

# **PACIFIC COAST BASEBALL LEAGUE Inc.**

## **PCBL Judiciary Committee Guidelines**

Modified on 12 April 2024

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### **1. GENERAL**

- 1.1 The PCBL Executive Committee ("PCBLEC") at the nomination from the PCBL Competition Committee ("PCBLCC") shall appoint the PCBL Judiciary Committee ("PCBLJC") PCBLJC.
- 1.2 The PCBLJC will address all complaints relating to the alleged misconduct or misbehaviour of players and/or members of Teams/Clubs on any competition or match participating in the PCBL.
- 1.3 The PCBLJC will address all persons ejected or reported which may be a Player, Coach, Manager or any other Member or Official of a Club.
- 1.4 Any other person reported, such as spectators, will be addressed to the PCBLCC under the provisions of the PCBL Competition Rules. All other matters relating to breaches of the PCBL Competition Rules will be referred to the PCBLCC.
- 1.5 A "Party" is the person subject to the PCBLJC process.

### **2. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE**

- 2.1 The PCBLJC shall comprise of up to five (5) members, appointed annually by the PCBLEC.
- 2.2 No current member of the PCBLEC and PCBLCC may be appointed to the PCBLJC.
- 2.3 No two (2) appointments members in the same period may be from the same PCBL affiliated club.
- 2.4 The PCBLCC shall designate the Chair of the PCBLJC from the five appointed PCBLJC Members.
- 2.5 Members of the PCBLJC who shall be appointed by the PCBLEC for a term of one (1) year, commencing from the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the League until the following AGM. Further appointments may be made by the PCBLEC upon the resignation of any appointed members. PCBLJC are subject to re-appointment.
- 2.6 All decisions of the PCBLJC must be a majority made by no less than 3 members, as determined by the PCBLJC Chair. In the event of a tied vote or in the event of disagreement between the members of the panel, the Chairperson of the PCBLJC shall have the casting vote

### **3. COMPLAINTS BY UMPIRES**

- 3.1 Any Party that has been ejected from the field of play by any officiating umpire or for any other reason of misconduct or otherwise for events during and/or after that game may be subject to a report by any officiating umpire of that game.
- 3.2 An umpire who so ejects any player or official from a match or dismisses that Party from the field of play shall make an endorsement to the score book and/or the Match Result Sheet (MRS) to this effect against the name of the player so ejected or reported.
- 3.3 The officiating umpire responsible for ejecting a Party from the field of play during the course of a game and/or reports a player after the conclusion of a game, shall advise, no later than 5 pm the following Monday and forward the required Match Ejection Report to the PCBLCC.

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- 3.4 The umpire may also be required to report incidents arising during or post a game, which may not necessarily involve any member of a team or other parties associated with a Team/Club affiliated with the PCBL.
- 3.5 Complaints against any Party or team made by any person other than the umpire should be forwarded to the PCBLCC who may elect to deal with the matter itself or forward the matter to the matter to the PCBLJC.

### **4. PROCEDURE**

- 4.1 The Chairperson of the PCBLCC shall, upon receipt of a report from an umpire or the written complaint from the relevant umpire or Team/Club, compile the information and forward it forward to the relevant club of such matter no later than close of business on the following Monday to action. –
- 4.2 Upon receipt of the report or complaint referred to in 4.1, the Club will request the Party who is subject to the ejection/complaint, members of the team, any witnesses or any other people who may contribute to the matter, to provide a report on the incident for consideration by the PCBLJC. The Club shall forward such reports to the PCBLCC no later than close of business the following Tuesday pm, The PCBLCC will immediately forward such reports to the PCBLJC chair, but no later than close of business the following Wednesday.
- 4.3 Should there be a delay in the gathering of reports, such that will not enable the PCBLJC to reach a determination by the following Thursday, the matter will be deferred to the following week. In such cases the Party will be allow to participate in a game, except when the subject matter is of physical aggression.
- 4.4 The Chairperson of the PCBLJC shall arrange for no less than three (3) members of the PCBLJC to review and consider the matter. Any PCBLJC member who is a member of either club relating to the subject matter shall be excused from any participation in the subject matter.
- 4.5 The PCBLJC may proceed to determine the matter by way of a hearing, without conducting an in-person hearing.
- 4.6 Subject to these guidelines and prescribed penalties and render its decision by close of business the following Thursday A decision of the PCBLJC must be by majority and in the event of a tied vote or in the event of disagreement between the members of the panel, the Chairperson of the PCBLJC shall have the casting vote This decision will be communicated to the PCBLCC, who in turn will advise the relevant Club in question by close of business Friday.
- 4.7 Where in the opinion of the PCBLJC chair, and only in respect of conflicting evidence. The Chairperson may invite the Party and/or other parties who is the subject of the ejection and/or complaint, or the delegate for his/her Team/Club.
- 4.8 Should the Chairperson of the PCBLJC receive no report under Clause 4.2, then the Party may be permitted to participate in any match under the control of the PCBL until such time as the relevant report is received. Such permission may not be granted if the offence is in respect of an 'act of violence', the application of such judgment will be at the discretion of the PCBLJC.

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- 4.9 The PCBLJC upon concluding its review will adjudicate under the following process:
- (a) determine if the report falls within the Misconduct categories list.
  - (b) determine the degree of the fault and award a Penalty within the prescribed range as noted under these guidelines.
  - (c) in determining the extent of the Penalty
  - (d) the PCBLJC may adjudicate – a Warning, subject to a Suspended Sentence to the Party.

In the determination of the penalty, all prior judiciary cases on the Party record will be taken into account when determining the level of the Penalty for the new offense.

