

# MAJOR LEAGUE RULES



2021

**THE OFFICIAL  
PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL  
RULES BOOK**



Office of the Commissioner of Baseball  
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The Commissioner of Baseball



## MAJOR LEAGUE RULES

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**IMPORTANT NOTE: TO THE EXTENT OF ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN THE PROVISIONS OF THESE RULES AND THE PROVISIONS OF THE CURRENTLY EFFECTIVE BASIC AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MAJOR LEAGUE CLUBS AND THE MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYERS ASSOCIATION, THE BASIC AGREEMENT SHALL IN ALL RESPECTS CONTROL.**

## **DEFINITIONS**

The definitions set forth below shall apply to the following terms as they are used in the Major League Constitution, the Major League Rules and all documents incorporated into or appended to the Major League Constitution and Major League Rules.

**(a)** The term “Major League” shall refer to the American League and the National League and any other professional baseball league that is recognized as a Major League under the Major League Constitution.

**(b)** The term “Major League Club” shall refer to a professional baseball club that plays in a Major League.

**(c)** The term “Major League Player” shall refer to a professional baseball player who is on the Major League Reserve List of a Major League Club.

**(d)** The term “Minor League” shall refer to any league within the professional development league system operated by Major League Baseball in which Minor League Clubs are assigned to compete.

**(e)** The term “Minor League Club” shall refer to any professional baseball club that is party to a PDL.

**(f)** The term “Club” shall refer to any Major League Club or Minor League Club.

**(g)** The term “Minor League Player” shall refer to any professional baseball player who is on a Minor League Reserve List of a Major League Club.

**(h)** The term “first-year player” shall refer to any player who has never before signed a Major or Minor League contract.

(i) The term “Commissioner” shall refer to the individual who holds the office of Commissioner of Baseball pursuant to Article III of the Major League Constitution, or in the absence of a Commissioner, any person, entity, or body succeeding to the powers and duties of the Commissioner pursuant to the Major League Constitution.

(j) The term “Major League Reserve List” shall refer to the lists filed and maintained by a Major League Club pursuant to Rule 1 of all players, player-managers and player-coaches with whom the Major League Club is party to a Major League Uniform Player’s Contract (unless such players have been assigned outright to a Minor League Club) and players whom the Major League Club has promoted to Major League status and also must be tendered Major League Uniform Player’s Contracts on or before the following December 2.

(k) The term “Minor League Reserve List” shall refer to the list filed and maintained pursuant to Rule 1 of all players, player-managers and player-coaches with whom a Major or Minor League Club is party to Minor League Uniform Player Contracts, including players under Major League Uniform Player’s Contracts who have been assigned outright to Minor League Clubs.

(l) The term “Domestic Reserve List” shall refer to the list filed pursuant to Rule 2(a) and includes all players, player-managers and player-coaches with whom the Major League Club is party to Minor League Uniform Player Contracts who are assigned to domestic Minor League affiliates (*i.e.*, affiliates in the United States or Canada). From the earliest Opening Day of the Minor League championship season through 5:00 pm ET on the 5<sup>th</sup> day after the World Series, the Domestic Reserve List will include players under Major League Uniform Player’s Contracts who have been assigned on option to a Minor League Club.

(m) The term “Major League Active List” shall refer to the list filed pursuant to Rule 2(b)(2) of all players, player-managers and player-coaches who are currently eligible to play in a game for that Major League Club.

(n) The term “Minor League Active List” shall refer to the list filed pursuant to Rule 2(b)(3) of all players, player-managers and player-coaches who are currently eligible to play in a game for that Minor League Club.

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**MLR 1(a)**

(o) The term “championship season” shall refer to the full schedule of regular-season games that has been approved for a Major or Minor League Club in accordance with the provisions of Rule 18 in the case of Major League Clubs or the Minor League Guidelines in the case of Minor League Clubs.

(p) The term “Player Development License Agreement (PDL)” shall refer to a player development license agreement pursuant to which a professional baseball club has been granted the right to compete in the Minor Leagues.

(q) The term “Minor League Guidelines” shall refer to the mandates, rules, regulations, policies, bulletins, directives and guidelines issued or adopted by Major League Baseball that are applicable to Minor League Clubs.

(r) The term “Inactive Lists” shall refer:

(1) with respect to Major League Clubs, to the Injured, Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency, Paternity Leave, Suspended, Voluntarily Retired, Restricted, Disqualified and Ineligible Lists; and

(2) with respect to Minor League Clubs, to the Injured, Development, Suspended, Voluntarily Retired, Restricted, Disqualified, Ineligible and Temporarily Inactive Lists.

(s) The term “Winter League” shall refer to a professional baseball league outside the United States and Canada that plays a schedule of games that begins after August 31 and concludes before the start of the next championship season and that the Commissioner or the Commissioner’s designee recognizes as a Winter League. Winter Leagues are not Minor Leagues within the meaning of the Major League Rules. Winter League Clubs are not Minor League Clubs within the meaning of the Major League Rules.

(t) The term “Major League Trade Deadline” shall refer to the deadline each championship season before which a Major League Club may assign a Major League Uniform Player’s Contract (including for outrighted players) to another Major League Club (See Rule 6(d)(3).)

**Rule 1**

**RESERVE LISTS**

(a) **FILING OF RESERVE LISTS.** On a date designated by the Commissioner or the Commissioner’s designee (which shall be no later than

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**MLR 1(a) to 1(b)**

November 20, or the last business day preceding November 20, if November 20 is not a business day), each Major League Club shall file Major League and Minor League Reserve Lists with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. A Major League Club shall include on its Major League Reserve List all players, player-managers and player-coaches who are currently under Major League Uniform Player's Contracts (unless they have been assigned outright to a Minor League Club) or who have been promoted to Major League status and must be tendered a Major League Uniform Player's Contract for the following championship season by December 2.

A Major League Club also must file a separate Minor League Reserve List for each Minor League classification in which it desires to reserve Minor League players. A Major League Club, however, may reserve players only in classifications in which it owned or was affiliated with a Minor League Club during the previous season. The Minor League Reserve Lists filed by a Major League Club must contain all players, player-managers and player-coaches that it has under Minor League Uniform Player Contracts, including players whose Major League Uniform Player's Contracts have been assigned outright to Minor League Clubs. All players on one of the Minor League Reserve Lists filed by a Major League Club shall be reserved only to the Major League Club, which shall have the exclusive contractual right to the services of the players on such a list.

**(b) MAINTENANCE OF AND CHANGES TO RESERVE LISTS.**

The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall continuously maintain and update the Reserve Lists filed by Major League Clubs. As part of this process, the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall promptly record any transactions or player transfers permitted by these Rules and shall make them available electronically to all Major League Clubs. Major League Clubs shall immediately notify the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee of any changes to their Reserve Lists. Such Reserve List changes shall not take effect until approved by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee and the Commissioner may establish procedures for notifying the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee of such changes. Except for outright assignments from the Major League Reserve List in accordance with Rule 6 (Assignment of Player Contracts), outright assignments of players not subject to selection at the next Rule 5 Selection Meeting, the addition of players signed as Major League or Minor League free agents, or releases for the purpose of permitting players to sign a bona fide contract as a foreign professional,

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**MLR 1(b) to 2(b)**

Minor League Reserve Lists may not be amended during the period between the latest date designated by the Commissioner for filing Minor League Reserve Lists and the conclusion of the Rule 5 Selection Meeting.

**(c) EFFECT OF PLACEMENT ON RESERVE LIST.** No player on a Reserve List filed by a Major League Club shall be eligible to play or negotiate with any other Major League or Minor League Club until the player is removed from the Reserve List because the player's contract has been terminated or assigned.

**Rule 2**

**PLAYER LIMITS**

**(a) RESERVED LIST LIMITS.**

**(1)** As used in these Rules, the maximum limits on the number of players that a Major League Club may place on the various Major and Minor League Reserve Lists shall be referred to as "Reserve List" limits. A Major or Minor League Reserve List may contain more than the maximum number of players if the additional players are on a List (Restricted, Disqualified, Ineligible, Voluntary Retired, or Military) that does not count against the Reserve List limits or these Rules otherwise provide that such additional players in excess of the maximum number may be placed on a Major or Minor League Reserve List. See Rule 2(a)(4) (First-Year Minor Contract), 2(c)(1)(F) (Major League Injured List; Player Limits), Rule 2(c)(4)(D) (Suspended List; Player Limits), Rule 2(c)(11)(B) (Minor League Injured List; Player Limits) and Rule 2(c)(13) (Players Signed for Future Services).

**(2) Major League Club Limits.** A Major League Club may place a maximum number of

**(A)** 40 players on its Major League Reserve List;

**(B)** 180 players on its Domestic Reserve List from the earliest Opening Day of the Minor League season until 5 P.M. ET on the fifth day following the day that the last game of the World Series starts;

**(C)** 190 players on its Domestic Reserve List from 5 P.M. ET on the fifth day following the day that the last game of the World Series starts until the earliest Opening Day of the subsequent Minor League season;



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**(D)** 38 players from the Domestic Reserve List on its AAA Reserve List pursuant to Rule 1(a) through the conclusion of the Major League Rule 5 Draft;

**(E)** 35 players on its International Rookie Reserve List for each International Rookie classification Club that it owned or with which it had a PDL during the previous season.

In the event that a Club exceeds the Domestic Reserve List limit (190 or 180), the Club shall have 48 hours from the time of the transaction or signing that causes the Club to exceed the limit, to adhere to the Domestic Reserve List limit.

**(F)** If two or more Major League Clubs were affiliated with a single Minor League Club during the previous season, those Major League Clubs may place additional players on their Minor League Reserve Lists for the shared Minor League Club's classification. The number of players so reserved by each Major League Club sharing an affiliate, however, shall not cause each Major League Club to exceed the total number of players that each Major League Club had placed on the Active and Inactive Lists of the shared Minor League Club (if an International Rookie Club) as of the last day of the most recently concluded championship season, or the total number of players that each Major League Club is permitted to reserve under the Domestic Reserve List.

**(3)A** player who signs a first-year Minor League contract for the current season with a Major League Club shall be excluded from the Minor League under control limits of the signing Major League Club until 15 days have elapsed from the date of the contract or when the player has appeared in a championship season game, whichever occurs first. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a player who signs a Minor League contract with a Major League Club following the player's selection at the First-Year Player Draft shall be excluded from the Minor League under control limits of the signing Major League Club until the day following the conclusion of the current year's Major League championship season or when the player has appeared in a championship season game, whichever occurs first (see MLR 4(g)).

**(b) ACTIVE LISTS.**

**(1) FILING AND MAINTENANCE.** Each Major League Club must file and maintain an Active List with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee for the Major League Club itself and for all

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Minor League Clubs that it owns or with which it is affiliated. The Active List of a Minor League Club owned by a Major League Club or affiliated with a Major League Club pursuant to a PDL may include only players who are reserved to and under Major League Uniform Player's Contracts or Minor League Uniform Player Contracts with such Major League Club.

An Active List must include all players who are currently eligible to play in a championship season game for the Major League or the Minor League Club for which the list was filed. All Major League Active Lists must be filed by such time or times on the opening date of the Major League championship season as the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may set forth, provided, however, that any such filing time shall be no later than one hour before the scheduled start of the first game of the championship season on such opening date. All Minor League Active lists must be filed by the opening date of the championship season of the Minor League Club to which the list applies.

An optioned player who has been recalled shall be counted against the Major League Active List in accordance with Article XV(E)(3) of the Basic Agreement.

For purposes of applying the limits in Rule 2(b), a player-manager or player-coach shall be considered an active player.

**(2) MAJOR LEAGUE CLUB ACTIVE LIST.**

**(A)** From Opening Day through August 31 of the championship season and during postseason games, the minimum number of players who may be placed on an Active List for a Major League Club shall be 25, and the maximum number of players who may be placed on an Active List for a Major League Club shall be 26. Major League Clubs may carry a maximum of 13 pitchers on the Active List during this period.

Prior to September 1, a Major League Club may expand its 26-man Active Roster to 27 players for any split or regular doubleheader (including double-headers in which the first game is a continuation of a suspended game) that is contained in the regular season schedule or created to reschedule games, as follows:

**(i)** The additional roster spot is not available in the first game of a doubleheader that is scheduled as a result of a postponed game earlier in the same series if the

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**MLR 2(b)**

rescheduled game takes place the day following the announcement to reschedule the postponed game, unless both Clubs agree that the additional roster spot will be available for the first game within one hour following the notice of postponement. Regardless, the additional roster spot is available in the second game of a doubleheader.

**(ii)** The additional roster spot shall not be available in the continuation of a suspended game.

**(iii)** A player added to the 26-man Active Roster for these purposes must be on the 40-man Roster (or reinstated from a Major League Inactive List in accordance with the applicable Rule), and, except as set forth in Rule 2(b)(2)(A)(i) and (ii) above, will be eligible to play in both scheduled games of the doubleheader (such player will be referred to as the “27<sup>th</sup> Player”). If a Club adds more than one player to the Active Roster, and one of the players is added pursuant to this Rule 2(b)(2)(A), it must identify the 27<sup>th</sup> Player at the time he is added to the roster.

**(iv)** Any Club that expands its roster for these purposes must return to a 26-man Active Roster immediately after the conclusion of the second game (i.e., a post-game roster adjustment). The recall and waiver requirements and limitations contained in these Rules shall not apply to the 27<sup>th</sup> Player if returned to his previous Minor League Club for these purposes. Moreover, a player’s addition to the 26-man Active roster for these purposes shall not affect the expiration of any 10-day or 15-day period that may be required by Rule 7(b)(1). The return of the player to his previous Minor League Club shall not be considered an assignment (i.e., to a Minor League Club, an optional assignment under these Rules, or otherwise). A Club may return to a 26-man Active Roster by removing a player other than the 27<sup>th</sup> Player only if the Club’s addition of the 27<sup>th</sup> Player complied with all applicable Rules and the Basic Agreement, and the Club’s subsequent removal of the other player from its roster complied with all

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applicable Rules and the Basic Agreement (and both of those transactions will not be covered by the exception created by this Rule 2(b)(2)(A)).

(v) The 27<sup>th</sup> Player shall be paid one day of Major League salary and shall receive one day of Major League service. Such day shall not be counted for purposes of counting days on option pursuant to the Articles XIX(E) and XXI(B) of the Basic Agreement or Rule 7(c).

(vi) The addition of the 27<sup>th</sup> Player must be consistent with the Prohibition on Taxi Squads contained in Article XV(E)(3) of the Basic Agreement.

(vii) A Club's addition of the 27<sup>th</sup> Player pursuant to this Rule 2(b)(2)(A) is not intended to preclude a Club from making other player transactions that are permissible under these Rules or the Basic Agreement.

(viii) The 27<sup>th</sup> Player shall not count toward the maximum of 13 pitchers permitted on the Active List.

(B) From September 1 through the end of the championship season (including any tiebreaker games), all Major League Clubs must carry 28 players on the Active List. Major League Clubs may carry a maximum of 14 pitchers on the Active List during this period.

(C) Except for Two-Way players described in Rule 2(b)(2)(D) below, Major League Clubs must designate each player on the Active Roster as either a pitcher or a position player before each player's first day on the Active Roster for a given season. That designation (pitcher or position player) will remain in effect for that player, and cannot change, for the remainder of that championship season and postseason.

**(D) Two-Way Players.**

(i) Players who qualify as Two-Way players may appear as pitchers during a game without counting toward a Club's pitcher limitations.

(ii) A player will qualify as a "Two-Way player" only if he fully meets both of the following criteria in any one of the 2020 or 2021 championship seasons:

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(aa) at least 20 Major League innings pitched;  
and

(bb) at least 20 Major League games started as a position player or designated hitter with at least three plate appearances in each of those games.

(iii) In order for a qualified player to appear in a championship season or postseason game as a Two-Way player, the Club must designate that player in advance of that game. Once a Club designates a qualified player as a Two-Way player, that designation will remain in effect for that player, and cannot change, for the remainder of that championship season and postseason.

(iv) No player on the Active Roster other than those designated as Two-Way players or pitchers by the Club may appear in a championship season or postseason game as a pitcher, except that any player may appear as a pitcher following the 9th inning of an extra inning game, or in any game in which his team is losing or winning by equal to or more than 6 runs when the player enters as a pitcher; provided, however, that the 27th Player shall not count toward the maximum of 13 pitchers permitted on the Active List.

(E) With the exceptions of unconditional releases, designations for assignment, and assignments of a Major League contract to another Major League Club, Clubs may not change their Active Lists once a game has commenced, unless the game is suspended (in which case Clubs may change their Active Lists prior to the resumption of the game).

**(3) MINOR LEAGUE CLUB ACTIVE LISTS.**

(A) The maximum number of players on the Active List of a Class AAA Club shall be 28.

(B) The maximum number of players on the Active List of a Class AA Club shall be 28.

(C) The maximum number of players on the Active List of a Class High-A Club shall be 30.

(D) The maximum number of players on the Active List of a Low-A Club shall be 30.

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(E) The maximum number of players on the Active List of an International Rookie League Club shall be 35.

(F) There shall be no maximum number of players on the Active List of any Spring Training Complex League team. All players assigned to the Spring Training Complex may participate in game activity, provided players on any Inactive List may not participate in game activity without prior approval from the Commissioner's Office.

**(c) INACTIVE LISTS.**

**(1) MAJOR LEAGUE INJURED LIST.** Upon appropriate application to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, a Major League Club may request that a player on its Major League Active List, who is unable to render services because of a specific injury or ailment, be placed on one of the Injured Lists set forth in this Rule 2(c)(1).

(A) Lists. The Major League Injured Lists shall consist of 7-day, 10-day, 15-day and 60-day lists, which shall be the minimum period of inactivity for a player placed on such a list, as follows:

(i) 10-day, 15-day and 60-day lists. Only position players are eligible for placement on the 10-day list, and only pitchers are eligible for placement on the 15-day list. Two-Way players (as defined in Rule 2(b)(2)(D)) shall qualify as pitchers for purposes of this Rule 2(c)(1). The application for placement on the 10-day, 15-day or 60-day list shall be accompanied by a Standard Form of Diagnosis completed by the Major League Club physician, and a copy of this completed form shall be given to the player. At the time of the request, the player's Club must designate the specific list on which the player is to be placed. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may approve such requests after having received the Standard Form of Diagnosis.

(ii) 7-day list. A player is only eligible for the 7-day list if he has suffered an acute concussion. The application for placement on the 7-day list shall be documented through an Event Form in the Electronic Medical Records System and accompanied by a concussion-specific Standard Form of Diagnosis, signed by the home or visiting Club physician and the home Club head certified athletic trainer. The completed

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diagnostic form and supporting information must be submitted to the Commissioner's Office and the Players Association prior to the player's placement on the 7-day list. A copy of the completed diagnostic form also shall be given to the player. Upon submission of the diagnostic form to the Commissioner's Office, Major League Baseball's Medical Director will review the form and any available supporting information, and, if appropriate, approve the placement of the player on the 7-day list.

**(B) Transfers.** Subject to the restrictions above, a player may be transferred from the 7-day list to the 10-day list (position player) or 15-day list (pitcher), or from the 7-day, 10-day or 15-day lists to the 60-day list. A position player on the 7-day list who is recertified after the initial 7-day list placement shall automatically be transferred to the 10-day list in the event the player is not able to return to play after an initial 9-day period of inactivity. A pitcher on the 7-day list who is recertified after the initial 7-day list placement shall automatically be transferred to the 15-day list in the event the player is not able to return to play after an initial 14-day period of inactivity. Time spent on the 7-day, 10-day or 15-day lists prior to any such transfer shall count towards the 10-day, 15-day or 60-day minimum inactivity periods, whichever is applicable.

**(C) Recertifications.** The Club physician must complete and submit to the Commissioner's Office and the Players Association the appropriate Standard Form of Diagnosis for Recertification for a player on the 7-day list when the player first becomes eligible for reinstatement to active status. A position player on the 7-day list who is recertified shall automatically, without any additional recertification necessary, be transferred to the 10-day list in the event the player is not able to return to play after an initial 9-day period of inactivity. A pitcher on the 7-day list who is recertified shall automatically, without any additional recertification necessary, be transferred to the 15-day list in the event the player is not able to return to play after an initial 14-day period of inactivity. Except as provided herein, the Club physician must complete and submit the appropriate Standard Form of Diagnosis for Recertification for a player on the 10-day list (15-day list for pitchers) when the player first becomes eligible for reinstatement to

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active status, and then every 10 days (15-days for pitchers) following the date upon which the player first becomes eligible for reinstatement. No recertification shall be required for players on the 60-day Injured List.

**(D) Return to Play.** Prior to the reinstatement of a concussed player from any Injured List, and before the player may consent to and undergo an injury rehabilitation pursuant to Rule 6(g), the player's Club must submit a Return to Play Form and supporting information to the Medical Director and the Players Association.

**(E) Disposition of Injured Players.** Except as set forth in Rule 6(g) and Article XIX(C) of the Basic Agreement, a Major League Club may not direct, assign or otherwise transfer a player on a Major League Injured List to a Minor League Club.

**(F) Player Limits.** There shall be no limit on the number of players placed on any Major League Injured List; provided, however, that:

**(i)** a player may not be placed on or transferred to the 60-day list unless the Major League Reserve List of the player's Club is at the maximum limit of 40 or the player's Club adds a player to its Major League Reserve List who otherwise would cause the 40-player Reserve List limit to be exceeded;

**(ii)** players on the 7-day, 10-day, and 15-day lists shall count against the Reserve List limits, but not against the Active List limits;

**(iii)** players on the 60-day list shall not count against either the Reserve List or Active List limits;

**(iv)** after the conclusion of the championship season, a player may not be placed on the 7-day Injured List earlier than the fourth day before the start of the next championship season;

**(v)** after the conclusion of the championship season, a player may not be placed on the 10-day or 15-day Injured List earlier than the third day before the start of the next championship season;

**(vi)** after the conclusion of the championship season, a player may not be placed on the 60-day Injured List earlier



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than the first date that Clubs may invite injured players, pitchers and catchers to attend spring training workouts in accordance with Article XIV(A)(1) of the Basic Agreement;

(vii) players placed on or transferred to the 60-day Injured List prior to the start of the championship season may not be reinstated until 60 days of the championship season have elapsed;

(viii) except for players on the 60-day Injured List, all players on the Injured List must be removed from the Injured List on or before the day following the conclusion of the championship season;

(ix) Clubs must remove all players from the 60-day Injured List no later than the fifth day following the day that the last game of the World Series starts; and

(x) Clubs may not place players on or transfer players to the 60-day Injured List after August 31 unless the Club maintains a complete 40-man Roster.

For the effect of the minimum activity period on postseason rosters, see Rule 41(a)(2) (Submission of Rosters).

A Major League player on a rehabilitation assignment shall not count against the Active List limit of either the Major or the Minor League Club to which the player is assigned, nor the Domestic Reserve List limit, but shall continue to count against the Reserve List limit for the Major League Reserve List unless the player is on the 60-day Injured List.

**(2) MAJOR LEAGUE BEREAVEMENT/FAMILY MEDICAL EMERGENCY LIST.**

(A) Placement. Upon written application to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, a Major League Club may request that a player be placed on the Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List. No player may be placed on the Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List unless such player is unable to render services because of the serious or severe illness or death of a member of such player's immediate family (e.g., spouse, parent, grandparent, sibling, child or grandchild) or a

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member of such player's spouse's immediate family. Written notice of placement upon the Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List must be given to the player.

**(B) Salary and Service.** A player on the Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List shall be paid salary while on such List. For each day that the player receives salary while on the Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List, the player shall receive one day of Major League service.

**(C) Duration.** The minimum period of placement on the Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List shall be three consecutive days and the maximum period of placement shall be seven consecutive days, during which placement the player is not permitted to be with the player's Club. No assignment of a Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List player shall be permitted until after reinstatement. However, a Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List player may be unconditionally released with the prior approval of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, or assigned to another Major League Club within the 72-hour window leading up to the period set forth in Rule 6(d)(3).

If a player's absence from the player's Major League Club continues past the maximum period of Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List placement, the player's Club may submit written application to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee to place the player on the Restricted List. See Rule 2(c)(6) (Restricted List).

**(D) Player Limits.** A Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List player shall not be counted on a Major League Club's Active List, but the player shall be included in the Reserve List limit. A player may not be carried on the Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List after the conclusion of the championship season.

**(3) MAJOR LEAGUE PATERNITY LEAVE LIST.**

**(A) Placement.** Upon written application to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, a Major League Club may request that a player be placed on the Major League Paternity Leave List. No player may be placed on the List unless that player is the father

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of a child whose delivery or adoption is imminent or has occurred within the prior 48 hours. Written notice of placement upon the Major League Paternity Leave List must be given to the player.

**(B) Salary and Service.** A player on the Major League Paternity Leave List shall be paid salary while on such List. For each day that the player receives salary while on the Major League Paternity Leave List, the player shall receive one day of Major League service.

**(C) Duration.** The minimum period of placement on the Major League Paternity Leave List shall be one day and the maximum period of placement shall be three consecutive days, during which placement the player is not to be permitted to be with the player's Club. No assignment of a Major League Paternity List player shall be permitted until after reinstatement. However, a Major League Paternity List player may be assigned to another Major League Club within the 72-hour window leading up to the period set forth in Rule 6(d)(3).

If a player's absence from the player's Major League Club continues past the maximum period of Major League Paternity Leave List placement, the player's Club may submit written application to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee to place the player on the Restricted List, see Rule 2(c)(6) (Restricted List), or, if the player's absence is as a result of a serious illness or death arising from the delivery of the child, the player's Club may submit written application to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee to transfer the player to the Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List, provided that any time spent on the Paternity Leave List shall count towards the minimum inactivity period. See Rule 2(c)(2).

**(D) Player Lists.** A Major League Paternity Leave List player shall not be counted on the Major League Club's Active List, but the player shall be included in the Reserve List limit. A player may not be carried on the Major League Paternity Leave List after the conclusion of the championship season.

**(4) SUSPENDED LIST.**

**(A) MISCONDUCT OR INSUBORDINATION.**

**(i) Suspension by Club.** A Major League Club may suspend a player that it has under a Major League Uniform

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Player's Contract or Minor League Uniform Player Contract for insubordination or other misconduct or for violation by the player of any regulation or other provision of the player's contract. At its discretion, the Major League Club with which the player is under contract may impose a reasonable fine and deduct the amount of the fine from the player's salary or may suspend the player without salary for a reasonable period, or both. Written notice of the fine, or suspension, or both, and of the reason for the fine and/or suspension shall in every case be given to the player. During the period of suspension the player shall be ineligible to play with any other Major or Minor League Club.

(ii) Suspension by Commissioner. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may discipline a player assigned to the Minor Leagues for misconduct or violation by the player of any applicable rules and regulations, including, without limitation, pursuant to any on-field behavior policy promulgated by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. Such discipline may include a fine and/or suspension. Written notice of the fine, or suspension, or both, and of the reason for the fine and/or suspension shall in every case be given to the player. During the period of suspension the player shall be ineligible to play with any other Minor League Club.

**(B) PLAYER NOT IN CONDITION.** A player under a Major League Uniform Player's Contract or Minor League Uniform Player Contract who fails to get into playing condition within 60 days after the commencement of the training season of the player's Club may be suspended without pay until the player is in condition to play.

**(C) APPEAL.** A player suspended by a Major League Club or the Commissioner for a term longer than 10 days shall have the right to appeal to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may order the player's reinstatement and afford the player adequate redress if the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee holds that the punishment is excessive or not merited.

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**(D) PLAYER LIMITS.**

(i) Suspension by Club. A player placed on the Suspended List by his Major or Minor League Club shall be excluded from all player limits until the player is reinstated.

(ii) Suspension by League. A player placed on the Suspended List by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, shall count against both Reserve List and Active List limits.

**(E) TENDERS AND RENEWALS.** With regard to any player who is on the Suspended List, a Club shall not be obligated to tender or renew a contract until the player is removed from such list and reinstated to active status. If a player is removed from such list during a period beginning on November 22 and extending through the next championship season, the Club shall tender a contract to the player within 10 days following such removal. Thereafter, should the Club and the player agree upon the terms of a new contract within 10 days after the player's receipt of the tendered contract, the Club shall be obligated, within the next five days, to renew the player's prior Major League contract, provided, however, that if the tender is made during the period beginning on November 22 and ending on the next March 1, the renewal period shall be as set forth in paragraph 10(a) of the Major League Uniform Player's Contract. Should a Club fail to tender or renew a contract as provided in this paragraph, the player shall become a free agent without any restrictions or qualifications.

**(5) DESIGNATED PLAYERS.** When the Active List and/or Reserve List limits of a particular Major League Club have been reached, and the Club desires to acquire, sign, transfer, recall from an optional assignment or reinstate an additional player, notice must first be given to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee of the Club's intention to release or assign an equal number of players. The player(s) so designated shall be released or their contracts assigned within 7 days after such notice is given, and they shall not be eligible to participate in a championship season game after having been so designated until they are released or assigned to another Major or Minor League Club. No player obtained from a waiver claim award may be designated if such designation would violate Rule 8(g) (Player Limit).

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**(6) RESTRICTED LIST.**

**(A)** If, without permission from a player's Major League Club, a player fails, within 10 days of the opening of the player's Club's championship season, to report to, or contract with, the player's Club, the player may be reported by the Club to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee for placement on the "Restricted List." A player on the Restricted List shall not be eligible to play for any Major or Minor League Club.

**(B)** Before the start of the championship season but not before January 1, a Major League Club also may report for placement on the Restricted List any player, whether or not under contract for the current season, who has given the Club written or electronic notification that the player will not report until 30 days or more after the opening of the championship season. Requests to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall be accompanied by the notification which the Club received from the player.

**(C)** The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may place a Major or Minor League Reserve List player on the Restricted List if the player's Club certifies that unusual circumstances exist.

**(D)** Except with regard to players with outstanding suspensions that are required to be placed on the Restricted List upon signing with a new Club, Clubs may not report a player for placement on the Restricted List if at the time the Club signed the player the Club knew or should have known that the player would be unavailable to play for or report to the Club during the initial period of such placement.

**(E)** Player Limits. Players on the Restricted List shall not count against either the Reserve List or Active List limits. A player under a Major League Uniform Player's Contract or Minor League Uniform Player Contract who has been reserved for two consecutive years on the Restricted List shall be omitted from further Reserve Lists and shall not be eligible to play until the player is first reinstated in accordance with Rule 2(c)(6)(K) (Reinstatement of Players). Upon reinstatement, the Major League or Minor League Club to which the player is reserved shall restore the player to the same status that the player had at the time when the player retired or became ineligible.

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**(F) Salary.** A player on the Restricted List (i) shall not be unconditionally released, and (ii) shall not be entitled to salary while on any such list, nor after reinstatement from any such list, until such date (not exceeding 30 days after reinstatement) as the player is in condition to participate in championship games to the satisfaction of the player's Club, unless the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee approves.

**(G) Tenders and Renewals.** A Club's obligations to tender and renew a contract, as set forth in paragraph 10(a) of the Major League Uniform Player's Contract, shall apply with regard to any player who, at the applicable time, is on the Restricted List. Should a Club fail to so tender or renew a contract, the player shall become a free agent without any restrictions or qualifications, and the player shall be removed from the Restricted List. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Player who properly has been placed on the Restricted List for a violation of the Joint Drug Program shall be eligible to become a free agent as provided in Article XX of the Basic Agreement, if otherwise qualified as set forth therein, but shall remain on the Restricted List until he completes his suspension.

**(H) Reservations.** A player on the Restricted List may be reserved as such for two consecutive years. At the expiration of that two-year period, the player need not be reported on the player's Major or Minor League Club's annual Reserve List and will automatically be transferred to a General Restricted List.

**(I) Promulgation.** Whenever a player is placed on the Restricted List, such fact shall be promulgated by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee to all Major League Clubs in the form of a transaction bulletin.

**(J) Assignment.** The contract of a player on the Restricted List may be assigned, but the assignee Club shall assume all responsibility for the player's reporting.

**(K) Reinstatement of Players.**

**(i) Application.** Any player on the Restricted List may apply for reinstatement, or to have the player's status changed, upon the conditions stated in this Rule 2(c)(6). Any Major or Minor League Club having a player on the Restricted List may apply for the player's reinstatement. Such application shall be

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filed with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. An application for reinstatement may be granted upon such terms and conditions as the facts may warrant in the judgment of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

No Major League player on the Restricted List shall be reinstated during the period from August 1 to and including October 31, unless the Restricted List placement had followed a Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List placement pursuant to Rule 2(c)(2) (Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List), had followed a Major League Paternity List Placement pursuant to Rule 2(c)(3) or had been made pursuant to the Major or Minor League Drug Treatment and Prevention Programs, or the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee has approved the reinstatement. No Minor League player on the Restricted List shall be reinstated during the period from August 1 until the conclusion of the Minor League championship season and playoffs, unless the Restricted List placement had been made pursuant to the Major or Minor League Drug Treatment and Prevention Programs, or the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee has approved the reinstatement.

**(ii)** A Restricted List player shall be reinstated immediately upon receipt of application for reinstatement, in writing or by approved electronic means, from the player's Major League Club.

**(iii) Player Limits.** A player reinstated from the Restricted List between the mandatory spring training reporting date and the conclusion of the championship season shall not count against the player limits of the Major or Minor League Club to which the player is reinstated until such date (not exceeding 30 days after reinstatement) as the player is in condition to participate in championship games to the satisfaction of the player's Club. A player reinstated from such a List between the conclusion of a championship season and the mandatory spring training reporting date shall not count against the player limits of the Major or Minor League Club to which the player is reinstated until the fourteenth calendar day following reinstatement.



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(iv) Reinstatement Before Release. A Player on the Restricted List must be reinstated before the player can be released unconditionally.

**(7) DISQUALIFIED LIST.**

(A) Application. A player who violates a player contract or reservation may be reported to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee for placement on the "Disqualified List." A player on the Disqualified List shall not be eligible to play with any Major or Minor League Club.

(B) Player Limits. Players on the Disqualified List shall not count against either the Reserve List or Active List limits. A player under a Major League Uniform Player's Contract or Minor League Uniform Player Contract who has been reserved for two consecutive years on the Disqualified List shall be omitted from further Reserve Lists and shall not be eligible to play until the player is first reinstated in accordance with Rule 2(c)(7)(H) (Reinstatement of Players). Upon reinstatement, the Major League or Minor League Club to which the player is reserved shall restore the player to the same status that the player had at the time when the player retired or became ineligible.

(C) Salary. A player on the Disqualified List (i) shall not be unconditionally released, and (ii) shall not be entitled to salary while on any such list, nor after reinstatement from any such list, until such date (not exceeding 30 days after reinstatement) as the player is in condition to participate in championship games to the satisfaction of the player's Club, unless the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee approves otherwise.

**(D) Tenders and Renewals.**

(i) A Club's obligations to tender and renew a contract, as set forth in paragraph 10(a) of the Major League Uniform Player's Contract, shall apply with regard to any player who, at the applicable time, is on the Disqualified List for failure to render the player's services to the Club. Should a Club fail to so tender or renew a contract, the player shall become a free agent without any restrictions or qualifications, and the player shall be removed from the Disqualified List.

(ii) With regard to any player who is on the Disqualified List for a reason other than stated in Rule 2(c)(7)(D)(i), a

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Club shall not be obligated to tender or renew a contract until the player is removed from such list and reinstated to active status. If a player is removed from such list during a period beginning on November 22 and extending through the next championship season, the Club shall tender a contract to the player within 10 days following such removal. Thereafter, should the Club and the player agree upon the terms of a new contract within 10 days after the player's receipt of the tendered contract, the Club shall be obligated, within the next five days, to renew the player's prior Major League contract, provided, however, that if the tender is made during the period beginning on November 22 and ending on the next March 1, the renewal period shall be as set forth in paragraph 10(a) of the Major League Uniform Player's Contract. Should a Club fail to tender or renew a contract as provided in this paragraph, the player shall become a free agent without any restrictions or qualifications.

**(E) Reservations.** A player on the Disqualified List may be reserved as such for two consecutive years. At the expiration of that two-year period, the player need not be reported on the player's Major or Minor League Club's annual Reserve List and will automatically be transferred to a General Disqualified.

**(F) Promulgation.** Whenever a player is placed on the Disqualified List, such fact shall be promulgated by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee to all Major League Clubs in the form of a transaction bulletin.

**(G) Assignment.** The contract of a player on the Disqualified List may be assigned, but the assignee Club shall assume all responsibility for the player's reporting.

**(H) Reinstatement of Players.**

**(i) Application.** Any player on the Disqualified List may apply for reinstatement, or to have the player's status changed, upon the conditions stated in this Rule 2(c)(7). Such application shall be filed with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. An application for reinstatement may be granted upon such terms and conditions as the facts may warrant in the judgment of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

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If a player files an application for reinstatement from the Disqualified List after February 1 of any year, the player's Major or Minor League Club shall be entitled to 30 days' written notice prior to the player's reinstatement. No Major League player on the Disqualified List shall be reinstated during the period from August 1 to and including October 31, unless the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee has approved the reinstatement. No Minor League player on the Disqualified List shall be reinstated during the period from August 1 until the conclusion of the Minor League championship season and playoffs, unless the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee has approved the reinstatement.

(ii) Upon proper application, a player on the Disqualified List may be reinstated by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

(iii) **Player Limits.** A player reinstated from the Disqualified List between the mandatory spring training reporting date and the conclusion of the championship season shall not count against the player limits of the Major or Minor League Club to which the player is reinstated until such date (not exceeding 30 days after reinstatement) as the player is in condition to participate in championship games to the satisfaction of the player's Club. A player reinstated from such a List between the conclusion of a championship season and the mandatory spring training reporting date shall not count against the player limits of the Major or Minor League Club to which the player is reinstated until the fourteenth calendar day following reinstatement.

(iv) **Reinstatement Before Release.** A Player on the Disqualified List must be reinstated before the player can be released unconditionally.

#### **(8) INELIGIBLE LIST.**

(A) A player or other person found guilty of misconduct or other acts mentioned in Rule 21, or convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, may be placed on the "Ineligible List" by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. A player or other person on the Ineligible List shall not be eligible to play or associate with any Major or Minor League Club.

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**(B)** No Major or Minor League player shall knowingly play with or against a team with which, during the current season, any ineligible player or person has had any connection. Should a player knowingly play with or against any such team, the player shall be placed on the Disqualified List.

**(C) ACTION BY COMMISSIONER OR THE COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNEE.** In all cases the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may determine, at any time, either on his or her own motion or at the request of a Major League Club or Major or Minor League player, that the best interests of Baseball require that a player, Club or League official or employee, or other person, be placed on the Ineligible List and may also, in his or her sole discretion and upon such terms and conditions as he or she may deem proper, reinstate any such person from the Ineligible List or transfer the person from the Ineligible List to the Disqualified List.

**(D) Player Limits.** Players on the Ineligible List shall not count against either the Reserve List or Active List limits. A player under a Major League Uniform Player's Contract or Minor League Uniform Player Contract who has been reserved for two consecutive years on the Ineligible List shall be omitted from further Reserve Lists and shall not be eligible to play until the player is first reinstated in accordance with Rule 2(c)(8)(J) (Reinstatement of Players). Upon reinstatement, the Major League Club to which the player is reserved shall restore the player to the same status that the player had at the time when the player retired or became ineligible.

**(E) Salary.** A player on the Ineligible List (i) shall not be unconditionally released, and (ii) shall not be entitled to salary while on any such list, nor after reinstatement from any such list, until such date (not exceeding 30 days after reinstatement) as the player is in condition to participate in championship games to the satisfaction of the player's Club.

**(F) Tenders and Renewals.** With regard to any player who is on the Ineligible List, a Club shall not be obligated to tender or renew a contract until the player is removed from such list and reinstated to active status. If a player is removed from such list during a period beginning on November 22 and extending through the next championship season, the Club shall tender a contract to

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the player within 10 days following such removal. Thereafter, should the Club and the player agree upon the terms of a new contract within 10 days after the player's receipt of the tendered contract, the Club shall be obligated, within the next five days, to renew the player's prior Major League contract, provided, however, that if the tender is made during the period beginning on November 22 and ending on the next March 1, the renewal period shall be as set forth in paragraph 10(a) of the Major League Uniform Player's Contract. Should a Club fail to tender or renew a contract as provided in this paragraph, the player shall become a free agent without any restrictions or qualifications.

**(G) Reservations.** A player on the Ineligible List may be reserved as such for two consecutive years. At the expiration of that two-year period, the player need not be reported on the player's Major or Minor League Club's annual Reserve List and will automatically be transferred to a General Ineligible List.

**(H) Promulgation.** Whenever a player is placed on the Ineligible List, such fact shall be promulgated by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee to all Major League Clubs in the form of a transaction bulletin.

**(I) Assignment.** The contract of a player on the Ineligible List may not be assigned except with the permission of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(J) Reinstatement of Players.**

**(i) Application.** Any player on the Ineligible List may apply for reinstatement, or to have the player's status changed, upon the conditions stated in this Rule 2(c)(8). Such application shall be filed with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. An application for reinstatement may be granted upon such terms and conditions as the facts may warrant in the judgment of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

If a player files an application for reinstatement from the Ineligible List after February 1 of any year, the player's Major or Minor League Club shall be entitled to 30 days' written notice prior to the player's reinstatement. No Major League player on the Ineligible List shall be reinstated during the period from August 1 to and including October 31. No Minor

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League player on the Ineligible List shall be reinstated during the period from August 1 until the conclusion of the Minor League championship season and playoffs, unless the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee has approved the reinstatement.

(ii) Upon proper application, a player on the Ineligible List may be reinstated by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. However, no such application may be made until after the lapse of one year from date of placement on the Ineligible List.

(iii) Player Limits. A player reinstated from the Ineligible List between the mandatory spring training reporting date and the conclusion of the championship season shall not count against the player limits of the Major or Minor League Club to which the player is reinstated until such date (not exceeding 30 days after reinstatement) as the player is in condition to participate in championship games to the satisfaction of the player's Club. A player reinstated from such a List between the conclusion of a championship season and the mandatory spring training reporting date shall not count against the player limits of the Major or Minor League Club to which the player is reinstated until the fourteenth calendar day following reinstatement.

(iv) Reinstatement Before Release. A Player on the Ineligible List must be reinstated before the player can be released unconditionally.

**(9) VOLUNTARILY RETIRED LIST.**

(A) APPLICATION. A player under a Major League Uniform Player's Contract or a Minor League Uniform Player Contract who desires to retire from the profession shall make written application to the player's Major League Club, stating fully the player's reasons for retiring. The Major League Club shall forward the application and the Club's recommendation to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. If the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee deems it proper to do so, the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may grant an application for voluntary retirement upon the conditions set forth in this Rule 2(c)(9) and upon such other terms and

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conditions as the facts and circumstances may warrant, in the judgment of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. However, no player shall be reinstated within 60 calendar days of the championship season or seasons from the date that the player filed the application for voluntary retirement with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(B) PLAYING WHILE RETIRED.** If a voluntarily retired player, during the player's retirement, shall desire to play baseball for hire, otherwise than for the Major League Club entitled to the player's services, the player shall first obtain written consent of the player's Club. The player then must file an application with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee requesting permission to play otherwise than for the Major League Club to which the player is under contract. The player's application shall specify the teams with and against which the player desires to play, and their locations, and shall be transmitted with the player's Club's consent to the Commissioner for approval or denial.

