

## **Toluca Travel Team Rules**- Final Draft 1-11-10

**TOLUCA BASEBALL** will consist of the following Programs:  
**TOLUCA CLASSIC** -- which will incorporate the Shetland, Pinto, Mustang, Bronco and Pony Divisions -

**AND --**

**THE TOLUCA TRAVEL DIVISION** -- a program designed for the skilled athlete who, together with his/her parents, desires a more competitive environment. A Travel Commissioner, accountable to the Executive Committee, will oversee the Travel Division, like all other Divisions within Toluca Baseball. As such, all rules and regulations governing managers, coaches, players and parents in the Toluca Classic Program, including, but not limited to the Toluca Code of Conduct, are applicable and will be enforced.

### **TOLUCA TRAVEL MISSION STATEMENT**

To ready players to compete at the highest level in pay-for play and invitational tournaments as well as in leagues sponsored by such governing bodies as CABA, AAU, AABC and USSSA.

### **TITAN & THUNDER TEAMS**

The goal is to create single age teams from league age 8 to league age 14. The Travel Division teams shall be named Titan or Thunder, as determined by the board. The number of players carried will be at the Manager's discretion, with twelve being the recommended minimum.

If a single age team cannot be formed, the Travel Division Commissioner will explore the possibility of forming a "hybrid team". Hybrid teams are teams that have players with different league ages, within the same division. Players on hybrid teams may only play within their division from year to year. Hybrid teams are formed when single age teams cannot fill a roster with same age players. When the hybrid team moves up to the next division, it can only retain the players that move up to that division.

If it appears more than one team can be formed in a particular age group, the Travel Division Commissioner will recommend this to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will then decide if the additional team(s) will be formed and, if so, select the additional manager(s). It will be up to the new manager(s), with input from the

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Travel Division Commissioner, to select players for the additional team(s).

#### **PERCENTAGE OF TOLUCA PLAYERS ON ROSTER**

All rosters must contain a minimum of 10 Toluca players or 80% of the roster, whichever is greater.

#### **A Toluca player:**

Fall Travel season- A player who played in the previous Toluca Classic league spring season.

Spring Travel season- A player who is playing in the current Toluca Classic league spring season.

Percentage requirements notwithstanding, all Commissioners, Player Agents and managers involved with each player should encourage Travel Division players to also play Toluca Classic ball.

In the event meeting the percentage requirements presents a hardship to any Travel team, the manager must present his/her situation to the Travel Commissioner who, in turn, will consult with the Executive Committee where a final decision will be rendered as to whether or not to grant an exception in that particular case. The terms of any such exemption shall be approved by the Executive Committee.

#### **AGE CUT OFF**

**Titan & Thunder** team age groups will be determined using player ages as of April 30<sup>th</sup>. All current Travel teams must submit their current rosters by March 1, 2007. Players that are affected by the age cutoff date must be identified. These players may remain with their current Travel team as long as they remain on that team's roster. If a player affected by the change in the age determination date leaves that team, he/she cannot return to that team and must play on the team that corresponds to their age determined by the current age cutoff date. All new players to a team must abide by the April 30<sup>th</sup> age determination date.

#### **NEWLY FORMED TEAMS:**

New **Titan & Thunder** teams must abide by the age cut-off date for all players. Anyone interested in forming a new Titan or Thunder team, in any division, must contact the

Travel Commissioner. The Travel Commissioner will meet with the Executive Committee to obtain approval of the creation of the team and the proposed manager. The Executive Committee must approve the manager before any further steps regarding that team can be taken. Pending approval the team must play at least one tournament as a Toluca Tournament team (name TBD) team. Once a manager is given approval to form a team, he/she will meet with the Travel Commissioner to schedule mandatory try outs for that team.

#### **TITAN & THUNDER PLAYERS**

A player in the Toluca Travel Division is a player within the Toluca Baseball organization and has all of the rights and privileges of any other dues paying Toluca Baseball player.

Travel Division managers shall not solicit players from the roster of any other Toluca Travel team. The Travel Division Commissioner and Player Agent will approve all player movement between Travel Division teams as well as all player assignments when more than one team at a particular age group exists. Charges of tampering will be resolved by the Travel Division Commissioner in conjunction with the Executive Committee. In regard to manager discipline, a warning(s) may be issued with potential expulsion for repeated offenses.

Current Travel Division players (or their parents) may request that the Player Agent place them on a different Travel Division team. The Player Agent will work with the managers and the Travel Division Commissioner to determine if such a move should be made and at what point in the season such a move should take place. Player movement must remain consistent with the current Division structure as created in the Travel Teams section above.

Travel Division managers are encouraged to solicit players from the Toluca Classic Division. Player assignment to a Titan Division team will be done with the involvement of the Travel Division Player Agent, Commissioner and manager(s) with player movement remaining consistent as described in the paragraph above. A player from a Toluca Classic team that joins a Toluca Titan **or Thunder** team during a Toluca Classic season must also complete the season-in-progress with the Toluca Classic team.

Should a Toluca Travel player be interested in PONY All

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Star participation, he/she will be required to play in the Toluca Classic program. At the appropriate time of year, the player must declare if he/she will be PONY All Star eligible. Should the player declare PONY All Star eligibility and be subsequently picked to a PONY All Star team, their commitment will be to their PONY All Star team until that team is disbanded.