## **5. NOTIFICATION OF DECISION**

- 5.1 The Chair of the PCBLJC shall advise the PCBLCC and copy the PCBLJC of decision reached by the PCBLJC by the following Friday morning.
- 5.2 Notification of the decision of the PCBLJC together with a statement of the reasons therefore shall be forwarded in writing to the club by the PCBLCC.
- 5.3 The decision of the PCBLJC shall be recorded in a register to be known as the PCBLJC Register which shall note the following aspects of the matter: -
- (a) the date of the alleged misconduct or misbehavior.
  - (b) the name of the player the subject of the complaint.
  - (c) the name of the player's Team/Club
  - (d) the name of the Umpire or the complainant and/or his/her representative at the hearing of the complaint.
  - (e) brief details of the complaint.
  - (f) the date of the ruling, and date of hearing.
  - (g) the name of the panel members of the Judiciary Committee, contributing to the decision.
  - (h) the decision of the panel.
  - (i) reference to past JC decisions history – suspensions, warnings, suspended sentences.
- 5.4 Any appeal against the decision of the PCBLJC must be made within seven (7) days of the date of the notification of the decision. Such an appeal to be made to the PCBLEC and may only be made on the basis of additional evidence not available at the review of the matter before the PCBLJC, or on the basis of an error in the proceeding of the PCBLJC. The appeal should be made in writing to the Chairperson of the PCBLCC and shall set out fully the ground on which the appeal is based. And shall set out fully the additional evidence upon which the appeal is brought.
- 5.5 The PCBLEC shall consider any such appeal as soon as practicable after it is received and, after having considered the appeal, may confirm, reverse or amend the decision of the PCBLJC as it deems fit and advise the relevant player and Team/Club. And such report shall be received by the PCBLCC without discussion or debate.

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- 5.6 The decision of the PCBLEC may be subject to appeal solely in respect of found incorrect information provided. The appeal shall be referred to the PCBLJC for review and adjudication by the PCBLEC shall be final and no further appeal may be made.

## 6. JUDICIARY PROCEDURE

- 6.1 The PCBLJC shall review the Umpire's report and any other reports submitted by the Party ejected or subject to the complaint, the witnesses and any other person who contributes to the matter.
- 6.2 The PCBLJC shall determine from the reports submitted if the charge(s) are correct and whether a separate report(s) may be required.
- 6.3 The PCBLJC shall consider the evidence and reach a decision which shall be advised to the reported club for managing the outcome with the Party.
- 6.4 All disqualifications and penalties imposed shall commence from and include the next competition (a) match played by the team of which the reported player is a registered member and shall start from the first game after the date of the reported matter or hearing, if the said Party was allowed to participate in the competition. A 'game' is a completed game played, and a Game win on an opposition forfeit, and .  
does not include Wash Outs, Deferred games and forfeit loss; and
- 6.5 The PCBL will adopt a co-operative and parallel approach towards judiciary outcomes, including player suspensions imposed by any other (junior and senior) leagues under the governance of baseball administration in NSW and Australia.
- 6.6 The term 'official' includes and non-player member of a team during a game.

## 7. SCHEDULE OF PENALTIES

### **Suspended sentences**

To be imposed for a term doubled or more of the sentence period to be served.

Suspended sentences to be served upon the Party registration in a team from any affiliated club.

These will remain in place for a period of 6 seasons of the PCBL A League, these may be sequential or not.

### **Warnings**

May be awarded, where the PCBLJC considers the nature of the offence warrants –

(a) sufficient sentence for the offence

(b) the ejection from the game is considered sufficient penalty.

The same player may not be awarded a Warning more than once per season.

The following are the scheduled penalties to be imposed by the PCBL upon the review of a case or the result of a hearing. The imposition of any of these or further penalties is entirely at the discretion of the PCBLJCJC.

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The following term guidelines are an expression from the PCBL EC in respect of the minimum, but the maximum is to be determined by the PCBLJC.

### 1. MISCONDUCT

#### Player/Official to Player/Official

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| a. use of offensive or obscene behavior or language towards players or spectators  | 1 - 5 weeks               |
| b. abusing or threatening behavior towards a player  | 1 - 5 weeks               |
| c. player contact adjudged by an umpire official as being 'avoidable'  | 2 – 4 weeks               |
| d. physical aggression towards a player  | 4 weeks - 1 season - life |
| e abusing or threatening behavior towards an official  | 3 - 6 weeks               |
| f. unsportsmanlike behavior, including equipment abuse and any signal which is a result of an official ruling, including but not limited to drawing a line, kicking a base | 1 - 5 weeks               |

#### Player/Official to Umpire

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| g. repeated questioning umpire's judgement calls          | 2 - 4 weeks               |
| h. disputing umpire's decisions                           | 2 - 4 weeks               |
| i. disregarding umpire's direction                        | 2 - 4 weeks               |
| j. abusing, obscene conduct or language towards an umpire | 2 - 4 weeks               |
| kl. abusing attitude/action towards the Umpire            | 3 weeks - 1 season - life |
| l. assaulting an umpire                                   | 1 season - life           |

### 2. PHYSICAL CONTACT

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| m. deliberate avoidable player collision               | 2 – 2 seasons – life      |
| n. deliberate contact, open/close hand pushing/bumping | 2 – 6 weeks               |
| o. third party involvement, clearing dugout            | 2 – 6 weeks               |
| p. kicking, elbowing, tripping, shouldering            | 3 – 6 weeks               |
| q. physical aggression                                 | 6 weeks - 2 season - Life |