**(C) PLAYER LIMITS.** Players on the Voluntarily Retired List shall not count against either the Reserve List or Active List limits. A player under a Major League Uniform Player's Contract or Minor League Uniform Player Contract who has been reserved for two consecutive years on the Voluntarily Retired List shall be omitted from further Reserve Lists and shall not be eligible to play until the player is first reinstated in accordance with Rule 2(c)(9)(E) (Reinstatement of Players). Upon reinstatement, the Major League or Minor League Club to which the player is reserved shall restore the player to the same status that the player had at the time when the player retired or became ineligible.

**(D) TENDERS AND RENEWALS.** With regard to any player who is on the Voluntarily Retired List, a Club shall not be obligated to tender or renew a contract until the player is removed from such list and reinstated to active status. If a player is removed from such list during a period beginning on November 22 and extending through the next championship season, the Club shall tender a contract to the player within 10 days following such removal. Thereafter, should the Club and the player agree upon the terms of a new contract within 10 days after the player's receipt of the tendered contract, the Club shall be obligated, within the next five days, to renew the player's prior Major League contract, provided, however, that if the tender is made during the period

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beginning on November 22 and ending on the next March 1, the renewal period shall be as set forth in paragraph 10(a) of the Major League Uniform Player's Contract. Should a Club fail to tender or renew a contract as provided in this paragraph, the player shall become a free agent without any restrictions or qualifications.

**(E) REINSTATEMENT OF PLAYERS.**

**(i) APPLICATION.** Any player on the Voluntarily Retired List may apply for reinstatement, or to have the player's status changed, upon the conditions stated in this Rule 2(c)(9). Such application shall be filed with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. An application for reinstatement may be granted upon such terms and conditions as the facts may warrant in the judgment of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

If a player files an application for reinstatement from the Voluntarily Retired List after February 1 of any year, the player's Major League Club shall be entitled to 30 days' written notice prior to the player's reinstatement. No application for reinstatement shall be received from a Voluntarily Retired player within 60 playing days of the player's retirement. No Major League player on the Voluntarily Retired List shall be reinstated during the period from August 1 to and including October 31. No Minor League player on the Voluntarily Retired List shall be reinstated during the period from August 1 until the conclusion of the Minor League championship season and playoffs, unless the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee has approved the reinstatement.

**(ii)** Upon proper application, a player on the Voluntarily Retired List may be reinstated by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(iii) PLAYER LIMITS.** A player reinstated from the Voluntarily Retired List between the mandatory spring training reporting date and the conclusion of the championship season shall not count against the player limits of the Major or Minor League Club to which the player is reinstated until such date (not exceeding 30 days after reinstatement) as the player is in condition to participate in



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championship games to the satisfaction of the player's Club. A player reinstated from such a List between the conclusion of a championship season and the mandatory spring training reporting date shall not count against the player limits of the Major or Minor League Club to which the player is reinstated until the fourteenth calendar day following reinstatement.

(iv) **REINSTATEMENT BEFORE RELEASE.** A player on the Voluntarily Retired List may be unconditionally released if both approval of the Commissioner and any applicable waivers are first obtained.

**(10) MILITARY LIST.** Players under reserve to Major or Minor League Clubs may be placed on the Military List subject to conditions and strictures set forth in this Rule 2(c)(10).

(A) If a player has received definite orders to report for military service, the player may be placed on the Military List within 15 days of the date on which the player is to report. A player may not be placed on the Military List, however, unless the player has left the player's Major League or Minor League Club in preparation for reporting for military service.

(B) **Player Limits.** A player on the Military List shall not count against any Reserve List or Active List limits as of the date the player commences active military service if the player and the player's Major League Club advises the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee in writing of the exact date that the player began active military service, the unit with which the player is serving and the player's serial number.

(C) Upon discharge from military service a player will count against Reserve List and Active List limits after the player has completed a 15-day trial period or has participated in a championship season game, whichever comes first. This trial period shall begin when the player physically reports during either spring training or the championship season to the Major or Minor League Club for which the player has been directed to perform. A player on the Military List who is discharged from military service after the Rule 5 Selection Meeting, however, shall not count against any Reserve List or Active List limit until the opening day of the

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following championship season and such a player shall not count against any Reserve List limit in any event until the player has had a trial period of at least 15 days or has played in a championship season game.

(D) Upon learning that a player has been separated from military service, the Major or Minor League Club to which the player is under reserve must immediately transmit such information to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

(E) A player who is required to return for additional military service, but who may be available to the player's Major or Minor League Club while still in military service, shall be counted against the player's Club's Active List limit from the day the player participates in a championship season game and for the balance of the season. Any time accumulated by such player during spring training or the championship season shall be charged against the 15-day trial period that the player's Club must give the player.

(F) Tenders and Renewals. With regard to any player who is on the Military List, a Club shall not be obligated to tender or renew a contract until the player is removed from such list and reinstated to active status. If a player is removed from such list during a period beginning on November 22 and extending through the next championship season, the Club shall tender a contract to the player within 10 days following such removal. Thereafter, should the Club and the player agree upon the terms of a new contract within 10 days after the player's receipt of the tendered contract, the Club shall be obligated, within the next five days, to renew the player's prior Major League contract, provided, however, that if the tender is made during the period beginning on November 22 and ending on the next March 1, the renewal period shall be as set forth in paragraph 10(a) of the Major League Uniform Player's Contract. Should a Club fail to tender or renew a contract as provided in this paragraph, the player shall become a free agent without any restrictions or qualifications.

(G) Reinstatement Before Release. A Player on the Military List must be reinstated before the player can be released unconditionally.

**(11) MINOR LEAGUE INJURED LIST**

(A) Application. If a Minor League Player is unable to render services because of a specific injury, the player may be placed on

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the Injured List for that particular Minor League Club. The two lists a Minor League player may be placed on during the championship season are:

(i) Regular Injured List. Minimum period of placement on a Minor League Injured List shall be seven consecutive days.

(ii) Minor League 60-Day Injured List. No player may be placed on the Minor League 60-Day Injured List until the player has spent at least five days in a roster status where that player is counting against a Domestic Reserve List limit of a Club (including the assignor Club in the event of a trade). Placement on the Minor League 60-Day Injured List requires pre-approval from the Office of the Commissioner. The application for placement on the Minor League 60-Day Injured List shall be accompanied by a Standard Form of Diagnosis completed by the Major or Minor League Club physician. The Commissioner's Office, in conjunction with the MLB Medical Director, will review and approve such applications. The minimum period of placement on the Minor League 60-Day Injured List shall be 60 consecutive days, unless otherwise approved by the Office of the Commissioner. Days spent on the Regular Injured List prior to a transfer to the Minor League 60-Day Injured List shall count towards the required minimum period of inactivity. Players appropriately placed on the Minor League 60-Day Injured List may remain on such list until the 5<sup>th</sup> day following the conclusion of the World Series.

(B) Player Limits. A player on a Regular Minor League Injured List shall count against the player's Minor League Club's Reserve List limit but not against the Club's Active List limit. A player assigned on rehabilitation while on the Injured List shall count towards the Reserve List limit of the assignor Club and shall not count against the player limits of the assignee Club. A player on the Minor League 60-Day Injured List shall not count against either a Minor League Club's Active or Reserve List limit or a Club's Domestic Reserve List limit.

**(12) Development List**

(A) Placement on the Development List. A Minor League player may be placed on the Development List for any

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non-disciplinary reason, except that a player is not eligible to be placed on the Development List if the player is injured and otherwise qualifies for placement on the Minor League Injured List. Players on optional assignment to the Minor Leagues may not be placed on the Development List without their written consent. Upon request for placement on the Development List, the Club must include the reason for such placement. The minimum period of placement on the Development List shall be seven consecutive days, except that if a player on the Development List suffers an injury, that player is required to be transferred to the Regular Injured List and the inactive days on the Development List will count towards the minimum period of inactivity on the Regular Injured List.

**(B) Player Limits.** A player on the Development List shall count against the player's Minor League Club's Reserve List and the Domestic Reserve List limit but not against the Club's Active List limit.

**(13) TEMPORARILY INACTIVE LIST.**

**(A) Placement on Temporarily Inactive List.** If a Minor League player is

**(i)** not in position to render active service to the player's Club due to any of the following:

**(aa)** necessary temporary absence during the playing season on account of a family member's bona-fide illness;

**(bb)** absence excused by the Club and approved by the Commissioner's Office; or

**(cc)** the player not being in condition to render services as a result of an absence described in Rules 2(c)(12)(A)(i) or 2(c)(12)(A)(ii), or as a result of having reported recently for service in that season; or

**(ii)** awaiting completion of the player's unconditional release for the purpose of allowing the player to sign with a club in a foreign league, provided the player's Club submits documentation of the transaction with the foreign club satisfactory to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee,

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the player may be placed on the Minor League Club's Temporarily Inactive List. If the placement is pursuant to Rule 2(c)(12)(A)(i), the Player's salary entitlement shall be at the Club's discretion until such player returns to the Club in physical condition to render services. A Player may not be placed on the Temporarily Inactive List prior to the start of the championship season.

The minimum period of placement on the Temporarily Inactive List shall be three consecutive days, during which the player will not be allowed in uniform during a game.

**(B) Player Limits.** A Temporarily Inactive player shall not be counted on a Minor League Club's Active List, but the player shall be included in the Reserve List limit. Written notice of placement upon the Temporarily Inactive List must be given to the player. A player cannot be carried on the Reserve List as Temporarily Inactive.

**(C) Assignment.** No assignment of a Temporarily Inactive List player shall be permitted until after reinstatement, following expiration of the minimum period unless the player is being assigned to another Major League Club; provided, however, that a 40-man Roster player on the Temporarily Inactive List may only be assigned to another Major League Club within the 72-hour window leading up to the period set forth in Rule 6(d)(3). However, a Temporarily Inactive List player may be unconditionally released at any time, provided the player has first been reinstated from the Temporarily Inactive List.

**(14) PLAYERS SIGNED FOR FUTURE SERVICES.** No Major League Club may sign an eligible player if the player has no previous Major or Minor League experience and if the contract is for services to commence after the current calendar year, except as provided for in subparagraphs (A) or (B) of this Rule 2(c)(13).

**(A)** A Major League Club may sign, after July 1, a player who has no previous Major or Minor League experience to a contract for the succeeding year, provided, however, that the number of players so signed shall not exceed 50 assigned in the aggregate to the Class High-A, Low-A, Spring Training Complex, or International Rookie League Clubs that the Major League Club owns or with which it is affiliated during the current season. Each such additional player signed to a Minor League Uniform Player

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Contract shall be placed on either the Class High-A, Low-A, Spring Training Complex or International Rookie Reserve List, but the player shall not count against Reserve List or Active List limits until the opening day of the succeeding championship season of the Club to which the player is assigned. The Club shall be obligated to take such player to its spring training camp (Major League, Minor League or a combination of both) for a minimum 15-day trial period. Each such additional player signed to a Major League Uniform Player's Contract shall be placed on a Major League Reserve List, shall count against such Reserve List limits immediately, shall be directed not to report until Major League spring training camp and shall not count against Active List limits until the opening day of the succeeding championship season of the Club to which the player is assigned. The Club shall be obligated to take such player to its spring training camp (Major League, Minor League or a combination of both) for a minimum 15-day trial period.

**(B)** A player who has no previous Major or Minor League experience and who is in the Armed Services may contract, regardless of the date on which the player is scheduled to be discharged, for either the current or the next succeeding season if the player is signed between the Rule 4 draft and the Winter Meetings, or for the season following the Winter Meetings if the player is signed between the Winter Meetings and the next Rule 4 draft. A player so signed shall not be eligible for placement on the Military List and shall be counted against the signing Club's Major or Minor League Reserve List limits. Players signed pursuant to this Rule 2(c)(13)(B) shall not be charged for player classification purposes with any time between the date of the contract and the date of reporting.

**(d) LIMITATIONS ON COACHES, PLAYER-COACHES AND PLAYER-MANAGERS.**

**(1) Major League.**

**(A)** A person employed as a coach shall not count against the Reserve List or Active List limits unless and until the person signs a contract as a player. Upon signing as a player the person cannot be re-employed as a coach during the same season, unless any applicable waivers are first secured and the person is unconditionally released as a player.

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**(B)** A person signed as a player or a player-manager cannot be re-employed as a manager or coach until any applicable waivers are first secured and the person is unconditionally released as a player. If the person is then employed under a coach's or manager's contract, a Major League Club cannot release the person as coach or manager and subsequently re-sign the person as a player during the same championship season.

**(C)** No contract shall be approved unless a Major League Club indicates in the contract whether the person is to be employed as a player or as a coach.

**(D)** (i) From opening day through August 31 and during the post-season, a Major League Club shall be permitted no more than eight on-field uniformed coaches, instructors or bullpen coaches (including honorary coaches or instructors) during an official Major League Baseball game. Prior to substituting for a manager or coach who has left the Club on a temporary basis, the team must notify the Commissioner's Office, as well as the opposing Club and umpire crew, of the temporary change prior to the start of the game.

(ii) From September 1 through the conclusion of the championship season, a Major League Club shall be permitted one additional on-field uniformed coach, instructor or bullpen coach during an official Major League Baseball game, so long as such additional coach is a full-time employee who has spent a significant amount of time during the championship season as a uniformed manager, coach or instructor of that Major League Club or a Minor League Club or Clubs affiliated with that Major League Club and so long as the Major League Club provides such coach's name to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee before such coach appears in uniform during a Major League game. A Major League Club may designate a different additional coach from game to game, so long as the Major League Club complies with all other requirements of this Rule 2(d)(1)(D).

(iii) From September 1 through the conclusion of the championship season, a Major League Club shall be permitted one additional Certified Athletic Trainer or registered strength and conditioning coach to sit on the bench during an official Major League Baseball game, so long as

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such additional trainer or coach is a full-time employee who has spent a significant amount of time during the championship season as a trainer or coach of that Major League Club or a Minor League Club or Clubs affiliated with that Major League Club and so long as the Major League Club provides the name of such trainer or coach to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee before such trainer or coach appears in uniform during a Major League game. A Major League Club may designate a different coach or trainer under this rule from game to game, so long as the Major League Club complies with all other requirements of this Rule 2(d)(1)(D).

(iv) There shall be no limit on the number of coaches or instructors who may work with players during any pre-game or post-game practice; however, additional coaches and/or instructors who participate in pre-game activities must leave the dugout, field and bullpen areas during the game.

**(2) Minor League.**

(A) A person employed as a manager or coach shall not count against the Reserve List or Active List limits unless and until the person signs a contract as a player. Upon signing as a player the person cannot be re-employed as a manager or coach during the same season, unless the person is unconditionally released as a player. During the same championship season, a manager or coach who has been signed and subsequently released as a player may not be re-signed as a player.

(B) A person signed as a player, player-manager or player-coach cannot be re-employed as a manager or coach until the person is unconditionally released as a player. If the person is then employed under a coach's or manager's contract, a Major League Club cannot release the person as coach or manager of a Minor League Club and subsequently re-sign the person as a player during the same championship season.

(C) No contract shall be approved unless a Major League Club indicates in the contract whether the person is to be employed as a player or as a manager or coach.



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**(3) RE-SIGNING OF COACH OR MANAGER AS PLAYER.** Any Major League Reserve List player who has been unconditionally released and signed as a coach or manager after midnight on August 1 of any championship season cannot be re-signed as a player by the releasing Major League Club until May 15 of the following championship season.

**Rule 3**

**ELIGIBILITY TO SIGN CONTRACT, CONTRACT TERMS, AND  
CONTRACT TENDERS**

**(a) ELIGIBILITY TO SIGN MAJOR LEAGUE OR MINOR  
LEAGUE CONTRACTS.**

**(1) General Rules.** Subject to the High School, College and Junior College Rules listed in this Rule 3(a), a Major or Minor League Club may contract with a player under the conditions and restrictions set forth in this Rule 3. A player may be subject to one or more of the following Rules and may contract with a Major or Minor League Club only if the conditions and restrictions of all Rules applicable to the player are satisfied. It is the responsibility of the contracting Club to determine that a player is eligible to sign in accordance with this Rule 3. For purposes of this Rule 3, the term “United States” shall mean the 50 States of the United States of America, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and any other Commonwealth, Territory or Possession of the United States of America.

**(A)** A player who has not previously contracted with a Major or Minor League Club, and who is a resident of the United States or Canada, may be signed to a contract only after having been eligible for selection in the immediately preceding First-Year Player Draft.

**(i)** A player shall be considered a “resident of the United States or Canada” if the player enrolls in a United States or Canadian high school, junior college, or college or establishes a legal residence in the United States or Canada within one year prior to the date of the player’s contract. In determining residency, the Office of the Commissioner will consider all relevant factors, including, but not limited to, how long the player has lived at his current address, where the player

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intends to live permanently in the future, where the player has resided in the past, what passports the player holds, the player's citizenship, and the player's place of birth.

(ii) Except for players who become free agents pursuant to Rule 4(j)(4)(B), a player who is eligible for selection in the Draft may only sign a Minor League Uniform Player Contract. If such a player does not sign a Minor League contract with the selecting Club before being removed from the selecting Club's Negotiation List pursuant to Rule 4(d), he may not sign with any Major or Minor League Club until after the next First-Year Player Draft for which the player is eligible for selection.

(B) A player who has not previously contracted with a Major or Minor League Club, who is not a resident of the United States or Canada, and who is not subject to the High School, College or Junior College Rules, may be signed to a contract if the player:

(i) is at least 17 years old at the time of signing, or

(ii) is 16 at the time of signing, but will attain age 17 prior to September 1 of the first season covered by the contract.

Proof of age in the form of a birth certificate or other appropriate documentation, issued by an appropriate government agency, shall accompany the filing of such player's first Minor League contract. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Major League Rules (including, but not limited to, Rule 3(f)(1)), any Minor League contract made in violation of this Rule 3(a)(1)(B) may be declared null and void only in the discretion of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, and the Major or Minor League Club and any official, scout or employee of the offending Major or Minor League Club who participated in the violation shall be subject to such penalties or such other action as the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may from time to time deem appropriate under the circumstances. A Major League or Minor League Club that recruits such a player may not sign or encourage such a player to sign a professional baseball contract other than with a Major or Minor League Club.

(C) A Player covered under Rule 3(a)(1)(B) may not be signed to a Major League contract unless he qualifies as a Foreign Professional. A Foreign Professional is a player who, at the time of

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signing, is at least 25 years of age and has played as a professional in a foreign professional league recognized by the Commissioner's Office for a minimum of six seasons.

**(D)** A player who has previously contracted with a Major or Minor League Club, and is currently reserved by such Club or by another assignee Club, may be signed to a contract only by the Club that currently holds reservation rights to the player's contract.

**(E)** A player who has previously contracted with a Major or Minor League Club, but who is no longer subject to reservation by that Club, may contract with any Major or Minor League Club subject to the limitations on resigning with a prior Club in Rule 9(b)(9) (Re-Signing of Released Players).

**(F)** No player is permitted to, directly or indirectly, provide to a Major or Minor League Club, or to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, any false material information or documentation in regard to the player's age, identity, citizenship, residence or scholastic standing in connection with the player signing with a Major or Minor League Club. Any player found to have violated this Rule 3(a)(1)(F) shall be declared ineligible to sign with any Major or Minor League Club for a period of one year, if the player does not have an approved contract with a Major or Minor League Club, or shall be placed on the Disqualified List for a period of one year, if the player does have an approved Minor League Uniform Player Contract with a Major or Minor League Club. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall have the discretion to reduce the mandatory sanctions described in this Rule 3(a)(1)(F) only if the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee concludes that extraordinary circumstances exist that call for the exercise of such discretion. If a complaint is first made to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee more than one year following the player's first appearance in a game in a Major or Minor League in the United States or Canada and the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee concludes that a player has violated this Rule 3(a)(1)(F), then the mandatory sanctions described in this Rule 3(a)(1)(F) shall not apply and, instead, the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may impose such sanctions as may be deemed appropriate, in the discretion of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. If the false information or documentation is in regard to a Major League Uniform Player's

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Contract, or if the disclosure of evidence of false information or documentation in regard to a player is made to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee while such player is on a Major League Reserve List, whether or not the false information or documentation is in regard to a Minor League Uniform Player Contract, then the mandatory sanctions described in this Rule 3(a)(1)(F) shall not apply and, instead, Rule 21(f) (Other Misconduct) shall apply. Any person employed by or affiliated with any Major or Minor League Club who participates in, aids or abets any violation of this Rule 3(a)(1)(F) shall be subject to such sanctions as may be deemed appropriate, in the discretion of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(G)** The mandatory sanctions described in Rule 3(a)(1)(F) shall neither abrogate nor supersede any rights or remedies a Club may have, whether under a Minor League Uniform Player Contract, under a Major League Uniform Player's Contract, at law, in equity or otherwise, against a player who has engaged in conduct prohibited by Rule 3(a)(1)(F). Rule 3(a)(1)(F) shall not be admissible in any arbitration or other litigation involving a Club contention that a player induced the Club to execute a Major League Uniform Player's Contract by, among other things, providing false information or documentation in regard to the player's age, identity, citizenship, residence or scholastic standing.

**(H)** The signing of players covered under Rule 3(a)(1)(B) is governed by Attachment 46 to the Basic Agreement, and all provisions of that attachment are expressly incorporated herein.

**(2) High School Rules.**

**(A) Definitions:**

**(i)** The term "high school" for purposes of Rules 3 and 4 shall mean a secondary school that confers a diploma on a student after the completion of three or four years of academic study, typically referred to as grades 9, 10, 11 or 12, or freshman, sophomore, junior and senior. The term "high school" also shall include institutions that provide post-graduate high school courses and allow enrolled students to participate on a baseball team that competes with other high schools.

**(ii)** The terms "graduation" or "graduate" for purposes of Rule 3(a)(2) and Rule 4 shall mean the issuance of a diploma

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to a student by his high school signifying that the student has completed the academic requirements of the high school as determined by the school, the school district, or state or local government bodies, whichever is applicable. The terms “graduation” or “graduate” does not include the receipt by the player of a general equivalency diploma or degree.

**(B)** A high school student (or a student eligible to attend a high school) may only be signed to a contract upon the conclusion of the fourth school year following the date that the student’s class entered its freshman year of high school (i.e., 9<sup>th</sup> grade). A player will be eligible to sign a contract prior to the expiration of the four-year period described in the preceding sentence only if he satisfies each of the following:

**(i)** the player has graduated from high school after having attended for a minimum of three full academic years (e.g., 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grades);

**(ii)** the player will be 17 years old within 45 days of the conclusion of the First-Year Player Draft;

**(iii)** the player will not play baseball for any high school baseball team following his graduation (except to complete a season that commenced prior to his date of graduation); and

**(iv)** the player provided the Office of the Commissioner with written notice by January 15 of his desire to be eligible for the next First-Year Player Draft as a result of his early graduation from high school.

No player will be eligible to sign a contract prior to the expiration of the four-year period described herein unless and until the player provides the Office of the Commissioner with a sworn affidavit by May 1 that he has satisfied or will satisfy each of the foregoing criteria within 45 days of the conclusion of the First-Year Player Draft.

**(C)** A high school player who is eligible to sign a contract under this Rule 3(a)(2) may do so only after the player has been subject to selection in the immediately preceding First-Year Player Draft in accordance with Rule 4. If a player is selected in the First-Year Player Draft, the player may sign a contract until being removed from the selecting Club’s Negotiation List in accordance with Rule 4(d). If a player is not selected, the player shall remain

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eligible to sign a contract until the start of the next Closed Period. Notwithstanding the above, if the player enrolls in junior college or college, or the player returns to high school, the right of the player to sign a contract shall immediately terminate on the day of the first scheduled class of the fall semester of the institution in which the player enrolls, in which case the player will be ineligible to sign a contract until the conclusion of the next First-Year Player Draft for which the player is eligible under the applicable High School, Junior College or College Rules.

**(D)** A Club may require a signed high school player to report for service prior to his graduation date only with the written consent of the player and approval from the Office of the Commissioner.

**(3)** College Rules.

**(A)** Definitions.

**(i)** The term “college” for purposes of Rules 3 and 4 shall mean any university or other institution of higher education located in the United States or Canada that confers degrees upon students following completion of sufficient credit hours to equal a four-year course. To fall within this definition, the institution must be represented by a baseball team which participates in inter-collegiate competition. This definition includes but is not limited to all members of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (“NCAA”) and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (“NAIA”).

**(ii)** The term “potential college baseball eligibility” for purposes of Rules 3 and 4 shall mean that the player has not exhausted his four years of eligibility for participation in college baseball competitions under the rules of the NCAA, NAIA or applicable governing body (in addition to any extensions that may be granted to the player), irrespective of whether the player has enrolled in college, joins the baseball team or is permitted or eligible to participate on such team by his college, the NCAA, the NAIA or applicable governing body.

**(iii)** The term “college junior” for purposes of Rules 3 and 4 shall mean any student who has completed three years of college baseball eligibility (i.e., has one year of remaining

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potential college baseball eligibility), or has completed six academic semesters of full-time coursework (or nine academic quarters of full-time coursework).

**(B)** Except as set forth in Rule 3(a)(3)(C), a player who enrolls in a college may not be signed by a Major or Minor League Club during the period beginning on the day of the first scheduled class of the fall semester of the institution in which the player is enrolled and ending with the graduation of the class with which the player originally entered college or with the graduation of the college's undergraduate class in a later year if the player retains potential college baseball eligibility in such later year. The prohibition set forth in this Rule 3(a)(3)(B) shall apply irrespective of whether the player is a member of his college's baseball team or is permitted to participate on such team by his college, the NCAA, the NAIA or applicable governing body.

**(C)** A player who is covered by Rule 3(a)(3)(B) may be permitted to sign a contract with a Major or Minor League Club only in the following circumstances:

**(i)** the player is at least 21 years old and is currently between school years;

**(ii)** the player has completed his junior year and is currently between school years;

**(iii)** the player has no potential college baseball eligibility remaining;

**(iv)** the Commissioner grants the player's written application to be declared eligible for the next First-Year Player Draft as a result of his termination from his college for scholastic deficiency; or

**(v)** the player has withdrawn from his college and remains out for at least 120 days (including the date of withdrawal).

**(D)** A college player who is eligible to sign a contract under Rule 3(a)(3)(C) above may do so only after having been subject for selection in the immediately preceding First-Year Player Draft in accordance with Rule 4.

**(E)** A player who is selected in the First-Year Player Draft may sign a contract with the selecting Club until the earlier of: (i) the player's removal from the selecting Club's Negotiation List in

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accordance with Rule 4(d); (ii) the player's return to college in the fall or spring semester (if the player has remaining potential college baseball eligibility on the day of the first scheduled class of that semester); or (iii) the first scheduled class of the fall semester at a junior college in which the player is enrolled. A player who is not selected in the First-Year Player Draft may sign a contract with any Club until the earlier of: (i) the commencement of the next Closed Period; (ii) the player's return to college in the fall or spring semester (if the player has remaining potential college baseball eligibility on the day of the first scheduled class of that semester); or (iii) the first scheduled class of the fall semester at a junior college in which the player is enrolled.

**(F)** A college player with remaining potential college baseball eligibility who returns to college is not permitted to sign a contract until the conclusion of the next First-Year Player Draft for which the player is eligible.

**(G)** A college player whose team is eligible for the national tournaments conducted by the NCAA and NAIA may not be signed until the day after the player's team has been eliminated from such tournament.

**(H)** A student enrolled in a college without a baseball team who claims he is eligible to sign a contract because his college does not have a baseball team that participates in inter-collegiate competitions, or a college student who claims that he qualifies for the exception set forth in Rule 3(a)(3)(C)(iv), shall make written application to the Commissioner setting forth the relevant facts with supporting documentation. If the Commissioner determines that the player is eligible to sign a contract, the player and all Major and Minor League Clubs will be notified that the player is authorized to sign a contract following the conclusion of the next First-Year Player Draft.

**(4) Junior College Rules.** A student at a junior college in the United States or Canada may not be signed during the period commencing with the day of the first scheduled class of the fall semester of the institution in which the student enrolls and ending after the conclusion of the next First-Year Player Draft.

**(5) Time Period for Determining Eligibility to Contract.** A player who will become eligible to sign a contract under the High School, College or Junior College Rules within 45 days of the conclusion of the



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First-Year Player Draft (and thus is eligible for selection in the draft under Rule 4(a)) will be deemed eligible to sign a contract with his selecting Club upon selection, or with any Club if not selected upon the conclusion of the First-Year Player Draft.

**(b) UNIFORM CONTRACTS.**

**(1) Uniform Contract for Major League Players.** To preserve morale among Major League players and to produce the similarity of conditions necessary for keen competition, the contracts between all Major League Clubs and their players on the Major League Reserve List shall be in the form prescribed by any Basic Agreement in effect between the Major Leagues and the Major League Baseball Players Association.

**(2) Uniform Contract for Minor League Players.** To preserve morale among Minor League players and to produce the similarity of conditions necessary for keen competition, all contracts between either Major or Minor League Clubs and players on Minor League Reserve Lists shall be in the form of the Minor League Uniform Player Contract that is appended to these Rules as Attachment 3. All Minor League Uniform Player Contracts between either a Major or a Minor League Club and a player (except a Foreign Professional as defined in Rule 3(a)(1)(C)) who has not previously signed a contract with a Major or Minor League Club shall be for a term of seven Minor League playing seasons. A Minor League Uniform Player Contract between either a Major or a Minor League Club and a player who has previously signed a contract with a Major or Minor League Club (or otherwise qualifies as a Foreign Professional as defined in Rule 3(a)(1)(C)) may be for any term not to exceed seven Minor League playing seasons that is mutually acceptable to the signing Club and the player. The minimum salary in each season covered by a Minor League Uniform Player Contract shall be the minimum amount established from time to time by the Major League Clubs for each Minor League classification or League.

**(3)** Except with the written approval of the Commissioner, no Major or Minor League Club shall enter into a contract with a player that differs from the Major League Uniform Player's Contracts or Minor League Uniform Player Contracts. All contracts shall be in duplicate and the player shall retain a counterpart original. All Major

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League Uniform Player's Contracts and all Minor League Uniform Player Contracts must be filed with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee for approval.

(4) No player shall participate in any championship season game until the player has signed a contract in the form prescribed by this Rule 3(b) for services during the current season. Use of an ineligible player shall subject the offending Club to such penalties as the Commissioner may impose, including, without limitation, forfeiture of any game won by the Club that uses an ineligible player.

(5) No Major League Uniform Player's Contract or Minor League Uniform Player Contract shall be approved if it contains a bonus for playing, pitching or batting skill or if it provides for the payment of a bonus contingent on the standing of the signing Club at the end of the championship season.

(6) The contract of a first-year player (i.e., a player who has not previously contracted with a Major or Minor League Club) selected in the First-Year Player draft may not be assigned to another non-affiliated Major or Minor League Club until 9:00 A.M. Eastern Time on the day following the day that the last game of the World Series had started. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the contracts of selected players who may remain on the Negotiation List until the start of the next Closed Period in accordance with Rule 4(d)(5) may not be assigned until the later of 9:00 A.M. Eastern Time on the day following the day that the last game of the World Series had started or 90 days from the date the player signs a Minor League contract that is approved at any time by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee pursuant to Rule 3(e)(2).

**(c) CONTRACT TERMS FOR FIRST-YEAR PLAYER CONTRACTS.**

(1) First Contract Season. First-year players must contract for either the current or the following season.

(2) Salary Rates.

(A) Major League Uniform Player's Contracts. The minimum salary for Major League service in all Major League Uniform Player's Contracts is set forth in the Basic Agreement.

(B) Minor League Uniform Player Contracts. The salary in each Minor League Uniform Player Contract between a Major League Club and a first-year player shall be the amount established

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by the Major Leagues for each Minor League classification or League. On a pro rata basis, a first-year player must receive the minimum salary in a particular Minor League classification for each day that the player spends on the Active List or Injured List in that classification.

**(3) Trial Period.** Unless the contract is terminated or voided pursuant to Paragraphs XVII(B) or XIX(B)(1)(2)(3) or (5) of the Minor League Uniform Player Contract, each player must receive a trial of 15 days during the championship season if the player signs for the current season or during the spring training period if the player signs for the succeeding season. Participation in any Instructional League shall not count against the 15-day trial period.

**(4) Signing Bonuses For Drafted and Undrafted Players.**

**(A) Signing Bonus Pool.**

Each Major League Club will be assigned a Signing Bonus Pool for each First-Year Player Draft. A Club's Signing Bonus Pool will comprise the sum of Signing Bonus Values that have been assigned to each of a Club's selections in the first ten rounds of the draft (including any compensation rounds). A Club will be assessed the penalties set forth in Rule 3(c)(4)(B) if the aggregate amount in signing bonuses it provides to players selected in the First-Year Player Draft or undrafted players ("Total Signing Bonuses") exceeds its Signing Bonus Pool. Each Club's preliminary Signing Bonus Pool will be distributed by April 1, and final Signing Bonus Pools will be distributed no later than the day prior to the first day of the First-Year Player Draft. The following rules will be used to determine whether a Club's Total Signing Bonuses exceed its Signing Bonus Pool:

**(i)** The full amount of any Signing Bonus provided to players selected through the conclusion of the tenth round of the First-Year Player Draft will count toward a Club's Total Signing Bonuses. The term "Signing Bonus" shall include all compensation provided to the player in connection with the execution of the contract. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following compensation will not be considered part of the Signing Bonus (and will not count toward a Club's Total Signing

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Bonuses): (i) the Contingent Payment set forth in Rule 3(c)(5)(B); (ii) the Incentive Bonus Plan set forth in Rule 3(c)(5)(C); (iii) the Continuing Education Program set forth in Rule 3(c)(5)(D); and (iv) salary paid to the player for performing services during the playing season pursuant to Addendum C of the Minor League contract.

(ii) The portion of any Signing Bonus in excess of \$125,000 provided to players selected after the tenth round will count toward a Club's Total Signing Bonuses. The first \$125,000 of the Signing Bonus provided to such players will not count toward a Club's Total Signing Bonuses.

(iii) The portion of any Signing Bonus in excess of \$125,000 provided to players who were eligible for, but not selected, in the First-Year Player Draft will count toward a Club's Total Signing Bonuses for the most recent draft in which the player was not selected (irrespective of when the player is signed). The first \$125,000 of the Signing Bonus paid to such players will not count toward a Club's Total Signing Bonuses.

(iv) If a Club fails to sign a player selected before the conclusion of the tenth round, or passes on a selection prior to the conclusion of the tenth round, the Club's Signing Bonus Pool will be reduced by the Signing Bonus Value assigned to the draft selection.

(v) The total amount of the Signing Bonus contained in a Minor League contract (including dual-sport contracts) will count toward a Club's Total Signing Bonuses irrespective of when the Signing Bonus is scheduled to be paid and without any discounting of the face amount of the bonus.

(vi) The total amount of the Signing Bonus contained in a Minor League contract (including dual-sport contracts) that a player may be eligible to receive will count toward a Club's Total Signing Bonuses even if a player's entitlement to a portion of the Signing Bonus is contingent on future events.

**(B) Penalties for Exceeding Signing Bonus Pool.**

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A Club whose Total Signing Bonuses exceed its Signing Bonus Pool will be assessed the following penalties:

(i) 0-5% in excess of Pool — 75% tax on all of the Pool overage;

(ii) >5-10% in excess of Pool — 75% tax on all of the Pool overage and loss of first-round pick in the next succeeding First-Year Player Draft;

(iii) >10-15% in excess of Pool — 100% tax on all of the Pool overage and loss of first and second-round picks in the next succeeding First-Year Player Draft; and

(iv) >15% in excess of Pool — 100% tax on all of the Pool overage and loss of first-round picks in the next two succeeding First-Year Player Drafts.

If a Club's Total Signing Bonuses exceed its Signing Bonus Pool, and it does not possess the draft selections that are subject to forfeiture, the Club will forfeit the applicable first and/or second round draft choices in the next First-Year Player Draft in which it possesses those selections. Any draft selections forfeited under this Rule 3(c)(4)(B) will be awarded to other Clubs through the lottery system set forth in Rule 4(k)(1). The forfeiture of selections pursuant to this Rule 3(c)(4)(B) will be determined prior to accounting for any selections forfeited by the Club pursuant to Article XX(B)(4) of the Basic Agreement.

**(C) Distribution of Tax Proceeds.**

The proceeds collected by the Office of the Commissioner from Clubs whose Total Signing Bonuses exceed their Signing Bonus Pools will be distributed to Net Revenue Sharing Payee Clubs, as defined in Article XXIV of the Basic Agreement, that have a Market Score of 100 or less as set forth in Attachment 26 of the Basic Agreement, and that did not exceed their Signing Bonus Pool in the First-Year Player Draft. To the extent that no Clubs qualify to receive any tax proceeds, such proceeds will be split among the six Net Revenue Sharing Payee Clubs (that have a Market Score of 100 or less) whose Total Signing Bonuses exceeded their Signing Bonus Pools by the lowest percentage. For purposes of

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this Rule, the Oakland Athletics shall not be subject to the requirement that tax proceeds recipients cannot have a Market Score greater than 100 until 2020.

Proceeds from the Pool will be distributed evenly among the Clubs entitled to receive a distribution under this Rule. The final accounting of the amount Clubs will be penalized for providing Total Signing Bonuses exceeding their Signing Bonus Pools, and the Clubs that will receive a distribution of the proceeds, will be made during the next Closed Period.

**(D) Circumvention.**

No Club or player (including their designated representatives) may enter into any understanding, agreement, or transaction, or make any representation, whether implied or explicit, that is designed to defeat or circumvent the provisions of Rule 3(c)(4). A non-exclusive list of conduct that is strictly prohibited includes: (i) providing, paying or promising a player, his advisor or his family members anything of value other than the compensation and benefits contained in the Minor League contract; (ii) promising, representing, or committing that the player will be placed on the Major League Roster by a particular date (including, for example, guaranteeing a September call-up); and (iii) promising, representing, or committing to sign the player to another Minor League contract or Major League contract in the future, or to provide additional compensation or benefits under the extant contract. Any Club or Club representative that is found to have violated this Rule 3(c)(4)(D) will be subject to sanctions by the Commissioner. Such sanctions may include the loss of future selections in the First-Year Player Draft; the loss of negotiating or reserve rights to the player; and other penalties or sanctions that the Commissioner deems appropriate.

**(5) Permissible Special Covenants.** A Minor League Uniform Player Contract with a first-year player (except a Foreign Professional as defined in Rule 3(a)(1)(C)) may include no special covenants, except the following:

**(A) Bonus Payments for Signing Contract.**

**(i)** All payments due the player or any other person in connection with the player's signing shall be set forth in the

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contract and must be stated in a fixed dollar amount at the time of the signing of the contract. Any bonus payment for signing a contract for a player subject to selection in the First-Year Player Draft must be paid before the conclusion of the calendar year following the date of the contract, provided, however, that any bonus payment for signing a contract for a player not subject to selection in the First-Year Player Draft is permitted to be paid before the conclusion of the third calendar year following the date of the contract if the total amount of all such bonus payments to such player is \$1 million or more. Within the time periods set forth in this Rule 3(c)(5)(A) for the payment of bonuses, all or part of any bonus payment for signing a contract for a player not subject to selection in the First-Year Player Draft is permitted to be made contingent upon the player's ability to obtain successfully a visa to work for the player's Club in the United States, if the player is directed to perform in the United States.

**(ii)** Notwithstanding any other provision of this Rule 3(c)(5)(A), any bonus payment for signing a contract may be made in installments extending no more than five years following the date of the contract if:

**(aa)** the player and Club agree that the player shall be permitted to participate in or shall refrain from participating in specified professional or amateur sports during the period of the installment payments; and

**(bb)** the Commissioner determines, in the Commissioner's sole discretion, that the player has the legitimate potential to become a professional athlete in at least one of the sports specified by the player and Club in the Minor League Uniform Player Contract, pursuant to Rule 3(c)(5)(A)(i).

**(iii)** Clubs and players may not agree to include signing bonus forfeiture clauses that extend the period of recoupment: beyond five years after the effective date of the contract for bonuses in excess of \$1 million; beyond four years after the effective date of the contract for bonuses of \$1 million or less but in excess of \$250,000; and beyond three years after the effective date of the contract for bonuses of \$250,000 or less. Notwithstanding the above, the period of recoupment will be

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coextensive with the length of the contract for players who receive bonuses in excess of \$1 million if the player retires but subsequently signs a contract with another professional baseball club during the period covered by the contract. If a player suffers an injury that in the opinion of the Club physician prevents him from continuing as a productive professional baseball player, and the player desires to retire from professional baseball, the Club will waive any contractual right it may have to recoup the signing bonus. Any disputes regarding whether a player qualifies for the exception contained in the preceding sentence will be resolved with finality by the Commissioner.

**(B) Contingent Payments.** A first-year player may be offered a specified sum of no more than \$2,500 contingent upon the player's being retained by the signing Major or Minor League Club for a period that may not exceed 90 days of one Minor League playing season. If a player whose contract contains such a contingent bonus provision is selected under Rule 5 (Annual Selection of Players) before the date the bonus becomes payable, the bonus shall become due immediately and shall be paid by the Club from which the contract was selected.

**(C) Incentive Bonus Plan.** A Major or Minor League Club may agree to make standard "incentive bonus payments" in a contract with a first-year player if such payments are conditioned on the player being on the Active List in a certain classification for 90 days of any one championship season, including any official play-off or other post-season series in which the player might be eligible to participate. The amount of such incentive bonus payments and the classification in which they are to be paid shall be as follows:

- (i)** the sum of \$1,000 for the Class AA classification;
  - (ii)** the sum of \$1,500 for the Class AAA classification;
- and,
- (iii)** the sum of \$5,000 for the Major League level.



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Time spent on any Inactive List shall not count toward the 90 days to be served before an incentive bonus payment becomes payable. However, a player shall be credited with Injured List time if the player is placed on the Injured List after the player has accumulated 60 or more days of service in any particular season.

A player who has received the incentive bonus payment applicable to a particular classification shall not be entitled to another such payment for service in the same classification, regardless of whether such service occurs in the same or a subsequent season. A player who qualifies for the Major League or Class AAA incentive bonus payment shall also receive the incentive payment(s) for the lower classification(s) if the player has not previously received the incentive payment(s) for that classification(s). The Major or Minor League Club that holds a player's contract at the time an incentive bonus payment becomes due shall pay the bonus to the player. An unconditional release or free agency shall terminate the incentive bonus plan for the player.