#### **TRYOUTS**

There will be one publicized tryout per year, coinciding with the Toluca Classic Spring tryouts. Tryout dates will be set such that player selection for the Travel Division can be made prior to Toluca Classic team formation. Travel Division tryouts will be attended by the Travel Division Commissioner as well as the Travel managers, coaches, the Division Commissioner and Player Agent.

#### **REGISTRATION AND FEES**

All Travel teams must register with Toluca before they begin tournament or travel league play. The team must pay a Toluca travel fee at the time of registration in order to receive team insurance. The Toluca travel fee will be determined prior to start of each season by the Executive Committee. Additionally, Each Travel team will be responsible for covering its own costs relative to tournament/league entry fees, travel expenses and any other acquired fees during its season.

Should a player participate in both the Toluca Travel Division and the Toluca Classic Program, there will be additional fees to pay. These additional fees will consist of add-on items (i.e.: uniform cost, insurance, etc.)

The 2009-2010 Season Titan Team Fee is \$400.00. Travel Teams shall not be entitled to field time until the Titan Team Fee is received.

#### **UNIFORMS**

The league will provide hat, belt, sox, and jersey to all Tournament team (name TBD) teams for a cost included in the fee, as set by the Executive Committee. Travel teams must wear the league issued uniforms when competing as the Toluca Titans.

Uniforms shall be purchased directly by the Titan **or Thunder** Team at the Teams sole cost and expense. The uniforms shall include either "Toluca" or "Titans",

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"Thunder" or some combination of the two on the front of the jersey. The hat shall include a "T" or "Toluca Baseball" or "Toluca" or "Titans/Thunder" or a combination thereof. The uniforms shall be white or grey with green and/or black detail.

A Titan, Thunder or Tournament team (name TBD) Team that is not in compliance with the Travel Rules forfeits its right to field time, league insurance and the right to the "Toluca Titan" or "Toluca Thunder" moniker, until such time that the Executive Committee determines compliance has been achieved.

#### **AS OF FALL 2007**

A Toluca player is allowed to go to Cooperstown one time only with a Toluca team.

#### **MANAGER SELECTION**

Candidates will make their intentions known in writing to the Travel Division Commissioner prior to the final Executive Committee meeting in July. The Executive Committee, along with the Travel Division Commissioner, will judge the candidates on a number of qualities, which may include and are not limited to tenure, integrity, patience, reliability, enthusiasm, loyalty, deportment, perspective and knowledge of the game and then make a decision. It is possible that no candidate will be acceptable to the Executive Committee and all candidates will be declined.

In the event a hybrid team is formed, the Executive Committee will give preference when selecting a manager to one of the managers already in place on the respective age group teams to be combined.

Children of Managers or Coaches rostered on a Titan or Thunder Team must be registered in the current Spring Toluca Classic Season in order for the Manager/Coach to be eligible to participate as a Manager or Coach of their child's Travel Team.

#### **COACH SELECTION**

Managers nominate their Coaches for approval by the Travel Division Commissioner. The Commissioner will review the nominations utilizing the same qualities specified above in the Manager Selection section. Managers are encouraged to

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nominate as coaches other manager candidates that the Executive Committee felt were strong candidates but were not awarded a team due to a lack of players. It is also recommended each team have a business manager, preferably someone who is not a manager or coach.

#### **TOURNAMENT TEAMS**

Tournament teams are teams formed from current league players (non-Titan or Thunder players only), that want to play in a tournament. Managers wishing to form Tournament teams shall obtain permission from the league's President prior to tournament registration. Any Toluca tournament team must pay the league a \$10 per player, per tournament, insurance fee. This team's name will be the "Toluca" team. All tournament teams will be re-rostered for each tournament.

#### **SCHEDULE CONFLICTS WITH CLASSIC PLAY**

Classic league schedules take priority over Titan, Thunder or Tournament schedules. Example - any team playing in a weekend tournament must make sure the Classic league teams will not be affected. We don't want Titan, Thunder and Tournament teams causing forfeits for Classic league play. A Titan or Thunder manager, who also manages a classic team, cannot use their classic team's practice time for Titan or Thunder games/practice.

#### **TRAVEL DIVISION COMMISSIONER**

This individual will oversee the operation of all Titan, Thunder and Tournament team (name TBD) Teams, from supervising tryouts to maintaining a current file of contacts (AABC, USSSA, AAU, various local and national pay-for play and invitational tournaments, etc.) to assist managers in planning an appropriate schedule for their team. The Commissioner will participate in the Executive Committee manager selection process. Ideally, the Travel Commissioner will not be a manager or coach with a Travel Division team although this situation will be allowed with Executive Committee approval. Should the Travel Commissioner be a manager or coach of a Travel team, then the Vice President of Baseball Operations and the Toluca Classic Commissioner of the corresponding Division will jointly oversee the team in order to remove the possibility of any conflict of interest decisions regarding the team.

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**TRAVEL DIVISION AS REVENUE SOURCE**

By managing field time wisely, this Division could conservatively generate \$15,000 - \$20,000 per year by hosting a few well-chosen holiday tournaments. Hosting a Travel League would only add to that figure. The possibilities are endless...

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

All special cases are to be reviewed by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors.