

# Osseo-Maple Grove Athletic Association

## AGE OF PLAY POLICY

(OMGAA Policy 2001.01)

### **Section 1 - Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to establish enforceable rules regarding participation in OMGAA programs relating to players age, set procedures for the OMGAA Board of director to grant exception to these rules, set penalties for willful violation of these rules and establish their enforcement.

### **Section 2 - Authority:**

The authority to establish this policy is provided by **Section 10 - General Duties and Responsibilities of the Board of Directors Item 5** of the **Osseo-Maple Grove Athletic Association - By Laws.**

### **Section 3 - Age/Grade Groups Defined:**

For the purpose of this policy, OMGAA shall define Age/Grade Groups and assign their appropriate playing level as follows (it is recognized that age/grade may vary, and this section is meant to establish policy guidelines):

<u>Age / Grade</u>	<u>League</u>
9 3	Pitching Machine
10 4	10-11 Year old leagues/10 Tr. Baseball - 4-6 Grade FP/ U10 FP
11 5	10-11 Year old leagues/11 Tr. Baseball - 4-6 Grade FP/U12 FP
12 6	12-13 Year old leagues/12 Tr. Baseball - 4-6 Grade FP/U12 FP
13 7	12-13 Year old leagues/13 Tr. Baseball - 7-9 Grade FP/U14 FP
14 8	14-15 Year old leagues/14 Tr. Baseball - 7-9 Grade FP/U14 FP
15 9	14-15 Year old leagues/15 Tr. Baseball - 7-9 Grade FP/U16 FP
16 10	16-19 Rec. Baseball/MM*/SBR** - 10-12 Grade FP/U18 FP
17 11	16-19 Rec. Baseball/SBR - 10-12 Grade FP/U18 FP
18 12	16-19 Rec. Baseball/SBR - 10-12 Grade FP
19	16-19 Rec. Baseball/SBR

\*MM – Mickey Mantle

\*\*SBR – Senior Babe Ruth

### **Section 4 - Policy:**

All players in an OMGAA Baseball program must play in an identified program age/grade group determined by the player's actual age as of August 1<sup>st</sup> or grade as of March 1<sup>st</sup> during the year of play for which he/she is registered.

All players in an OMGAA Fast Pitch Softball program must play in an identified program age group determined by the player's actual age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> during the year of play for which he/she is registered.

**Exceptions:**

- 1) **Players in OMGAA house leagues will be allowed to play up or down one (1) age group for the purpose of playing with school/grade classmates.**
- 2) **League Directors, by way of motion and approval from the Board of Directors, may allow players in OMGAA house leagues to play down to an appropriate level on the basis of physical or mental challenges.**
- 3) **Players in OMGAA Traveling Baseball or Fast Pitch Softball Programs are governed by the age rules of their affiliated leagues. OMGAA Traveling Program players may play at their current grade level provided age requirements of the governing affiliated league permits. OMGAA traveling program players who wish to play up both one (1) age and grade level must rank in the top five players for that age group tryouts as determined by independent, non OMGAA evaluators.**

**(Example: An 11 year old/sixth grade player may play at the 12/13 year old/seventh grade level, or the 12 year old traveling level. An 11 year old/fifth grade player must play at the 10/11 year old/ fifth grade level or may play at the 12 year old/sixth grade traveling level only if he ranks in the top five players trying out for 12 year old traveling teams).**

All players in the OMGAA Mickey Mantle or Sr. Babe Ruth programs, must be at least 16 years of age or must have completed their sophomore year of high school prior to July 31<sup>st</sup> of the year for which they are registered. All Players in the OMGAA Sr. Babe Ruth Program must be no more than 19 years old on July 31s of the year for which they are registered.

**Section 5 - Enforcement:**

Where as parents or guardians are required to register all players for participation in OMGAA programs, responsibility for compliance with this policy shall fall upon the honor of those parents or guardians. All first time registrants must provide a photocopy of their player's birth certificate for inspection at registration time. When questions of age eligibility arise, the OMGAA Board may require presentation of a certified birth certificate to the League Director as a condition for play. When questions of Grade eligibility arise, the OMGAA Board may require presentation of the most recent school grade report as a condition for play.

**Section 6 - Penalties for Violation:**

Where players are discovered in violation of this policy, the OMGAA Board of Directors may

impose one or more of the following penalties:

**Penalty options:**

- 1) Re-assignment - By direction of the League Director and/or the board, the player may be re-assigned to a team in an appropriate league without further penalty.**
- 2) Removal from Program - By direction of the board the player may be removed from the program.**
- 3) Prohibition from future play - By direction of the board, the player may be forbidden to participate in OMGAA Baseball and/or Fast Pitch programs for a period of time to be established by the board at imposition of this penalty.**
- 4) Forfeiture of fees - By direction of the board, the Treasures may be instructed to retain all (or a portion of) fees and considerations paid by the violating member, for registration into the OMGAA.**

Where coaches are discovered to recruit, or encourage players to register in violation of this policy, the OMGAA Board of Directors may impose one or more of the following penalties:

**Penalty options:**

- 1) Removal from position - By direction of the board, the coach may be removed from his/her coaching position. By the further direction of the board, the coach may also be prohibited from involvement as an assistant to the new head coach.**
- 2) Prohibition from future coaching - By direction of the board, the coach may be forbidden from coaching or assistant coaching an OMGAA Baseball or Fast Pitch program for a period of time to be established by the board at imposition of this penalty.**

Adopted by the OMGAA Board of Directors  
October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2001

Revised by the OMGAA Board of Directors  
April 16, 2002

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