**(D) Continuing Education Program.** A Major or Minor League Club may agree through the Continuing Education Program ("CEP") to pay on behalf of a first-year player any dollar amount incident to the player's pursuit of education or training at any educational organization or institute (including vocational training school) that offers training for personal and professional development that meets the standards of a regional or national accrediting agency, as follows:

**(i) Eligible Institutions.**

**(aa)** In the United States, the CEP will be available for any educational organization or institution that meets the standards of a regional or national accrediting body (e.g., NEASC). Similarly, the CEP will be available for vocational training schools that are accredited by recognized regional or national accrediting agencies (e.g., ACCET).

**(bb)** For educational opportunities outside of the United States, the Office of the Commissioner will retain qualified independent credential evaluation services (e.g.,

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Center for Educational Documentation) to determine whether a foreign organization or institution is accredited by a body that is deemed to meet the standards of the U.S. Department of Education and thus qualified for the CEP.

(cc) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the CEP will not be available for for-profit educational institutions that have a graduation rate below 50% according to the most recent graduation rate published by the U.S. Department of Education, unless such institution had a graduation rate at or above 50% at the time of the player's initial enrollment.

(dd) The Office of the Commissioner shall maintain a list of pre-approved accredited organizations and institutions, both nationally and internationally, for Clubs and players seeking to access the CEP.

(ii) Any amounts included in a CEP special covenant may not exceed the actual cost of such participation and shall be allocated into a Tuition Allowance and a Living Allowance, as follows:

(aa) Tuition Allowance. For a player participating in the CEP, a Club shall make (or cause to be made) payments or reimburse such player for the cost that such player actually incurs for tuition, fees, textbooks and supplies (less withholding for applicable income and employment taxes), up to the Tuition Allowance described in his contract.

(bb) Living Allowance. For a player under the CEP, the player shall be reimbursed for reasonable room and board expenses that the player actually incurs (less withholding for applicable income and employment taxes), up to the Living Allowance described in his contract; provided, however, that:

(I) expenses incurred after the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the date the player executes the Minor League Uniform Player Contract containing the CEP special covenant shall not be reimbursable;

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**(II)** expenses to be reimbursed must be for room and board to live away from the home (or homes) of the player's parents (custodial and noncustodial) and/or guardian for the purpose of attending classes (and while not on academic probation);

**(III)** expenses may not exceed the maximum room and board fees of the educational organization or institution or, if not applicable, the per diem amount established by the Commissioner from time to time; and

**(IV)** the player must request reimbursement in writing, and provide a copy of the receipt for each reimbursable expense, within 90 days after completing a semester (or installment) in the CEP in which he is enrolled (and not after finishing the semester or installment on academic probation).

If a player lives off campus for a semester, such player's living allowance for such semester shall not exceed the cost of living on campus. If a player attends a college that does not have facilities for on-campus residence, such player's living allowance shall not exceed the per diem amount established by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee from time to time.

**(iii)** Non-covered Expenses. A Club shall not be required to reimburse a player for any amount that is paid or reimbursed by an outside source, such as another scholarship. A Club shall pay any reimbursement of room and board expenses within 90 days of the date the player submits the player's written request for reimbursement (with all required documentation). In no case shall a player be reimbursed for, among other things, transportation, parking charges, medical insurance or infirmary charges, laundry or garment cleaning, clothing, umbrellas, furniture, lamps, calculators, book bags, computer hardware or software, typewriters, or any other tools or supplies (other than textbooks) that a player may keep after completing the applicable educational program, unless such purchase is specifically required as a part of the player's coursework.

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(iv) When Club is Relieved of the Obligation to Make Payments. An unconditional release of the player or the player's placement on the Military List shall not relieve the Club of the obligation to make CEP payments but the Club shall be relieved of such obligations under the following circumstances:

(aa) if the player fails to commence participation in the CEP within two years after the date the player ceases to be reserved by a Major League, Minor League, foreign professional, or Independent League club, voluntarily retires or is reserved on an Inactive List, whichever comes first, unless the player again becomes reserved to a Major League, Minor League, foreign professional, or Independent League club (not on an Inactive List) within such two-year period;

(bb) if, after commencement of his participation in the CEP and after the player retires or is released by a Major League or Minor League Club and is not signed again as a player by a Major League, Minor League, foreign professional, or Independent League club, within the two years following the player's release, the player fails to participate in the CEP within two consecutive years of the player's most recent participation;

(cc) if the player is placed on the Ineligible List; or

(dd) if the player is shown to have engaged in fraud in an attempt to secure funds.

(v) Liability for Payment. The original signatory Club shall continue to be liable to make CEP payments even if the player's contract is selected by, or assigned to, another Club; provided, however, that, in case of assignment otherwise than by selection or on waiver claim, the assignee Club may agree, through a statement set forth in the assignment agreement, to undertake to make any payments that accrue subsequent to the date of such assignment. For purposes of the CEP, all rights and obligations of "Club" shall be held and borne by the Club liable for payments in accordance with this Rule 3(c)(5)(D).

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All payments made under the CEP shall be made by the Club liable for the payments in accordance with this Rule 3(c)(5)(D). To the extent possible, all payments under the CEP shall be made to the institution attended (in person or on-line) by the player.

**(vi) Procedure.** A Club that agrees to the participation of a player in the CEP shall include as a special covenant such provisions as may be prescribed by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, consistent with this Rule 3(c)(5)(D). Upon receipt of notification that the contract has been approved, the Club shall notify the player of the procedures to be followed.

**(vii) Coordination of Benefits.** In the event that a first-year player contract contains both an Incentive Bonus Plan and a CEP special covenant, the following coordination of benefits shall apply:

**(aa)** If a player receives a payment under the Incentive Bonus Plan, the player's aggregate remaining allowance for tuition, fees and textbooks shall be reduced by the amount of such Incentive Bonus payment.

**(bb)** If a player receives one or more payments under the CEP, any amount subsequently due under the Incentive Bonus Plan shall be reduced sequentially by the aggregate amount of payments that the player received under the CEP. Any remaining Incentive Bonus Plan balance earned by the player in excess of the payments received under the CEP shall be paid directly to the player.

It is the intent of this coordination of benefits provision that, to the extent earned, the cumulative benefits received under either the CEP or the Incentive Bonus Plan (before withholding) will offset any cumulative amounts due under the other Plan.

**(viii)** The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may unilaterally amend the CEP to the extent that the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee determines is necessary or appropriate to comply with any applicable law (including any tax law), so long as such amendment does not reduce the aggregate amount payable to a player under the CEP.

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(ix) Nothing contained in this Rule 3(c)(5)(D) is intended to supplant or otherwise replace any College Scholarship Plan provision that may be contained in any Major or Minor League Uniform Player Contract existing at the time of the adoption of this Rule, which shall continue to be governed by the terms of Rule 3(c)(5)(D) contained in the 2016 Major League Rules.

(E) Age and Identity Fraud. A Club may include a special covenant in a first-year Minor League contract providing the Club with the right to void the contract *ab initio* if it determines within six (6) months of the signing date that the player falsified his age or identity in connection with signing the contract. In the event a Club voids a player's contract pursuant to such a provision, the resolution of any related dispute shall be resolved pursuant to an alternate dispute resolution process that will provide for binding arbitration before a neutral arbitrator in a forum that is convenient for the player.

(6) Each contract for a first-year player who is not subject to selection in the First-Year Player Draft shall include an addendum in a form promulgated by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee in which the player and the player's parent (or legal guardian), if the player is under 21 years old, swear under oath:

(A) to the accuracy of the player's age and identity as stated in Addendum A to the Minor League Uniform Player Contract;

(B) that neither the player nor the player's parent (or legal guardian) provided money or other valuable consideration to any Club representative in connection with the signing of the Minor League Uniform Player Contract; and

(C) (that neither the player nor the player's parent (or legal guardian) has received any money or other valuable consideration from any Club employee for securing the Minor League Uniform Player Contract.

(d) **ACCEPTANCE.** Any agreement for service between a Major or Minor League Club and a player, evidenced by written acceptance, whether by letter or electronic communication, shall be construed to be a contract and held to be binding if the player declines to enter into a formal contract. The player's refusal to sign a formal contract shall disqualify the player from playing with the contracting Club or entering the service of any Major or Minor League Club unless the player is released or assigned.

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**(e) REPORTING AND FILING OF CONTRACTS.**

(1) Reporting. The terms of any agreement between a Major or Minor League Club and a player must be reported to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee within 24 hours of the time the agreement is reached.

(2) Filing. The validity of any contract, arrangement or agreement for service between a Major or Minor League Club and a player not on its Reserve List(s) will not be recognized unless written proof thereof is submitted to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee within 20 days after such agreement is made, for promulgation in the next official bulletin, and unless the agreement is actually approved. A Minor League player who is not on a Major League Reserve List and whose contract, arrangement or agreement for service with a Major or Minor League Club is not received by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee within 20 days after such agreement is made may be declared a free agent, in the sole discretion of the Commissioner.

**(f) CONTRACTS IN VIOLATION.**

(1) Any written or oral contract made in violation of these Rules (including any agreement between a Major or Minor League Club and a player that is not embodied in a Major League Uniform Player's Contract or Minor League Uniform Player Contract) shall be declared null and void, and the official, scout or employee of the offending Major or Minor League Club who participated in the violation shall be subject to such penalties as the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may impose.

(2) In addition, if the violation is of the High School, College or Junior College Rule, the offending Club shall be prohibited from signing such player for a period of three years from the date that such contract is declared void, and shall be fined by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(g) CONTACTS AND TRYOUTS.** The following rules shall govern contacts with and tryouts of all amateur players:

(1) Contacts. Nothing herein shall be construed as prohibiting any Major or Minor League Club, or its officers, agents or employees, from talking to any player, who is not on another Club's Negotiation List, at any time concerning a career in professional baseball and discussing the

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merits of the player's contracting, when eligible, with any particular Club. However, no discussions shall be held with players during practice sessions or during the progress of games.

Any Club or Club official, employee, agent or representative who suggests, procures or otherwise influences a student to withdraw from high school, college or junior college, or to refrain from playing high school, college or junior college baseball, other than in connection with negotiations to sign such student to a contract that are permitted under these Rules, or to transfer to another school, shall be held in violation of this Rule 3(g) and subject to penalties.

**(2) Tryouts.** Tryouts may be held in accordance with the following:

**(A) High School Students.**

**(i) During Summer Vacation and One Week Prior to First-Year Player Draft.** "Tryouts" of high school students may be conducted during the summer vacation period and during the one-week period immediately preceding the first day of the First-Year Player Draft by any Major or Minor League Club without permission of any high school official or other restriction.

**(ii) During School Year.** Except during the one-week period immediately preceding the first day of the First-Year Player Draft, for which Rule 3(g)(2)(A)(i) applies, a student may be invited to a tryout during the school year, provided that the athletic director or baseball coach of the player's high school, if not employed by the Major or Minor League Club conducting the tryout, shall have approved such participation in writing.

**(B) College and Junior College Players.**

**(i) During Summer Vacation.** Tryouts of college players by Major and Minor League Clubs may be conducted during the summer vacation periods falling between school years, without the permission of any college official or other restriction.

**(ii) During School Year.** Major or Minor League Clubs may not try out college players during the school year but may observe players in intercollegiate competition as frequently as they desire.



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**(iii)** Participation in Summer Baseball. Consistent with the principle that this Rule 3 protects the eligibility of college players during the college year and at the same time affords such players every opportunity to develop for possible future professional play, a College Player Committee is hereby empowered to act on behalf of professional baseball to:

**(aa)** survey and investigate the existence of and conditions in summer amateur baseball leagues available to college players;

**(bb)** cooperate with the NCAA and NAIA or committees representing those bodies; and

**(cc)** recommend action or legislation to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, all with the objective of extending, liberalizing, and improving the summer amateur baseball program for college age players in the United States and Canada.

**(C)** Player on Negotiation List.

**(i)** If a Major League Club selects a player in the Rule 4 Draft who was eligible for selection pursuant to Rule 3(a)(2) (High School Rules), and if the player has not yet enrolled in a college, the Major League Club may pay for the expenses of the player in connection with a tryout with the Major League Club, provided that the tryout visit is no longer than 48 hours.

**(ii)** If a Major League Club selects a player in the Rule 4 Draft who was eligible for selection pursuant to Rule 3(a)(3) (College Rules), the Major League Club may pay for the expenses of the player in connection with a tryout with the Major League Club, provided that the tryout visit is no longer than 48 hours.

**(D)** Prohibition of Expense Payments and Future Service Agreements. Unless Rule 3(g)(2)(C) (Player on Negotiation List) applies, no Major or Minor League Club shall

**(i)** reimburse, directly or indirectly, any amateur player for any travel expenditure in connection with a tryout unless the player is signed at the tryout;

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(ii) pay or give anything whatsoever to any high school, college or junior college student, directly or indirectly, in connection with any tryout; or

(iii) enter into an agreement for the future services of any high school, college or junior college student unless such student is eligible to sign at the tryout.

Notwithstanding the prohibition in Rule 3(g)(2)(D)(i), a Club may advance to, or reimburse, a player who is not a resident of the United States or Canada within the meaning of Rule 3(a) (Eligibility to Sign Major League or Minor League Contracts) or a high school, college or junior college student within the meaning of Rule 3(a) (Eligibility to Sign Major League or Minor League Contracts) for

(iv) ground transportation in connection with a tryout at a Club facility outside the United States and Canada, in an amount not to exceed a maximum amount set forth from time to time by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee; and

(v) air transportation, room and board in connection with a tryout at a Club facility in the Dominican Republic or Venezuela for the player and one family member or guardian, so long as such Club has obtained the prior approval of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee and so long as such player is eligible to participate in a program at a Club facility pursuant to regulations set forth from time to time by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(h) TENDER OF CONTRACT RENEWALS OR SALARY ADDENDUMS.**

(1) Major League Tenders. On or before December 2 (or, if December 2 is a Saturday or Sunday, then on the preceding business day), each Major League Club must tender a Major League Uniform Player's Contract to each player on its Major League Reserve List. A Major League Club must tender a contract to each player on its Major League Reserve List who is on the Restricted List, or is on a Disqualified List for failure to render services to a Club. Should a Club fail to so tender or renew a contract, the player shall become a free agent without any restrictions or qualifications, and the player automatically shall be removed from the Restricted or Disqualified List.

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With regard to any player who is on a Disqualified List for a reason other than that stated in the preceding paragraph or who is on the Suspended, Ineligible, Voluntarily Retired or Military List, a Club shall not be obligated to tender or renew a contract until the player is removed from such list and reinstated to active status. If a player is removed from such list during a period beginning on November 22 and extending through the next championship season, the Club shall tender a contract to the player within 10 days following such removal. Thereafter, should the Club and the player fail to agree upon the terms of a new contract within 10 days after the player's receipt of the tendered contract, the Club shall be obligated, within the next five days, to renew the player's prior Major League Contract, provided, however, that if the tender is made during the period beginning on November 22 and ending on the next March 1, the renewal period shall be as set forth in paragraph 10(a) of the Major League Uniform Player's Contract. Except as set forth in the Basic Agreement, including Article XX(A), should a Club fail to tender or renew a contract as provided in this paragraph, the Player shall become a free agent without any restrictions or qualifications.

**(2) Minor League Tenders and Salary Addendums.**

**(A)** Between the conclusion of the Rule 5 Selection Meeting and January 15 (or if a Saturday or Sunday, then on the preceding business day), each Major League Club must tender a Minor League Uniform Player Contract to each player who has been assigned outright to a Minor League Club and who has either not previously signed a Minor League Uniform Player Contract or has previously signed a Minor League Uniform Player Contract that has expired. Such tender may be made to the player in person or by mail addressed to the player's last address of record with the Major League Club.

**(B)** Between the conclusion of the Rule 5 Selection Meeting and March 15 (or, if a Saturday or Sunday, then on the preceding business day), each Major or Minor League Club must tender a Salary Addendum to each player on its Minor League Reserve Lists.

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A Club shall not tender an addendum to a player whose name appears on its Minor League Reserve Lists as a Voluntarily Retired, Ineligible, Disqualified or Restricted List Player, but a Club may, at its discretion, tender a contract to a player on the Military List.

(C) No player shall participate in any championship season game until the player has signed an addendum in the form prescribed by this Rule 3(h) for services during the current season. (See Rule 3(b)(4) (Uniform Contracts)).

**(i) UNIFORM MANAGER’S AND EMPLOYEE’S CONTRACTS.**

Managers, coaches, trainers and salaried scouts must sign contracts on forms prescribed by the Commissioner before rendering services to a Major or Minor League Club. (So-called “Bird Dog” scouts and scouts whose compensation is conditional upon performance of players are not required to sign one of the uniform contracts. However, such “Bird Dog” and sub-scouts are required to be signed to a contract or agreement drafted by the Major or Minor League Club.) An executed copy of each uniform manager’s or employee’s contract shall be filed with the Commissioner or the Commissioner’s designee for approval within 10 days after the execution of the contract.

**(j) CERTAIN PAYMENTS FORBIDDEN.**

(1) Gift to Employee for Securing Employment. No scout, player, employee or official of any Major or Minor League Club, or any umpire, employee or official of any Major or Minor League, or any other person with any relationship to any of the aforementioned persons, shall demand or receive any money or other valuable consideration, whether gratuitous or otherwise, for or because of services rendered, or to be rendered, or supposed to have been rendered, in securing the employment of any person with any Major or Minor League Club. Such money or other valuable consideration shall be returned immediately upon its receipt, and if not so returned, the Commissioner may impose such penalties, including ineligibility, as the Commissioner may deem proper.

(2) Payment to Player’s Trainer. No Major or Minor League Club shall make any payment or convey anything of value to any firm or person for services provided to a player in connection with preparing such player for professional baseball.

(3) Payment of Finder’s Fee. No Major or Minor League Club shall make any payment or convey anything of value to any firm or

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person not retained or employed by such Club for bringing such player to the attention of such Club as a prospective player. Any firm or person who is retained or employed by a Major or Minor League Club and who brings unsigned players to the attention of such Club as prospective players (for example, as a so-called “Bird Dog” scout) shall disclose to any player the relationship with the Club, shall not act as agent or representative for any player and shall not establish or maintain with more than one Club at a time any relationship with respect to scouting or signing players.

**(4)** Payment to Player’s Representative. No Major or Minor League Club shall make any payment or convey anything of value to any firm or person for legal, representational or other services provided by such firm or person to a player in connection with the negotiation of a contract between the signing Club and the player.

**(k) TAMPERING.** To preserve discipline and competition, and to prevent the enticement of players, coaches, managers and umpires, there shall be no negotiations or dealings respecting employment, either present or prospective, between any player, coach or manager and any Major or Minor League Club other than the Club with which the player is under contract, or acceptance of terms, or by which the player is reserved or which has the player on its Negotiation List, or between any umpire and any baseball employer other than the baseball employer with which the umpire is under contract, or acceptance of terms, unless the Club or baseball employer with which the person is connected shall have, in writing, expressly authorized such negotiations or dealings prior to their commencement.

**Rule 4**

**FIRST-YEAR PLAYER DRAFT**

**(a) PLAYERS SUBJECT.** A Major League or Minor League Club may contract with a player who is a resident of the United States or Canada and who has not previously contracted with a Major League or Minor League Club only if the player was selected, or eligible for selection, in the immediately preceding First-Year Player Draft in accordance with this Rule 4. Players are eligible to be selected in the First-Year Player Draft if they are eligible to sign a contract under the provisions of the applicable High School, College or Junior College Rules on the date of the First-Year Player Draft, or within 45 days of the conclusion of the draft, and have not notified the Office of the Commissioner of their desire not to be selected (see Rule 4(b) below). For purposes of this Rule 4, the term “United States”

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shall mean the 50 states of the United States of America, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and any other Commonwealth, Territory or Possession of the United States of America.

**(b) SELECTION MEETING.** One selection meeting shall be conducted each year in June and shall be known as the First-Year Player Draft or the Rule 4 draft. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall, before August 31 each year, announce the date of the commencement of the next year's First-Year Player Draft. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall choose the place where each First-Year Player Draft shall be conducted and may determine that such First-Year Player Draft be conducted by telephone conference or electronic means. Only Major League Clubs may make selections at the First-Year Player Draft. The Commissioner shall preside over all selections at the First-Year Player Draft and shall resolve all procedural questions in connection with the First-Year Player Draft, including, but not limited to, all questions regarding eligibility.

The First-Year Player Draft shall conclude after 40 selection rounds. Selections made pursuant to Rules 4(c)(2) (Supplemental Selections) and 4(k)(2) (Competitive Balance Selections) shall not constitute separate selection rounds. Selections made as free agent compensation selections pursuant to Article XX(B) of the Basic Agreement shall be considered part of the round of the draft that they immediately follow, as set forth in Article XX(B). Each Major League Club shall designate a representative to act on its behalf. As the Major League Club's turn is called in each selection round, such representative may select a player for the Major League Club's Negotiation List.

The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may impose time limits for the exercise of a selection. A Major League Club shall forfeit its right to make a particular selection in the event that it is the Club's turn to select and the Club fails to respond to a call within the time limit announced by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, after having received a warning from the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. If a Major League Club announces a "pass" when it is such Club's turn to select, such Club shall forfeit its right to make that selection, but will not forfeit its right to make any other selections in the First-Year Player Draft.

The selecting Major League Club shall be responsible for determining the eligibility of selected players. Any otherwise eligible player who does not wish to be selected in the First-Year Player Draft must notify the Office of the Commissioner in writing by May 1 in the year of the First-Year Player

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Draft. The Office of the Commissioner will notify all Clubs of any players who have notified the Office of the Commissioner of their desire not to be selected in the First-Year Player Draft. Any player who notifies the Office of the Commissioner of his desire not to be selected in the First-Year Player Draft shall be ineligible for selection in that draft but will be subject to selection in the next First-Year Player Draft for which the player is eligible. Except as provided in Rule 4(k) below, no Major League Club may transfer to another Club its right to select.

**(c) ORDER OF SELECTION.** The following order of priorities shall govern the Major League Clubs' selections at each First-Year Player Draft.

**(1) Standard Selection Order.** The Major League Clubs shall be placed in the reverse order of their percentages of games won at the close of the preceding championship season. For purposes of this Rule 4(c)(1), each Club's winning percentage at the close of the preceding championship season shall be determined by the percentage of games won in the championship season, without regard to standings within any Division or League and without regard to post-season results. If two or more Clubs had an identical winning percentage at the close of the preceding championship season, the selection order of those Clubs shall be determined by the percentage of games won in the next prior championship season, with any remaining ties resolved by continuing to examine the tied Clubs' respective championship season winning percentages in each preceding prior year, until the tie is broken. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall announce to the Major League Clubs the standard selection order produced by operation of this Rule 4(c), and that order shall govern each round.

**(2) Supplemental Selections.** If a Major League Club selects a player before the fourth round of a First-Year Player Draft and such Club fails to sign such player before such player is removed from such Club's Negotiation List pursuant to Rule 4(d) (Effect of Selection on Player), then such Club shall have the right to make an additional selection, called a supplemental selection, in the next First-Year Player Draft, as follows:

**(A)** If the unsigned player had been selected before the third round of the First-Year Player Draft, the supplemental selection awarded shall be exercised immediately after the numbered position overall that corresponds with the numbered position overall at which the unsigned player had been selected in the previous

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First-Year Player Draft. For example, if the unsigned player had been the 30<sup>th</sup> selection in the First-Year Player Draft, the supplemental selection awarded shall be the 31<sup>st</sup> selection in the next First-Year Player Draft.

**(B)** If the unsigned player had been selected in the third round of the First-Year Player Draft, the supplemental selection awarded shall be exercised after the completion of the third round. If more than one Club is in this category, the supplemental selections shall be made in the same order as the selections giving rise to the supplemental selections had been made in the previous First-Year Player Draft.

**(C)** If a Major League Club fails to sign a player who was selected with a draft selection awarded pursuant to this Rule 4(c)(2) before the player is removed from the Club's Negotiation List pursuant to Rule 4(d) (Effect of Selection on Player), the Club again shall receive a supplemental selection in the next First-Year Player Draft as compensation for failing to sign its original supplemental selection, as follows:

**(i)** If the unsigned supplemental selection was selected prior to the third round, the Club shall receive a supplemental selection in the next First-Year Player Draft at the same numbered position as its unsigned supplemental selection. In the event that the same numbered position is awarded to another Club as supplemental compensation pursuant to Rule 4(c)(2)(A) above, the Club awarded the supplemental selection for the second time shall be awarded the selection following the selection awarded to the other Club pursuant to Rule 4(c)(2)(A) above.

**(ii)** If the unsigned supplemental selection was selected in the third round, the Club shall receive a supplemental selection after the completion of the third round, and shall select after all of the Clubs awarded selections pursuant to Rule 4(c)(2)(B) above. If more than one Club is awarded a second supplemental selection under this paragraph, the Clubs shall select in the same order as the original draft selections that resulted in the Club being awarded supplemental compensation pursuant to Rule 4(c)(2)(B) above.

**(3)** Competitive Balance Selections. The Competitive Balance Selections described below in Rule 4(k)(2)(B) ("Competitive Balance



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Round A”) shall immediately follow the first round of the First-Year Player Draft (including any selections at the end of the first round of the First-Year Player Draft awarded to Clubs pursuant to Article XX(B) of the Basic Agreement). The Competitive Balance Selections described below in Rule 4(k)(2)(C) (“Competitive Balance Round B”) shall immediately follow the second round of the First-Year Player Draft (and prior to any selections awarded to Clubs pursuant to Article XX(B) of the Basic Agreement).

**(d) EFFECT OF SELECTION ON PLAYER.** A selected player shall be placed on the Major League Club’s Negotiation List and shall remain on such Negotiation List until:

(1) such player signs a Minor League contract that is approved at any time by the Commissioner or the Commissioner’s designee pursuant to Rule 3(e)(2);

(2) such player is removed because of ineligibility for selection;

(3) such player is removed because the Major League Club’s Negotiation Right has been revoked under Rule 4(e) (Negotiation Rights);

(4) the Signing Deadline for the First-Year Player Draft that is set forth below if such player has not utilized all of his potential college baseball eligibility:

(A) July 7, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time

(B) July 6, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time

(C) July 12, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time

(D) July 10, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time

(E) July 9, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time; or

(5) the start of the next year’s Closed Period, as defined in Rule 4(f), if such player has utilized all of such player’s potential college baseball eligibility. For purposes of this Rule 4(d)(5), a player shall be deemed to have utilized all of his potential college baseball eligibility if he satisfies each of the following criteria:

(A) the player is selected in the First-Year Player Draft after his junior year of college pursuant to Rule 3(a)(3)(C)(ii);

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**(B)** the player does not sign a contract with the selecting Club prior to being removed from the Club's Negotiation List in accordance with Rule 4(d)(4) above;

**(C)** the player signs a professional baseball contract in a league that is not affiliated with MLB or any MLB Club; and

**(D)** the player does not attend college or junior college between his removal from the selecting Club's Negotiation List and the next First-Year Player Draft.

If the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee disapproves a contract that a player on a Negotiation List and the Club that had selected such player each signed before the Signing Deadline, the player and Club shall have the opportunity to cure any defect in the contract, resubmit such contract for approval and continue to have such contract deemed signed before the Signing Deadline for purposes of this Rule 4(d), so long as the contract originally submitted contained the material permissible special covenants, if any, of the agreement between the player and Club. It is the intent of this paragraph not to permit a player and Club to extend the Signing Deadline by submitting an incomplete contract in order to continue negotiations after the Signing Deadline.

**(e) NEGOTIATION RIGHTS.**

**(1)** Tender of Contract. Immediately upon the close of the First-Year Player Draft, the Major League Club that has selected the right to negotiate exclusively with a player shall be deemed to have tendered the player an executed Minor League Uniform Player Contract. The terms of such tendered Minor League contract shall not include any signing bonus or other special covenants.

**(2)** A Major League Club shall have the exclusive right to contract with a player on its Negotiation List and negotiations must be conducted by the selecting Club in accordance with Rule 3 (Eligibility to Sign Contract, Contract Terms, and Contract Tenders).

**(3)** A Major League Club may not transfer its Negotiation Right to any other Club.

**(4)** Players on the Negotiation List shall not count against any player limits.

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**(5)** Players who join the Armed Forces while on the Negotiation List shall continue to be subject to this Rule 4 in the same manner as all other selected players.

**(f) CLOSED PERIOD.** The period of time beginning at 12:01 a.m. Eastern Time of the seventh day prior to the date of a First-Year Player Draft and concluding with the beginning of such First-Year Player Draft shall be called the Closed Period. The right to contract with a player selected at the preceding First-Year Draft, who is not subject to the signing deadline set forth in Rule 4(d)(4), or with a player eligible to sign who was not selected at the preceding First-Year Draft, shall terminate at the beginning of the Closed Period unless such player becomes ineligible to sign at an earlier date by operation of the applicable High School, College or Junior College Rule.

**(g) EFFECT ON PLAYER LIMITS.**

A player who signs a Minor League contract with a Major League Club following the player's selection at the First-Year Player Draft shall be excluded from the Minor League under control limits of the signing Major League Club until the day following the conclusion of the current year's Major League championship season or when the player has appeared in a championship season game, whichever occurs first.

**(h) IF SELECTED PLAYER DOES NOT SIGN.** A player who is selected at a First-Year Player Draft and who does not sign a Minor League contract before being removed from the selecting Club's Negotiation List, see Rule 4(d) (Effect of Selection on Player), shall be subject to selection at the next First-Year Player Draft at which the player is eligible for selection. A selected player who does not sign may not be selected by the same Major League Club at any subsequent First-Year Player Draft unless the player has notified the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee in writing that the player has no objection to such re-selection.

**(i) IF PLAYER IS NOT SELECTED.** A player who is eligible for selection and who is not selected may be signed to a Minor League contract by any Major League or Minor League Club after the conclusion of the First-Year Player Draft. Such player shall remain eligible for signing until the start of the next Closed Period, unless such player becomes ineligible to sign at an earlier date by operation of the applicable High School, College or Junior College Rule.

**(j) MEDICAL INFORMATION.**

**(1)** The Top 300 Pre-Draft Medical Information Program.

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(A) Each year, the Office of the Commissioner will select the 300 potential top prospects in the First-Year Player Draft to participate in the Pre-Draft Medical Information Program (“the Top 300 Program”). If named to participate in the Top 300 Program, players will be required to submit to the Office of the Commissioner all of their pre-existing medical records relating to their physical condition, including, but not limited to, MRIs, X-Rays and CT Scans. Players are not required to provide records relating to conditions that would not reasonably affect their ability to perform services as a baseball player. Each player will be required to certify in writing that he has submitted a complete copy of all of the medical records required to be submitted to the Office of the Commissioner pursuant to this Rule 4(j)(1)(A). The player also will be required to submit any updated medical information to the Office of the Commissioner by the May 1 immediately preceding the Draft, to the extent such information exists. Clubs may review the players’ medical records through Major League Baseball’s Electronic Medical Records system (“EMR”) or another secure file-sharing system. Immediately upon the conclusion of the Draft, a Club’s access to such medical records will be revoked except with respect to the Club’s Draft selections.

(B) A player named to participate in the Top 300 Program may not provide additional medical information to one Club without first providing such information to the Office of the Commissioner for placement on the EMR. In addition, a player may not submit to a pre-draft physical conducted by a Club unless he agrees to submit to a pre-draft physical for any Club that requests it.

(C) If a player named to participate in the Program refuses to comply with the Top 300 Program, the player will be prohibited from submitting medical information, whether orally or in writing, to any Club. The Office of the Commissioner will notify all Clubs of a player’s refusal. A Club may not obtain medical information from a non-compliant player until the player complies with the Top 300 Program.

**(2) The Pre-Draft MRI Program.**

(A) From the pool of the 300 top prospects selected to participate in the Top 300 Program, the Office of the Commissioner will select 50 top pitching prospects to participate in

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the Pre-Draft Pitcher MRI Program (the “Pre-Draft MRI Program”). Participation in the Pre-Draft MRI Program is voluntary and does not affect the selected players’ status or obligations with respect to the Top 300 Program. Players who are selected and choose to participate in the Pre-Draft MRI Program must submit to an MRI (without contrast) for their shoulder, their elbow, and for any body part other than the shoulder or elbow that, due to injury, caused the player to miss playing time in the season immediately preceding the draft, pursuant to the MRI protocols agreed upon by the Office of the Commissioner and the Players Association. MRIs must be performed at a facility approved by both the Office of the Commissioner and the Players Association. In addition to receiving his own copy of the results of his MRI, the player must execute a release authorizing the facility to submit the MRI directly to the Office of the Commissioner. Upon receiving an MRI for a player participating in the Pre-Draft MRI Program, the Office of the Commissioner shall provide the MRI to a radiologist jointly selected by the Office of the Commissioner and the Players Association, who shall in turn review the MRI and supply an MRI report to the Office of the Commissioner, the Players Association, and the player.

**(B)** By the March 15 preceding each First-Year Player Draft, the 50 pitching prospects selected for the Pre-Draft MRI Program will be notified by the Commissioner’s Office of their selection for the Program and provided information about how to schedule an MRI at an approved facility. If the player does not live within a reasonable distance of an approved facility, the Office of the Commissioner will help the player to identify a suitable facility. If a prospect selected for the Pre-Draft MRI Program chooses to participate in the Program, he must receive an MRI at an approved facility in the period between April 1 and the date 21 days prior to the commencement of the next First-Year Player Draft (“MRI Window”). A player who, by the close of the MRI Window (i.e., by the date 21 days prior to the First-Year Player Draft), does not receive an MRI at an approved facility and execute the release to ensure that the results are provided to the Office of the Commissioner within the MRI Window will be deemed to have declined to participate in the Pre-Draft MRI Program for purposes of Rule 4(j)(2)(B). Submission of an MRI taken outside of the

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MRI Window or at an unapproved facility will not constitute participation in the Pre-Draft MRI Program, absent written consent from the Commissioner's Office.

(C) Prior to the completion of the MRI Window, Clubs may identify to the Office of the Commissioner, on a confidential basis, which players selected for the Pre-Draft MRI Program the Club has potential interest in selecting in the upcoming First-Year Player Draft and thus which players' MRIs and MRI reports (collectively, "MRI Results") the Club would like to review before the Draft for that purpose. A Club must include in this notice the list of all Club officials designated to have access to the request players' MRI Results. The Office of the Commissioner will share with those Clubs' designated officials only the identified players' MRI Results via a secure file-sharing system. Immediately upon being selected in the Draft, a Club's access to such MRI Results will be revoked, and Clubs are prohibited from retaining or storing copies of MRI Results, except with respect to the Club's Draft selections. Unless authorized by the Basic Agreement, any Club official who intentionally disseminates, or causes to be disseminated, information from a draft prospect's MRI Results to a member of the media will be suspended for a minimum of 30 days by the Office of the Commissioner and the Club shall be fined a minimum of \$500,000. The foregoing penalties shall not apply if the information was first made public by a source other than the Club or the Office of the Commissioner.

**(3) Drug Testing.**

All players eligible for selection in the First-Year Player Draft will be subject to Major League Baseball's Drug Prevention Program for Potential Selections in the First-Year Player Draft ("Prospect Drug Testing Program"). All players named to participate in the Top 300 Program described in Rule 4(j)(1)(A) above will be subject to a random, unannounced drug test prior to the First-Year Player Draft. Any player subject to random drug testing under the Prospect Drug Testing Program who refuses to be

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tested shall be deemed ineligible for selection in the First-Year Player Draft, and shall not be eligible to sign a contract with a Major or Minor League Club, as fully set forth in the terms of that Program.

**(4) Physical Examinations.**

**(A)** Major League Clubs shall waive their rights under Paragraph XVII(B) of the Minor League Uniform Player Contract when signing drafted players if one of the following conditions is met:

**(i)** The drafted player submits to a complete physical examination conducted by the Club before an agreement is reached on the terms of a Minor League contract; or

**(ii)** The player and the Club reach a tentative agreement on a Minor League contract that is contingent on the Player passing a physical examination conducted by the Club, and the Player passes that physical examination (including the reporting of all test results) prior to the applicable deadline for submitting terms of an agreement to the Commissioner's Office.

**(B)** Drafted Players Who Fail Club-Administered Physical Examinations.

**(i)** Drafted Players Not Selected for the Pre-Draft MRI Program. If a drafted player who was not selected for the Pre-Draft MRI Program fails a Club-administered physical examination, and the Club does not subsequently offer that player a bonus equal to or greater than 40% of the player's Signing Bonus Value (or \$50,000 if the player was selected after the 10<sup>th</sup> round) and hold that offer open until the earlier of 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the seventh day following the date the offer was made or the signing deadline (see Rule 4(d)(4)), the player will become a free agent if no agreement is reached by the time the player is removed from the Club's Negotiation List pursuant to Rule 4(d). In such case, the Club shall not receive a supplemental selection pursuant to Rule 4(c)(2) for failing to sign such player, and, for players selected prior to the 11<sup>th</sup> round, the Club's Signing Bonus Pool (described in Rule 3(c)(4)(A)) shall be reduced by the Signing Bonus Value attributable to his selection. If the Club does subsequently

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offer the player a bonus equal to or greater than 40% of the player's Signing Bonus Value and holds that offer open until the earlier of 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the seventh day following the date the offer was made or the signing deadline (see Rule 4(d)(4)), but no agreement is reached, the player's status will be determined pursuant to Rule 4(h), the Club will receive, if applicable, a supplemental selection pursuant to Rule 4(c)(2) for failing to sign such player, and the Club's Signing Bonus Pool (described in Rule 3(c)(4)(A)) shall be reduced by the Signing Bonus Value attributable to that player. This Rule 4(j)(4)(B)(i) applies only if a Club does not sign a player based on the results of a Club-administered physical examination, and does not apply to a Club's failure to sign a player, or its decision not to offer a signing bonus of a particular amount, for reasons other than the player's failure of a Club-administered physical examination.

(ii) Drafted Players Selected for the Pre-Draft MRI Program. If a drafted player who is selected for the Pre-Draft MRI Program and elects to participate in the Pre-Draft MRI Program fails a Club-administered physical examination based on an injury or defect to his shoulder, his elbow, or any other body part that was encompassed by the pre-draft MRI he provided pursuant to Rule 4(j)(2) above, and the Club does not subsequently offer that player a bonus equal to or greater than 60% of the player's Signing Bonus Value (or \$75,000 if the player was selected after the 10<sup>th</sup> round) and hold that offer open until the earlier of 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the seventh day following the date the offer was made or the signing deadline (see Rule 4(d)(4)), the player will become a free agent if no agreement is reached by the time the player is removed from the Club's Negotiation List pursuant to Rule 4(d). In such case, the Club shall not receive a supplemental selection pursuant to Rule 4(c)(2) for failing to sign such player, and, for players selected prior to the 11<sup>th</sup> round, the Club's Signing Bonus Pool (described in Rule 3(c)(4)(A)) shall be reduced by the Signing Bonus Value attributable to his selection. If the Club does subsequently offer the player a bonus equal to or greater than 60% of the player's Signing Bonus Value and holds that offer open until the earlier of 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the seventh day following the date the offer was made or the signing deadline



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(see Rule 4(d)(4)), but no agreement is reached, the player's status will be determined pursuant to Rule 4(h), the Club will receive, if applicable, a supplemental selection pursuant to Rule 4(c)(2) for failing to sign such player, and the Club's Signing Bonus Pool (described in Rule 3(c)(4)(A)) shall be reduced by the Signing Bonus Value attributable to that player. Notwithstanding the above, if a pre-signing MRI conducted by the Club shows that the player's injury or defect occurred, or was exacerbated, following the pre-draft MRI submitted by the player pursuant to the Pre-Draft MRI Program, the player shall be treated as a player who was not selected for the Pre-Draft MRI Program and Rule 4(j)(4)(B)(i) shall govern. Any dispute regarding whether a player's injury or defect occurred, or was exacerbated, following the MRI submitted by the player pursuant to the Pre-Draft MRI Program will be submitted to, and resolved on a binding, expedited basis, by a neutral orthopedist selected in advance by the Office of the Commissioner and the Players Association to resolve such disputes.

If a drafted player who is selected to participate in the Pre-Draft MRI Program and declines to participate in the Program subsequently fails a Club-administered physical examination based on an injury or defect to his shoulder, elbow, or any other body part that would have been encompassed by his pre-draft MRI (per the terms of Rule 4(j)(2)(A)), the Club shall be relieved of the obligation set forth in Rule 4(j)(4)(B)(i) to offer any signing bonus in order to retain its right to receive a supplemental selection pursuant to Rule 4(c)(2) for failing to sign such player, the player's status will be determined pursuant to Rule 4(h), and the Club's Signing Bonus Pool (described in Rule 3(c)(4)(A)) shall be reduced by the Signing Bonus Value attributable to that player in the event the Club does not sign the player.

If a drafted player who is selected to participate in the Pre-Draft MRI Program fails a Club-administered physical examination based on an injury to a part of his body that was not, or would not have been, encompassed by his Pre-Draft MRI per the terms of Rule 4(j)(2)(A), the player shall be treated as a player who was not selected for the Pre-Draft MRI Program and Rule 4(j)(4)(B)(i) shall govern, regardless of whether or not the player chose to participate in the Pre-Draft MRI Program.

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**MLR 4(k)**

**(k) FORFEITED DRAFT LOTTERY AND COMPETITIVE BALANCE SELECTIONS.**

**(1) Forfeited Draft Selection Lottery.**

**(A)** The Office of the Commissioner will award to other Clubs through a lottery any selections in the First-Year Player Draft that are forfeited by Clubs whose Total Signing Bonuses exceed their Signing Bonus Pools (as described in Rule 3(c)(4)). Any Club whose Total Signing Bonuses did not exceed its Signing Bonus Pool in the applicable First-Year Player Draft will be eligible for entry in the lottery. A Club's odds of winning the lottery will be based on its prior season's winning percentage and prior season's Net Defined Local Revenue ("NDLR") under Article XXIV of the Basic Agreement, each weighted equally in a formula that will be distributed to eligible Clubs prior to the lottery. A Club may be awarded only one selection in the Forfeited Draft Selection Lottery until such time as all Clubs eligible for the lottery have been awarded a selection.

**(B)** The Forfeited Draft Selection Lottery will be held on the first Wednesday following the Signing Deadline, and any Club that had not exceeded its Signing Bonus Pool as of that date will be entered into the lottery. A Club that is awarded a selection in the Forfeited Draft Selection Lottery and subsequently exceeds its Signing Bonus Pool will itself forfeit the selection it was awarded. During the Closed Period following the First-Year Player Draft, a Supplemental Forfeited Draft Selection Lottery will be held, if necessary, to redistribute: (i) any selections awarded to a Club in the original lottery that the Club forfeited pursuant to this Rule 4(k)(1)(B) by exceeding its Signing Bonus Pool between the date of the lottery and the beginning of the Closed Period; and/or (ii) any selections that a Club forfeited pursuant to Rule 3(c)(4)(B) for exceeding its Signing Bonus Pool between the date of the original lottery and the beginning of the Closed Period. All Clubs that did not exceed their Signing Bonus Pool as of the beginning of the Closed Period will be eligible to participate in the Supplemental Forfeited Draft Selection Lottery, with the odds of winning based on the same formula as set forth in Rule 4(k)(1)(A) above. A Club previously awarded a selection in the Forfeited Draft Selection Lottery will not be eligible to be awarded a selection in the

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Supplemental Forfeited Draft Selection Lottery until such time as all Clubs eligible for the Supplemental Forfeited Draft Selection Lottery have been awarded a selection.

