potential action. Violators will be suspended from all ABB activities and events until such time as the Board of Directors has reviewed the findings and issued a finding, a warning or suspension from all ABB activities and events. **SECOND VIOLATIONS CANNOT result in a warning but may include a suspension of up to 20 days from all ABB activities (including practices) and events.** (NOTE: the individual(s) committing the alleged violation may appear before the Board to provide information)
3. Third violations will result in referral to the Board of Directors for immediate suspension from all ABB activities and events for the remainder of the season and any tournament activities, as well as suspension from all ABB activities and events the following year.
4. Any infraction/violation may result in removal from the playing facility/area including the parking lots. If an individual(s) will not freely comply with the order from a League official to leave the facility/parking lot, the League official may request the assistance of local law enforcement to remove the individual(s).

Additionally, any individual(s) who do not freely remove themselves when directed to do so by a League official will receive an automatic 20-day suspension from all ABB events and activities.

I have read and understand the Atwater Bombers Baseball Code of Conduct Requirements and the Consequences for violations. All rules and consequences apply to all coaches whether or not they agree or are unaware of these rules.

Coach Signature: _____ (optional)