**(2) Competitive Balance Selections.**

**(A) Eligibility to Receive Competitive Balance Selections.** Beginning with the 2017 First-Year Player Draft, the ten Clubs with the lowest NDLR in the preceding year that are not market disqualified, and to the extent not included in that group, the ten Clubs with the lowest Market Score as set forth in Attachment 26 to the Basic Agreement, will receive an additional selection in the First-Year Player Draft (“Competitive Balance Selection”).

**(B) 2017 Competitive Balance Round A.** The six eligible Clubs with the lowest average ranking among eligible Clubs in (i) NDLR in the 2016 Revenue Sharing Year and (ii) winning-percentage in the 2016 championship season will receive a selection immediately following the completion of the first round of the 2017 First-Year Player Draft, as set forth in Rule 4(c)(3) above (“Competitive Balance Round A”). Clubs shall select in Competitive Balance Round A in inverse order of their average ranking among eligible Clubs in NDLR and winning-percentage in 2016.

**(C) 2017 Competitive Balance Round B.** The eligible Clubs that did not receive draft selections in Competitive Balance Round A will receive selections immediately following the completion of the second round of the 2017 First-Year Player Draft (“Competitive Balance Round B”). Clubs shall select in Competitive Balance Round B in inverse order of their average ranking among eligible Clubs in NDLR and winning-percentage in 2016.

**(D) Competitive Balance Selections in Subsequent Years.** Beginning with the 2018 First-Year Player Draft and continuing thereafter, any eligible Club that received a selection in Competitive Balance Round A in the immediately preceding First-Year Player Draft shall receive a selection in Competitive Balance Round B; and any eligible Club that received a selection in Competitive Balance Round B in the immediately preceding First-Year Player Draft shall receive a selection in Competitive Balance Round A. Clubs will continue to alternate from year-to-year between Competitive Balance Rounds A and B, provided they remain

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eligible to receive a Competitive Balance Selection. Any Club that is eligible for a Competitive Balance Selection in the 2018 First-Year Player Draft or any subsequent First-Year Player Draft that was not eligible for a Competitive Balance Selection in the immediately preceding Draft shall receive a selection in Competitive Balance Round B. In each year, Clubs will select in Competitive Balance Rounds A and B in inverse order of their average ranking among eligible Clubs in NDLR and winning-percentage in the prior year.

**(E)** The Office of the Commissioner will notify Clubs on December 1 whether they will receive a selection in Competitive Balance Round A or B in the next First-Year Player Draft, and the position they will select within that round (but not the overall position of the selection within the First-Year Player Draft).

**(F)** For purposes of this Rule 4(k)(2), the Oakland Athletics will not be considered market disqualified until the 2020 First-Year Player Draft.

**(3)** All selections in the Forfeited Draft Selection and Competitive Balance Selections are assignable as follows:

**(A)** Selections are only assignable by the Club that was originally awarded the selection (i.e., the selections may be assigned only once).

**(B)** Cash consideration of any kind may not be included in an assignment involving a Club's assignable draft selections unless the cash consideration is included directly to offset the salary obligations of another player included in the assignment (and is no greater than such obligations), subject to the Commissioner's approval.

**(C)** A Club may only assign (or agree to assign) selections in the next succeeding First-Year Player Draft, and may only assign (or agree to assign) such selections during the period beginning on the December 2 preceding the First-Year Player Draft and ending two hours prior to the commencement of the Draft.

**(D)** A Club that is awarded a selection in the Forfeited Draft Selection Lottery and assigns such selection to another Club may not subsequently provide an unsigned player (i.e., a

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**MLR 4(k) to 5(b)**

player not subject to the Signing Deadline) with a Signing Bonus that would cause it to exceed its Signing Bonus Pool. In addition, a Club may not assign a selection awarded in the Forfeited Draft Selection Lottery to another Club if it has yet to sign one or more players selected in the first ten rounds of the draft, and its failure to sign one or more of those players would cause it to exceed its Signing Bonus Pool.

**(l) INTERPRETATION.** Official interpretations of this Rule 4 may be made from time to time by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**Rule 5**

**ANNUAL SELECTION OF PLAYERS**

**(a) MEETINGS.** A selection meeting shall be held each year at such time and place as the Commissioner shall designate and shall be known as the Rule 5 Selection Meeting. At the Rule 5 Selection Meeting, Major League Clubs may claim the contracts of players who are on Minor League Reserve Lists (filed pursuant to Rule 1) and who are subject to selection as set forth in this Rule 5. If any Major League Club shall fail to file Minor League Reserve Lists in accordance with Major League Rule 1, its players on Minor League Reserve Lists shall be subject to selection under this Rule 5 without any restrictions. The Commissioner shall decide all procedural questions that may arise during the Rule 5 Selection Meeting.

**(b) METHOD AND PRIORITY OF SELECTIONS.** Selections under this Rule 5 shall be made in two separate phases: the Major League phase and the Class AAA phase. A player selected in one of these phases must be placed on the Major League Club's Reserve List in the same classification of the phase in which the player was selected. Within each phase, only players from a Reserve List of a lower classification Club are eligible for selection.

Within each phase, selections shall be made according to the following order and conditions:

**(1)** Major League Clubs shall select in reverse order of their winning percentages at the close of the preceding championship season, without regard to standings within any Division or League and without regard to post-season results. If two or more Clubs had an identical percentage of games won at the close of the preceding championship season, the selection order of those Clubs shall be determined by the percentage of games won in the next

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**MLR 5(b) to 5(c)**

prior championship season, with any remaining ties resolved by continuing to examine the tied Clubs' respective championship season winning percentages in each preceding prior year, until the tie is broken.

(2) As called in the above order of priority in a phase, each Major League Club shall have a right to select one player subject to selection under this Rule 5. If a Club does not exercise its right of selection when called, or if its right of selection in that phase has ceased because its Reserve List(s) for the classification covered by the phase has reached the allowable limit under Rule 2, the next Club in order shall be called. When a round has been completed, the process of selection shall be repeated until all Major League Clubs have no further right of selection in that phase. A Club having announced its selection in proper order cannot later cancel the selection.

(3) In any year in which one or more new members have been admitted to a Major League for operations in the next championship season, each such new member may select player contracts under this Rule 5. The procedures and regulations governing such selections shall be as agreed upon by the Major League Clubs.

(4) Any Major League Club may authorize (in writing or by electronic communication) any employee, the Commissioner, or an employee of the Commissioner's Office to announce its selection or selections at the meeting. Such authorized selections shall be as binding and effective as if announced by a Major League Club official.

**(c) PLAYERS SUBJECT TO SELECTION.** All players on the Minor League Reserve Lists of Major League and Minor League Clubs, except players on the Voluntarily Retired, Disqualified or Ineligible Lists, shall be subject to selection by other Major League Clubs at the Rule 5 Selection Meeting in accordance with the following:

(1) A player without previous Major or Minor League service who signs with a Major League or Minor League Club shall be subject to selection based on the following:

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**MLR 5(c)**

**(A)** if 18 years of age or under on the June 5 immediately preceding the player's signing, the player shall be subject to selection at the fifth Rule 5 Selection Meeting that follows the signing date of the player's first Major or Minor League contract, unless Rule 5(c)(1)(C) applies;

**(B)** if 19 years of age or over on the June 5 immediately preceding the player's signing, the player shall be subject to selection at the fourth Selection Meeting that follows the signing date of the player's first Major or Minor League contract, unless Rule 5(c)(1)(C) applies;

**(C)** if the signing date of a player's first Major or Minor League contract is between:

**(i)** the conclusion of the championship season for the Major or Minor League Club to which the player is assigned on such contract and

**(ii)** the next Rule 5 Selection Meeting, then the player shall be deemed to have signed after the next Rule 5 Selection Meeting, for purposes of this Rule 5(c)(1).

**(2)** A player who is re-signed by a Club within one year from the date the Club released the player shall be subject to draft at the Rule 5 Selection Meeting following the date of the latest contract with that Club.

**(3)** A player who has been subject to draft at a Rule 5 Selection Meeting shall be subject to draft at any subsequent Rule 5 Selection Meeting if the player is on a Minor League Reserve List (filed pursuant to Rule 1 (Reserve Lists)) at the time of the Rule 5 Selection Meeting.

**(4)** A player:

**(A)** whose contract has been assigned outright by a Major League Club to a Minor League Club,

**(B)** who has been signed as a free agent to a Minor League Uniform Player Contract for services in the following year and is otherwise subject to selection pursuant to Rule 5(c)(1) or Rule 5(c)(2), or

**(C)** who has been released unconditionally from a Minor League roster and is otherwise subject to selection pursuant to Rule 5(c)(1) or Rule 5(c)(2), shall be subject to selection at any

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**MLR 5(c) to 5(g)**

subsequent Rule 5 Selection Meeting if the player is on a Minor League Reserve List (filed pursuant to Rule 1 (Reserve Lists)) at the time of the Rule 5 Selection Meeting.

(5) A Major League Club may designate any player on one of its Minor League Reserve Lists to be subject to selection who otherwise would not be selectable under this Rule 5.

**(d) CONSIDERATION, PAYMENT, AND RESPONSIBILITY.** The consideration for a selection under this Rule 5 shall be as follows:

(1) \$100,000, if the selected player is placed on a Major League Reserve List;

(2) \$24,000, if the selected player is placed on a Class AAA Reserve List;

Payment of the consideration due the selectee Club shall be made in the same manner as provided in Rule 6 (Assignment of Player Contracts) regarding other assignments of player contracts.

The selector Major League Club must assume all responsibility for the player's physical condition and for the player's reporting.

**(e) PLAYER-MANAGERS.** A Player-Manager shall be subject to selection if the player would otherwise be selectable under Rule 5(c) (Players Subject to Selection). However, a player-manager shall be subject to selection as a player only and the player-manager selected may reject such selection by giving written or electronic notification of such rejection to the Commissioner within 30 days from the date that the player-manager receives notification of such selection from the Commissioner. A player-manager contract that has been executed within 30 days before the close of the season shall not be changed to a player contract during the season following execution of such player-manager contract unless the Commissioner approves such a change in writing.

**(f) COVERING UP.** No agreement shall be made for the purpose or with the effect of covering up a player from selection. If the Commissioner shall be of opinion that any such agreement has been made, the Commissioner may impose a fine upon each party to such an agreement.

**(g) SELECTED PLAYERS.**



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**MLR 5(g)**

**(1) RESTRICTIONS.** From the date of selection to the close of the subsequent Major League championship season, no player selected in the Major League phase of the Rule 5 Selection Meeting shall be released or directed to perform for or otherwise transferred to any Minor League Club until:

**(A)** the player has received a 15-day trial period during spring training and/or the championship season of the year following the player's selection;

**(B)** Outright Assignment waivers have first been granted on the player's contract in accordance with Rule 8 (Major League Waivers) (see, e.g., Rule 8(d)(3) (Restrictions on Waiver Requests)); and

**(C)** outright assignment of the player has then been offered to and rejected by the Major League Club from which the player's contract was selected.

**(2) OFFER OF OUTRIGHT ASSIGNMENT — PROCEDURES.** An offer of outright assignment to the Major League Club from which a player's contract was selected shall be made through the Commissioner and the consideration shall be 50 percent of the price paid for the selection. Upon receiving notice of the selecting Major League Club's intention to make such an offer, the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall communicate by electronic means to the Major League Club from which the player was selected that it has:

**(A)** 24 hours from the time of dispatch of the electronic message to accept or reject assignment of the contract, unless Rule 5(g)(2)(B) applies; or

**(B)** 24 hours after the Club from which the player was selected is notified by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee of the selected player's decision whether to accept the proposed return assignment, if the player was selected to a Major League Reserve List and has the right to elect free agency after an outright assignment.

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**MLR 5(g)**

Failure to accept the offer within such period shall constitute a rejection. Should such an offer be rejected, all obligations of the selecting Major League Club to the Major League Club from which the player was selected shall be fulfilled.

If the player was selected to a Major League Reserve List and if such player has the right to elect free agency after an outright assignment, the selecting Club shall provide the player any written notice of the contemplated outright assignment to the player's former Minor League Club that the collective bargaining agreement with the players' union may require and shall provide a copy of such notice to the Club from which the player's contract was selected. If the selecting Club fails to provide the selected player with such written notice, and the selected player elects free agency in lieu of the return outright assignment, then the selecting Club may be subject to a fine by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, which the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may order to be paid, in whole or in part, to the Club from which the player's contract was selected. The selecting Club shall communicate immediately to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee the player's decision whether to accept the return outright assignment, and the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall communicate such decision promptly to the Club from which the player's contract was selected.

**(3) ACTIVE LIST RESTRICTIONS.** If the selected player is not carried on the Active List of the selecting Major League Club for 90 days of the season following the selection, the restrictions in Rule 5(g)(1) shall continue to apply until the player has been on the Active List for an aggregate of 90 days during a championship season or seasons.

**(4) SALARY ON RETURN.** If a selected player was under a Minor League Uniform Player's Contract for the entire championship season before the player's selection, a Major League Club that returns such a player through tender of an outright assignment to the Major or Minor League Club from which the player was selected shall be liable for any salary set forth in its Major League Uniform Player's Contract with the player in excess of the salary amount in the player's Minor League Uniform Player Contract for the season before selection.

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If a selected player was under a Major League Uniform Player's Contract for all or part of the season preceding the player's selection, a Major League Club that returns such a player to the Major League Club from which the player was selected shall be liable for any salary set forth in its Major League Uniform Player's Contract with the player in excess of the total salary the player received (under both a Major League Uniform Player's Contract and a Minor League Uniform Player Contract) for the previous championship season.

**(h) DRAFT-EXCLUDED PLAYERS.** A player who has less than three years of Major League service as of the conclusion of the championship season and who is excluded from selection in a Rule 5 Selection Meeting because the player was promoted to a Major League Reserve List after August 15 of the championship season preceding the selection meeting and remains on a Major League Reserve List through the conclusion of such selection meeting shall be referred to as a "draft-excluded player." A draft-excluded player shall not be directed to perform for, assigned to, or otherwise transferred to a Minor League Club unless the player first receives a trial with the player's Major League Club lasting until 20 days before the opening day of the following Major League season. See Rule 8(d)(4) (Restrictions on Waiver Requests) for rules concerning when waivers may be requested on a player who would become a draft-excluded player and Rule 8(c)(4)(B) (Consideration for Assignment of Player; Selected or Draft-Excluded Player) for rules concerning the waiver claim price for a draft-excluded player.

### **Rule 6**

#### **ASSIGNMENT OF PLAYER CONTRACTS**

**(a) NOTICE TO PLAYER.** A Club may assign to another Club an existing contract with a player. Written notice of assignment of a player's contract shall be given to a player. Such notice shall not be given until the Club has been formally advised by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee that waivers have been granted by all Clubs entitled to claim the player as set forth in these Rules, and if notice is given prior to the granting of all waivers, the notice shall be void and the Commissioner shall collect a fine from the Club giving such void notice. The player, upon receipt of written notice of such assignment, is by the player's contract bound to serve the assignee Club.

**(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.** The date of assignment shall be deemed to be the date upon which notice of assignment is delivered to the player.

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**MLR 6(c)**

**(c) OBLIGATIONS OF ASSIGNOR AND ASSIGNEE CLUBS.**

**(1) FOLLOWING DATE OF ASSIGNMENT.** After the date of such assignment, all rights and obligations of the assignor Club under the contract shall become the rights and obligations of the assignee Club, except as otherwise provided in Rule 3 (Eligibility to Sign Contract, Contract Terms, and Contract Tenders), and the assignee Club shall be liable to the player for payments accruing from the date of assignment and shall not be liable (but the assignor Club shall remain liable) for payments accrued prior to and including that date.

**(2) ON PLAYER REPORTING DATE.** In the event that a player physically reports to the assignee Club on the same date as the player's assignment, the assignee Club shall be responsible for salary starting with that date and the assignor Club shall not be required to pay salary for that day. **EXCEPTION:** In the event the player plays or is available to play for the assignor Club on the day of assignment, the assignor shall pay the player's salary for that day.

**(3) TRANSPORTATION.**

**(A)** A Club assigning the contract of a player in its active service to another Major League Club or to a Minor League Club shall, at the time of notifying the player of the assignment, deliver to the player transportation to the city designated by the assignee Club and the assignee Club shall reimburse the assignor within 10 days for the cost of such transportation.

**(B)** If a player's contract is assigned by a Major League Club to another Major League Club, any transportation, travel, and moving allowances shall be governed by the Basic Agreement.

**(4) ASSIGNEE CLUB'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR BONUS PROVISIONS IN PLAYER'S CONTRACT.** If a Major League player's contract is assigned to another Major League Club and there are unearned bonuses in the player's Major League Uniform Player's Contract at the time of the assignment, the standard-form Major League Uniform Player's Contract sets forth the allocation of responsibility between the assignor and assignee Clubs for payment of such bonuses, when such bonuses are earned. The assignor and assignee Clubs may include cash consideration in a transfer agreement that is contingent upon whether such bonuses become earned. See MLR 6(f)(5)(A)(ii) (Consideration Must Be in Definite Terms).

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**MLR 6(c) to 6(d)**

**(5) ASSIGNEE MAJOR LEAGUE CLUB.** If at any time the assignee is a Major League Club, it shall be liable to pay the player at the full rate stipulated in the player's contract for the remainder of the term thereof and all prior assignors and assignees shall be relieved of liability for any payment during the remainder of the player's contract, except as otherwise provided in Rule 3 (Eligibility to Sign Contract, Contract Terms, and Contract Tenders).

**(6) ASSIGNEE MINOR LEAGUE CLUB.** Unless the assignor and assignee Clubs agree otherwise, if the assignee Club is a Minor League Club, the assignee Club shall be liable only to pay the player at the rate usually paid by said assignee Club to its players of similar skill and ability in its classification and the assignor Club shall be liable to pay the player for the remainder of the player's contract the difference between the amount payable to the player under the player's contract and the amount paid to the player by the assignee Club.

**(7) RELEASE FOLLOWING ASSIGNMENT.** In the event such player is unconditionally released by the Minor League Club to which the player's contract has been assigned and the player would have been entitled to severance pay had the player been so released under the player's contract with the assignor (Major League Club), then the assignor is liable to pay the player an additional amount equal to the termination pay provided for in the player's Major League contract and the reasonable travelling expenses of the player, including first-class jet air fare and meals en route, to the player's home city.

**(8) SALARY BETWEEN SEASON OPENINGS.** A Club that, after commencement of its championship season, assigns a player's contract to a Club whose season commences after that of the assigning Club, must pay the player at the rate of the player's assigned contract up to the day the player's salary with the player's new Club begins, provided the player promptly reports to the latter.

**(d) CLOSED PERIODS.**

**(1)** No Major League Club shall assign a Minor League player who is eligible for that year's Rule 5 Draft to any other professional baseball club during the period commencing on the date that the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee designates for the filing of Reserve Lists and ending upon the conclusion of the Rule 5 Selection Meeting. *See* Rule 1(b).

**(2)** No contract of a Major League player shall be assigned to a Club of lower classification during the period from 5:00 p.m. Eastern

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Time of the third day prior to the start of the Rule 5 Selection Meeting until the Rule 5 Selection Meeting has been concluded.

(3) No Major League Uniform Player's Contract (including for outrighted players) shall be traded to another Major League Club during the period commencing 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time on July 31 (the "Major League Trade Deadline") and ending upon the day following the day that the last game of the World Series starts. In years in which July 31 falls on a Saturday, the Major League Trade Deadline shall be 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, July 30. In years in which July 31 falls on a Sunday, the Major League Trade Deadline shall be 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Monday, August 1.

(4) No contract of a Minor League player shall be traded to another Major League Club during the period commencing at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the seventh day prior to the conclusion of the regularly scheduled Major League championship season and ending upon the day following the last game of the Major League championship season (including any rescheduled game or any additional game played to break a tie pursuant to Rule 34(c)).

(5) The Commissioner's Office will prohibit any transaction (or series of transactions) that, in the judgment of the Commissioner's Office, appears (or appear) designed to circumvent the prohibitions of Rule 6(d).

**(e) CONSENT TO ASSIGNMENT.**

(1) The contract of a player with five or more years of Major League service, not including service while on the Military List (or seven or more years of Major League service, including service while on the Military List) shall not, without the player's written consent, be assigned other than to another Major League Club. In ascertaining such service, part-season shall be computed at the rate of 172 days to a full season. Service preceding or succeeding a championship season shall not be included.

(2) The contract of a player with 10 or more years of Major League service, the last five of which have been with one Club, shall not be assignable to another Major League Club without the player's written consent.

**(f) ASSIGNMENT AGREEMENTS.**

(1) **FORM.** The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall prescribe the form of assignments and no such transaction shall be

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**MLR 6(f)**

recognized as valid unless approved by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(2) PENALTIES.** Penalties may be imposed in case anything except the actual consideration, terms and conditions are stipulated or in case agreements are made that are not embodied in the document as filed. Penalties shall also be imposed in the event a player plays in a game for the assignor Club after notice of the player's assignment or pending assignment on any basis has been given to the press for announcement. Such penalties shall be imposed by the Commissioner and the amount shall be subject to the Commissioner's judgment.

**(3) PROMULGATION.**

**(A)** Assignments and optional agreements shall be promulgated by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(B)** Assignment agreements shall be executed whenever title to a player's services is transferred from one Club to another under any condition — outright, optionally, by waiver claim, by selection, by recall of an optional player, or by injury rehabilitation assignment. Official notice of such transfer, and in the case of unconditional release, shall in each instance promptly be given by the Club to the player and the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(4) PAYMENT.** All payments by a claiming Club must accompany agreement papers on all transactions in which a player's contract has been assigned on waiver claim. Failure to include such payments may result in a fine.

Payments for all other transactions may not be deferred for more than one year from the date of assignment. Any agreement providing for the deferral of payment beyond one year shall subject the offending parties to such penalties as the Commissioner in the Commissioner's judgment shall deem proper.

**(5) CONSIDERATION MUST BE IN DEFINITE TERMS.**

**(A) (i)** Every transfer agreement shall express the consideration for the transfer in definite terms, unless Rule 6(f)(5)(A)(ii) applies.

**(ii)** If a transfer agreement includes the assignment of a Major League Uniform Player's Contract that includes unearned performance bonuses, then the assignor and

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assignee Club may include in such transfer agreement cash consideration that is contingent upon the player earning all or a portion of such performance bonuses. The transfer agreement must state with specificity all performance-bonus contingencies. The assignor and assignee Club are not permitted to alter their respective responsibilities to the player to pay performance bonuses. Such responsibilities to the player are covered by the standard-form Major League Uniform Player's Contract. See MLR 6(c)(4) (Assignee Club's Responsibility for Bonus Provisions in Player's Contract).

**(B)** A transfer agreement may provide for the assignment of the contract of an unnamed player, provided:

**(i)** the assignment must be made on or before a specified date, which shall be within six months from the date of the agreement;

**(ii)** the agreement permits a stated cash consideration in lieu of the assignment;

**(iii)** the player has not been on the Active List of any Major League Club during any part of a championship season (and, if applicable, the postseason) between the date of the agreement and the date of the assignment;

**(iv)** if the player was selected in the immediately preceding First-Year Player Draft he would otherwise be eligible to be assigned pursuant to Rule 3(b)(6) at the time of the original agreement in which he was the unnamed player; and

**(v)** the player was not a designated player when named.

**(6) POST-ASSIGNMENT CIRCUMSTANCES.**

**(A)** The death or permanent incapacitation of a player following assignment of the player's contract, or the player's failure to report to the assignee Club, shall not void the assignment, unless the agreement provides otherwise.

**(B)** In the event of the bona fide retirement of a player following assignment of the player's contract, the player shall be placed on the Voluntarily Retired List of the assignee Club, unless the agreement provides otherwise.



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**MLR 6(f) to 6(g)**

(C) A player who enters the Armed Forces after assignment of the player's contract and before the date the player normally would report to the assignee Club shall be placed on the Military List of the Assignee Club, unless the agreement provides otherwise.

**(g) INJURY REHABILITATION.**

**(1) Major League.**

(A) With the written consent of the player and the prior approval of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, the contract of a Major League player on an Injured List may be assigned to a Minor League Club for the purpose of injury rehabilitation for a maximum period of 20 days in the case of non-pitchers and 30 days in the case of pitchers. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a player rehabbing from UCL reconstruction surgery may consent to up to three consecutive ten-day extensions of his rehabilitation assignment, with the approval of the Commissioner's Office and the Association. In accordance with Rule 2(c)(1), a concussed player on the 7-day Injured List who has been cleared to return to play may then consent to a rehabilitation assignment for a maximum period of 5 days in the case of non-pitchers and 8 days in the case of pitchers, provided, however, that if the concussed player is transferred to the 10-day or 60-day Injured List, the maximum periods shall be 20 days for non-pitchers and 30 days for pitchers. A player so assigned shall continue to receive his Major League salary. The rights and benefits of such player that do and do not follow the player to the Minor League Club shall be in accordance with past practices. Any such service with a Minor League Club shall be deemed to be Major League service. An assignment made under the provisions of this Rule 6(g) shall not be counted as an optional assignment under Rule 7 (Optional Agreements). Waivers, pursuant to Rule 8, shall not be required for assignments made under this Rule 6(g). If the player sustains a new injury or a reoccurrence of an injury while on a rehabilitation assignment, separate written consent from the player and approval from the Commissioner's Office is required for a subsequent rehabilitation assignment. The Office of the Commissioner will carefully scrutinize any claim by a Club that a new rehabilitation assignment period is warranted if the player has not been returned from the original rehabilitation assignment for at least five days for a position player and seven days for a pitcher. A Club that decides to return a player from an injury assignment should notify the

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Commissioner's Office at the time a decision is made to end the rehabilitation assignment. If it was determined that a new injury or reoccurrence of the player's original injury occurred, the player's five or seven day "down" period would begin on the date the Commissioner's Office was originally notified. The player would then be eligible for a new 20 or 30 days rehabilitation assignment, pending the completion of the five- or seven-day period and the completion of a new SFD. If it was determined that there was no new injury or reoccurrence of the player's original injury, then the player would return on rehabilitation assignment without any interruption.

**(B) Two-Way Players.** Except as otherwise provided below, Two-Way players (as defined in Rule 2(b)(2)(D)) shall qualify as pitchers for purposes of this Rule 6(g)(1). With the written consent of the player and the prior approval of the Commissioner's Office, the contract of a Major League player designated as a Two-Way player in the current season shall, while remaining on the Major League Active List, be permitted to participate in official Minor League games for the purpose of injury rehabilitation for a maximum of 20 days in the case of an injury that only limits the player's ability to perform as a position player, and 30 days in the case of an injury that only limits the player's ability to perform as a pitcher. The Commissioner's Office will determine the appropriate number of days permitted. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a player recovering from UCL reconstruction surgery may consent to up to three consecutive ten-day extensions of participation with the approval of the Commissioner's Office and the Association. Provided the player remains on the Major League Active List in accordance with all other Major League Rules, the Two-Way player also is permitted to participate in Major League games during the period of the rehabilitation assignment.

**(2) Minor League.** The contract of a Minor League player on an Injured List in a higher classification may be assigned to a Club in the High-A or Low-A classification, for the purpose of rehabilitation of an injury; provided, however, there shall not be more than three such players on a High-A or Low-A Club at any one time. There shall be no limit to the number of players who may be assigned to the Spring Training Complex for the purposes of rehabilitation of an injury. Rehabilitation assignments, per injury, shall not exceed 20 days in the case of non-pitchers or 30 days in the case of pitchers. Effect on Limits:

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The player shall continue to be counted towards the Domestic Reserve List limit of the assignor Club and will continue to receive salary and benefits as such. The player shall not count against the player limits of the assignee Club.

**(h) Minor League Transfers**

**(1)** Players may be transferred to and from all affiliates, including the Spring Training Complex. Once assigned to an affiliate, the player may not remain with or travel to any affiliate other than the assigned affiliate. Upon notification, transferred player will count against the assignee Club's Active List limits immediately, if applicable, and must leave the original affiliate at the time of the transfer.

**(2)** Spring Training Complex Transfers. Players transferred to the Spring Training Complex must remain assigned to the Spring Training Complex for a minimum of 7 days from the date of the transfer, unless there has been an intervening change in circumstances that has been approved by the Office of the Commissioner, or the Basic Agreement permits the player to be selected or assigned to the Club's Major League roster during that period.

**(3)** International Players Assigned to the Domestic Reserve List. Once a player on the Reserve List of an affiliate that is located outside of the United States (*i.e.*, Dominican Summer League) is transferred to a domestic Minor League affiliate (including the Club's Spring Training Complex), that player immediately counts as part of the Domestic Reserve List Limit and cannot be transferred back to an affiliate outside of the United States, unless pre-approved by the Commissioner's Office.

**Rule 7**

**OPTIONAL AGREEMENTS**

**(a) DEFINITION.** An assignment of a player contract must in general be an absolute assignment, but in a limited number of cases, as specified in Rule 7(c), the assignor Club may reserve the right to recall, which must be exercised on or before the day following the last day of the Major League championship season. Such an assignment shall be designated as an optional assignment and is permitted between a Major League Club and a Minor League Club; provided that following the completion of the seasons (including postseasons) of all Minor League affiliates to

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which a player may be assigned in accordance with Rule 7(c), a Major League Club may option that player to its Spring Training Complex. Players optionally assigned to a Minor League Club will count against the Domestic Reserve List limit, described in Rule 2(a)(2)(B), once the player reports to the assignee Club. An optional assignment must be filed with and approved by the Commissioner.

**(b) LIMITATIONS ON RECALL.**

**(1) 10-Day/15-Day Rule.** Except as required by Rule 7(a), a Major League Club may not recall to the Active Roster a player who is on optional assignment until 10 days of the championship season have elapsed for a position player or 15 days have elapsed for a pitcher from the date of the optional assignment (see Article XXI(B) of the Basic Agreement regarding counting days on option), unless the Club obtains prior approval from the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee and one of the following conditions applies:

**(A)** the optional player's contract is being recalled for the purpose of replacing on a Club's Active List

**(i)** a player placed on a Major League Injured List, the Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List, the Major League Paternity Leave List or the Restricted List pursuant to Major League Baseball's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program or Joint Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Policy subsequent to the date the optional player's contract had been assigned to the optionee Club; or

**(ii)** a player assigned to another Major League Club;

**(B)** the optional player is being assigned to the Active List of another Major League Club;

**(C)** the Major League Club had assigned the player on the optional assignment within 24 hours after having acquired the player in an assignment from another Major League Club, the player had been on optional assignment with the other Major League Club at the time of the assignment and the Major League Club had not placed the player on its Major League Active List during the 24-hour period following the assignment; or

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**(D)** the optioned player is being recalled for the purpose of replacing a player on a Club's Postseason Roster in accordance with Rule 41(a).

Two-Way players (as defined in Rule 2(b)(2)(D)) shall qualify as pitchers for purposes of Rule 7(b)(1).

In the event a player is recalled to the Major League Active Roster and subsequently optioned prior to the occurrence of a game that has been cancelled or postponed, any accrual of days under this Rule 7(b)(1) prior to the recall shall not be interrupted.

In the event a player is selected to the Major League Active Roster and subsequently optioned prior to the occurrence of a game that has been cancelled or postponed, the 10-Day/15-Day Rule shall not apply to that assignment.

**(2)** Certain Optionee Clubs. The recall of an optional player for immediate service during the optionee's championship season shall be prohibited in any case in which the recalling Club owns or is otherwise affiliated with any other Club in the League of which the optionee Club is a member, unless the Commissioner approves the recall.

**(3)** Waivers. The recall of an optional player's contract for purposes of requesting waivers under Rule 8 is not required. Waivers may be requested in regard to a player on an optional assignment, see Rule 8(a) (Definitions), without requiring recall of the player and without making the player ineligible to participate in games for the Minor League Club to which such player may be assigned.

**(4)** Recall Not to Report. A Major League Club may recall a player not to report for the purpose of assigning such player to another Major League Club. A Major League Club may recall a player not to report after the conclusion of the championship season of the Minor League Club to which the player is on optional assignment but no later than the day following the last day of the Major League championship season. See Rule 7(a) (Definition). In the event that a Major League Club acquires a player on an optional assignment following the completion of the seasons (including postseasons) of all Minor League affiliates to which a player may be assigned, the Club may direct the player not to report only if such player does not have any Major League service in the current season. Players directed not to report in accordance with this Rule 7(b)(4) shall not accrue Major League salary or service.

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(5) Notice to Player. A Major League Club recalling an optioned player shall give the player written notice of such recall. The notice shall be on a form approved by the Major League Executive Council. A copy of such notices shall be given to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(c) LIMITATIONS ON OPTIONAL ASSIGNMENTS.** An optional assignment of a player contract shall be permitted for not more than three seasons between Major League Clubs and Minor League Clubs (or Spring Training facilities); provided that if the player is optioned for less than a total of 20 days in one season, as determined by the date(s) of the optional assignment(s) and recall(s), respectively, the player shall not be charged with an optional transfer in connection with the foregoing limitation.

EXCEPTION: Contracts of Major League players who, prior to commencement of the current season, have been credited with less than five seasons in the Major and Minor Leagues (excluding service on the Military, Disqualified, Restricted, Voluntarily Retired and Ineligible Lists) shall be eligible for a fourth optional assignment during that season. For purposes of this Rule 7(c), 90 days or more on the Active List or Development List during a championship season (including time spent on optional assignment to a Spring Training Complex following the completion of the seasons (including postseasons) of its Minor League affiliates), shall constitute a "season of service." While time spent on any Inactive List other than the Development List shall not be counted toward the 90 days required before a season's service is credited, if a player is placed on the Injured List after the player has been credited with 30 or more days of service in any particular season, the Injured List time shall be counted to the player's credit.

No optional agreement shall be permitted between Major League Clubs. No optional assignment shall be permitted for a player unless the player is under contract for service in the season for which the optional agreement is effective.

If, prior to an optional assignment, a player had at least three months active service in a Minor League classification, the player may not be optionally assigned to a lower classification unless the player is paid at the salary rate for the higher classification from which the player entered the Major Leagues.

Except as described in Rule 7(d) and 7(e), there are no restrictions on the number of players that may be optionally assigned to Minor League Clubs at the Class AAA or Class AA levels or, on or after September 1, the

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Spring Training Complex. Prior to September 1, a player cannot be assigned optionally to a Minor League Club at the Class High-A, Class Low-A, Spring Training Complex, or International Rookie classification if the assignee Club would exceed the length of service restrictions listed below.

**(1) Length of Service.** For purposes of this Rule 7(c)(1), a player shall be credited with a year of “Minor League Service” for each championship season in which the player was on the Active, Development or Injured List of a Major League or Minor League Club for at least 30 days, provided, however, that a player who has spent one or more championship seasons on an Injured List shall have one year of “Minor League Service” subtracted from the player’s total. A player’s time on the Active, Development or Injured List of a Minor League Club in an International Rookie classification Minor League entirely outside the United States and Canada shall not count toward “Minor League Service” for purposes of Rules 7(c)(1)(A) through (C).

**(A) Class High-A:** No more than two players and one player-coach on the Active List may have six or more years of prior Minor League Service.

**(B) Class Low-A:** No more than two players on the Active List may have five or more years of prior Minor League Service.

**(C) Spring Training Complex (in the United States or Canada):** No more than three players on the Active List may have four or more years of prior Minor League Service.

**(D) International Rookie (entirely outside the United States and Canada):** No player on the Active List may have four or more years of prior Minor League Service.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Rule 7(c), a player may play during one season without regard to prior length of service if the player is a pitcher who is changing positions to become a non-pitcher or is a non-pitcher changing positions to become a pitcher.

Any player playing pursuant to this exception may not pitch if the player was formerly a pitcher and may not play at a position other than pitcher if the player was formerly a non-pitcher.

**(d) NUMBER.** The maximum number of optional agreements that any Major League Club may have in effect at any one time shall be 15 before September 1, and 12 on or after September 1.

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**(e) CLOSED PERIOD.** No player shall be transferred to a Minor League Club on an optional assignment during the period from the close of the regularly scheduled season of the optionee Club, including postseason, and the first permissible date in Spring Training for the next season as determined under the terms of the Basic Agreement except as follows:

**(1)** From September 1 through the end of the Major League championship season (including any tiebreaker games), a Club may option players to any Minor League affiliate permissible under Rule 7(c) that is participating in its regular season or postseason, except the Club's Spring Training Complex, and those players will not receive Major League salary or service during the period of the optional assignment. Notwithstanding the foregoing, following the completion of the seasons of its Minor League affiliates (including their postseasons) to which it would be permissible under Rule 7(c) to assign a player, a Club may option that player to its Spring Training Complex, but he will receive Major League service (but not Major League salary) for the period of the optional assignment. An optional assignment occurring on the day that a Minor League affiliate participated in a regular season or postseason game shall be deemed to be an assignment made during the affiliate's season.

**(2)** Any player optioned on or after September 1 will receive Major League service regardless of the timing of his option if:

**(A)** the player was continuously on the Active Roster or Injured List of a Major League Club from June 1 through the date of the assignment; and

**(B)** the assignment would deprive the player of sufficient service to become eligible for salary arbitration under Article VI(E)(1) of the Basic Agreement or free agency under Article XX(B)(1) of the Basic Agreement immediately following that season.

Nothing contained in this Rule 7 shall affect a Club's ability to direct a player who ends the Minor League season (including his postseason) on optional assignment to work out at the Club's Spring Training Complex, in the Club's home city, or on the road with the Club, in accordance with Attachment 15 to the Basic Agreement, without the player receiving Major or Minor League service. Moreover, nothing herein shall be construed as prohibiting a Major League Club from assigning a player's contract to a Minor League Club at any time for the purpose of injury rehabilitation as provided in Rule 6(g).



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**MLR 7(f) to 7(j)**

**(f) SALARY ARREARS.** A Club assigning the contract of a player optionally shall be responsible to such player for salary due to the player.

**(g) SALARY ON OPTION OR RECALL.** Upon optional assignment, a player shall be paid at the rate stated in the player's Major League contract for Minor League service, or at the minimum Minor League service rate set forth in the Basic Agreement, whichever is applicable. Upon the recall of an optional player, the player's contract with the recalling Club, which was the subject of the optional assignment, shall be in full force and effect as to all of its terms and conditions.

**(h) SALARY BETWEEN SEASON OPENINGS.** A Club that, after contracting with a player for a season, makes an optional assignment of such contract to a Minor League Club whose championship season commences after that of the assigning Club must pay the player at the rate of the player's assigned contract from the time it would have become effective (but for the assignment) up to the day the player's salary starts with the player's new Club, provided the player promptly reports and gives service to the Club to which the player's contract is assigned. A Club that assigns a player's contract optionally to a Minor League Club whose championship season commences prior to start of the assignor Club's season must pay the player at the rate of salary for service with the assignee from the date the player reports to the assignee Club.

**(i) PLAYER LOANS.**

**(1)** Prohibited at Major League Level. All right or claim of a Major League Club to a player, unless it is under an optional agreement approved by the Commissioner, shall cease upon outright assignment to another organization. No arrangement between Clubs for the loan or return of a player shall be binding between the parties to it or recognized by other Clubs. This Rule 7(i) does not authorize the selection of such players, or other players, from an owned or affiliated Club under Rule 5.

**(2)** Permitted at Minor League Level. With the prior approval of the Commissioner, Clubs may arrange for the loan and return, prior to November 1 of the same year, for players under Minor League contracts during the championship season.

**(j) REACQUIRING PLAYER.**

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**MLR 7(j)**

**(1)** If the player's contract has been assigned outright by a Major League Club to a Minor League Club, the player's contract may be reacquired at any time during the year by the assignor Major League Club without restrictions, except:

**(A)** during the closed period set forth in Rule 6(d); or

**(B)** within 10 days (15 days for a pitcher) from the date of the most recent assignment to the Minor League Club, if the assignment was made during the championship season. Two-Way players (as defined in Rule 2(b)(2)(D)) shall qualify as pitchers for purposes of this Rule 7(j)(1)(B).

**(2)** The restriction in Rule 7(j)(1)(B) shall not apply, and a Major League Club may reacquire for immediate service the contract of an outrighted player prior to the expiration of the 10-day period (15-day period for a pitcher) from the date of the most recent assignment to the Minor League Club, if the Major League Club obtains prior approval from the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee and one of the following conditions applies:

**(A)** the outrighted player's contract is being reacquired for the purpose of replacing on a Club's Active List

**(i)** a player placed on a Major League Injured List, the Major League Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List, the Paternity List, or the Restricted List pursuant to Major League Baseball's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program or Joint Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Policy subsequent to the date the outrighted player's contract had been assigned to the assignee Club; or

**(ii)** a player assigned to another Major League Club;

**(B)** the outrighted player is being assigned to the Active List of another Major League Club.

**(C)** the outrighted player is being reacquired for the purpose of replacing on a Club's Post-Season Roster a player in accordance with Rule 41(a).

Two-Way players (as defined in Rule 2(b)(2)(D)) shall qualify as pitchers for purposes of this Rule 7(j)(2).

**(3)** In the event that a player has Major League options remaining at the time of the player's optional assignment to a Minor League Club (or Spring Training Complex) and the contract is reacquired by the

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**MLR 7(j) to 8(a)**

assignor Club after 20 or more days of the Major League championship season have elapsed from the date of the assignment, such player shall be credited with a Major League option.

(4) A player will not be credited with a year's optional service until commencement of that year's closed period prohibiting optional assignment of player contracts, regardless of the number of times the player's contract may be optioned during that year.

(5) No player shall be credited with more than one season of optional service in a single season regardless of the number of times the player's contract may be assigned optionally for service in a single season.

(6) No Club shall be charged with more than one optional assignment of a player's contract regardless of the number of times the contract is optionally assigned for service in a single season.

**Rule 8**

**MAJOR LEAGUE WAIVERS**

**(a) DEFINITIONS.**

(1) Generally. A waiver is a permission granted for certain assignments of player contracts or for the unconditional release of a Major League player (see Rule 9). There are two types of waivers: Outright assignment waivers and Unconditional Release waivers. Waiver requests are always irrevocable. See Rule 8(d)(2) (Restrictions on Waiver Requests).

(2) Outright Assignment Waivers. Outright assignment waivers must be sought and obtained in order for a Major League Club to assign a Major League player outright (i.e., without right of recall) to a Minor League club. Outright assignment waivers are obtained only after each Major League Club has been given the opportunity to accept the assignment of that player contract, and none has filed a claim requesting assignment of that contract. Once obtained such permission is granted either for that entire waiver period or for seven days (depending upon the time the waivers are obtained), unless the player is on an optional assignment. See Rule 8(b)(4) (Grant of Waivers and Effective Periods). Outright assignment waivers may be requested and obtained in regard to a player who is on an optional assignment,

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without the requesting Club having to recall such player. Any outright waiver request in regard to a player on an optional assignment shall include a notation that the player is on an optional assignment.

**(3) Unconditional Release Waivers.** Unconditional Release waivers must be sought and obtained in order for a Major League Club to unconditionally release a Major League player at any time. See Rule 9(b) (Major League Unconditional Release). Once Unconditional Release waivers are obtained, the player is released in accordance with Rule 9(b)(7) (Notice of Termination If No Claims).

**(b) THE PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING WAIVERS.** The procedures for obtaining waivers are as follows:

**(1) Request.** A Club desiring a waiver notifies the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, in writing or by approved electronic means, by 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time during any permissible day, as set forth in Rules 8(b)(1)(A), (B), and (C), designating in its notice which of the two types of waivers (Outright or Unconditional Release) it is requesting. No Club may give notice of its request by telephone. Once registered with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, no waiver request may be canceled. See Rule 8(d) for certain restrictions on waiver requests.

**(A) Spring Training/In-Season Waivers.** During the period beginning with the earliest date that a Major League Club is permitted to invite a Major League player to spring training pursuant to the Basic Agreement with the Major League Baseball Players Association ("Spring Training Voluntary Report Date") and ending with the last day of the championship season for any Major League Club, inclusive, any day, including Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, shall be a permissible day, within the meaning of Rule 8(b)(1), except as provided for in Rule 8(b)(1)(C).

**(B) Off-Season Waivers.** During the period between the last day of the championship season for any Major League Club and the Spring Training Voluntary Report Date, a permissible day within the meaning of Rule 8(b)(1) shall be any Monday to Friday. Notices received after 2:00 p.m. on Friday shall be considered as received on Monday morning. Waiver requests will not be accepted on Saturdays, Sundays or holidays as published by notice from the Commissioner's Office. Such requests shall be deemed received the morning of the following business day.

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(C) End-of-Spring Training Waivers. During the four-day period ending with the day that the first championship season game is played by any Major League Club (unless the first championship season game is played on a Wednesday, in which case a five-day period shall apply), a permissible day within the meaning of Rule 8(b)(1) shall be any Monday to Friday. Notices received after 2:00 p.m. on Friday shall be considered as received on Monday morning. Waiver requests shall not be accepted on Saturdays, Sundays or holidays as published by notice from the Commissioner's Office. Such requests shall be deemed received the morning of the following business day.

Once a Club requests waivers with respect to a player, the Club is permitted to make certain transactions and not permitted to make certain other transactions with respect to such player before the expiration of the waiver claiming period, as set forth in Rule 8(b)(3) (Claiming Period), as follows:

(D) If a Club requests Outright assignment waivers with respect to a player, such Club is permitted to designate such player for assignment during such period, subject to all other rules and restrictions contained in the Major League Rules. See Rule 2(c)(5) (Designated Players).

(E) If a Club requests Outright assignment waivers with respect to a player, such Club is permitted, during such time period and subject to all other rules and restrictions contained in the Major League Rules and the Basic Agreement in effect between the Major League Clubs and the Major League Baseball Players Association, to option such player, recall such player from optional assignment, transfer such player's optional assignment from an affiliated Minor League Club to another affiliated Minor League Club or transfer such player's rehabilitation assignment from an affiliated Minor League Club to another affiliated Minor League Club. See Rule 8(b)(4) (Grant of Waivers and Effective Periods) for the duration of waivers that are obtained while a player is on an optional assignment.

(F) If a Club requests Outright assignment waivers with respect to a player, such Club is permitted, during such time period and subject to all other rules and restrictions contained in the Major League Rules and the Basic Agreement in effect between the

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Major League Clubs and the Major League Baseball Players Association, to reinstate such player from the Injured List. See Rules 2(c)(1) (Major League Injured List) and 8(d)(6) (Restrictions on Waiver Requests).

**(G)** If a Club requests Unconditional Release waivers while an Outright assignment waiver request is pending, the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall cancel the different type of waiver request. The Unconditional Waiver request shall remain.

**(H)** If a Club requests Outright assignment waivers with respect to a player, such Club is not permitted during such time period to assign such player outright to a Minor League Club or to another Major League Club.

**(I)** If a Club requests Outright assignment waivers with respect to a player on the Injured List, such Club is not permitted to assign such player to a rehabilitation assignment. See Rules 6(g) (Injury Rehabilitation; Major League) and 8(d)(6) (Restrictions on Waiver Requests).

**Permitted Transactions While an Outright Assignment Waiver Request Is Pending\***

**Contemplated Transaction**

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Designate for assignment	Permitted
Option	Permitted
Recall from optional assignment	Permitted
Transfer optional assignment	Permitted
Transfer injury rehabilitation assignment	Permitted
Reinstate from Injured List	Permitted
Unconditional Release	Permitted (waiver request cancelled)
Outright to Minor League Club	Not permitted
Outright to Major League Club (i.e., trade)	Not permitted
Injury rehabilitation assignment	Not permitted

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\* In each instance, a contemplated transaction is permitted only to the extent that it is permitted by all other rules and restrictions contained in the Major League Rules and the Basic Agreement in effect between the Major League Clubs and the Major League Baseball Players Association.

**(2) Notification to Clubs.** The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall notify all other Major League Clubs of the request for waivers, noting which type of waiver (Outright or Unconditional Release) is being requested.

**(3) Claiming Period.** The period in which a Club may claim a player on whom waivers have been sought is as follows:

**(A) Spring Training/In-Season Waivers.** Except as provided for in Rule 8(b)(3)(B), the period in which a Club may claim a player on whom waivers have been sought is as follows:

Waivers Requested by 2:00 p.m.	Waiver Claim Must Be Entered by
Eastern Time on:	1:00 p.m. Eastern Time on:
Monday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Thursday
Wednesday	Friday
Thursday	Saturday
Friday	Sunday
Saturday	Monday
Sunday	Tuesday

**(B) Off-Season and End-of-Spring Training Waivers.** When waivers are requested during the periods set forth in Rules 8(b)(1)(B) and 8(b)(1)(C), the period in which a Club may claim a player on whom waivers have been sought is as follows:

Waivers Requested by 2:00 p.m.	Waiver Claim Must Be Entered by
Eastern Time on:	1:00 p.m. Eastern Time on:
Monday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Thursday

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Wednesday	Friday
Thursday	Monday
Friday	Tuesday

The Commissioner's Office may publish a notice of holidays for which the waiver claiming period may be extended, if the last date on which a waiver claim may be entered would otherwise fall on such a holiday.

**(4) Grant of Waivers and Effective Periods.** In the event no claims are made before the deadline, waivers of the type requested are obtained, and the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall so notify the requesting Club. Outright assignment waivers obtained between September 1 and the 30<sup>th</sup> day of the following championship season (as determined by the first scheduled championship season game, excluding international openers), inclusive, shall be in effect until 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the seventh day after the date they were obtained, or until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of the championship season, whichever comes first. Outright assignment waivers obtained on and after the 31<sup>st</sup> day of the championship season shall be in effect until one hour following the Major League Trade Deadline described in Rule 6(d)(3); and outright assignment waivers obtained after the Major League Trade Deadline shall be in effect until midnight, Eastern Time on August 31, inclusive.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, outright waivers obtained while a player is on an optional assignment shall be in effect only until 72 hours after the expiration of the waiver claiming period.

The expiration date of Outright assignment waivers shall be stated in the waiver bulletin.

**(c) WAIVER CLAIMS AND AWARDING OF CONTRACTS.**

**(1) Notice of Claim by Club.** A Club desiring assignment of a player contract on which waivers have been requested shall notify the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, in writing or by approved electronic means, of its claim before the claiming deadline published in the waiver bulletin in which the player's name appeared. No Club may give notice of its claim by telephone. Once a claim is registered with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, it may not be canceled.



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(2) Notice to Requesting Club. At the conclusion of the claiming period, the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall notify the requesting Club of any claims.

(3) Assignment of Player. If a waiver claim is made, the contract shall be assigned in the following manner:

(A) If only one claim is entered, assignment shall be made to that claiming Club.

(B) If more than one Club makes a claim, assignment shall be to the Club with the lowest winning percentage among the claiming Clubs, without regard to the League of the claiming Clubs.

During the first 30 days of a championship season (as determined by the date of the first game scheduled for either Major League in that season, excluding international openers), percentages of games won at the close of the preceding championship season, without regard to post-season results, shall be used instead of the current championship season percentages of games won. At all other times during the championship season, percentages of games won shall be based on the result of play through the date prior to the expiration of the claiming period. During the off-season, the final percentages of games won at the close of the last preceding championship season shall control, without regard to post-season results.

If two or more claiming Clubs are tied with the lowest percentage of games won, the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall make the award

(i) to the tied Club that is in the same League as the Club making the waiver request; or,

(ii) if the tied Clubs are in the same League, then to the tied Club with the lower percentage of games won at the close of the prior championship season, without regard to post-season results. If the tied Clubs had an identical percentage of games won at the close of the preceding championship season, the award shall be made to the tied Club with the lower percentage of games won in the next prior championship season, without regard to

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**MLR 8(c) to 8(d)**

post-season results, with any remaining ties resolved by continuing to examine the tied Clubs' respective championship season winning percentages in each preceding prior year, until the tie is broken.

**(4) Consideration for Assignment of Player.**

**(A) When Unconditional Release Waivers Are Requested.** The consideration for a player claimed after Unconditional Release waivers are requested shall be the consideration set forth in Rule 9(b)(5) (Waiver Claims and Consideration).

**(B) Selected or Draft-Excluded Player.** The consideration to be paid for an award on waiver claim, when such claim is not an Unconditional Release waiver claim, of the contract of a player selected at the preceding Rule 5 Selection Meeting or excluded from draft at such meeting in accordance with Rule 5(h) shall be 50 percent of the price paid for selection under Rule 5.

**(C) Other Player.** The consideration for the assignment as a result of an Outright waiver claim of any player contract other than ones described in Rules 8(c)(4)(A) (When Unconditional Release Waivers Are Requested) and 8(c)(4)(B) (Selected or Draft-Excluded Player) shall be \$50,000.

**(d) RESTRICTIONS ON WAIVER REQUESTS.** The following restrictions on waiver requests shall apply:

**(1)** A Club shall not request any type of waivers on more than seven players on any one day.

**(2)** A waiver request shall state that it is irrevocable and that it may not be withdrawn in response to a claim by another Club.

**(3)** Outright assignment waivers may not be requested on the contract of a player selected pursuant to Rule 5 during the period beginning with the player's selection and ending 25 days prior to the opening of the championship season of the year following the player's selection. If waivers are obtained, no assignment may be made pursuant to such waivers until 20 days prior to the opening of the championship season of said year.

**(4)** Outright assignment waivers may not be requested on the contract of a player who stands to become a draft-excluded player, as described in Rule 5(h), during the period beginning five days following

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the last day of the World Series and ending 25 days prior to the opening of the championship season of the year following the year the player became a draft-excluded player. If waivers are obtained, no assignment may be made pursuant to such waivers until 20 days prior to the opening of the championship season of said year.

(5) Outright assignment waivers may not be requested on a player who appears on the Military, Voluntarily Retired, Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency, Paternity, Restricted, Suspended, Disqualified, Ineligible List, or Temporarily Inactive List until the player has been reinstated to the Active List of the player's Club. See Rule 9(b)(3) for restrictions on Unconditional Release waiver requests.

(6) Outright assignment waivers may not be requested on a Major League Injured List Player during the championship season unless the minimum period of inactivity as prescribed in Rule 2(c)(1) (Major League Injured Lists) has expired and the requesting Club guarantees that the player has recovered from the player's ailment and is capable of performing at the player's accustomed level. If waivers are obtained on such a player, the requesting Club shall, within 72 hours, assign the player outright or restore the player to its Active List.

(7) Outright assignment waivers shall not be requested on a player during any period in which waivers are already in effect, with the exception that waivers may be requested two permissible days prior to the date on which such existing waivers expire, so that waivers, if secured, will be in effect as early as possible in the subsequent waiver period. A waiver claim made on any waiver request permitted by this Rule 8(d)(7) shall immediately cancel the waivers existing when the subsequent waiver request was made.

(8) From the Spring Training Voluntary Report Date through the last day of the championship season for any Major League Club, a Club may not ask Outright assignment waivers on a player claimed on Outright assignment waivers within 48 hours after the time of the award of the claim or until the player has spent at least one game on the Major League Active List, whichever is earlier. During the period between the last day of the championship season for any Major League Club and the Spring Training Voluntary Report date, a Club may not ask Outright assignment waivers on a player claimed on Outright assignment waivers within 7 days after the time of the award of the claim.

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**(e) EFFECT ON WAIVERS OF TRANSFER OF OPTIONAL ASSIGNMENT.** No waivers are required when a Major League Club assigns a player who is on an optional assignment from one Minor League Club to another Minor League Club.

**(f) PENALTIES.** The waiver rules are for the benefit of the players as well as the Clubs. No Club, therefore, shall solicit another Club, directly or indirectly, to claim or not to claim a player on whom waivers have been requested, nor shall a Club otherwise act in concert with any Club or Clubs in the operation of the waiver system. In addition to any remedy that players injured by a violation of this Rule 8(f) may be awarded pursuant to remedies afforded by a collective bargaining agreement between players and Major League Clubs, the Commissioner shall have authority to impose penalties for such conduct.

**(g) PLAYER LIMIT.**

**(1)** In the case of award of a player on waiver claim to another Club already having the limit of players prescribed by Rule 2(a)(2) (Major League Club Limits), such Club must immediately upon notice of award give notice of its intention to release or assign the contract of a player or players in accordance with Rule 2(c)(5) (Designated Players) or transfer to or place on the 60-day Injured List, in accordance with Rule 2(c), an Injured player, or a combination thereof. Such designated player or players may not be the same player obtained from the waiver claim award. In addition, a Club may not designate a claimed player within 48 hours after the time of the award of the claim or until the player has spent at least one game on the Major League Active List, whichever is earlier.

**(2)** In the case of award of a player on waiver claim to another Club already having the limit of players prescribed by Rule 2(b) (Active Lists), such Club must, upon the reporting of the player claimed, give notice of its intention to release or assign the contract of a player(s) in accordance with Rule 2(c)(5) (Designated Players). Such designated player may not be the same player obtained from the waiver claim award. In addition, a Club may not designate a claimed player within 48 hours after the time of the award of the claim or until the player has spent at least one game on the Major League Active List, whichever is earlier.

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(3) The Commissioner's Office will prohibit any transaction (or series of transactions) that, in the judgment of the Commissioner's Office, appears (or appear) designed to circumvent the designated player prohibition contained herein.

**Rule 9**

**TERMINATION OF PLAYER-CLUB RELATION**

**(a) Termination of Player-Club Relation.** The relation between a Club and a player created by contract may be terminated before the expiration of the specified term either by the Club (by release or assignment or, in the case of a Minor League Uniform Player Contract, by other termination) or by the player as provided in the contract.

**(b) MAJOR LEAGUE UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE.**

**(1) WAIVER REQUIREMENTS.** No Major League Club may unconditionally release a player unless it has tendered and received a waiver of the contract from all other Major League Clubs.

**(2) PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING WAIVERS.** The procedures for obtaining unconditional release waivers are as follows:

**(A)** A waiver request may be made at any time during the year, and must state that it is for the purpose of unconditional release.

**(B)** Waiver requests will be processed in accordance with the procedures in Rule 8 (Major League Waivers) and may not be withdrawn after being registered with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(C)** Waiver claims must be entered in accordance with Rule 8(c) (Waiver Claims and Awarding of Contracts).

**(3) RESTRICTIONS ON UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE WAIVER REQUESTS.**

**(A)** No Major League Club may release a player on the Military or Ineligible Lists unless the player is first reinstated from such list to the Active List.

**(B)** No Major League Club may release a player on the Voluntarily Retired List without first having obtained the approval of the Commissioner.

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**(4) EFFECT ON PLAYER LIMITS.** On the day of the waiver request, the player shall be advised in writing that the Major League Club has requested waivers for the purpose of unconditional release and the date on which the waiver request will expire. The player shall be removed from all player limits at the time that the waiver request is transmitted to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(5) WAIVER CLAIMS AND CONSIDERATION.** Any other Major League Club may claim the contract at a waiver price of \$1 and the priority of claim shall be determined in accordance with Rule 8(c)(3) (Waiver Claims and Awarding of Contracts).

**(6) NOTICE TO PLAYER OF WAIVER CLAIMS, AND RIGHT OF PLAYER TO TERMINATE CONTRACT.** At the expiration of the waiver period, the player may contact the Major League Club to determine whether the player's contract has been claimed.

If the player's contract is claimed, the Major League Club shall promptly and before any assignment notify the player that the contract has been claimed.

Within five days after receipt of notice from a Major League Club that a player's contract has been claimed, the player shall be entitled by written notice to the Major League Club to terminate the player's contract on the date of the player's notice of termination. If the player fails to notify the Major League Club, the player's contract shall be assigned to the claiming Major League Club entitled to the assignment under Rule 8(c)(3) (Waiver Claims and Awarding of Contracts).

**(7) NOTICE OF TERMINATION IF NO CLAIMS.** If the player's contract is not claimed, the player is a free agent, and the Major League Club shall give the player notice of termination.

**(A)** Telephone notice shall be effective immediately upon communication with the player.

**(B)** Written notice, if handed to the player personally, shall be effective immediately upon delivery to the player.

**(C)** Written notice, if mailed to the player, shall be effective three days from the date of mailing to the last address that the player has supplied to the Major League Club.

Other procedures for unconditional release may be agreed upon from time to time and set out in the current Basic Agreement between the Major League Clubs and the Players Association.

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**MLR 9(b) to 9(c)**

**(8) SALARY OBLIGATIONS.** If a contract is terminated by the player, as provided in Rule 9(b)(6) (Notice to Player of Waiver Claims, and Right of Player to Terminate Contract), the player shall be entitled to compensation through the date of the player's notice of termination and not thereafter.

If the player's contract is not claimed, upon effective termination of the contract according to Rule 9(b)(7) (Notice of Termination If No Claims), the player shall be entitled to termination pay in accordance with the terms of the contract.

If the player's contract is claimed and not terminated by the player, the Major League Club shall give notice to the player of the assignment of the player's contract. The assignee Major League Club shall be liable to the player for payments accruing after the date of such notice of assignment.

**(9) RE-SIGNING OF RELEASED PLAYERS.** A player may be re-signed by the releasing Major League Club, except that:

**(A)** A player released during the playing season shall not again be placed on the Active List of the Major League Club during the 30-day period that starts on the date of the waiver request, unless the Major League Club has had less than the full complement of active players at all times from the date of the waiver request to the date player is resigned; and,

**(B)** Absent an intervening Major League contract with another Club, any player who has been unconditionally released between midnight, August 31 of any championship season and the opening day of the following championship season, may not be re-signed to a Major League Uniform Player's Contract by the releasing Major League Club until May 15 of that following championship season.

**(c) MINOR LEAGUE FREE AGENCY.**

**(1) ELIGIBILITY FOR FREE AGENCY.** At 5 p.m. Eastern Time on October 15 or on the fifth day following the last day of the World Series, whichever is later, of the last year of a player's Minor League Uniform Player Contract, the player's Minor League Uniform Player Contract shall expire and the player shall become a "Minor League free agent" unless the player's Major League Club has remaining options to renew the contract. As a "Minor League free agent," the player may

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**MLR 9(c)**

negotiate and enter into a contract with any Major League Club beginning on the first day that year that a Major League free agent is eligible to sign with a different Major League Club upon expiration of the player's Major League contract. A player who qualifies for Minor League free agency under this Rule 9(c)(1), but who is not signatory to an expiring Minor League contract because he was assigned outright following the conclusion of the Minor League season, shall be deemed to have signed an expiring Minor League contract for that current year for these purposes.

**(2) SUCCESSOR CONTRACT.** A player shall not become a "Minor League free agent" if the player has entered into a successor contract with the player's Major League Club or has been placed on the Major League Reserve List before the expiration of the player's Minor League Uniform Player Contract on the date described in Rule 9(c)(1) (Eligibility for Free Agency). No negotiations for a successor contract may take place before the completion of the Minor League player's championship season and playoffs or after 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the date the player's Minor League Uniform Player Contract expires, as set forth in Rule 9(c)(1)

**(3) LIST OF ELIGIBLE PLAYERS.** On or before August 1 of each year, the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall prepare and circulate a list of all players (on both Major and Minor League Reserve Lists) whose Minor League Uniform Player Contracts have expired or are scheduled to expire following that season. This list shall be circulated immediately to all Major League Clubs. All players on the list also shall be notified promptly that they may be eligible to become "Minor League free agents" on the following date described in Rule 9(c)(1) (Eligibility for Free Agency).

**(4) PETITIONS FOR CHANGES TO LIST.** If a player believes that the player was erroneously omitted from the list circulated by the Commissioner, the player may petition the Commissioner at any time for a determination that the player is eligible to become a "Minor League free agent" as of the date described in Rule 9(c)(1) (Eligibility for Free Agency). If a Major League Club believes that a player that it has under contract has been improperly included on the list circulated by the Commissioner, it may petition the Commissioner for a determination that its Minor League Uniform Player's Contract with the player will not terminate on the following date described in Rule 9(c)(1) (Eligibility for Free Agency) and that the player is therefore not eligible to become a "Minor League free agent." The decision of the



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Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee regarding such a petition by a player or a Major League Club shall be final and shall not be challenged in any federal or state court, administrative agency or other tribunal.

**(5) FINAL LIST.** As soon as practicable after the date on which the player's Minor League Uniform Player Contract expires, as set forth in Rule 9(c)(1) (Eligibility for Free Agency), the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall issue to all Major League Clubs a list of all players who have become "Minor League free agents" on the date described in Rule 9(c)(1) (Eligibility for Free Agency).

**(6) RESTRICTIONS ON OUTRIGHTING POTENTIAL MINOR LEAGUE FREE AGENT.** A Club is not permitted to assign outright a player who is a potential Minor League free agent to the roster of a Minor League Club on or after the date described in Rule 9(c)(1) (Eligibility for Free Agency) unless such player has signed a Major League contract for the next season or has signed a letter of agreement with such Club describing the terms of a Major League contract for the next season.

**Rule 10**

**BULLETINS**

The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall transmit bulletins of information covering all releases of players, assignment of players' contracts and all other matters of Major League interest or concern. These bulletins shall be transmitted periodically to all Major League Clubs.

**Rule 11**

**PLAYER SALARIES**

**(a) FIRST-YEAR PLAYER.** If a Club is assigned a non-drafted player without previous Major or Minor League experience within the first season of the player's service and the Club does not assume the salary stipulated in the player's original contract to the close of the contract's term, the player shall be declared a free agent.

**(b) PART-SEASON SALARY.** A player who is in the service of a Club for part of a season only, under a contract fixing a salary at a stipulated rate for the season, shall receive such proportion of the stipulated season's salary as the number of days of the player's actual employment bears to the number of days in the Club's championship season.

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**(c) DELAY IN REPORTING.** A player who fails to report for spring training as directed by the player's Club in accordance with the player's contract shall be required to get in playing condition to the satisfaction of the team manager, and at his own expense, before the player's salary shall commence.

**(d) MINIMUM SALARY.** The minimum rate of payment to each player for each day of service during the Major League season shall be as agreed in the current Basic Agreement between the Major League Clubs and the Players Association.

Minimum rates of payment for a player under a Major League Uniform Player's Contract assigned to a Minor League Club for service shall be as set forth in the current Basic Agreement.

**(e) RENEWAL OF CONTRACT.** Upon request by a Major League player to the Commissioner, the Commissioner may, on such conditions as he stipulates, consent to such player accepting a renewal of his contract at a salary rate less than eighty (80) percent of the rate stipulated for the preceding year, providing the salary rate is mutually agreed upon between the club and the player prior to January 10 and providing the request for consent to accept such salary is made by the player and received by the Commissioner prior to January 10.

**Rule 12**

**PLAYING OTHERWISE THAN FOR CLUB**

**(a) WINTER LEAGUES.** The Major League Clubs may establish one or more Winter Leagues. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may, on behalf of the Major League Clubs, enter into an agreement or agreements with one or more Winter Leagues or associations of Winter Leagues. Such agreements shall set forth the relationship between the Major League Clubs and such Winter Leagues and Winter League clubs and shall set forth the terms and conditions under which Major League players and Minor League players under contract to Major League Clubs may participate in Winter League play.

**(b) EXHIBITION GAMES.** No player shall participate in any exhibition game during the period between the close of the Major League championship season and the following training season, except that, with the consent of the player's Club and permission of the Commissioner, a player

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**MLR 12(b) to 12(e)**

may participate in exhibition games for a period of not less than 30 days, such period to be designated annually by the Commissioner. Players who participate in barnstorming during this period cannot engage in any Winter League activities.

Player conduct, on and off the field, in connection with such post-season exhibition games shall be subject to the discipline of the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall not approve of more than three players of any one Club on the same team. The Commissioner shall not approve of more than three players from the joint membership of the World Series participants playing in the same game.

No player shall participate in any exhibition game with or against any team which, during the current season or within one year, has had any ineligible player or which is or has been during the current season or within one year, managed and controlled by an ineligible player or by any person who has listed an ineligible player under an assumed name or who otherwise has violated, or attempted to violate, any exhibition game contract; or with or against any team which, during said season or within one year, has played against teams containing such ineligible players, or so managed or controlled. Any player who participates in such a game in violation of this Rule 12 shall be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$500, except that in no event shall such fine be less than the consideration received by such player for participating in such game.

No Club shall participate in any exhibition game with any club that has been expelled or terminated from membership in a Major or Minor League.

**(c) PENALTY.** A player who, during the championship season, participates in a game of Baseball with a Club other than the one with which the player has contracted, shall be fined such amount as may be determined by the Commissioner.

**(d) ALL-STAR GAME.** No Major League player shall participate in any all-star game, except the official Major League All-Star Game, in the period from the beginning of the training period to the end of the regular season.

No exhibition games shall be played by any Club following the Sunday immediately preceding the All-Star Game until the day following the completion of the All-Star Game.

**(e) HALL OF FAME GAME.** On a date designated by the Directors of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, Inc., subject to the approval of the Commissioner, two Major League Clubs may play in an

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### **MLR 12(e) to 14(a)**

exhibition game at Cooperstown, New York, under the auspices of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, Inc. The participating Clubs shall be selected by the Commissioner. Each participating Club's reasonable expenses incurred as a result of the Club's having played the Hall of Fame game shall be reimbursed by the Office of the Commissioner.

**(f) FOREIGN LEAGUES.** Provisions covering a player's participation in certain foreign leagues, including Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and China (and a Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese, or Chinese player's participation in the Major or Minor Leagues) are embodied in protocol agreements available in Clubs' offices. Details also may be obtained from the Commissioner's Office.

### **Rule 13**

#### **CLAIM PRESENTATION**

**(a) DISCIPLINE.** All Clubs and players shall submit themselves to the discipline of the Commissioner as provided in the Major League Constitution and accept the Commissioner's decisions rendered in accordance with the Major League Constitution and these Rules.

**(b) DISPUTES.** All disputes between players and Clubs shall be referred to the Commissioner and the Commissioner's decisions shall be accepted by all parties as final. Negotiations between player and Club regarding the player's compensation under the player's contract shall not be referable to the Commissioner.

**(c) TIME FOR PRESENTATION.** Any disputed monetary claim, claim for free agency or complaint which any party may desire to submit for consideration, action or decision by the Commissioner must be presented within one year from the date the claim arose.

### **Rule 14**

#### **SUSPENDED PERSONNEL**

**(a) DISCIPLINE.**

**(1)** By the Commissioner or a Club. Both the Commissioner and a Club are entitled to discipline any manager, trainer, coach, scout, or other personnel who is not a player, in case of a violation of contract, the Major League Constitution, the Major League Rules, the Minor League Guidelines, a PDL, the Commissioner's regulations, or other rules, policies and guidelines. Such discipline may include fining,

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dismissing, releasing, suspending or expelling the offender. Any Club dismissing, releasing, suspending or expelling any such person shall at once notify the Commissioner's Office in writing stating the cause of such action.

**(b) APPEALS.** In the event a Club suspends a person who is not a player for a period in excess of 10 days, or fines such a person in excess of \$10,000, such person shall have the right to appeal to the Commissioner. The appealing person must exercise this right to appeal, if at all, within 30 days of the Club action, by filing a written statement with the Commissioner stating that an appeal is being taken and describing the reasons in support of the appeal. The decision of the Commissioner on the appeal shall be final and unappealable.

**(c) EFFECT.** Unless prior approval of the Commissioner is granted, no person who has been suspended or otherwise declared ineligible shall perform any function for any Club or any other entity related to the Clubs during the duration of the suspension or period of ineligibility.

**Rule 15**

**UMPIRES**

**(a) STAFFING.** The Commissioner shall employ a staff of umpires to officiate Major League games. Each Major League Club shall accept the umpire or umpires assigned by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee for any game.

**(b) DUTIES.** The umpires assigned by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall be responsible for the conduct of all championship season, Wild Card, Division Series, League Championship Series and World Series games, as well as the All-Star Game, according to the Official Baseball Rules, as described in Rule 17. The umpires shall know thoroughly and obey meticulously the instructions of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee as to the mechanics and manner of performing their duties. The umpires shall be thoroughly familiar with and alert to the duties and responsibilities placed on the umpires by the Major League Rules and shall know and follow the interpretations of the Official Baseball Rules of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(c) CONTROL OF EMPLOYMENT.** All Major League umpires shall be under the sole control and direction of the Commissioner. They shall receive from the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee all assignments to duty and all instructions regarding the interpretation of the

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Official Baseball Rules and performance of their duties. If an umpire does not perform an assignment, the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may impose such penalty as the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may deem adequate.

**(d) UMPIRE CLAIMS.** The Commissioner shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine finally any claim affecting a Major League umpire's contract or salary upon appeal by the umpire. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall also have jurisdiction to hear and determine finally any controversy respecting title to an umpire's services.

**(e) UMPIRES ACTING AS SCOUTS.** No Major or Minor League umpire shall receive or be offered money or other valuable consideration for services rendered or to be rendered, or supposed to be or to have been rendered, in connection with the acquisition of players by any Club. An umpire or Club violating this Rule 15 shall be fined double the amount received or offered, but in no event shall such fine be less than \$500.

**Rule 16**

**OFFICIAL SCORERS**

**(a) APPOINTMENT.** The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall appoint official scorers for each Major League Club.

**(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.** The official scorer for each Major League game shall observe the game from a position in the press box. Subject to the Official Baseball Rules, the official scorer shall have sole authority to make all decisions involving judgment, such as whether a batter's advance to first base is the result of a hit or an error. The official scorer shall communicate such decisions to the press box and broadcasting booths and shall advise the ballpark public address announcer of such decisions, if requested. Club officials and players are prohibited from communicating with the official scorer regarding any such decisions.

**(c) REVIEW.** A player or club may request that the Chief Baseball Officer or the individual with an equivalent title within the Office of the Commissioner's organizational structure review a judgment call of an official scorer made in a game in which such player or club participated by notifying the Office of the Commissioner in writing within 72 hours of the judgment call becoming final as provided in Official Baseball Rule 9.01.

**(d) REPORT.** After each Major League game, including drawn and forfeited games, the official scorer shall prepare a report listing the date of the game, where it was played, the names of the competing Clubs and the

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umpires, the full score of the games, and all records of individual players compiled according to the system specified in the Official Baseball Rules. The official scorer shall forward this report to the Commissioner's Office statistician within 36 hours after the game ends. The official scorer shall forward the report of any suspended game within 36 hours after the game has been completed, or after it becomes an official game because it cannot be completed.

(e) **FEES.** Official scorers shall be paid such fees as the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may determine.

(f) **DISCIPLINE.** The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall have authority to discipline or remove any official scorer.

**Rule 17**

**UNIFORM PLAYING RULES**

(a) **OFFICIAL BASEBALL RULES.** Major League and Minor League Clubs shall play all games according to the provisions of the Official Baseball Rules as Recodified, Amended and Adopted at New York City, December 21, 1949, and thereafter amended by the Playing Rules Committee, except as otherwise provided for in this Rule 17(a).

For any Wild Card, Division Series, League Championship Series or World Series game and for any additional Major League championship season game played to break a tie pursuant to Rule 34(c) (Tie-Breaking Procedures), the following modifications to the Official Baseball Rules shall apply:

(1) Official Baseball Rules 4.04(a) (authority to call, suspend or resume a game), 7.01(c) (called game), 7.01(e) ("No Game"), 7.02(a) (causes for a suspended game) and 7.02(b) (place for resumption of a suspended game) shall not apply.

(2) Any called game, including any game that has not progressed to the point of becoming a regulation game, shall become a suspended game that shall be resumed pursuant to Official Baseball Rule 7.02(c).

(3) A suspended game shall be resumed at the same ballpark at which it had begun.

(4) The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall determine, consistent with MLR 38(b) (Postponed and Suspended Games), when a game shall be postponed, suspended or resumed on account of weather or the condition of the playing field.

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**MLR 17(b) to 17(c)**

**(b) PLAYING RULES COMMITTEE.** The Playing Rules Committee shall consist of nine members, with three members representing the American League, three members representing the National League, two at-large members and one member representing the Minor Leagues. The Commissioner shall appoint the six Major League, the two at-large and the Minor League representative on the Playing Rules Committee. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall select the Chairman of the Committee. Should any Committee member be unable to attend a Committee meeting, or vote upon a mail or electronic proposal, the Commissioner shall appoint a substitute to act in the member's stead.

**(c) DUTIES OF PLAYING RULES COMMITTEE.**

**(1) Meetings.** The Playing Rules Committee shall meet, upon call by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. Any Official Baseball Rule may be revised, repealed, or adopted by a two-thirds vote of the Playing Rules Committee. The Chairman of the Committee shall certify to the Commissioner any action taken at any meeting, stipulating the date on which such revision, adoption or repeal shall become effective.

**(2) Voting Between Meetings.** If, in the judgment of the Commissioner, a situation arises between meetings of the Playing Rules Committee under which it appears desirable to consider an amendment to an Official Playing Rule, the Commissioner shall direct the Chairman to conduct a vote by mail or electronic means. Upon receipt of such direction, the Chairman shall contact each Committee member (by mail or by electronic communication, as directed by the Commissioner), with a request that the member vote within a specified number of days (not to exceed 14) on adoption of the proposed amendment. The affirmative vote of seven members of the Playing Rules Committee shall be required to adopt an amendment by mail or electronic vote.

**(3) Experimental Rulings.** The Playing Rules Committee, by affirmative vote of not less than seven of its members, may authorize the Major Leagues or any Minor League or Leagues to adopt a rule that does not conform to the Official Playing Rules. Such authorizations shall be known as "experimental rulings" and shall be subject to the following:

**(A)** An application for an experimental ruling must be certified by:



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(1) the Commissioner, in the case of a Major League, as reflecting the desire of not less than three-fourths of the Clubs making up the League; or

(2) the Commissioner, in the case of the Minor Leagues, in accordance with the Minor League Guidelines.

(B) Such an application must be received by the Playing Rules Committee on or before opening day of the championship season of the year such experimental ruling is to be effective.

(C)

(D) The Playing Rules Committee shall fix or extend the period of time during which the experimental ruling is to be effective; however, an experimental ruling that is not adopted as a permanent rule after the expiration of such period must be re-submitted to the Playing Rules Committee by any League or Leagues wishing its continuance.

(d) **OFFICIAL SCORING RULES COMMITTEE.** The Official Scoring Rules Committee shall be a subcommittee of the Playing Rules Committee. It shall consist of seven members: the Chairman of the Playing Rules Committee, and six members to be appointed by the Commissioner.

(e) **DUTIES OF OFFICIAL SCORING RULES COMMITTEE.** The Official Scoring Rules Committee shall determine which batting, fielding and pitching records of players, teams and Leagues shall be included in the official statistical records of the Major Leagues and the Minor Leagues, and prescribe minimum standards of performance for individual batting, fielding and pitching champions of the Major Leagues and the Minor Leagues.

(f) **COPYRIGHT AND PUBLICATION.** The Official Baseball Rules and all amendments thereto shall be copyrighted by the Commissioner who, each year, shall publish or authorize the publication of an official edition of the Official Baseball Rules.

**Rule 18**

**SCHEDULES**

**(a) MAJOR LEAGUES.**

(1) Preparation of Schedules. In each year the Commissioner shall prepare or cause to be prepared a draft schedule of championship season games showing proposed game start times. The draft schedule

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for the next championship season of both Leagues shall be prepared by no later than June 30 of each year so that copies can be provided to the Major League Baseball Players Association by no later than July 1. The Commissioner shall then issue the official schedule for the following season by no later than November 15 and no change shall thereafter be made in the official schedule without the consent of the Commissioner.

(2) All-Star Break. No Major League games shall be scheduled during the All-Star break.

(b) **MINOR LEAGUES.** The schedule of each Minor League and Minor League Club shall comply with the standards set forth in the Minor League Guidelines.

**Rule 19**

**MAJOR LEAGUE DISASTER PLAN**

(a) **EVENT QUALIFYING AS A DISASTER.** If a common accident, epidemic illness or other common event (referred to in this Rule 19 as an “occurrence”) causes the death, dismemberment or permanent injury from playing professional baseball of

(1) at least five players on a Major League Club’s Active, Injured or Suspended Lists during the period beginning with the opening date of such Club’s championship season through the conclusion of such Club’s playing season (including any post-season series); or

(2) at least six players on a Major League Club’s Major League Reserve List during the period beginning with the conclusion of such Club’s playing season (including any post-season series) up to the opening date of such Club’s next championship season then this Rule 19 shall apply and the affected Major League Club shall be a “Disabled Club.”

(b) **PROCEDURES.** The following policies and procedures shall govern in the event that there is a Disabled Club or Clubs:

(1) **Mourning Period.** The Commissioner may, after consultation with the Major League Baseball Players Association (“Players Association”), establish a mourning period following the occurrence that leads to a Club becoming a Disabled Club, during which Major League games may be postponed or cancelled.

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(2) Continuation of Disabled Club's Season. The Commissioner shall, after consultation with the Players Association, determine whether the Disabled Club is able to continue play until the conclusion of the championship season and post-season, taking into account the date of the occurrence, the standing of the Disabled Club at the time of the occurrence, the Disabled Club's wishes and the integrity of the game of Baseball. The Commissioner and the Players Association shall jointly resolve all scheduling issues that may arise from prolonged interruption or cancellation of the Disabled Club's season.

(3) Restocking Draft. The Commissioner may, after consultation with the Players Association, conduct a selection meeting, at which a Disabled Club may claim the contracts of players from other Major League Clubs. Such selection meeting shall be known as a Restocking Draft or Rule 19 draft. In the event the Commissioner decides to conduct a Restocking Draft, the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall fix the time of such Restocking Draft and the procedures described in Rules 19(b)(3)(A) through 19(b)(3)(C) shall apply.

(A) Players Available.

(i) Number. Each Major League Club that is not a Disabled Club shall, on a date determined by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, submit a list of five players who shall be made available for selection by the Disabled Club at a Restocking Draft. Such lists shall be submitted by each non-Disabled Club to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, who promptly shall make such lists available to the Disabled Club. If the Restocking Draft is in response to an in-season occurrence, as described in Rule 19(a)(1), then each non-Disabled Club shall choose the five players to make available from among such Club's Major League Active List as of the date of the Disabled Club's accident, or as of a date determined by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee in the event of an occurrence that is not a common accident. If the Restocking Draft is in response to an off-season occurrence, as described in Rule 19(a)(2), then each non-Disabled Club shall choose the five players to make available from among such Club's Major League Reserve List as of the date of the Disabled Club's accident, or as of a date determined by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee in the event of an occurrence that is not a common accident.

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**(ii) Positions.** Unless otherwise ordered by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, after consultation with the Players Association, each Club's list of available players for a Restocking Draft shall include one pitcher, one catcher, one outfielder, one infielder and a fifth player of any position. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may, after consultation with the Players Association, modify the playing positions at which the Clubs must make players available for a Restocking Draft, depending upon the playing positions of the players lost by the Disabled Club. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Rule 19(b)(3)(A)(ii), no Club shall be required to make available in a Restocking Draft any player who is primarily a catcher if such Club had, as of the date of the Disabled Club's accident (or as of the date determined by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee in the event of an occurrence that is not a common accident), fewer than three catchers who are otherwise eligible to be made available for selection.

**(iii) Service.** Subject to paragraph 19(b)(3)(A)(i) above, each Club that is not a Disabled Club shall include in its list of available players for a Restocking Draft at least as many players who have accrued no less than 60 days of Major League service time as of August 31 of the season preceding such Restocking Draft as the Disabled Club lost.

**(iv) No-Trade Rights.** Any player with a right to consent to an assignment to another Major League Club, including a player:

**(aa)** with a contractual provision that prohibits an assignment to the Club that has become a Disabled Club;

**(bb)** with a contractual provision that lists Clubs to which the player may be assigned and the Club that has become a Disabled Club is not on such list; or

**(cc)** who has a right to consent to an assignment pursuant to Article XIX(A)(1) of the Basic Agreement (Consent to Assignment),

may not be made available for selection at a Restocking Draft, unless such player has waived such rights in writing and in accordance with the provisions of Article XIX(A)(1) of the

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Basic Agreement, prior to the time the lists described in Rule 19(b)(3)(A) are required to be submitted. The Club shall provide a copy of the Player's consent to the Players Association contemporaneously upon the Club's receipt of such consent.

(v) Availability. Each Club warrants that each player it makes available for selection at a Restocking Draft is physically fit, not on a Suspended, Restricted, Disqualified, or Ineligible List and capable of playing immediately upon selection by a Disabled Club.

(B) Conduct of Restocking Draft. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall fix the time and place of each Restocking Draft. A Restocking Draft may be conducted by telephone conference or other electronic means, as the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may announce in advance of such Restocking Draft. The Players Association shall have an opportunity to have a representative at any Restocking Draft. A Disabled Club shall be entitled to select as many players as it lost in the occurrence, provided that the Disabled Club may select no more than one player from each of the other Major League Clubs.

(C) Effect of Selection. Each player selected in response to an in-season occurrence, as described in Rule 19(a)(1), shall be assigned to the Major League Active List of the selecting Disabled Club. Each player selected in response to an off-season occurrence, as described in Rule 19(a)(2), shall be assigned to the Major League Reserve List of the selecting Disabled Club. Within 48 hours of selection of a player in a Restocking Draft, the Disabled Club may, in its discretion, conduct a physical examination of such player. If the player is deemed by the Disabled Club's physician not fit to play, the Disabled Club may return the player to the Club from which the player was selected and select, from among the lists submitted pursuant to Rule 19(b)(3)(A), a different player from that Club or from any other Major League Club from which the Disabled Club has yet to make a selection. If a player is returned pursuant to this Rule 19(b)(3)(C), the Club from which the player had been selected may be fined and otherwise sanctioned by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee for having made available for selection a physically unfit player.

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**(D) Confidentiality.** The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall make available only to the Disabled Club and the Players Association the names of the players whose contracts are available for selection in the Restocking Draft. The names of the players whose contracts are not thereafter selected shall be considered privileged material, and shall not be divulged by the Commissioner (or his designee), the Disabled Club or the Players Association at any time whatsoever.

**(4)** The Commissioner and the Players Association may agree that it is appropriate to provide other relief to a Disabled Club, including, for example, the awarding of additional selections in subsequent Rule 4 or Rule 5 drafts, priority on waiver claims for a set period of time and the modification of the deadline for naming a post-season roster.

**(c) INSURANCE.** The Office of the Commissioner shall exercise best efforts to maintain appropriate insurance to assist in the financial rehabilitation of a Disabled Club and other Major League Clubs affected by the occurrence giving rise to the Disabled Club. The Commissioner shall have sole discretion over the allocation of any resulting insurance proceeds and may elect to distribute such proceeds, in whole or in part, to a Disabled Club, to Clubs that lose a player in a Restocking Draft and to other Clubs whose operations may be affected by an interruption in a Disabled Club's season.

**Rule 20**

**CONFLICTING INTERESTS**

**(a) OWNERSHIP AND FINANCIAL INTERESTS.** No Major League Club, or owner, stockholder, officer, director or employee (including manager or player) of a Major League Club, shall, directly or indirectly, own stock or any other proprietary interest or have any financial interest in any other Major League Club, other than:

**(i)** on a transitional basis as approved by the Commissioner in connection with the acquisition by a Major League Club owner or stockholder of an interest in another Major League Club;

**(ii)** a Major League Club owner or stockholder that is an investment vehicle that owns less than a 15% passive, non-controlling interest in each Major League Club in which it owns an interest;

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(iii) a direct or indirect owner of any investment vehicle referenced in clause (ii) above; or

as a result of the ownership by a Major League Club owner, stockholder, officer, director or employee of either (x) a less than 5% interest in the stock of a diversified publicly-traded company one of the assets of which is another Major League Club or (y) a less than 5% limited partnership or other non-managing interest (unless otherwise permitted by clause (ii) or (iii) above) in a diversified investment vehicle that owns an interest in another Major League Club, subject in all events to the Commissioner's determination as to whether owning or having such an interest in more than one Club in its League would or would not be in the best interests of Baseball. The rules governing whether a Minor League Club or owner, stockholder, officer, director or employee (including manager or player) of a Minor League Club can own stock or any other proprietary interest or have any financial interest in any other Minor League Club are set forth in the Minor League Guidelines.

**(b) LOANS TO AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH PLAYERS.** No Club, or owner, stockholder, officer, director or employee (including manager or player) of a Club, shall, directly or indirectly, loan money to or become surety or guarantor for a player of any other Club in any League, nor be an agent or representative of any player in any League. In the event of an assignment of a player's contract to another Club, any debt outstanding between the assignor Club and the player must be settled before there can be a public announcement, before the player can physically report, and before the assignment can be finally approved. All particulars of said debt, whether it is provided for in the contract between the player and the assignor Club or not, must be divulged to the assignee Club before formal negotiations commence. Repayment of that debt must be made by the player to the assignor Club, or the debt may be assumed by the assignee Club in which instance the monies due and owing to the assignor Club now or in the future must be paid on the passing of the contract to the assignee Club. In all instances the assignment papers must reveal all the details of the debt and the arrangements for satisfying same. Loans made against accrued or future deferred compensation must be satisfied in the same manner as any other loan before the contract can pass. No assignment of a contract will be accepted and approved by the Commissioner's Office if the assignment stipulates that the assignor Club will remain the final guarantor of a contract, or a loan obligation of the player to any third party, after the contract is assigned to another Club. No Club, or owner, stockholder, officer, director or employee (including manager or player) of a Club shall,

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directly or indirectly, own stock or any other proprietary interest or otherwise have any financial interest in any entity that advances or loans money to, or otherwise invests in, a player in any League in exchange for a share of such player's future earnings.

**(c) LOANS TO CLUBS AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS.** No Major League Club, or owner, stockholder, officer, director or employee (including manager or player) of a Major League Club shall, directly or indirectly, loan money to or become surety or guarantor for any other Major League Club or any officer, employee or umpire of the Major Leagues, unless all facts of the transaction shall first have been fully disclosed to all other Major League Clubs, and also to the Commissioner, and the transaction has been approved by them. The rules governing whether a Minor League Club or owner, stockholder, officer, director or employee (including manager or player) of a Minor League Club can loan money to or become surety or guarantor for any other Minor League Club, any Minor League umpire or any individual responsible for operating the professional development league system are set forth in the Minor League Guidelines.

**(d) LEAGUE OFFICIALS.** No officer, employee or umpire of a League shall, directly or indirectly, own stock or any other proprietary interest or have any financial interest in any Club of any League, or loan money to or become surety or guarantor for any such Club, except that owning an interest in any such Club as a result of any such person's investment in a diversified mutual or pension fund and/or ownership of a limited partnership or similar non-managing interest in a diversified investment vehicle that is not publicly traded shall be permissible, unless the Commissioner determines that any such investment or ownership would not be in the best interests of Baseball.

**(e) WITHIN CLUB.** No manager or player on a Club shall, directly or indirectly, own stock or any other proprietary interest or have any financial interest in the Club by which the manager or player is employed except under an agreement approved by the Commissioner, which agreement shall provide for the immediate sale (and the terms thereof) of such stock or other proprietary interest or financial interest in the event of the manager or player's transfer (if a player or playing manager) to or joining another Club. A manager or player having any such interest in the Club by which the manager or player is employed shall be ineligible to play for or manage any other Club in that League while, in the opinion of the Commissioner, such interest is retained by or for the manager or player, directly or indirectly.



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**(f) WINTER LEAGUES.** No Major League Club or Minor League Club shall, directly or indirectly, own stock or have any other proprietary or financial interest in a Winter League or Winter League Club, nor may any Major League or Minor League Club loan money to or become a surety or guarantor for any Club, officer, employee or umpire of a Winter League Club or of a Winter League itself.

**(g) APPLICATION TO MAJOR LEAGUE CLUBS.** As used in this Rule 20, with respect to a Major League or Major League Club, “League” shall mean both the American League and the National League.

**(h) INFORMATION TO COMMISSIONER.** On or before the first day of the playing season and on such subsequent dates as the information may be requested, each Major League Club shall certify in writing the following information, to the Commissioner:

**(1)** A list of the name, address and amount of ownership interest of each owner of stock or other proprietary interest in the filing Club. If the filing Club is a corporation, the list shall state the number of shares of stock held by each stockholder.

**(2)** A list of the names and addresses of the officers and directors of the filing Club.

**(3)** A list (or an indication on the list of stockholders or owners of the filing Club) stating the kind and amount of each ownership of stock or other proprietary or financial interest in the filing Club by any other Club or by any stockholder, owner, officer, director or employee (including manager or player) of any other Club, to the best knowledge and belief of the filing Club.

**(4)** A list stating the kind and amount of each ownership of stock or other proprietary or financial interest in any other Club by the filing Club or by any stockholder, owner, officer, director or employee (including manager or player) of the filing Club, to the best knowledge and belief of the filing Club.

**(5)** Each and every agreement and understanding covering the operation of any other Club either in whole or in part by the filing Club, with a certified copy of such agreement.

**(6)** Each and every agreement and understanding covering the operation of the filing Club in whole or to any extent by any other Club.

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(7) Each and every agreement and understanding covering payment by the filing Club to any other Club, of any loss or deficits or share of the profits of any Club.

(8) Each and every agreement and understanding giving any other Club the right to acquire the contract of any player on the filing Club or to be consulted respecting the player's transfer or release, unless such right be covered by a regulation form optional agreement duly filed.

The rules governing the information required to be delivered by each Minor League Club are set forth in the Minor League Guidelines.

**Rule 21**

**MISCONDUCT**

**(a) MISCONDUCT IN PLAYING BASEBALL.** Any player or person connected with a Club who shall promise or agree to lose, or to attempt to lose, or to fail to give his best efforts towards the winning of any baseball game with which he is or may be in any way concerned, or who shall intentionally lose or attempt to lose, or intentionally fail to give his best efforts towards the winning of any such baseball game, or who shall solicit or attempt to induce any player or person connected with a Club to lose or attempt to lose, or to fail to give his best efforts towards the winning of any baseball game with which such other player or person is or may be in any way concerned, or who, being solicited by any person, shall fail to inform the Commissioner immediately of such solicitation, and of all facts and circumstances connected therewith, shall be declared permanently ineligible.

**(b) GIFT FOR DEFEATING COMPETING CLUB.** Any player or person connected with a Club who shall offer or give any gift or reward to a player or person connected with another Club for services rendered or supposed to be or to have been rendered in defeating or attempting to defeat a competing Club, and any player or person connected with a Club who shall solicit or accept from a player connected with another Club any gift or reward for any such services rendered, or supposed to have been rendered, or who, having been offered any such gift or reward, shall fail to inform the Commissioner immediately of such offer, and of all facts and circumstances connected therewith, shall be declared ineligible for not less than three years.

**(c) GIFTS TO UMPIRES.** Any player or person connected with a Club who shall give, or offer to give, any gift or reward to an umpire for services rendered, or supposed to be or to have been rendered, in defeating or attempting to defeat a competing Club, or for the umpire's decision on

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anything connected with the playing of a baseball game, and any umpire who shall render, or promise or agree to render, any such decision otherwise than on its merits, or who shall solicit or accept such gift or reward for any such service or decision, or who, having been offered any such gift or reward, or, having been solicited to render any such decision otherwise than on its merits, shall fail to inform the Commissioner immediately of such offer or solicitation, and all facts and circumstances connected therewith, shall be declared permanently ineligible.

**(d) GAMBLING.**

(1) Any player, umpire, or Club or League official or employee, who shall bet any sum whatsoever upon any baseball game in connection with which the bettor has no duty to perform, shall be declared ineligible for one year.

(2) Any player, umpire, or Club or League official or employee, who shall bet any sum whatsoever upon any baseball game in connection with which the bettor has a duty to perform, shall be declared permanently ineligible.

(3) Any player, umpire, or Club or League official or employee who places bets with illegal book makers, or agents for illegal book makers, shall be subject to such penalty as the Commissioner deems appropriate in light of the facts and circumstances of the conduct. Any player, umpire, or Club or League official or employee who operates or works for an illegal bookmaking business shall be subject to a minimum of a one-year suspension by the Commissioner. For purposes of this provision, an illegal bookmaker is an individual who accepts, places or handles wagers on sporting events from members of the public as part of a gaming operation that is unlawful in the jurisdiction in which the bets are accepted.

**(e) VIOLENCE OR MISCONDUCT.** In case of any physical attack or other violence upon an umpire by a player, or by an umpire upon a player, or of other misconduct by an umpire or a player, during or in connection with any Major or Minor League game or any exhibition game of a Major or Minor League Club, the Commissioner shall impose upon the offender or offenders such fine, suspension, ineligibility or other penalty, as the facts may warrant in the judgment of the Commissioner.

**(f) OTHER MISCONDUCT.** Nothing herein contained shall be construed as exclusively defining or otherwise limiting acts, transactions, practices or conduct not to be in the best interests of Baseball; and any and

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all other acts, transactions, practices or conduct not to be in the best interests of Baseball are prohibited and shall be subject to such penalties, including permanent ineligibility, as the facts in the particular case may warrant.

**(g) NO DISCRIMINATION.** The provisions of these Major League Rules shall be applied to all individuals covered by the Rules without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or any other classification protected under Federal Law.

**(h) RULE TO BE KEPT POSTED.** A printed copy in English and Spanish of this Rule 21 shall be kept posted in each clubhouse.

**Rule 22**

**CIRCUITS**

**(a) CONDITIONS TO RELOCATION TO ANOTHER CLUB'S TERRITORY.** A Major League Club, in order to relocate within the home territory of another Major League Club, must comply with the following conditions:

**(1)** The Major League Club intending to so relocate shall give notice of such intention to the Commissioner not later than midnight of October 31 of the year next preceding the first year it proposes to operate a second Major League Club in such home territory.

**(2)** Such Major League Club shall satisfy the Commissioner as to the bona fides of such Club's intention to operate in such home territory on a long-term basis and as to the financial ability and character of the owners of such Club to maintain such Club for a period of five years.

**(3)** Any park owned or occupied by such second Major League Club in such home territory shall be located not less than five air miles distant from the park of the Club first located in such home territory, unless the two Clubs mutually agree otherwise.

**(4)** Such second Major League Club, before commencing its first year of operation in such home territory, shall pay to the Club already located in such home territory such sum of money as the Commissioner deems appropriate under the circumstances. Any disputes as to the amounts paid as such compensation shall be determined by the Commissioner.

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**(b) NUMBER OF CLUBS.** In no event shall any home territory in either Major League circuit have more than two Major League Clubs.

**(c) NOTICE.**

**(1)** A Major League Club desiring to locate in a home territory in which a Minor League Club is operating must file notice of its intention to do so with the Commissioner between October 1 and October 31 (both inclusive) next preceding the first season it proposes to operate in such city.

**(2)** If a Major League Club transfers its location to another home territory after approval is obtained under the Major League Constitution, such Club shall notify the Commissioner of the transfer as soon as the agreements or proceedings necessary to effect such transfer and relocation have been completed. Fifteen days after delivery of such notice, but in no event later than February 1 next preceding the first season such Club proposes to operate in its new location, the Major League Constitution shall be deemed amended to reflect such relocation and the city from which such Major League Club transferred shall be deemed vacated by such Club unless another Major League Club has located in such home territory prior to the expiration of 15 days after the delivery of such notice.

**(d) DEFINITION.** For the purposes of this Rule 22, “home territory” shall refer to the operating territories described in Attachment 26 to these Rules in the case of both Major and Minor League Clubs.

**Rule 23**

**GATE RECEIPTS**

**(a) PAID ATTENDANCE.** “Paid attendance receipts” shall be defined as the total sum of gross receipts from tickets sold to each championship season or post-season game, less any admission tax, sales tax or use tax levied on such game tickets. Only taxes that are directly assessed on individual admissions or gate receipts, and paid by the customer as part of that ticket price, are deductible. Taxes on general sources of Major League Club income are not deductible.

**(b) ASSESSMENT OF PAID ATTENDANCE RECEIPTS.** Each Major League Club shall pay to the Commissioner’s Office a percentage of paid attendance receipts for each of its home games in both the championship season and the post-season. Subject to the approval of the

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**MLR 23(b) to 23(d)**

Major League Executive Council, the Commissioner shall annually set the percentage to be assessed and establish a reporting and payment process that provides sufficient cash flow to support all umpire-related obligations of the Commissioner's Office.

**(c) ESTABLISHING ADMISSIONS TOTAL.** Self-registering turnstiles, of a style approved by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, shall be installed at every entrance to a Major League ballpark on the day a championship game or post-season game is scheduled. Each entrance and its turnstiles shall be numbered for identification. At each turnstile shall be a ticket box or appropriate electronic device.

Police personnel assigned to duty in the ballpark; employees (including managers and players) of the two contesting Major League Clubs; umpires and persons having business with either Club may enter the ballpark on the day of a game through an office entrance, but all other persons, including those entitled to free admission, shall pass in through a turnstile gate. At each paid admission gate, a portion of each patron's ticket shall be deposited in the ticket box or registered with an appropriate electronic device.

Before the gates are opened, the home Club shall make a record of the number registered on each turnstile. When the home Club stops selling tickets for the current day's game, all gates shall be closed, and the home Club shall make a record of the number then registered on each turnstile. The home Club shall prepare a statement listing each gate opened for the day's game; the "opening number" and "closing number" on each turnstile; the number of admissions thus indicated at each gate, and the total number of paid admissions and free admissions. Copies of this statement shall be furnished to the visiting Club and to the Commissioner's Office.

The visiting Club shall have the right to inspect all turnstiles before the gates are opened and to record the "opening number" on each turnstile register. The visiting Club shall have access to all entrances at all times to verify which gates are open. The visiting Club shall have the right to record the "closing number" on each turnstile register. The visiting Club shall have the right to open the ticket boxes and count the retained portions of admission tickets as a check against the turnstile count or for any other reason.

**(d) FREE ADMISSIONS.** The home Club may offer free admission to any championship game to such individuals or groups as it may choose. Any person presenting a pass shall be admitted free. The home Club may admit such persons absolutely free or may impose a service charge. Neither the

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visiting Club nor the Commissioner's Office shall be paid for such free admissions. Should the visiting Club believe that the number of free admissions is excessive, it may ask the Commissioner to investigate the circumstances, and the Commissioner shall take such action as the Commissioner deems advisable.

A special entrance gate or gates shall be provided for all persons admitted free.

Should any such person admitted free enter through a paid admission gate, inadvertently or otherwise, the visiting Club and the Commissioner shall be paid their shares on such admission. Under no circumstances shall a paid ticket holder be admitted through a free turnstile.

**Rule 24**

*[Reserved]*

**Rule 25**

**FINANCES**

**(a) CHECKS.** All money received by the Commissioner in the Commissioner's official capacity shall be deposited in accordance with Article III, Section 5 of the Major League Constitution.

**(b) AUDIT.** The audited financial statements of the Office of the Commissioner required by Article III, Section 8 of the Major League Constitution shall be prepared by a certified public accountant to be designated by the Commissioner, and a copy of such statements shall be sent by the Commissioner to each Major League Club.

**(c) BUDGET.** The proposed budget for the Office of the Commissioner required by Article III, Section 9 of the Major League Constitution shall include all items of administrative expense for the ensuing year, the salaries of the Commissioner and all general and special employees, office rent, equipment, accessories and supplies, traveling expenses, printing, postage, and World Series expenses, and reasonable contingencies. All such expenses shall be funded in accordance with Article III, Section 4(j) of the Major League Constitution.

**(d) FUNDS.** All funds in the hands of the Commissioner in the Commissioner's official capacity shall be deemed the joint funds of the Major League Clubs, and the Major League Clubs shall, by such means as

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they shall from time to time decide upon, supply the Commissioner with money needed to meet authorized expenditures to the extent that the funds otherwise available may at any time prove inadequate.

**Rule 26**

**MAJOR AND MINOR LEAGUE TERRITORIAL RIGHTS**

**(a) OPERATING TERRITORY.**

(1) Each Major League Club shall be granted protected territorial rights covering a specific geographic area, called an “operating territory.” Attachment 26, appended to these Rules, identifies and defines each operating territory. Attachment 26 shall be revised by the Commissioner to the extent that any such operating territory is amended in accordance with Article V, Section 10(c) of the Major League Constitution.

(2) Each Minor League Club shall be granted protected territorial rights covering a specific geographic area called an “operating territory” pursuant to its PDL. Attachment 26 identifies and defines each operating territory. Attachment 26 shall be revised by the Commissioner to the extent that any such operating territory is amended in accordance with the applicable PDL and the Minor League Guidelines.

(3) The territorial rights of Major League Clubs with respect to other Major League Clubs are governed by Rule 22 (Circuits) and by the Major League Constitution and are not governed by this Rule 26. The territorial rights of Minor League Clubs with respect to other Minor League Clubs are governed by the PDLs and the Minor League Guidelines and are not governed by this Rule 26.

**(b) LOCATION OF HOME BALLPARK.**

(1) No Major League Club may locate its home ballpark (i) within the operating territory of a Minor League Club except pursuant to an exception granted in accordance with Rule 26(d) or (ii) within 25 miles from the home ballpark of any Minor League Club without the written consent of the Commissioner or the Commissioner’s designee (which consent may be made subject to any conditions and limitations determined by the Commissioner or the Commissioner’s designee).

(2) No Minor League Club may locate its home ballpark (i) within the operating territory of a Major League Club except pursuant to an exception granted in accordance with Rule 26(d) or (ii) within 15 miles



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from the boundary of the operating territory of any Major League Club without the written consent of such Major League Club and the written consent of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee (which consent may be made subject to any conditions and limitations determined by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee).

**(3)** With respect to any operating territories that are shared by both a Major League Club and a Minor League Club:

**(A)** the Minor League Club may not move its home ballpark to a new location within such shared operating territory without the written consent of the Major League Club and the written consent of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee (which consent may be made subject to any conditions and limitations determined by the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee); provided that the Minor League Club may relocate its home ballpark within such shared operating territory without obtaining any such consents if such new location is no more than 5 miles from the then-current location of its home ballpark; and

**(B)** if the home ballpark of the Major League Club is not located in such shared operating territory and the Major League Club intends to move its home ballpark to a location in such shared operating territory, the Major League Club may draft the shared operating territory and require the Minor League Club to relocate from the shared operating territory in accordance with Rule 26(d)(5).

**(c) ESTABLISHING NEW OPERATING TERRITORIES.**

**(1)** Any new operating territory of a Minor League Club shall not have boundaries that are closer than 15 miles from the boundaries of any existing operating territory of a Major League Club except in accordance with Rule 26(d), unless the newly created operating territory is adjacent to the existing operating territory of a Major League Club and the home ballpark or proposed home ballpark of the Minor League Club within the newly created operating territory of the Minor League Club is greater than 50 miles from the boundaries of the existing operating territory of such Major League Club.

**(2)** Any new operating territory of a Major League Club shall not be located within the operating territory of any Minor League Club except in accordance with Rule 26(d).

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(3) The operating territory of each Major and Minor League Club must be defined by the boundary lines of an entire county or counties (or parish or Canadian division or district) or, in the case of the Commonwealth of Virginia, an entire city or cities and/or an entire county or counties. If a Major or Minor League Club wishes to establish a territory outside the United States or Canada, the Commissioner may agree to recognize a boundary not defined by county boundaries or the equivalent.

(4) The 15-mile “buffer” for Major League Clubs is not included as part of a Major League Club’s operating territory and may coincide (in whole or in part) with the 15-mile “buffer” surrounding another Major League Club’s operating territory and the 25-mile “protected territory” of any Minor League Club.

(5) The 25-mile “protected territory” for Minor League Clubs is not included as part of a Minor League Club’s operating territory and may coincide (in whole or in part) with the 25-mile “protected territory” of another Minor League Club and the 15 mile “buffer” surrounding a Major League Club’s operating territory.

**(d) EXCEPTIONS.**

(1) Existing Operating Territories. The location of any operating territory that has been established in accordance with the Major League Rules, the applicable PDL and the Minor League Operating Guidelines and is set forth in Attachment 26 and would otherwise violate the territorial protections of a Major or Minor League Club under this Rule 26 shall be deemed not to be in violation of such territorial protections.

(2) Existing Locations of Home Ballpark. The location of any home ballpark of a Major or Minor League Club that exists as of January 1, 2021 and would otherwise violate the territorial protections of a Major or Minor League Club under this Rule 26 shall be deemed not to be in violation of such territorial protections.

(3) Major League Club Consent. A Minor League Club may establish a new operating territory or play its home games in a location otherwise prohibited by this Rule 26 only if the Minor League Club first obtains the written consent of each Major League Club whose territorial protection would otherwise be violated and the written consent of the Commissioner or the Commissioner’s designee; provided that, to the extent applicable, such written consents shall be obtained

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before the filing of a request for relocation of the Minor League Club pursuant to the Minor League Guidelines. A written consent may condition or limit the exception. Such consent may be revoked only according to the written terms of the consent. Any Minor League Club, prospective Minor League Club, prospective Minor League Club owner or any person acting on behalf of any of the foregoing who wishes to explore the possibility of establishing an operating territory or playing its home games in a location otherwise prohibited by this Rule 26 shall obtain, before making any such exploration, inquiries or comments (either public or private), the written permission of (i) each Major League Club whose territorial protection would otherwise be violated by the establishment of such operating territory or by the playing of such games and (ii) the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee.

**(4) Minor League Club Consent.** A Major League Club may establish a new operating territory or play its home games in a location otherwise prohibited by this Rule 26 only if the Major League Club first obtains the written consent of each Minor League Club whose territorial protection would otherwise be violated and the written consent of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. A written consent may condition or limit the exception. Such consent may be revoked only according to the written terms of the consent.

**(5) Draft of Minor League Club Operating Territory by Major League Club.**

**(A)** A Major League Club may draft a Minor League Club's operating territory pursuant to this Rule 26(d)(5) by filing notice of its intention to do so with the Commissioner and such Minor League Club within 90 days after the awarding of a franchise or approval of relocation, or at least 18 months prior to the date that the Major League Club will play any championship season game within such territory, whichever is later. Such notice shall be termed a "draft" of territory and shall include a precise description of the territory the Major League Club intends to include as part of its new operating territory. A drafting Major League Club shall not be required to include as part of its operating territory each county (or its equivalent) that the Major League Club drafts. Upon receipt of such draft notice, the Minor League Club shall then have 90 days to request that the drafting Major League Club consent to the Minor League Club remaining in the drafted territory. If the Minor League Club requests to remain in the drafted territory, the Major League Club shall have 30 days to decide whether, and on

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what terms, it will provide its consent. If the Major League Club provides written consent for the Minor League Club to remain in a drafted territory and the Minor League Club agrees to accept such consent within 30 days of the receipt thereof, the Minor League Club shall retain such territorial rights as provided in the written consent (including any conditions and limitations set forth therein). If the Minor League Club does not request to remain in the drafted territory, the Major League Club denies any request of the Minor League Club to remain in the drafted territory or the Minor League Club rejects any consent to remain in the drafted territory offered by the Major League Club, the drafted Minor League Club shall relocate prior to the later of: (i) the commencement of the championship season in which the drafting Major League Club will play its first home game in the drafted territory and (ii) to the extent so requested, the date that the drafting Major League Club pays in full to the drafted Minor League Club any agreed-upon or awarded compensation in accordance with Rule 26(d)(5)(B). The drafting of the operating territory of a Minor League Club shall not cause the Minor League Club's PDL to terminate, and the Commissioner and the drafted Minor League Club shall work together to identify a new operating territory to which the Minor League Club will relocate.

**(B)** Upon receipt of a draft notice, the drafted Minor League Club shall have 150 days to request that compensation be provided by the drafting Major League Club. The Major League Club and Minor League Club shall until 210 days after delivery of draft notice to agree upon such compensation. If no agreement is reached, then the matter shall be promptly submitted to the PDL Executive Board for resolution. Within 90 days of the submission of the matter to the Executive Board, the Executive Board shall hold a two-day hearing to determine the compensation that is owed to the Minor League Club. Evidence and arguments may be presented by both the Major League Club and the Minor League Club, and the Executive Board shall determine the manner in which the hearing is conducted. The Executive Board shall only consider the following in their decision: (i) the population of the drafted territory; (ii) the location of the drafted territory; (iii) the historical revenue of the Minor League Club over the last five years; (iv) the projected revenue of the Minor League Club during the remainder of the term of the Minor League Club's PDL; (v) expenditures for capital improvements made by the

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Minor League Club over the last five years; (vi) projected expenditures for capital improvements to be made by the Minor League Club during the remainder of the term of the Minor League Club's PDL, (vii) the level of play of the Minor League Club ; and, if relevant, (viii) the estimated fair market value of the Minor League Club after it relocates to a new operating territory; (ix) the projected revenue of the Minor League Club in the new operating territory during the remainder of the term of the Minor League Club's PDL; and (x) any expenses associated with the relocation to a new operating territory (including, without limitation, any costs incurred in connection with the termination of any lease to the extent such costs are not mitigated). Based upon such hearing, the Executive Board shall award just and reasonable compensation to the Minor League Club; provided that such compensation may not exceed the greater of (x) \$75 million, (y) three times the average baseball operating revenue (as defined in the Standard Financial Report required to be provided to the Commissioner in accordance with the PDL and the Minor League Guidelines) of the drafted Minor League Club over the last three fiscal years and (z) the average sales price of the last three sales of a Minor League Club at such drafted Minor League Club's level of play as determined by the Executive Board; provided further that the foregoing clause (y) will only be applicable to the extent that the drafted Minor League Club has provided audited financial statements for the last three fiscal years to the Commissioner in advance of the hearing. Any necessary calculations shall be made in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Executive Board shall issue their decision within 60 days following the conclusion of the hearing. The total amount of compensation shall be paid by the Major League Club in a single lump sum payment within 30 days of the date that the final amount of the compensation is determined pursuant to this Rule 26(d)(5)(B); provided that if such payment is not so made, the operating territory in question shall be deemed not to have been drafted by the Major League Club.

(C) Notwithstanding Rule 26(b)(1), a drafting Major League Club may play its home games in the operating territory of a drafted Minor League Club so long as the Commissioner has been notified of the Minor League Club's request that compensation be awarded in accordance with Rule 26(d)(5)(B). The drafting Major League Club shall not, however, have any territorial protection

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under this Rule 26 until it shall have paid any compensation awarded pursuant to Rule 26(d)(5)(B). If a Minor League Club's territory is drafted, a Minor League Club may relocate from the drafted territory immediately, subject to complying with all applicable procedures set forth in the Minor League Guidelines, without forfeiting or waiving any right it may have to seek compensation for the draft of territory, notwithstanding the provision in Rule 26(g) (Loss of Territorial Rights) that the territory of a relocated Club shall be considered unprotected and "open territory."

**(e) RECOGNITION OF FUTURE RIGHTS.** A Minor League Club that has been granted approval in accordance with the Minor League Guidelines to relocate or to operate an expansion Club shall enjoy full protection under this Rule 26 of the operating territory granted as part of the expansion or relocation approval, conditioned upon the Club commencing play of its home games on or before the date specified in the approval. To the extent that the Commissioner receives an application from a Major League Club for rights to the same territory prior to the grant of an approval to expand or relocate, such Major League Club shall be given preference.

**(f) APPROVAL OF MINOR LEAGUE TERRITORIAL RIGHTS.** All grants of protected territory to Minor League Clubs must first be approved by the Commissioner in accordance with the Minor League Guidelines and must otherwise be in accordance with these Rules.

**(g) LOSS OF TERRITORIAL RIGHTS.** If a Minor League Club has relocated or has otherwise lost its rights to an operating territory pursuant to its PDL and/or the Minor League Guidelines, the Club's original operating territory or the operating territory to which the Club has lost its rights shall be considered unprotected and "open territory." No Minor League Club may assert any rights with respect to such "open territory" against any Major League Club or the Commissioner's Office, including any right to relocate pursuant to the Minor League Guidelines, nor may any Minor League Club assert any claim to damage relating to or arising out of such "open territory" in connection with any request to relocate. Nothing in this Rule 26(g) shall be construed as limiting the compensation that a Minor League Club may claim in any proceeding contemplated by Rule 26(d)(5)(B) when the Minor League Club vacates a territory after having been notified of the draft of such Minor League Club's territory by a Major League Club.

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MLR 27 to 33(a)**

**Rule 27**

**STANDARDS FOR MINOR LEAGUE PLAYING FACILITIES**

Minor League Clubs shall be required to comply with the facility standards set forth in the Minor League Guidelines.

**Rule 28**

*[Reserved]*

**Rule 29**

*[Reserved]*

**Rule 30**

*[Reserved]*

**Rule 31**

*[Reserved]*

**Rule 32**

*[Reserved]*

**Rule 33**

**LIEN ON TERRITORY**

**(a) AMOUNT AND PRIORITY OF LIENS.** The amount of a Major or Minor League Club's indebtedness:

(1) For obligations owed by a Major League Club to its players and for its pro-rata share of salary obligations to umpires and to official scorers or for its pro-rata share of indebtedness to official scorers;

(2) To other Major and/or Minor League Clubs for, or in connection with, assignments of player contracts, any of its commitments under a PDL or to any Major or Minor League Club or to any Major or Minor League for money loaned (if such loans have been recorded with the Commissioner within 10 days from the date of the loan); and,

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**MLR 33(a) to 34(b)**

(3) For obligations to the Major or Minor League Club's League, shall become liens against the territory it represents. The liens shall rank in the order or priority stated in Rules 33(a)(1) through (a)(3). Except under such conditions as the Commissioner may impose, in the case of Minor League Clubs, League membership shall not be extended to any Major or Minor League Club in the debtor Club's territory until such debts are discharged. Liens established under this Rule 33 shall terminate at the expiration of two years from the date they were established. However, one year shall be added to the lien period for each season that membership is extended to a Major or Minor League Club in the territory of the debtor Club.

**(b) DEDUCTIONS.** The Commissioner shall deduct the amount of the debts set forth in Rule 33(a) (Amount and Priority of Liens) from any monies received for the account of or to the credit of the debtor Major or Minor League Club. .

**(c) EFFECT OF ASSIGNMENTS.** Except as may be authorized by the Commissioner, any assignment by a Club of monies due or to become due shall be subject to the provisions of this Rule 33, and shall not constitute any preference or priority contrary to the preferences and priorities in this Rule 33, or otherwise affect any obligation specified in Rule 33(a) (Amount and Priority of Liens) that is of equal or superior priority.

**Rule 34**

**QUALIFICATION FOR POST-SEASON SERIES**

**(a) DIVISION CHAMPIONS.** The Commissioner's Office shall maintain a tabulated record of championship season games won and lost by each Major League Club as reported by the official scorers. The Commissioner shall award the championship of each Division to the Club in that Division that won the highest percentage of its games during the championship season. If two or more Clubs in a Division are tied in winning percentage at the close of the championship season as scheduled, the championship season may be extended by the playing of a tie-breaking game or games, as provided in Rule 34(c). Tie games shall not count as games played, won or lost for purposes of calculating the percentage of games won and lost during the championship season.

**(b) WILD CARDS.** The Commissioner shall award two Wild Cards in each Major League to the Clubs that won the highest percentage of their games during the championship season among the Clubs that were not



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**MLR 34(b) to 34(c)**

Division champions. Such Clubs shall be referred to as the Wild Card Clubs in their League. If two or more Clubs are tied for a Wild Card designation at the close of the championship season as scheduled, the championship season may be extended by the playing of a tie-breaking game or games, as provided in Rule 34(c). Tie games shall not count as games played, won or lost for purposes of calculating the percentage of games won and lost during the championship season.

**(c) TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES.** Any additional game played to break a tie pursuant to this Rule 34(c) shall be a championship season game. Statistics from any such game shall count in the official League championship season statistics. Notwithstanding the foregoing, tie-breaking games shall not count as games played, won or lost for purposes of calculating the percentage of games won and lost during the championship season under Rules 34, 35 and 38. Paid attendance for any such game shall be included in the official paid attendance records for the championship season. In the event that a regular season tiebreaker game must be played, the host Club and visiting Club will share the net gate receipts after deducting food and beverage costs, admissions taxes, host Club stadium operations expenses, and visiting Club travel expenses. See Rule 17(a) for modifications to the Official Baseball Rules that apply to any such game. The Commissioner may determine the procedures to break any ties that are not otherwise provided for in this Rule 34(c).

**(1) Division Championship Ties In Which The Non-Division Champion(s) Will Not Qualify For A Wild Card Designation.** If Two or more Clubs in a League are tied for first place in a Division with identical winning percentages at the conclusion of the championship season as originally scheduled (including all rescheduled games), and the Club that is not awarded the Division Championship will not be a Wild Card Club, the Commissioner shall award the Division championship as follows:

**(A) Two-Club Tie.** If two Clubs are tied for first place in a Division, the championship season shall be extended to include one additional game between these two Clubs. Such game shall be played the day after the championship season. The site of the game may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum. In the absence of such an agreement, the Commissioner shall determine the site of the additional game between the tied Clubs as follows:

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(i) The home Club shall be the Club with the higher winning percentage in head-to-head competition between the two tied Clubs during the championship season; or

(ii) if the Clubs remain tied, then the home Club shall be the Club with the higher winning percentage in intradivision games during the championship season; or

(iii) if the Clubs remain tied, then the home Club shall be the Club with the higher winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season; or

(iv) if the Clubs remain tied, then the home Club shall be the Club with the higher winning percentage in the last half plus one of intraleague games during the championship season, provided that such additional game was not a game between the tied Clubs.

If the Clubs remain tied, then the procedure described in Rule 34(c)(1)(A)(iv) of adding the immediately preceding intraleague game played by each Club, provided that such added game was not between the tied Clubs, and then considering the winning percentages of the tied Clubs over the period from that game through the end of the championship season, shall be continued until one Club emerges with a better winning percentage in that span of games, and the Club with such better winning percentage shall be the home Club.

The Commissioner shall award the Division championship to the winner of the additional game.

**(B) Three-Club Tie.** If three Clubs are tied for first place in a Division, and the Clubs that are not awarded the Division Championship will not be Wild Card Clubs, the Commissioner shall schedule additional championship season games in order to determine the Division championship, as follows:

(i) If the three tied Clubs have identical records against one another in the championship season, their designations as Club “A,” “B,” or “C,” for purposes of Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(iii), shall be determined as follows:

(aa) The Club with the higher winning percentage among the three tied Clubs in intradivision games during the championship season shall choose a designation as

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Club “A,” “B,” or “C.” The Club among the three tied Clubs with the next highest winning percentage in intradivision games during the championship season shall choose one of the remaining two designations. The remaining Club among the three tied Clubs shall be assigned the remaining designation. If any two of the tied Clubs have identical winning percentages in intradivision games during the championship season, then the Club that would be the home Club in a two-Club tie, according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A), shall have priority over the other Club in choosing a designation pursuant to this Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(i)(aa).

**(bb)** If the three tied Clubs have identical winning percentages in intradivision games during the championship season, then the Club that first chooses a designation as Club “A,” “B,” or “C” shall be the Club among the three tied Clubs with the higher winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season. The Club among the three tied Clubs with the next highest winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season shall choose one of the remaining two designations. The remaining Club among the three tied Clubs shall be assigned the remaining designation. If any two of the tied Clubs have identical winning percentages in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season, then the Club that would be the home Club in a two-Club tie, according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A), shall have priority over the other Club in choosing a designation pursuant to this Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(i)(bb).

**(cc)** If the three tied Clubs have identical winning percentages in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season, then the Club that first chooses a designation as Club “A,” “B,” or “C” shall be the Club with the higher winning percentage in the last half plus one of intraleague games during the championship season, provided that such additional game was not a game between any of the tied Clubs. The Club among the three tied Clubs with the next highest

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winning percentage in the last half plus one of intraleague games during the championship season, provided that such additional game was not a game between any of the tied Clubs, shall choose one of the remaining two designations. The remaining Club among the three tied Clubs shall be assigned the remaining designation. If any two of the tied Clubs have identical winning percentages in the last half plus one of intraleague games during the championship season, provided that such additional game was not a game between any of the tied Clubs, then the Club that would be the home Club in a two-Club tie, according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A), shall have priority over the other Club in choosing a designation pursuant to this Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(i)(cc).

If the Clubs remain tied, then the procedure described in Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(i)(cc) of adding the immediately preceding game played by each Club, provided that such added game was not between any of the tied Clubs, and then considering the winning percentages of the tied Clubs over the period from that game through the end of the championship season, shall be continued until one Club emerges with a better winning percentage in that span of games or one Club emerges with a worse winning percentage in that span of games, and the Club that first chooses a designation as Club “A,” “B,” or “C” shall be the Club with such better winning percentage and/or the Club that emerges with such worse winning percentage shall have the last choice, with any two-Club ties at any stage of the process resolved according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A).

**(ii)** If the tied Clubs do not have identical records against one another in the championship season, their designations as Club “A,” “B,” or “C” shall be determined as follows:

**(aa)** If Club 1 has a better record against each of Clubs 2 and 3, and Club 2 has a better record against Club 3, then Club 1 shall choose a designation as Club “A,” “B,” or “C,” and Club 2 shall choose a designation from the remaining two designations. Club 3 shall be assigned the remaining designation.

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**(bb)** If Club 1 has a better record against each of Clubs 2 and 3, and Club 2 and Club 3 have the same record against each other, then Club 1 shall choose a designation as Club “A,” “B,” or “C,” and the Club among Clubs 2 and 3 that would be the home Club in a two-Club tie, according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A) shall choose one of the remaining two designations. The remaining Club shall be assigned the remaining designation.

**(cc)** If Club 1 and Club 2 have the same record against each other but each has a better record against Club 3, then the Club among Clubs 1 and 2 that would be the home Club in a two-Club tie, according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A), shall choose a designation as Club “A,” “B,” or “C.” The Club that would not be the home Club in a two-Club tie between Clubs 1 and 2, according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A), shall choose one of the remaining two designations. Club 3 shall be assigned the remaining designation.

**(dd)** If:

**(I)** Club 1 has a better record against Club 2, Club 2 has a better record against Club 3, and Club 3 has a better record against Club 1,

**(II)** Club 1 has a better record against Club 2, Club 2 and Club 3 have the same record against each other and Club 3 has a better record against Club 1, or

**(III)** Club 1 and Club 2 have the same record against each other, Club 1 has a better record against Club 3 and Club 2 and Club 3 have the same record against each other,

then the three Clubs shall be ranked on the basis of overall winning percentage within that three-Club group, and the Club with the highest winning percentage from among that three-Club group shall have first choice among designations as Club “A,” “B,” or “C,” the Club with the next highest winning percentage from among that three-Club group shall have the next choice between

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the two remaining designations, and the Club with the lowest winning percentage from among that three-Club group shall be assigned the remaining designation. If two of the Clubs within such three-Club group have the same winning percentage among the group, then the Club that would be the home Club in a two-Club tie, according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A), shall have priority over the other Club in choosing a designation pursuant to this Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(ii)(dd). If all of the Clubs within such three-Club group have the same winning percentage among the group, then the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(i) shall determine the priority of the Clubs so tied to select among the designations.

**(iii)** Club “A” shall play Club “B” at the ballpark of Club “A” the day after the conclusion of the championship season. The following day, the winner of that first game shall be the home Club in a second game, against Club “C.” The site of each game instead may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs involved and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum. The Commissioner shall award the Division championship to the winner of the game between Club “C” and the Club that won the game between Club “A” and Club “B.”

**(C)** Four-Club Tie. If four Clubs are tied for first place in a Division, the Commissioner shall schedule additional championship season games in order to determine the Division championship, as follows:

**(i)** The Clubs shall choose a designation as Club “A,” “B,” “C,” and “D” for purposes of Rule 34(c)(1)(C)(ii), as follows:

**(aa)** The Club with the highest winning percentage in games among the tied Clubs in the championship season shall have first choice among designations. The Club with the second-highest winning percentage in games among the tied Clubs in the championship season shall choose one of the remaining three designations. The Club with the third-highest winning percentage in games among the tied Clubs in the championship season shall choose one of the remaining two designations. The remaining Club shall be assigned the remaining designation. In the event

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there is a three-Club tie in games among the tied Clubs in the championship season, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(B) shall determine the priority of the selections among those tied Clubs. In the event there is a two-Club tie in games among the tied Clubs in the championship season, the Club that would be the home Club in a two-Club tie, according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A), shall have priority over the other Club in choosing a designation pursuant to this Rule 34(c)(1)(C)(i)(aa).

**(bb)** If the four tied Clubs have identical records in games among them during the championship season, then the Club among the four tied Clubs with the higher winning percentage in intradivision games during the championship season shall have first choice among designations. The Club among the four tied Clubs with the second-highest winning percentage in intradivision games during the championship season shall choose one of the remaining three designations. The Club among the four tied Clubs with the third-highest winning percentage in intradivision games during the championship season shall choose one of the remaining two designations. The remaining Club among the four tied Clubs shall be assigned the remaining designation. In the event there is a three-Club tie in intradivision games during the championship season, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(B) shall determine the priority of the selections among those tied Clubs. In the event there is a two-Club tie in intradivision games during the championship season, then the Club that would be the home Club in a two-Club tie, according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A), shall have priority over the other Club in choosing a designation pursuant to this Rule 34(c)(1)(C)(i)(bb).

**(cc)** If the four tied Clubs have identical winning percentages in intradivision games during the championship season, then the Club that first chooses a designation as Club “A,” “B,” “C” or “D” shall be the Club among the four tied Clubs with the higher winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games

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during the championship season. The Club among the four tied Clubs with the next highest winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season shall choose one of the remaining three designations. The Club among the four tied Clubs with the next highest winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season shall choose one of the remaining two designations. The remaining Club among the four tied Clubs shall be assigned the remaining designation. In the event there is a three-Club tie in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(B) shall determine the priority of the selections among those tied Clubs. In the event there is a two-Club tie in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season, then the Club that would be the home Club in a two-Club tie, according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A), shall have priority over the other Club in choosing a designation pursuant to this Rule 34(c)(1)(C)(i)(cc).

**(dd)** If the four tied Clubs have identical winning percentages in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season, then the Club that first chooses a designation as Club “A,” “B,” “C” or “D” shall be the Club among the four tied Clubs with the higher winning percentage in the last half plus one of intraleague games during the championship season, provided that such additional game was not a game between any of the tied Clubs. The Club among the four tied Clubs with the next highest winning percentage in the last half plus one of intraleague games during the championship season, provided that such additional game was not a game between any of the tied Clubs, shall choose one of the remaining three designations. The Club among the four tied Clubs with the next highest winning percentage in the last half plus one of intraleague games during the championship season, provided that such additional game was not a game between any of the tied Clubs, shall choose one of the remaining two designations. The remaining Club among the four tied Clubs shall be assigned the remaining



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designation. In the event there is a three-Club tie in the last half plus one of intraleague games during the championship season, provided that such additional game was not a game between any of the tied Clubs, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(B) shall determine the priority of the selections among those tied Clubs. In the event there is a two-Club tie in the last half plus one of intraleague games during the championship season, provided that such additional game was not a game between any of the tied Clubs, then the Club that would be the home Club in a two-Club tie, according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A), shall have priority over the other Club in choosing a designation pursuant to this Rule 34(c)(1)(C)(i)(dd).

If the Clubs remain tied, then the procedure described in Rule 34(c)(1)(C)(i)(dd) of adding the immediately preceding game played by each Club, provided that such added game was not between any of the tied Clubs, and then considering the winning percentages of the tied Clubs over the period from that game through the end of the championship season, shall be continued until one Club emerges with a better winning percentage in that span of games or one Club emerges with a worse winning percentage in that span of games, and the Club that first chooses a designation as Club “A,” “B,” “C” or “D” shall be the Club with such better winning percentage and/or the Club that emerges with such worse winning percentage shall have the last choice, with any three-Club or two-Club ties at any stage of the process resolved according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(B), in the case of three-Club ties, or according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A), in the case of two-Club ties.

(ii) Club “B” shall play one game at the ballpark of Club “A.” Club “D” shall play one game at the ballpark of Club “C.” Each of these two games shall be played on the day after the conclusion of the championship season. The following day, the winning Clubs of each of those two games shall play one game, at the ballpark of Club “A” or Club “B,” whichever has won the game between the two. The site of each game instead may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs involved and the Commissioner to keep travel at a

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minimum. The Commissioner shall award the Division championship to the winner of the third game, which is contested between the winners of the respective first two games.

Games played for the Division championship pursuant to Rule 34(c)(1) shall nevertheless be included in the final Club standings and in all statistics, as provided for in the first paragraph of this Rule 34(c).

**(2) Division Championship Ties Affecting A Wild Card Designation.** If two or more Clubs in a League are tied for first place in a Division and a Wild Card designation with identical winning percentages at the conclusion of the championship season as originally scheduled (including all rescheduled games), and not including additional games to determine the Division champion, the Commissioner shall determine the Division Champion and Wild Card designation as follows:

**(A) Two-Club Tie.**

**(i)** If two Clubs from the same Division are tied for a Division championship and a Wild Card designation, then the championship season shall be extended to include one additional game between such Clubs. Such game shall be played the day after the conclusion of the championship season. The site of the game may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum. In the absence of such an agreement, the Commissioner shall determine the site of the additional game between the tied Clubs according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A). The Commissioner shall award the Division championship to the winner of the additional game and declare the loser of the additional game to be a Wild Card Club.

**(ii)** If two Clubs are tied for a Division championship, and both Clubs are tied with a Club from another division for at least one Wild Card designation, the championship season shall be extended to include two additional games as follows:

**(AA)** If two Clubs are tied for a Division championship, and both Clubs are tied with a Club from another division for one Wild Card designation, both

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Clubs shall play a game to determine the Division champion the day after the conclusion of the championship season. The site of the game may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum. In the absence of such an agreement, the Commissioner shall determine the site of the additional game between the tied Clubs according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A). The Commissioner shall award the Division championship to the winner of the additional game.

**(BB)** If two Clubs are tied for a Division championship, and both Clubs are tied with a Club from another division for one Wild Card designation, the loser of the game described in Rule 34(c)(2)(A)(ii)(AA) shall play one additional game against the Club from another division in that Club's (the Club from another division) home city to determine the Wild Card.

**(CC)** If two Clubs are tied for a Division championship, and both Clubs are tied with a Club from another division for two Wild Card designations, both Clubs shall play a game to determine the Division champion the day after the conclusion of the championship season in accordance with Rule 34(c)(2)(A)(ii)(AA); provided, however, that the loser of that game and the Club from another division both shall be designated Wild Card Clubs and home field advantage for the Wild Card Game will be determined pursuant to Rule 35(a).

**(iii)** If two Clubs are tied for a Division championship, and both Clubs are tied with two Clubs from outside their division for at least one Wild Card designation, then the championship season shall be extended to include three additional games as follows:

**(AA)** If two Clubs are tied for a Division championship, and both Clubs are tied with two Clubs from outside their division for one Wild Card designation, then the championship season shall be extended to include three additional games as follows.

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The day after the conclusion of the championship season the Clubs tied for a Division championship shall play a game to determine the Division champion, and the Clubs from outside their division that are tied for the Wild Card designation shall play a game, the winner of which will play the loser of the Division championship game in the winner's home city to determine the Wild Card designation on the following day. If the Clubs are tied for both Wild Card designations, the winner of the game between the Clubs from another Division tied for the Wild Card designation shall be declared a Wild Card Club, and the loser of that game shall play the loser of the Division championship game on the following day to determine the other Wild Card Club.

**(BB)** Except as may otherwise be set forth herein, the site of the games described in Rule 34(c)(2)(A)(iii)(AA) may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum. In the absence of such an agreement, the Commissioner shall determine the site of the additional games between tied Clubs according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A).

**(B) Three-Club Tie.**

**(i)** If three Clubs from the same division are tied for a Division championship and at least one Wild Card designation, and the three tied Clubs have identical records against one another in the championship season, their designations as Club "A," "B," or "C," for purposes of Rule 34(c)(2)(B), shall be determined according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(i). If the tied Clubs do not have identical records against one another in the championship season, their designations as Club "A," "B," or "C" shall be determined according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(ii). The Commissioner shall schedule additional championship season games as follows:

**(aa)** If three Clubs from the same division are tied for a Division championship and one Wild Card designation, Club "A" shall play Club "B" at the ballpark of Club "A" the day after the conclusion of the

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championship season. The following day, the winner of that first game shall be the home Club in a second game against Club "C." The site of each game instead may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs involved and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum. The Commissioner shall award the Division championship to the winner of the second game with Club "C" and declare the loser be a Wild Card Club.

**(bb)** If three Clubs from the same division are tied for a Division championship and both Wild Card designations, the loser of the first game between Club "A" and Club "B" also shall be declared a Wild Card Club.

**(ii)** If three Clubs are tied for a Division championship, and also are tied with a Club from another division for at least one Wild Card designation, and the three Clubs tied for a Division championship have identical records against one another in the championship season, their designations as Club "A," "B," or "C," for purposes of Rule 34(c)(2)(B)(ii),

shall be determined according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(i). If the three tied Clubs do not have identical records against one another in the championship season, their designations as Club "A," "B," or "C" shall be determined according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(ii). The Club from another division shall be designated as Club "D" for these purposes. The Commissioner shall schedule additional championship season games as follows:

**(aa)** If three Clubs are tied for a Division championship and also are tied with a Club from another division for one Wild Card designation, Club "B" shall play one game at the ballpark of Club "A." Club "D" shall play one game at the ballpark of Club "C." Each of these two games shall be played on the day after the conclusion of the championship season. If Club "D" wins, the Commissioner shall declare Club "D" to be a Wild Card Club, and the winner of the game between Clubs "A" and "B" shall be awarded the Division championship. If Club "C" wins, the following day Club "C" shall play one game at the ballpark of Club "A" or

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Club “B,” whichever has won the game between the two. The site of each game instead may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs involved and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum. The Commissioner shall award the Division championship to the winner of the third game and shall declare the loser to be a Wild Card Club.

**(bb)** If three Clubs are tied for a Division championship and also are tied with a Club from another division for both Wild Card designations, Club “B” shall play one game at the ballpark of Club “A.” Club “D” shall play one game at the ballpark of Club “C.” Each of these two games shall be played on the day after the conclusion of the championship season. If Club “D” wins its game against Club “C”, the Commissioner shall declare Club “D” to be a Wild Card Club, the winner of the game between Clubs “A” and “B” shall be awarded the Division championship, and the following day Club “C” shall play one game at the ballpark of Club “A” or Club “B,” whichever has lost the game between the two, to determine the second Wild Card designation. If Club “C” wins its game against Club “D”, the following day Club “C” shall play one game at the ballpark of Club “A” or Club “B,” whichever has won the game between the two, to determine the Division championship and one of the Wild Card designations; on the same day Club “D” will play the loser of the game between Club “A” and Club “B” at such Club’s ballpark to determine the second Wild Card designation. The site of each game instead may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs involved and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum.

**(C)** Four-Club Tie. If four Clubs from the same division are tied for the Division championship and at least one Wild Card designation, the Clubs shall choose a designation as Club “A,” “B,” “C,” and “D” for purposes of Rule 34(c)(2)(C) according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(C), and the Commissioner shall schedule additional championship season games as follows:

**(i)** If four Clubs from the same division are tied for the Division championship and one Wild Card designation, Club

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“B” shall play one game at the ballpark of Club “A.” Club “D” shall play one game at the ballpark of Club “C.” Each of these two games shall be played on the day after the conclusion of the championship season. The following day, the winning Clubs of each of those two games shall play one game, at the ballpark of Club “A” or Club “B,” whichever has won the game between the two. The site of each game instead may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs involved and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum. The Commissioner shall award the Division championship to the winner of the third game (which is contested between the winners of the respective first two games), and declare the loser to be the Wild Card Club.

(ii) If four Clubs from the same division are tied for the Division championship and both Wild Card designations, then in addition to the third game described in Rule 34(c)(2)(C)(i) above, the losers of the respective first two games shall play a game at the ballpark of Club “A” or Club “B”, whichever Club lost its first game, on the same day as the third game to determine the second Wild Card designation. The site of this game instead may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs involved and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum.

(3) Wild Card Ties Not Involving A Tie For A Division Championship. If two or more Clubs in a League are tied for a Wild Card designation with identical winning percentages at the conclusion of the championship season as originally scheduled (including all rescheduled games), the Commissioner shall determine the Wild Card designation as follows:

(A) Two-Club Tie. If two Clubs are tied for only one of the Wild Card designations then the championship season shall be extended to include one additional game between such Clubs. Such game shall be played the day after the conclusion of the championship season. The site of the game may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum. In the absence of such an agreement, the Commissioner shall determine the site of the additional game between the tied Clubs according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(A). The Commissioner shall declare the winner of the additional game to be a Wild Card Club. If two Clubs are tied

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for both Wild Card designations then no additional championship season games shall be played and home field advantage for the Wild Card Game will be determined pursuant to Rule 35(a).

**(B) Three-Club Tie.** If three Clubs are tied for at least one Wild Card designation, and the three tied Clubs have identical records against one another in the championship season, their designations as Club “A,” “B,” or “C,” for purposes of Rule 34(c)(3)(B), shall be determined according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(i). If the tied Clubs do not have identical records against one another in the championship season, their designations as Club “A,” “B,” or “C” shall be determined according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(B)(ii). The Commissioner shall schedule additional championship season games as follows:

**(i)** If three Clubs are tied for one Wild Card designation, Club “A” shall play Club “B” at the ballpark of Club “A” the day after the conclusion of the championship season. The following day, the winner of that first game shall be the home

Club in a second game against Club “C.” The site of each game instead may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs involved and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum. The Commissioner shall declare the winner of the game between Club “C” and the Club that won the game between Club “A” and Club “B” to be a Wild Card Club.

**(ii)** If three Clubs are tied for both Wild Card designations, then the winner of the game between Club “A” and “B” in Rule 34(c)(3)(B)(i) above shall be a Wild Card Club, and the loser of that first game shall play a second game against Club “C” the following day in the home city of Club “C” to determine the other Wild Card Club.

**(C) Four-Club Tie.** If four Clubs are tied for at least one Wild Card designation, the Clubs shall choose a designation as Club “A,” “B,” “C,” and “D” for purposes of Rule 34(c)(3)(C) according to the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1)(C), and the Commissioner shall schedule additional championship season games as follows:

**(i)** If four Clubs are tied for one Wild Card designation, Club “B” shall play one game at the ballpark of Club “A.” Club “D” shall play one game at the ballpark of Club “C.”



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Each of these two games shall be played on the day after the conclusion of the championship season. The following day, the winning Clubs of each of those two games shall play one game, at the ballpark of Club "A" or Club "B," whichever has won the game between the two. The site of each game instead may be determined by mutual agreement among the Clubs involved and the Commissioner to keep travel at a minimum. The Commissioner shall declare the winner of the third game, which is contested between the winners of the respective first two games, to be a Wild Card Club.

(ii) If four Clubs are tied for both Wild Card designations, then the Commissioner shall declare the winners of the first two games described in Rule 34(c)(3)(C)(i) above to be the Wild Card Clubs.

**Rule 35**

**POST-SEASON SERIES**

**(a) WILD CARD GAME.** A game between the Wild Card Clubs shall take place after the conclusion of the championship season of each year. The Wild Card Game shall be scheduled to be played in the ballpark of the Club with the higher percentage than its opponent of games won and lost in the championship season. In the event the Wild Card Clubs are tied with identical percentages, then the Club deemed to have the higher winning percentage shall be as follows:

(1) the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in head-to-head competition between the two tied Clubs during the championship season; or

(2) if the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in intradivision games during the championship season; or

(3) if the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in intraleague games during the championship season; or

(4) if the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season; or

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**(5)** if the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in the last half plus one of intraleague games during the championship season.

If the Clubs remain tied, then the procedure described in Rule 35(a)(5) of adding the immediately preceding intraleague game played by each Club and then considering the intraleague winning percentages of the tied Clubs over the period from that game through the end of the championship season, shall be continued until one Club emerges with a better winning percentage in that span of games. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the Wild Card Clubs played an additional championship season game against each other pursuant to Rule 34(c), the Wild Card Game shall be scheduled to be played in the ballpark of the Club that won that game.

**(b) DIVISION SERIES.** Two Division Series in each Major League shall take place after the conclusion of the Wild Card Game each year. Each Division Series shall be a best-of-five-games format. In each Major League, the three Division Champions and the winner of the Wild Card Game shall qualify for a Division Series. The Division Series matchups within each Major League shall be:

**(1)** The Club with the best percentage of games won and lost during the championship season versus the winner of the Wild Card Game.

**(2)** The two remaining Clubs that have qualified for a Division Series.

**(3)** For purposes of determining Division Series matchups pursuant to this Rule 35(b) and scheduling pursuant to Rules 38(a)(2) (Division Series), 38(a)(3) (League Championship Series), and 38(a)(4) (World Series), if two or more Clubs are tied with identical percentages of games won and lost during the championship season, then the tie shall be broken as follows:

**(A)** Two-Club Tie. The Club deemed to have the higher winning percentage shall be

**(i)** the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in head-to-head competition between the two tied Clubs during the championship season; or

**(ii)** if the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in intradivision games during the championship season; or

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(iii) if the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in intraleague games during the championship season; or

(iv) if the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season; or

(v) if the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in the last half plus one of intraleague games during the championship season.

If the Clubs remain tied, then the procedure described in Rule 35(b)(3)(A)(v) of adding the immediately preceding intraleague game played by each Club and then considering the intraleague winning percentages of the tied Clubs over the period from that game through the end of the championship season, shall be continued until one Club emerges with a better winning percentage in that span of games, and that Club shall be deemed to have the higher winning percentage for purposes of determining Division Series matchups pursuant to this Rule 35(b) and scheduling pursuant to Rules 38(a)(2) (Division Series), 38(a)(3) (League Championship Series), and 38(a)(4) (World Series).

**(B) Three-Club Ties.** The Club deemed to have the higher winning percentage shall be the tied Club that has a higher winning percentage in head-to-head competition against each of the other Division champions during the championship season, in which case the tie between the two remaining Clubs shall be broken by the procedures set forth in Rule 34(b)(3)(A). If none of the three tied Clubs has a higher winning percentage in head-to-head competition against each of the other Division champions during the championship season, then the Club deemed to have the higher winning percentage shall be

(i) the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in head-to-head competition among the tied Clubs during the championship season; or

(ii) if the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in intradivision games during the championship season; or

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(iii) if the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in intraleague games during the championship season; or

(iv) if the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season; or

(v) if the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in the last half plus one of intraleague games during the championship season.

If the Clubs remain tied, then the procedure described in Rule 35(b)(3)(B)(v) of adding the immediately preceding intraleague game played by each Club and then considering the intraleague winning percentages of the tied Clubs over the period from that game through the end of the championship season, shall be continued until one Club emerges with a better winning percentage in that span of games, and that Club shall be deemed to have the higher winning percentage for purposes of determining Division Series matchups pursuant to this Rule 35(a) and scheduling pursuant to Rules 38(a)(2) (Division Series) and 38(a)(3) (League Championship Series).

Upon determination of the Club deemed to have the higher winning percentage, the sequence of procedures set forth in Rule 34(b)(3)(A) shall be applied to the two remaining tied Clubs in order to determine which of them shall be deemed to have the better winning percentage for purposes of determining Division Series matchups pursuant to this Rule 35(b) and scheduling pursuant to Rules 38(a)(2) (Division Series) and 38(a)(3) (League Championship Series).

(c) **LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES.** One League Championship Series shall be contested in each League between the winners of the two Division Series in that League. Each League Championship Series shall be a best-of-seven-games format.

(d) **WORLD SERIES.** The World Series shall take place at the end of the League Championship Series each year. The World Series shall be a best-of-seven-games format.

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**MLR 36(a) to 38(a)**

**Rule 36**

**POST-SEASON SUPERVISION BY THE COMMISSIONER**

(a) The games in each post-season series shall be played under the supervision, control and direction of the Commissioner.

(b) All questions arising out of the playing of the Wild Card Game, Division Series, League Championship Series or World Series not provided for in the Major League Rules, nor covered by the Official Baseball Rules, shall be dealt with and decided by the Commissioner.

**Rule 37**

**PENNANT AND MEMENTO**

(a) **WORLD SERIES.** The emblem of the World Series championship shall be a pennant, to be presented to the victorious World Series Club each year, and an appropriate memento shall be awarded to each player, the manager, each coach and the general manager of the victorious Club. Both the pennant and the memento shall be selected by the Commissioner. The cost of the mementos for the World Series winner shall not exceed \$1,500 each, including tax.

(b) **PRESENTATION.** The World Series pennant and mementos shall be presented to the victorious Club and its players, each year, by the Commissioner, who is authorized to arrange for all of the details of such presentation.

(c) **LEAGUE CHAMPIONS.** The victorious Club in each season's League Championship Series shall be entitled to display a pennant symbolizing the Club's League championship.

**Rule 38**

**POST-SEASON SCHEDULE**

(a) **ORDER OF GAMES.** The Commissioner shall promulgate a schedule for the Wild Card Game, Division Series, the League Championship Series and the World Series.

(1) **Wild Card Game.** The Wild Card Game shall be scheduled to be played in the ballpark of the Club with the higher percentage than its opponent of games won and lost in the championship season as set forth in Rule 35(a).

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(2) Division Series. Games 1, 2 and 5 of each Division Series shall be scheduled to be played in the ballpark of the Club with the higher percentage than its Division Series opponent of games won and lost in the championship season; provided, however, that Games 1, 2 and 5 shall be scheduled in the ballpark of the opponent of the winner of the Wild Card Game, notwithstanding the percentage of games won and lost by such Wild Card Club. Games 3 and 4 shall be scheduled to be played in the ballpark of the Club that is the visiting Club in Games 1, 2 and 5.

(3) League Championship Series. Games 1, 2, 6 and 7 of each League Championship Series shall be scheduled to be played in the ballpark of the Club with the higher percentage than its League Championship Series opponent of games won and lost in the championship season; provided, however, that Games 1, 2, 6 and 7 shall be scheduled in the ballpark of the opponent of a Wild Card Club in the League Championship Series, notwithstanding the percentage of games won and lost by such Wild Card Club. Games 3, 4 and 5 shall be scheduled to be played in the ballpark of the Club that is the visiting Club in Games 1, 2, 6 and 7.

(4) World Series. Games 1, 2, 6 and 7 shall be scheduled to be played in the ballpark of the League Championship Club with the higher percentage than its World Series opponent of games won and lost during the championship season. Games 3, 4 and 5 shall be scheduled to be played in the ballpark of the Club that is the visiting Club in Games 1, 2, 6 and 7.

(5) Home-field Advantage for Tied Clubs. In the event two Clubs have identical winning percentages in the championship season, then for purposes of Rules 38(a)(2) (Division Series), 38(a)(3) (League Championship Series), and 38(a)(4) (World Series), the Club that shall be scheduled to host the majority of games in the applicable series shall be the Club deemed to have the higher winning percentage pursuant to the procedures set forth in Rule 35(b)(3).

**(b) POSTPONED AND SUSPENDED GAMES.** A Wild Card, Division Series, League Championship Series or World Series game that is postponed or suspended shall be played or resumed, as the case may be, on the grounds for which it was scheduled or begun before the succeeding scheduled game hosted by the other competing Club shall be contested. The dates assigned for subsequent games shall be adjusted accordingly. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, after consultation with

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officials of the home and visiting Clubs and, with regard to player health and safety issues, the designee of the Major League Baseball Players Association, shall determine whether, on account of weather or the conditions of the playing field, a Wild Card, Division Series, League Championship Series or World Series game shall be played or resumed or shall be suspended.

**Rule 39**

**POST-SEASON SERIES TERMINATION**

**(a) BY VICTORY.** The Clubs participating in the Division Series, League Championship Series, or World Series shall play each day according to the authorized schedule until one of them has won the required number of victories at which time the series shall end. The required number of victories shall be three in the case of each Division Series and four in the case of each League Championship Series or the World Series.

**(b) BY COMMISSIONER.** The Commissioner shall have the right to terminate a post-season series at any time that the Commissioner deems the interest of Baseball demands it, and to declare one of the contesting Clubs the winner of that series regardless of previous performances.

**Rule 40**

**POST-SEASON PLAYING RULES**

The games shall be conducted according to the playing rules governing competition for the championship season, except as provided for in Rule 17(a) (Official Baseball Rules). If the playing rules of the two Major Leagues differ, then the playing rules used for each game of the World Series shall be the playing rules of the League of the Club in whose ballpark such World Series game is scheduled to be played.

**Rule 41**

**PLAYERS ELIGIBLE FOR POST-SEASON**

**(a) PLAYERS ELIGIBLE.**

**(1) Major League Roster Players.** To be eligible to play for a Major League Club in a Wild Card Game, Division Series, League Championship Series, or the World Series, a player must

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(A) have been on a Major League Active, Injured, Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency, Paternity, Suspended or Military List of such Major League Club as of Midnight Eastern Time on August 31, or on such date be under control, but on optional assignment, or on assignment from another Major League organization and not yet reported; and

(B) have remained reserved to such Major League Club (at the Major or Minor League levels) through the beginning of the applicable post-season series, unless the player is replacing an injured player pursuant to Rule 41(a)(3).

(2) Submission of Rosters. Each Major League Club that participates in a postseason series (including the Wild Card Game) must establish for each such series, from its complement of eligible players, an active roster of no more than 26 (and no less than 25) players and transmit such active roster to the Office of the Commissioner at such time before the scheduled start of each post-season series as the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may set. Each player named to the roster for a series must be expected to be physically able to perform at some point in such series. No player on the Injured List whose minimum period of inactivity has not yet expired before the scheduled start of the post-season series may be named to the roster for such series or otherwise replaced under this Rule 41. No player who has been assigned optionally or outright to the Minor Leagues may be named to the roster for such series or otherwise replaced under this Rule 41 unless 10 days for position players or 15 days for pitchers or "Two-Way Players" have elapsed from the most recent assignment to the Minor Leagues (or Spring Training facility), unless the player is replacing a player who, subsequent to the assignment (A) is unable to render service in such series because of a specific injury or ailment; (B) is unable to render service in such series because of the serious or severe illness or death of a player's immediate family (e.g. spouse, parent, grandparent, sibling, child, or grandchild) or a member of such player's spouse's immediate family; or (C) is the father of a child whose delivery or adoption is imminent (i.e., within 48 hours of the assignment). In the event the player is replacing a player who subsequent to the assignment is unable to render service in such series because of a specific injury or ailment, and the replacement occurs prior to the start of the postseason series, the injured player being replaced shall be ineligible to play for the entirety of that postseason series (as well as the Division Series, in the event the



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replacement occurred prior to the start of the Wild Card Game in which the player's team was participating). In the event the player is replacing a player who subsequent to the assignment is unable to render service in such series because of the serious or severe illness or death of a player's immediate family (e.g. spouse, parent, grandparent, sibling, child, or grandchild) or a member of such player's spouse's immediate family, or because he is the father of a child whose delivery or adoption is imminent (i.e., within 48 hours of the assignment), the player being replaced shall be ineligible to play in a postseason game until he satisfies the minimum period of placement on the Post-Season Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List or the Post-Season Paternity List under Rule 41(a)(5) or (6) following the start of that series.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Club may designate a 27<sup>th</sup> player for any postseason series except the Wild Card Game, provided that the 27<sup>th</sup> player is a catcher replacing a catcher who is unable to play as a result of an acute concussion and who is expected to be able to return to play once at least seven days have elapsed since the date the concussion diagnostic form and supporting documentation were appropriately submitted; provided that the replaced catcher may be eligible to play prior to the expiration of the seven-day period of inactivity if Major League Baseball's Medical Director has reviewed a Return to Play form and supporting information and approved the reinstatement, and the Players Association and the player consent to the reinstatement. In order to submit a roster of 27 players under this Rule, the Club must submit documentation necessary to place the concussed player on the seven (7) day Injured List under Rule 2(c)(1)(A)(ii). Once the concussed catcher returns to play as set forth in Rule 2(c)(1)(D), the Club must remove the replacement catcher from the roster. Except as permitted in Rule 41(a)(2), 41(a)(4), 41(a)(5) and 41(a)(6), there shall be no substitutions made during a post-season series following a Major League Club's submission of its active roster for that series.

**(3) Replacements for Injured Players Before a Series.** With the express consent of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee prior to the start of a postseason series (including the Wild Card Game), a Club may name a player in its organization to a roster for such series in order to replace an injured Major League player. A Club will not be permitted to name such a replacement unless

**(A)** the injured Major League player is eligible under Rule 41(a)(1);

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**(B)** the injured Major League player is unable to render service in such series because of a specific injury or ailment;

**(C)** the injured Major League player's Club has submitted written proof of the player's injury; and

**(D)** the injured Major League player's Club has requested permission from the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee to name such a replacement.

If the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee grants permission to the injured Major League player's Club to make such a replacement, the player named to the roster for the series (including the Wild Card Game) as a replacement must also be an eligible player pursuant to Rule 41(a)(1) or must

**(E)** have been on a Minor League Active, Injured, Temporarily Inactive, Development, Suspended or Military List of such Major League Club as of Midnight Eastern Time on August 31, or on such date be designated for assignment or under control, but not yet reported, on assignment from another Major League organization;

**(F)** have remained reserved to such Major League Club (at the Major or Minor League levels) through the time of replacement; and

**(G)** be placed on the Club's Major League Reserve List.

**(4) Replacements for Injured Players During a Series.** A Club may request permission from the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee to replace on the Club's active roster for the remainder of a post-season series a player who is unable to render service in such post-season series because of an acute, non-chronic injury or ailment (not recurring soreness over time) that occurred after the Club's roster for such series had been submitted, provided that the Club submits written proof of the injury to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may approve or disapprove a request for a roster substitution and may make whatever investigation the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee deems appropriate in exercising such discretion. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee's exercise of discretion may include disapproval of the request for a roster substitution if the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee determines that the

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request was not made in a reasonable amount of time in advance of a game to allow for investigation of the facts and circumstances. If the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee gives express approval for the substitution,

(A) the player added to the roster must also be an eligible player pursuant to Rule 41(a)(1) or Rules 41(a)(3)(E) through (G);

(B) a pitcher may be replaced only by a pitcher or a Two-Way player; a position player may be replaced only by a position player or a Two-Way Player; a Two-Way player may be replaced only by a position player or a Two-Way player, unless the Club's postseason active roster has less than 13 pitchers at the time of such replacement, in which case the Two-Way player may be replaced by a position player, a Two-Way player or a pitcher; and

(C) the injured player being replaced shall be ineligible to play for the remainder of such series, as well as the next subsequent post-season series that year. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a replaced player, who has suffered an acute concussion during a post-season series, may be eligible to play in the next subsequent post-season series that year, provided that the replaced player has been ineligible to play for a minimum of seven days since the date the concussion diagnostic form and supporting documentation were appropriately submitted, and Major League Baseball's Medical Director has reviewed a Return to Play form and supporting information and approved the reinstatement; and, provided further that a replaced catcher, who has suffered an acute concussion during a post-season series that year, may be eligible to play prior to the expiration of the seven-day period of inactivity if Major League Baseball's Medical Director has reviewed a Return to Play form and supporting information and approved the reinstatement, and the Players Association and the player consent to the reinstatement.

(5) Replacement for Players Placed on Post-Season Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List. Upon written application to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, a Major League Club may request that a player (other than a pitcher who has pitched at least four consecutive innings in any game in that post-season series, unless three days have elapsed) be placed on the Post-Season Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List during a post-season series. No player may be placed on the Post-Season Bereavement/Family Medical

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Emergency List unless such player is unable to render services because of the serious or severe illness or death of a player's immediate family (e.g., spouse, parent, grandparent, sibling, child, or grandchild) or a member of such player's spouse's immediate family. The Office of the Commissioner shall carefully scrutinize such application, including any documentation submitted by the Club in furtherance thereof, and reserves the right to deny such placement in the absence of appropriate evidence to support such placement.

The minimum period of placement on the Post-Season Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List shall be three consecutive days and the maximum period of placement shall be seven consecutive days, during which placement the player is not permitted to be with the player's Club. During such placement the player may be replaced, provided the replacement meets the requirements of Rule 41(a)(4)(A) and (B). Following the period of leave or the expiration of the maximum period for placement on the Post-Season Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List, the player must be reinstated to the post-season roster in effect at the time, regardless of whether the player has returned, and the replacing player must be removed from the roster. Placement on this list during one series (including the required minimum period of placement) shall not carry over to a subsequent series. Thus, following the completion of the series during which the player was placed on the Post-Season Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List, the player must be included on the Club's roster for any subsequent series in order to be eligible to play even if the term of his placement (or the maximum period of placement) has not expired.

**(6) Replacement for Players Placed on Post-Season Paternity List.** Upon written application to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee, a Major League Club may request that a player (other than a pitcher who has pitched at least four consecutive innings in any game in that post-season series, unless three days have elapsed) be placed on the Post-Season Paternity Leave List during a post-season series. No player may be placed on the List unless that player is the father of a child whose delivery or adoption is imminent or has occurred within the prior 48 hours. The Office of the Commissioner shall carefully scrutinize such application, including any documentation submitted by the Club in furtherance thereof, and reserves the right to deny such placement in the absence of appropriate evidence to support such placement.

The minimum period of placement on the Post-Season Paternity Leave List shall be one day and the maximum period of placement shall

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be three consecutive days, during which placement the player is not to be permitted to be with the player's Club. During such placement the player may be replaced, provided the replacement meets the requirements of Rule 41(a)(4)(A) and (B). If the player's absence from the player's Major League Club continues past the maximum period of Post-Season Paternity Leave List placement as a result of a serious illness or death arising from the delivery of the child, the player's Club may submit written application to the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee to transfer the player to the Post-Season Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List, provided that any time spent on the Post-Season Paternity Leave List shall count towards the minimum inactivity period. See Rule 41(a)(5). Following the period of leave or the expiration of the maximum period for placement on the Post-Season Paternity Leave List (or maximum period for placement on the Post-Season Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List if a subsequent transfer to such list was requested and approved), the player must be reinstated to the post-season roster in effect at the time, regardless of whether the player has returned, and the replacing player must be removed from the roster. Placement on this list during one series shall not carry over to a subsequent series. Thus, following the completion of the series during which the player was placed on the Post-Season Paternity Leave List, the player must be included on the Club's roster for any subsequent series in order to be eligible to play even if the term of his placement (or the maximum period of placement) has not expired.

**(b) COACHES ELIGIBLE.** To be eligible for a Wild Card Game, Division Series, League Championship Series, or the World Series, a coach must be a bona fide member of a qualifying team on and after August 31 to the end of the season of the year in which the series is played, under contract or terms of acceptance approved and promulgated by the Commissioner. No additional coaches will be permitted, but coaches may be substituted for, subject to the approval of the Commissioner.

**(c) PLAYERS ELIGIBLE — MINOR LEAGUE POST-SEASON.** Each Minor League Club that participates in post-season playoffs must establish for such playoffs, from its complement of eligible players, an active roster of no more than the maximum number of Active List players set forth in Rule 2(b)(3) as of the end of the championship season for such Minor League Club's classification. Each Minor League Club that

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participates in post-season playoffs shall transmit such active roster to the Office of the Commissioner no later than noon local time of the first scheduled date of such playoffs for such Club.

**Rule 42**

**POST-SEASON EXPENSES**

**(a) PAID BY COMMISSIONER.** The expenses of the Commissioner pertaining to these games, the compensation of the umpires, scorers, business representatives, and other miscellaneous and contingent expenses in connection with these games shall be met by the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall also pay expenses incurred by a Club not participating in the Series in the printing of tickets for such a Series, when such printing has been authorized previously by the Commissioner.

**(b) CLUBS' EXPENSES.** Except as set forth in Rule 45(b)(1)(D), the expenses of both Clubs, such as hotel bills and traveling expenses, baseballs, advertising, printing of all tickets, policing of grounds, ticket sellers and takers, incidentals, etc., shall be paid by the Club incurring the same. Should any difference arise at any time as to the latter expense, the same shall be submitted to the Commissioner for adjudication, and the Commissioner's findings shall be conclusive.

**Rule 43**

**POST-SEASON PLAYING GROUNDS**

Spectators will not be permitted to encroach or stand on the playing field at any time during a Wild Card, Division Series, League Championship Series, or World Series game, unless the Commissioner grants special authority to do so. A Club that plans to accommodate patrons in excess of the regular seating capacity of its plant is required to erect, with the approval of the municipal authorities and permission of the Commissioner, safe temporary stands or seats with a strong railing in front thereof, extending from the grandstand or skirting the outfield.

**Rule 44**

**POST-SEASON ADMISSIONS**

**(a) RATES.** The rates of admission and the conditions governing the same for Wild Card, Division Series, League Championship Series and World Series games shall be fixed by and under the control of the Major League Executive Council.

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**(b) FREE LIST SUSPENDED.** The free list shall be suspended during Wild Card, Division Series, League Championship Series and World Series games, except to representatives of the press and official guests of the Commissioner.

**(c) TICKETS.** The sale, distribution of and settlement for tickets for Wild Card, Division Series, League Championship Series and World Series games will be conducted as follows:

**(1)** Each Club shall provide its reserved seat and general admission tickets with rain checks attached.

**(2)** Reserved seat coupon tickets for home games of the selling Club shall be sold and distributed prior to the opening of the series at a time and in a manner annually approved by the Commissioner, to meet local conditions.

**(3)** Clubs shall print post-season tickets if and when the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee so directs, in a form and manner the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may determine. A Club printing post-season tickets shall pay for them in such manner as the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may direct.

**(d) SEAT DIAGRAM.** Prior to the day of the Wild Card Game, and the first scheduled game of each Division Series, League Championship Series or World Series in its city, each contesting Club shall furnish the representatives of the Commissioner with a numbered diagram of all its reserved seats, whether in permanent or temporary stands, and the settlement therefor by the Club with the representatives of the Commissioner shall be on the basis of the difference between the number of unsold tickets and the number listed on such diagram. The count of all tickets sold for each such game shall be compared by the Commissioner's representatives with the turnstile registers, and the home Club shall settle for the larger number.

**(e) TICKET PRIORITIES.** The order in which requests for reserved seat tickets for the World Series shall be filed is as follows:

**(1)** Visiting Club. Five hundred reserved seat tickets for each game to the visiting club, for accommodations of its officials and guests, the same to be paid for by the visiting Club.

**(2)** Players. Five tickets for each eligible player of the visiting team, which shall be delivered to and paid for by each player through the business manager of the player's Club.

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(3) Commissioner's Office and Club Officials. Requests filed by the Commissioner's Office and Major League Club officials or parties of prominence with the Commissioner.

(4) Major League Clubs. Major League Clubs (other than the visiting Club), 100 reserved seat tickets, 16 of which shall be box seats. Eight of the 16 box seats shall be grouped together in the lower deck between first and third base, and 20 of the remaining 84 reserved seats shall be so situated.

(f) **DAILY SETTLEMENT.** A settlement shall be made by the home Club with the representatives of the Commissioner after the close of each Wild Card, Division Series, League Championship Series or World Series game, by turning over to them within 24 hours one check for the gross paid attendance receipts, as defined in Rule 23(a) (Paid Attendance), the same being made payable to the Commissioner's Office.

**Rule 45**

**DIVISION OF POST-SEASON RECEIPTS**

The gate receipts from the World Series, from the first four games of each League Championship Series, from the first three games of each Division Series, and from the Wild Card games (which shall be remitted by the participating Clubs to the Office of the Commissioner within 24 hours after the completion of each game) shall be divided as follows:

(a) **COMMISSIONER.** Fifteen percent from all World Series games shall be paid to the Office of the Commissioner. A percentage set annually by the Commissioner, and approved by the Major League Executive Council, in accordance with Rule 23(b) (Assessment of Paid Attendance Receipts), from all League Championship Series, Division Series, and Wild Card games shall be paid to the Office of the Commissioner.

(b) **PLAYERS.**

(1) Creation of Pool. One players' pool shall be created from the World Series, the two League Championship Series, the four Division Series, and the two Wild Card games. Contributions shall be made into the pool as follows:

(A) Sixty percent of the total gate receipts from the first four World Series games;



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(B) Sixty percent of the total gate receipts from the first four games of each League Championship Series; and

(C) Sixty percent of the total gate receipts from the first three games (four if the Division Series is expanded to the best of seven games) of each Division Series.

(D) Fifty percent of the total gate receipts from each Wild Card Game after deducting the traveling expenses of the visiting Clubs (up to a maximum of \$100,000 per Club) from the total gate.

(2) Distribution of Pool. The players' pool shall be apportioned and distributed to the players, by Club, by the Secretary-Treasurer as follows:

(A) Thirty-six percent to the team winning the World Series.

(B) Twenty-four percent to the team losing the World Series.

(C) Twenty-four percent to be divided equally between the losing teams in each of the two League Championship Series.

(D) Thirteen percent to be divided equally among the losing teams in each of the four Division Series.

(E) Three percent to be divided equally between the losing teams in each of the Wild Card Games.

(3) How Apportioned. At meetings presided over by the player representatives, the players' pool shall be apportioned according to the vote of all players of each team referred to in Rule 45(b)(2) who

(A) are eligible to participate in the World Series for that year under Rule 41 if their team wins its League Championship; and

(B) have been with their respective Major League Clubs (i.e., on a Major League Active, Injured, Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency, Paternity, Suspended or Military List of such Major League Club, or on assignment from another Major League organization not yet reported) on and subsequent to June 1 of the current year.

Attendance at each such meeting shall be limited to players, except that the field manager, prior to being excused from such meeting, shall be given first the opportunity to express his views as to the division of the pool. At the invitation of the player representative, the field manager may be present during the remainder of the meeting, or any

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part thereof. Club personnel are otherwise prohibited from attempting to influence, or interfere with, the players' division of the pool, either before or after the vote is completed. The vote of the players shall not be subject to alteration, except as may be required to conform to the Major League Rules.

The Office of the Commissioner shall send a draft of the voting schedules to the Players Association for approval before transmitting the final schedules to the Club. On or before the final day of the championship season, the player representative shall provide the Club with the schedules reflecting the vote of the players. The player representative shall execute the schedules and complete them in his own handwriting. The Club shall, within 48 hours of receipt from the player representatives, submit copies of such executed and handwritten schedules to the Commissioner's Office and the Players Association.

**(4) Eligibility.** All players and managers with their respective Major League Clubs (i.e., on a Major League Active, Injured, Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency, Paternity, Suspended or Military List of such Major League Club, or on assignment from another Major League organization not yet reported) on and subsequent to June 1 of the current year and eligible to participate in the World Series for the current year under Rule 41 shall receive a full share. Players and managers not with their respective teams on and subsequent to June 1 of the current year, two certified athletic trainers and one strength and conditioning coach shall be entitled only to such shares as are voted by the players entitled to receive a full share.

A player who, during the year, has been a member of more than one Club shall be entitled to receive such shares as may be voted to the player by the players of any participating Clubs of which the player was a member, provided that the total amount voted to a player shall not exceed the larger of the amounts receivable by a player voted a full share by any such Club. The term "a full share" shall be construed to mean one equal part (disregarding fractional differences) of the funds payable to the team, according to the total number of shares, after deducting or allowing for the special allotments as voted by the players.

All other non-uniformed personnel (including, but not limited to, spring training coaches, traveling secretaries, clubhouse personnel, media relations personnel, scouts, and members of the grounds crew) shall not be eligible to receive a percentage share of the players' pool, but shall be eligible to receive cash awards of defined dollar value;

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provided, however, that no cash award may exceed the value of a full share. Notwithstanding the above, the following individuals are not eligible to receive, or be paid, any money out of the players' pool: employees of a Club in an executive level position (including, but not limited to, general manager, assistant general manager, or director of baseball operations), club-affiliated physicians, individuals employed or otherwise retained by the Commissioner's Office, including Resident Security Agents (RSAs), or individuals on the Ineligible List at the time the distribution is made.

**(5) Pooling Shares Penalized.** Any player or person who shall promise or agree to pool his or her interest, apportionment or share in any of said receipts or funds with any other person or persons entitled to participate in the apportionment of such receipts or funds; or who shall give, or promise to give, any part thereof to a player, coach, official or employee of any other Major League Club, or to a Major League umpire; or who shall solicit or attempt to induce a player or other person to make any such promise, agreement or gift; or who, being solicited to make any such promise, agreement, or gift, shall fail to inform the Commissioner immediately of such solicitation, and of all facts and circumstances connected therewith, shall be subject to such penalties (including forfeiture of his or her apportionment or share, fine, suspension, and/or temporary or permanent ineligibility) as, in the judgment of the Commissioner, the facts and circumstances in the particular case may warrant.

**(c) CLUBS — COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.**

**(1) World Series.** After the fifteen percent payable to the Office of the Commissioner and the sixty percent which forms the players' pool in the first four games of the World Series, as required by Rule 45(b)(1)(A), the balance of the gate receipts shall be equally divided between the two participating Major League Clubs.

**(2) League Championship Series.**

**(A)** After the percentage payable to the Commissioner's Office pursuant to Rule 45(a) and the sixty percent which forms the players' pool in the first four League Championship Series games in each League, as required by Rule 45(b)(1)(B), the balance of the gate receipts from said four League Championship Series games of a League shall be equally divided between the two Clubs participating in the League Championship Series of that League.

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**(B)** If the League Championship Series games in a League shall exceed four, the gate receipts of such playoff games in excess of four shall be divided as follows: first, the Commissioner's Office shall be paid the percentage described in Rule 45(a), and then the remaining receipts shall be equally divided between the two Clubs participating in the League Championship Series of that League.

**(3) Division Series.**

**(A)** After the percentage payable to the Commissioner's Office pursuant to Rule 45(a) and the sixty percent which forms the players' pool in the first three Division Series games in each Division Series, as required by Rule 45(b)(1)(C), the balance of the gate receipts from said three Division Series games in each Division Series shall be equally divided between the two Clubs participating in such Division Series.

**(B)** If the games in a Division Series shall exceed three, the gate receipts of such playoff games in excess of three shall be divided as follows: first, the Commissioner's Office shall be paid the percentage described in Rule 45(a), and then the remaining receipts shall be equally divided between the two Clubs participating in such Division Series.

**(4) Wild Card.** After the percentage payable to the Commissioner's Office pursuant to Rule 45(a) and the fifty percent which forms the players' pool in the Wild Card games, as required by Rule 45(b)(1)(D), the balance of the gate receipts from the Wild Card games shall be equally divided between the two Clubs participating in each Wild Card game.

**(d) GUARANTEE OF PLAYERS' POOL.**

**(1)** To the extent, if any, that the players' pool provides a total of less than \$4,608,000 for the World Series winner, the amount to be distributed to such winner shall be increased to \$4,608,000. To the extent, if any, that the players' pool provides a total of less than \$3,072,000 for the World Series loser, the amount to be distributed to such loser shall be increased to \$3,072,000.

**(2)** To the extent, if any, that the players' pool provides a total of less than \$3,072,000 for both League Championship Series losers (\$1,536,000 each), the amount to be distributed to such losers shall be increased to \$3,072,000 (\$1,536,000 each).

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(3) To the extent, if any, that the players' pool provides a total of less than \$1,664,000 (\$416,000 each) for the Division Series losers, the total amount to be distributed to such Division Series losers shall be increased to \$1,664,000 (\$416,000).

(4) To the extent, if any, that the players' pool provides a total of less than \$384,000 (\$192,000) for the Wild Card losers, the total amount to be distributed to such Wild Card losers shall be increased to \$384,000 (\$192,000).

(5) If, during the term of any Basic Agreement in effect between the Major Leagues and the Major League Baseball Players Association, the Clubs raise World Series ticket prices, the guarantees set forth subparagraphs (1), (2), (3) and (4) of this Rule 45(d) shall be increased a pro rata amount, such amount established by averaging the percentage increase of a box seat ticket and the percentage increase of a reserved seat ticket and increasing each guarantee by such percentage.

**Rule 46**

**BONUS FORBIDDEN**

(a) **PROHIBITION.** Neither of the contesting Clubs shall give or pay a bonus or prize to any or all of its players before or after the completion of the series, and a player released or transferred by a Club and thereafter signed by another Club in the same League shall not participate in the proceeds of such series as a present or reward from the player's former teammates, the releasing Club or any of its officials.

(b) **PENALTIES.** Violations of this Rule 46 are punishable by a fine to be imposed by the Commissioner. The amount of the fine may equal but shall not exceed the aggregate amount paid to any and all players in violation of this Rule 46, notwithstanding the limitations of penalties set forth in Rule 50.

**Rule 47**

**EXHIBITION GAMES**

Both teams that contest in the World Series are required to disband immediately after its close and the members thereof are forbidden to participate as individuals or as a team in exhibition games during the year in which that World Championship was decided; provided, however, that the Commissioner may grant permission to individual members of the two

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teams on their application to participate in such exhibition games, on conditions to be prescribed by the Commissioner, but in no event shall such permission authorize the appearance in any one exhibition game of more than three players out of the joint membership of the two World Series teams, nor shall such permission authorize the playing of any such exhibition games after 30 days following the close of the Major League championship season.

**Rule 48**

**OBLIGATIONS OF PARTICIPANTS**

Each of the Clubs, players, and umpires, participating or eligible to participate in a World Series, or in any series played or to be played under these Rules and under the Commissioner's auspices, shall faithfully carry out all the provisions of these Rules and regulations, and such others as may hereafter be made to govern such games, and shall not abandon such series, or any game thereof, until it shall have been legally terminated. Any such participant who in connection with any such series or game shall violate any of the Major League or World Series Rules (including particularly but not exclusively Rule 21 (Misconduct)) shall be subject to forfeiture, in whole or in part, of the share of the receipts or other compensation which otherwise would accrue to such participant, and/or to such other penalties, including ineligibility, as the Commissioner, upon consideration of the facts and circumstances connected therewith, shall determine.

**Rule 49**

**HOLIDAYS**

Except as otherwise may be provided in the Basic Agreement or Major League Rules, whenever, by the terms of a player's contract, or of the Major League Constitution or Rules, a particular act or thing is required to be done on or before a designated date, and said date falls on a Sunday, or on a January 1, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas or any legal holiday, the following business day shall be substituted.

**Rule 50**

**ENFORCEMENT OF MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

**(a) PENALTIES.** In case the Commissioner shall determine that a League or a Club has violated any of the foregoing Rules, as to which

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penalty provisions are not otherwise set forth in the Major League Constitution or Major League Rules, the Commissioner may take action consistent with the Commissioner's powers under the Major League Constitution.

**(b) PAYMENT OF FINES.** Upon notification of fine, it shall become the duty of the League or Club to make prompt payment thereof to the Commissioner. In case of non-payment, the Commissioner may suspend the benefit of any or all of these Rules as respects the League or Club in default until such time as payment is made.

**(c) CONTINUITY OF ASSIGNMENTS, AGREEMENTS AND TRANSACTIONS.** All assignments whether optional or otherwise of players' contracts and all agreements and/or other transactions involving players' contracts mentioned in or provided for by the Major League Constitution and the Major League Rules shall be given, and shall have the same force and effect for all and every purpose, notwithstanding the stock ownership or control either directly or indirectly by any one Club or by a stockholder or stockholders of any one Club in/or of one or more other Clubs.

Provided further that in no event shall ownership and/or control directly or indirectly be permitted by one Club or by a stockholder or the stockholders of one Club in another Club of the same League.

**ACCEPTANCE**

The foregoing Major League Rules having been proposed by the Major League Executive Council pursuant to the provisions of the Major League Constitution and have been duly accepted by the Major League Clubs. These Rules are recognized as binding upon all their constituent Clubs and can be amended only as provided in said Major League Constitution, and, to the extent applicable, the PDL and the Minor League Guidelines.

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**ATTACHMENT 3**

**MINOR LEAGUE UNIFORM  
PLAYER CONTRACT**

**I. Parties**

The parties to this Minor League Uniform Player Contract are those identified in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Addendum A.

**II. Definitions**

A. As used in this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, the term “Player” shall refer to the individual identified in paragraph 1 of Addendum A.

B. The term “Major League” shall refer to The American League of Professional Baseball Clubs, The National League of Professional Baseball Clubs and any other professional baseball league that is granted Major League status pursuant to the Major League Agreement (MLA).

C. The term “Major League Club” shall refer to a professional baseball club that is a member in good standing of a Major League.

D. The term “Major League Player” shall refer to a professional baseball player who is on an Active List, Injured List or other Inactive List of a Major League Club.

E. The term “Minor League” shall refer to any domestic or foreign professional baseball league that, either directly or through membership in an association or other entity, is party to an agreement with the Major Leagues and that recognizes the authority of the Commissioner.

F. The term “Minor League Club” shall refer to any professional baseball club that is a member in good standing of a Minor League.

G. The term “Minor League Player” shall refer to any professional baseball player who is on a Minor League under control list and/or a Minor League Reserve List of a Major League Club and/or any professional baseball player who is on the Active List, Injured List or other Inactive List of a Minor League Club.

H. The term “Commissioner” shall refer to the individual who holds the office of Commissioner of Baseball pursuant to Article I of the MLA (or, in the absence of a Commissioner, any person or entity succeeding to the powers and duties of the Commissioner pursuant to the MLA) or the Commissioner’s designee.



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I. The term “Club” shall refer to the professional baseball club identified in paragraph 2 of Addendum A, and any other Major League Club or Minor League Club to which this Minor League Uniform Player Contract may be assigned, loaned, leased or otherwise transferred. The term “Club” also shall refer to any Major League Club or Minor League Club for which Player is directed to perform.

J. The terms “Minor League Reserve List” and “Minor League under control list” shall refer to the lists filed pursuant to the Major League Rules of all Minor League Uniform Player Contracts to which that Club holds title.

K. The terms “Major League Reserve List” and “Major League under control list” shall refer to the lists filed pursuant to the Major League Rules of all Major League Uniform Player Contracts that Club holds title to and that Club has placed on the Major League roster.

L. The term “championship playing season” shall refer to the full schedule of regular-season games that has been approved for Club.

M. The term “Minor League Association” shall refer to any association of Minor League Clubs and/or Minor Leagues that is party to an agreement with the Major Leagues and that recognizes the authority of the Commissioner.

**III. Recital**

The Major Leagues have jointly subscribed to the Major League Agreement (MLA) and the Major League Rules (MLR). The parties agree that they and this Minor League Uniform Player Contract are therefore subject to and governed by the MLA and MLR, which are fully incorporated in this Minor League Uniform Player Contract as if set forth herein verbatim. The Major Leagues are currently party to the Professional Baseball Agreement (PBA) with the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues (National Association). To the extent that this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is assigned, loaned, leased or otherwise transferred to a Minor League Club which is a member of a National Association League (or the player is directed by the Club to perform for, or report to, such Minor League Club), the parties acknowledge (A) that they and this Minor League Uniform Player Contract are bound by, subject to and governed by the then-existing PBA and any subsequent amendments to that document, and (B) that the then-existing PBA (and any subsequent amendments to that document) are fully incorporated in this Minor League Uniform Player Contract as if set forth herein verbatim.

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To the extent that this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is assigned, loaned, leased or otherwise transferred to a Minor League Club which is not a member of a National Association League (or the Player is directed by the Club to perform for, or report to, such Minor League Club), the parties acknowledge (A) that they and this Minor League Uniform Player Contract are bound by, subject to and governed by any agreement(s) and any subsequent amendments to any present or future agreements then in effect between the Major Leagues and the Minor League or Minor League Association of which the Minor League Club is a member and (B) that any such agreements (and any subsequent amendments to any such agreements) are fully incorporated in this Minor League Uniform Player Contract as if set forth herein verbatim.

#### **IV. Scope**

Subject to the provisions of the Basic Agreement applicable to Major League Players performing for Minor League Clubs and/or in Minor Leagues, this Minor League Uniform Player Contract shall set the terms and conditions of Player's employment during all periods in which Player is employed by Club as a Minor League Player. The Basic Agreement and the Major League Uniform Player Contract shall exclusively govern the terms and conditions of Player's employment during all periods in which Player is performing services for Club as a Major League Player. This Minor League Uniform Player Contract therefore shall have no application during any period in which Player is on Club's Major League Active, Injured or other Inactive List.

#### **V. Agreement**

In consideration of the foregoing Recital and Scope provisions, for the mutual representations, promises, covenants and agreements contained herein (including in Addenda A, B and C) and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties, intending to be legally bound, promise, covenant and agree as follows.

#### **VI. Duration and Conditions of Employment**

A. Unless a different term of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is set forth in Addendum A, Club hereby employs Player to render, and Player agrees to render, skilled services as a Minor League Player in seven (7) separate championship playing seasons, commencing with the beginning of the championship playing season identified in paragraph 3 of Addendum A, or the portion of that regular championship playing season remaining after the execution date of this Minor League Uniform Player

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Contract, as specified in paragraph 4 of Addendum A, whichever date is later. Unless this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is terminated pursuant to Paragraph XIX, the term of employment shall extend until Player has performed services for Club as a Minor League Player in the requisite total of separate championship playing seasons. For purposes of determining whether Player has performed in the requisite total of separate championship playing seasons, Player shall not be deemed to have performed services as a Minor League Player during any championship playing season in which Player is on either the Major League Active List, the Major League Injured List or other Major League Inactive List (or combination of the foregoing) for the entire season. Player also shall not be deemed to have performed services as a Minor League Player in any championship playing season in which Player is on the Restricted List, Disqualified List, Suspended List, Ineligible List, Voluntarily Retired List or Military List (or combinations of the foregoing) for the entire season. Player also shall not be deemed to have performed services as a Minor League Player in any championship season in which Player withholds services for any portion of the championship playing season or playoff games at the conclusion of that championship playing season. For purposes of determining whether Player has performed services in the requisite total of separate championship playing seasons, service in winter league play shall be excluded.

B. This Minor League Uniform Player Contract obligates Player to perform professional services on a calendar year basis, regardless of the fact that salary payments are to be made only during the actual championship playing season. The salary paid is in part based on considerations in addition to the actual performance of services during the championship playing season. Player therefore understands and agrees that Player's duties and obligations under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract continue in full force and effect throughout the calendar year, including Club's championship playing season, Club's training season, Club's exhibition games, Club's instructional, post-season training or winter league games, any official play-off series, any other official post-season series in which Club shall be required to participate, any other game or games in the receipts of which Player may be entitled to a share, and any remaining portions of the calendar year. Player's duties and obligations shall continue in full force and effect until October 15 of the calendar year of the last championship playing season covered by this Minor League Uniform Player Contract.

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C. Player and Club also agree to comply with all decisions of the Commissioner pursuant to the provisions of the MLA and MLR and, to the extent applicable, the PBA or other agreement in effect between the Major Leagues and one or more Minor Leagues or Minor League Associations.

D. Player's physical condition is important to the safety and welfare of Player and to the success of Club. Thus, to enable Player to become properly fit for Player's duties under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, Club may require Player to maintain Player's playing condition and weight during the off-season and to report for practice and conditioning at such times and places as Club may determine and may require Player to participate in such exhibition games prior to the championship playing season as Club may arrange. Club shall reimburse Player for expenses incurred in traveling from Player's home city to Club's training place and Club shall have the right to select the mode and class of transportation to be used and the route to be taken by Player. In the event Player fails to report for practice and conditioning as required, or fails to participate in exhibition games, Club may impose a reasonable fine upon Player in accordance with Paragraph XX and also require Player to become fit for Player's duties to the satisfaction of Club at Player's own expense.

E. Player represents that Player is aware of the Commissioner's Office Policy (the Policy) prohibiting Minor League Players and other Minor League Personnel from using or possessing tobacco or similar products on ballpark premises or during Club travel. Player also agrees that all Policy provisions (and any subsequent amendments, revisions or additions) shall be incorporated in this Minor League Uniform Player Contract as if set forth herein verbatim.

Player further promises that Player will comply fully with all Policy provisions and that Player's obligation to do so is a material term of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract. Player understands and agrees that any violation of the Policy may subject Player to discipline (including, but not limited to, a monetary fine and/or a suspension) under the terms of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, the MLA and the MLR. Moreover, Player stipulates and agrees that all disputes concerning the Policy and/or Player's compliance with the Policy shall be resolved in accordance with this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, the MLA and the MLR.

**VII. Payment**

A. For the performance of all of the skilled services by Player and for Player's other promises herein contained, Club will pay Player at the monthly rate set out in Addendum C-1 during the first championship

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playing season covered by this Minor League Uniform Player Contract. The Player and Club shall attempt annually to negotiate an applicable monthly salary rate for the next subsequent championship playing season covered by this Minor League Uniform Player Contract. Such negotiations shall be in accordance with the applicable provisions of the MLA and, if applicable, the PBA or other agreement in effect between the Major League and one or more Minor Leagues or Minor League Associations. If the Player and Club reach agreement, the agreed-upon monthly salary rate shall be set out in a new Addendum C, and Player agrees to execute same. If the Player and Club do not reach agreement, then the Player's monthly salary rate for the next championship playing season shall be set by the Club, but shall not be less than eighty percent (80%) of the monthly salary rate set out in the most recently executed Addendum C. If the Player's monthly salary rate is set by the Club, that monthly salary rate shall be set out in a new Addendum C, and Player agrees to execute same. Any monthly salary rate set out in any Addendum C shall conform to any applicable minimum salary requirements contained in the MLR. If Player is a foreign national with a nonimmigrant visa, monthly salary rates set out in any Addendum C shall be adjusted upward as necessary to conform with the minimum required salary levels. The various Addenda C for this Minor League Uniform Player Contract shall be numbered consecutively, for example, Addendum C-1, Addendum C-2, et cetera.

B. The monthly payments under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract will be made in two (2) semi-monthly installments on the 15<sup>th</sup> day and last day of the month after the beginning of Club's championship playing season. The obligation to make such payments to Player shall start with the beginning of Club's championship playing season or such later date as Player reports for championship season play. The obligation to make such payments shall end with the termination of Club's championship playing season and any official play-off series in which Club shall participate, or upon the termination of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, whichever shall occur first. Player shall not be entitled to any payment under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract for any period that Player is on a Major League Active, Injured or other Inactive List. If Player is in the service of Club for part of Club's championship playing season only, Player shall receive such proportion of the rate set forth above as the number of days of Player's actual employment in any month compares to the number of days in said month.

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VIII. Injury of Player

A. If Player is injured during Club's training season and if this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is terminated during Club's training season as a result of that injury, or if this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is later terminated during the first fourteen days of Club's championship playing season while Player is so injured, Player shall be paid by Club at the rate of compensation set out in the most recently executed Addendum C for a period of two weeks from the first day of Club's championship playing season. However, if Player is injured during Club's training season and is not released on or before the fourteenth day of Club's championship playing season, Club shall continue to be obligated to pay Player at the rate of compensation set out in the most recently executed Addendum C until the conclusion of Club's championship playing season, or until an earlier date on which Club may give Player an unconditional release.

B. If Player is injured during Club's championship playing season, that injury shall not impair Player's rights to receive the compensation set forth in subparagraph A of Paragraph VII for a period of fourteen days from the date of such injury if that injury continues for all of such period. It is specifically provided, however, that said fourteen days' period shall not be considered for purposes of determining whether any additional payments may be due Player under any Special Covenants to this Minor League Uniform Player Contract. However, if Player is not released during or at the end of the fourteen days' period, Club shall continue to be obligated to Player for compensation under the terms of subparagraph A of Paragraph VII to the conclusion of Club's championship playing season, or to such earlier date on which Club may give Player an unconditional release.

C. Club also shall pay all of Player's necessary and reasonable hospital and medical expenses incurred during the term of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract by reason of said injury, which expenses are not paid by worker's compensation insurance or other surgical, medical or hospitalization insurance policy, for the number of days in the period of injury or 180 days, whichever is less. Club, however shall always have the right to select the physician or dentist to perform professional services to be rendered to Player as well as the place of delivery of said services, including hospital, offices or clinic, or to approve the person rendering such services or the place where such services are to be performed if selected by Player.

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D. The following conditions are expressly established as conditions precedent to Club's obligation to pay any of the salary provided for in subparagraphs A and B of this Paragraph VIII, or to pay any of the medical or hospital expenses provided for in subparagraph C of this Paragraph VIII:

1. Player's injury must have been a direct and proximate result of an injury sustained in the course and within the scope of Player's employment under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract; and
2. Player must give Club written notice of the place, time, cause and nature of Player's injuries within five (5) days from the date of receiving such injuries or prior to the termination of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, whichever is earlier. The failure of Player to give such notice shall not impair the rights of Player, as set forth herein, if Club has actual knowledge of such injury to Player; and
3. Player, if requested by Club, must provide Club with written medical proof of Player's injury.

E. Any worker's compensation payments, or any surgical, medical or hospitalization insurance payments received by Player for the period for which Club is paying Player, as specified in this Paragraph VIII, shall be immediately paid by Player to Club. If Player fails or refuses to pay these monies to Club, Club shall deduct the same from any compensation due Player.

**IX. Allowance**

Club will provide Player during Club's training season and while Club is "abroad" with lodging (if Player is required to remain "abroad" overnight) and the meal allowance required by the MLR. If while "abroad" Club elects to require Player to remain "home" and Player is on Club's Active or Injured List, Club shall pay Player the meal allowance required by the MLR. No such meal allowance shall be due Player, however, if Player's permanent residence is located in the home city of Club or if Player returns to Player's permanent residence while Club is abroad. The terms "home" and "abroad" mean, respectively, at and away from the city in which Club has its home baseball park.

**X. Transportation**

Club will provide Player with the mode and class of transportation of its choice from "home" to "abroad" games and back. Player agrees to use the mode of transportation furnished by Club to and from all "abroad"

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games at all times. Club will provide Player return transportation to Player's home city at the conclusion of the championship playing season or playoffs, or if unconditionally released prior thereto. Mode and class of transportation shall be at the Club's discretion.

#### **XI. Uniform**

Club will select and furnish Player with necessary baseball uniforms, excluding shoes, but including all numerals, emblems, logos or devices to be worn on the uniform or affixed thereto. Additionally, Club may, if it wishes to do so, provide shoes or other personal equipment items or apparel, such as batting gloves or fielding gloves. Player shall wear uniforms, personal equipment items and apparel as furnished and shall not alter or disfigure them. At the end of the championship playing season, or at the end of any post-season series games, or upon the assignment or other transfer of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, or upon the unconditional release of Player from this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, or upon any direction by Club to perform services for a different Club, Player immediately shall return to Club such uniforms, personal equipment items, apparel and any and all other property of Club in the possession of Player. Player shall not wear or use any personal equipment item, article of apparel or any other item with or upon Player's uniform which is not approved by Club, or which is not in accordance with the MLR.

#### **XII. Loyalty**

Player agrees to serve Club diligently and faithfully, to keep in first-class condition, and to observe and comply with all rules and regulations of Club. Further, Player agrees to conform to high standards of personal conduct (before, during and after working hours), fair play and good sportsmanship.

#### **XIII. Promotion of Baseball**

In addition to the furnishings of professional baseball services to Club, Player agrees, beginning with the date that this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is executed, to cooperate with Club and to participate in any and all promotional activities of Club which, in the sole opinion of Club, will promote the welfare of Club or of professional baseball.

#### **XIV. Pictures of Player**

Player agrees, beginning with the date that this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is executed, that current or future photographs, whether still or action, and motion pictures may be taken and any form of broadcasts or telecasts of Player, individually or with others, may be made at such times or



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places as Club may designate and agrees that all rights therein and all rights to Player's name, voice, signature, biographical information and likeness shall belong to Club and that they may be used, reproduced, sold, licensed, or otherwise disseminated or published by Club or its licensees, assignees, and/or other designees directly or indirectly in any medium whatsoever for any purpose (including but not limited to in broadcast, in print, on trading cards, posters and other merchandise of any kind, in electronics, in audio, in video or in connection with any media), in any manner and at any time, including after the term of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, that Club desires. Player acknowledges that the foregoing rights include, without limitation, all related copyright, trademark, trade name, service mark, right of publicity and/or right of privacy rights. Club may exploit each of the rights granted to it by Player pursuant to this Paragraph XIV without additional payment or other compensation to Player. Player further agrees that during the term of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract Player will not make public appearances, participate in radio or television programs, or on-line computer forums or any public conferences of any sort, permit Player's picture to be taken while in Club's uniform or a part thereof, sponsor or permit Player's name, voice, signature, biographical information and/or likeness to be used in conjunction with any commercial purpose, including but not limited to the sale, rental or advertising or promotion of products or services, or write or sponsor newspaper, magazine or any other article for publication, without the express prior written consent of Club.

**XV. Player's Representations**

As a further inducement to Club to enter into this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, Player represents to Club as follows:

A. Player has no physical or mental defects which would prevent or impair the performance of Player's skilled services as a professional baseball player for Club. Player is capable of and will perform services and such other duties as may be required pursuant to this Minor League Uniform Player Contract with expertness, diligence and fidelity.

B. Player does not own, directly or indirectly, stock or have any financial interest in the ownership or earnings of any Minor League Club or Major League Club except as hereinafter expressly set forth, and covenants that Player will not hereafter, while under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, acquire or hold any such stock or interest.

C. Player has exceptional and unique skill and ability as a baseball player, and Player's services to be rendered to Club are of a special and extraordinary character which gives Player a peculiar value which cannot be

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reasonably or adequately compensated for in damages at law. Therefore, Player agrees that Player's breach of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract will cause Club great and irreparable injury and damage. Accordingly, Player agrees that, in addition to other remedies, Club shall be entitled to injunctive and other equitable relief to prevent a breach of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract by Player, including the right to enjoin Player from playing professional baseball for any other person or organization during the term of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract.

D. Player is not a party to, and will not enter into, any contract or any contractual obligation to render skilled services as a professional baseball player with any person or organization other than Club. Additionally, Player is not a party to, and will not enter into, any contract or any contractual obligation that conflicts with any of Player's obligations under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract or limits (as determined by the Club in the sole exercise of its discretion) the rights granted Club under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract or that impairs Club's ability to fully exercise such rights.

E. Player's name, as set forth in this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, and of which Player's signature to this Minor League Uniform Player Contract consists, is Player's proper and legal name and is not a fictitious or assumed name.

F. All personal information concerning Player in Addendum A is true and accurate.

G. Player is eligible, in accordance with the MLR, to execute this Minor League Uniform Player Contract.

H. Player represents and warrants that:

1. Player has the full authority to grant the rights contained in this Minor League Uniform Player Contract and to execute, deliver and perform the obligations under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract,
2. the execution and delivery of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract will not conflict with or result in any breach of any agreement to which Player is a part or by which Player is bound, and
3. this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is duly executed and delivered by Player.

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**XVI. Playing For Others**

A. For the purpose of avoiding physical injuries, Player agrees that during the term of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, Player will not play baseball other than for Club, without the written consent of the Club. If Club consents to Player's participation in a winter league, the terms and conditions of Player's employment during winter league play shall be governed by this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, except that Player and Club shall agree on the amount of monetary compensation for Player's participation in winter league play.

B. Player and Club agree and recognize that Player's participation in any other sport may impair or destroy Player's ability and skill as a professional baseball player. Accordingly, from and after the date of execution of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, Player agrees that Player shall not engage in automobile or motorcycle racing, hanggliding, fencing, parachuting, skydiving, boxing, wrestling, karate, judo, football, basketball, skiing, hockey, or any other sport or activity involving a substantial risk of personal injury. Player also agrees that, except with the written consent of Club, Player will not participate in amateur, intramural, intercollegiate or professional athletics in any sport whatsoever.

**XVII. Physical Examination**

A. When requested by Club, Player shall submit to a complete physical, psychiatric, psychological and/or dental examination at the expense of Club, and, if necessary, to medical, surgical, psychiatric or dental treatment at Player's own expense, except as otherwise provided in this Minor League Uniform Player Contract. Upon the failure or refusal of Player to do so, Club may take such action against Player as it deems advisable in the manner agreed to between the parties and set forth at Paragraph XX.

B. It is specifically provided, however, that if Player signed this Minor League Uniform Player Contract as a free agent (whether or not previously party to a Major League or Minor League Uniform Player Contract), within ninety days subsequent to the execution of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract by Player, Club may require Player to undergo a complete physical, psychiatric, psychological and/or dental examination by a physician and/or dentist of Club's choosing and at Club's expense. If such examination reveals the presence of any physical and/or dental defect, congenital or otherwise, which in the judgment of the physician or dentist would or might substantially impair Player's ability to play professional baseball and was present at the time of execution of this Minor League Uniform Player

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Contract by Player, Club may terminate this Minor League Uniform Player Contract without further payment to Player of any bonus, benefits or other compensation provided for in this Minor League Uniform Player Contract or any Special Covenants to this Minor League Uniform Player Contract. Such a termination, however, must be effected (including notification to the Commissioner's Office) within one hundred and five (105) days subsequent to the execution of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract by Player. In the event of a termination pursuant to this subparagraph B of Paragraph XVII, this Minor League Uniform Player Contract shall be void and of no force or effect between the Parties and Player shall repay any bonus, benefits or other compensation provided pursuant to any Special Covenants to this Minor League Uniform Player Contract.

**XVIII. Assignments, Transfers and Directions to Perform For Minor or Major League Clubs**

A. Player specifically agrees and understands that this Minor League Uniform Player Contract may be freely assigned by Club, and re-assigned by any assignee Club, to any other Major League Club or Minor League Club.

B. Upon assignment of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, the assignee Club shall be liable to Player only for payments accruing from the date Player reports to the Club for which Player is directed to perform by assignee Club. Assignor Club shall remain liable to Player for all payments accrued as of the date of the assignment. In addition, if Player reports to the Club for which Player is directed to perform by assignee Club as soon as the mode of transportation authorized or furnished to player permits, assignor Club shall be liable to Player for the travel time required to reach the city to which Player is directed to report to join the Club for which Player is directed to perform by assignee Club.

C. In the event this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is assigned, following Player's receipt of written or telegraphic notice of the assignment, Player shall report to the Club for which Player is directed to perform by the assignee Club as soon as the mode of transportation authorized or furnished to Player permits. If Player fails or refuses to report as soon as the mode of transportation authorized or furnished to Player permits, Player shall not be entitled to any payment for the period from the date upon which Player received written or telegraphic notice of the assignment to the date on which Player reports to the Club for which Player is directed to perform by the assignee Club.

D. Player also specifically agrees and understands that this Minor League Uniform Player Contract (and the Club's exclusive rights to Player's

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services under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract) may be freely loaned, leased or otherwise transferred to any Minor League Club. In the event this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is loaned, leased, or otherwise transferred, following Player's receipt of written or telegraphic notice of the loan, lease or transfer, Player shall report to the Club to which this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is loaned, leased or otherwise transferred as soon as the mode of transportation authorized or furnished to Player permits. If Player fails or refuses to report as soon as the mode of transportation authorized or furnished to Player permits, Player shall not be entitled to any payment for the period from the date upon which Player received written or telegraphic notice of the loan, lease or transfer to the date on which Player reports to the Club to which this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is loaned, leased or otherwise transferred.

E. Player also specifically agrees and understands that Club may freely direct Player to perform services for any Major League or Minor League Club. Further, following Player's receipt of written or telegraphic notice of the direction to perform, Player specifically agrees and understands that Player's obligation under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract to perform services for the directed Club shall be the same as Player's obligation to perform services for Club under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract. If Club directs Player to perform services for a Club, Player agrees to report to the Club as soon as the mode of travel authorized or provided permits, and to perform all services for such Club in a diligent and faithful manner. If Player fails or refuses to report as soon as the mode of transportation authorized or furnished to Player permits, Player shall not be entitled to any payment for the period from the date upon which Player received written or telegraphic notice of the direction to perform to the date on which Player reports to the directed Club.

F. Player agrees that Player will execute the standard form Major League Uniform Player Contract then in effect in the Major Leagues if Player is placed (following an assignment, direction to perform or otherwise) on a Major League roster, Major League under control list or Major League Reserve List at any point during the term of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract.

G. If Player agrees, this Minor League Uniform Player Contract may be assigned, loaned, leased or otherwise transferred to (or Player directed to perform for) a Minor League Club or other professional baseball club participating in winter league play. The terms and conditions of Player's employment during winter league play shall be as stated in Subparagraph A of Paragraph XVI.

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**XIX. Termination**

A. If Club is in arrears to Player for any payments due Player under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract for more than fifteen (15) days, or if Club fails for more than fifteen (15) days to perform any other obligations agreed or required to be performed by Club, Player shall be entitled to apply to the Commissioner to terminate this Minor League Uniform Player Contract. Thereafter, if Club fails to remedy the default as to the payment or other obligation within such time as the Commissioner may fix, the Commissioner shall terminate this Minor League Uniform Player Contract by a declaration of Player's free agency. It is specifically provided, however, that Club shall remain liable to Player for all payments due him as of the date of the termination of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract and the declaration of Player's free agency.

B. Club may terminate this Minor League Uniform Player Contract upon the delivery of written or telegraphic notice to Player if Player at any time shall:

1. Fail, refuse or neglect to conform Player's personal conduct to high standards of good citizenship and good sportsmanship;
2. Fail, refuse or neglect to keep himself in first-class physical condition;
3. Fail, refuse or neglect to obey Club's requirements respecting Player's conduct and service;
4. Fail in the judgment of Club to exhibit sufficient skill or competitive ability to qualify or to continue as a professional baseball player as a member of Club's team; or
5. Fail, refuse or neglect to render Player's services hereunder, or in any other manner to materially breach this Minor League Uniform Player Contract.

C. If Player becomes injured, Club may also terminate this Minor League Uniform Player Contract in accordance with Paragraph VIII above.

**XX. Disputes**

A. For the violation by Player of any of the obligations or duties of Player as set forth in this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, or for the violation by Player of any of Club's rules or regulations, Player agrees that Club may impose a reasonable fine upon Player and deduct the amount

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thereof from Player's compensation, or may suspend Player without compensation, or both. Player also agrees that Club may place him on any disciplinary list or lists prescribed by the MLR or any other applicable Major League or Minor League rules.

B. In the event of any dispute or claim between Player and Club arising under any of the provisions of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, the sole and exclusive forum available to Player and Club to resolve such dispute shall be arbitration by the Commissioner. Player or Club may exercise such right to arbitration by filing a written, itemized and detailed appeal with the Commissioner within 120 days of the event giving rise to the claim. The decision of the Commissioner shall be final and binding. Player and Club understand that the decision of the Commissioner may not be challenged in any federal or state court or any other tribunal or forum.

C. Player specifically consents that either Club or the Commissioner may make known to the public the findings, decisions or record of any inquiry, investigation or hearing, including all evidence, information or testimony given, received, obtained or elicited as the result of any such inquiry, investigation or hearing.

**XXI. Contingent Bonus**

A. Any Special Covenants to this Minor League Uniform Player Contract which entitle Player to receive bonus payments if Player is retained by Club on a designated date or for a designated period shall be subject to the following: In the event Player is placed on the Restricted, Voluntarily Retired, Military, Disqualified or Ineligible List prior to the date upon which the bonus payment becomes due and payable to Player, payment of the bonus shall be suspended by Club until Player is reinstated to an Active List and reports to and is retained by Club for the number of days required by this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, including any special covenants.

B. In the event the official date of placement on any of the lists enumerated in subparagraph A of this Paragraph XXI is later than the date Player ceased to be an active Player, the earlier date shall apply in determining the new date for payment of the Contingent Bonus following Player's reinstatement to an Active List of Club.

**XXII. Special Covenants**

If Player is to receive or has received any additional payment whatsoever from Club or from any other source in connection with this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, it must be fully described on

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Addendum B, giving name of payor, amount and nature of payment, when paid or to be paid, et cetera.

**XXIII. Legislation and Suspension**

This Minor League Uniform Player Contract is subject to federal and state legislation, regulations, executive or other official orders and other governmental action, now or hereafter in effect, which may affect directly or indirectly Player or Club. Additionally, this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is subject to the authority of the Commissioner to suspend the operation of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, including the payment of compensation to Player, during any national emergency or any cessation or suspension of play in the Major Leagues. In the event that this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is suspended pursuant to the terms of this paragraph, it is specifically agreed between Player and Club that the compensation provisions of Paragraph VII shall be modified and the compensation paid to Player at the monthly rate set forth in Paragraph VII shall be paid only for the portion of the championship playing season actually played by Player. Moreover, in the event that this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is suspended pursuant to the terms of this Paragraph XXIII, it is also specifically agreed between Player and Club that the Club's exclusive right to the Player's services shall remain in effect and that this Minor League Uniform Player Contract shall continue in full force and effect for the remainder of its term once the suspension ends.

**XXIV. Entire Agreement**

Club and Player covenant that this Minor League Uniform Player Contract fully sets forth all understandings and agreements by and between them and agree that no understandings or agreements, whether heretofore or hereafter made, shall be valid, recognized, or of any effect whatsoever, unless and until they are set forth in a subsequent Minor League Uniform Player Contract executed by Player and Club, filed with and approved by the Commissioner of Baseball and complying with the MLR.

**XXV. Governing Law**

This Minor League Uniform Player Contract shall be governed by and interpreted in such a manner as to be effective and valid under New York law. However, if any provisions of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract shall be prohibited by or invalid under applicable law, such provision shall be ineffective to the extent of such prohibition or invalidation only, without invalidating the remainder of such provisions or the remaining provisions of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract.



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**XXVI. Approval Required**

This is the only Minor League Uniform Player Contract form prescribed by the MLR. No different form shall be used and no clause shall be added or eliminated without the specific written approval of the Commissioner. Any written or oral agreement between Player and Club not contained in this Minor League Uniform Player Contract shall subject both parties to discipline. No such agreement shall be recognized or enforced by the Commissioner. This Minor League Uniform Player Contract, including any addenda or attachments, shall not be valid, recognized or enforced unless filed with and approved by the Commissioner.

**XXVII. Player Information and Notices**

Player will immediately provide Club and any Club to which this Minor League Uniform Player Contract is assigned, loaned or leased (and any Club for which Player is directed to perform services) with Player's current home address and telephone number, and will keep such information current. Any written notice required to be given by the Club to the Player under this Minor League Uniform Player Contract may be accomplished, at Club's option, by sending the notice via registered mail to the Player's last known address and/or by physically delivering the notice to the Player. The effective date of any written notice shall be the date on which the notice is mailed or physically delivered, whichever is earlier. The effective date of any telegraphic notice by the Club to the Player will be the date on which the telegram is sent.

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**ASSIGNMENTS OF THIS MINOR LEAGUE UNIFORM PLAYER  
CONTRACT**

1. On \_\_\_\_\_, this contract was assigned from  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
(Assignor Club) (Assignee Club)

2. On \_\_\_\_\_, this contract was assigned from  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
(Assignor Club) (Assignee Club)

3. On \_\_\_\_\_, this contract was assigned from  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
(Assignor Club) (Assignee Club)

4. On \_\_\_\_\_, this contract was assigned from  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
(Assignor Club) (Assignee Club)

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**ADDENDUM A**

1. Player's

Information \_\_\_\_\_

Name (First) (Middle) (Last)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Permanent Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Country Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security No. Telephone No. Date of Birth

2. Club's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

3. First championship playing season covered by this Minor League Uniform Contract: \_\_\_\_\_ (Year)

4. Execution Date of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract: \_\_\_\_\_  
Month/Day/Year

5. Pursuant to subparagraph E of Paragraph XVIII, and subject to change at any time, Club initially directs Player to perform for the \_\_\_\_\_ Club of the \_\_\_\_\_ League.

**STATUS OF PLAYER**

First Minor League Contract

- Non-drafted Player
  - Rule 4 Drafted Player
  - Not Subject to Rule 4 Draft
- Draft Selection Overall  
Year \_\_\_ Round \_\_\_ Sel. No. \_\_\_

Previous Contract

- Assigned from Major League Club
- Completed Previous Minor League Contract
- Released/Nontendered Player
- Major League Re-entry Free Agent
- Other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

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**PLAYER INFORMATION (MUST BE COMPLETED FOR  
FIRST MINOR LEAGUE CONTRACTS)**

POS \_\_\_\_\_ HGT \_\_\_\_\_ WGT \_\_\_\_\_ BATS \_\_\_\_\_ THROWS \_\_\_\_\_

HIGH SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ GRAD DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
(State) (M/Y)

JUNIOR COLLEGE \_\_\_\_\_ GRAD DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
(State) (M/Y)

COLLEGE \_\_\_\_\_ GRAD DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
(State) (M/Y)

DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL? Y/N (Circle One)

If Yes, Drop Out Date \_\_\_\_\_ from (College/JC/HS)  
(M/Y) (Circle One)

PLACE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Country)

**CONTRACT TERM (FOR PREVIOUSLY-SIGNED PLAYERS ONLY)**

If Player has previously signed a Minor League or Major League contract, this Minor League Uniform Player Contract shall be, consistent with the MLR, for the following term: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_ (write out) championship playing seasons.

**EXECUTION OF THIS CONTRACT**

By affixing their signatures below, Player and Club indicate their understanding of, and agreement to, all of the provisions of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, including pages one through six, Addendum A, Addendum B, Addendum C-1, and any other attachments.

**CLUB DATE AND SIGN HERE**

AS TO CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date (Write Out Month)

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Club  
Representative Signature  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLAYER DATE AND SIGN HERE**

AS TO PLAYER: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date (Write Out Month)

Player's Signature

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**PARENTS OR GUARDIAN CONSENT**

Irrevocable consent is given to the performance and execution of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract (including all Addenda and attachments) by the minor Player party hereto. Such consent shall be effective as to all provisions, including (but not limited to) any assignment, loan, lease or direction to perform under Paragraph XVIII hereof, and any compensation and any restrictions thereon that are hereinafter negotiated or set by the Club pursuant to Paragraph VII hereof. Consent is irrevocably given for the duration of this contract to the payment of all earnings, bonuses and other consideration personally to the minor Player party. Player's parents or guardian further agree to hold Club harmless for any injury suffered by Player during the term of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract. These consents and promise to hold harmless are expressly given as an inducement to enter into this contract.

_____ Date	_____ Signature of Father-Mother-Guardian (circle one)
_____ Date	_____ Signature of Father-Mother-Guardian (circle one)

FOR  
COMMISSIONER'S  
OFFICE USE ONLY

Approved and recorded:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner of Baseball

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**ADDENDUM B**

Special Covenants: In accordance with Paragraph XXII of this Minor League Uniform Player Contract, all additional payments or consideration whatsoever that Player is to receive or has received from Club or from any other source in connection with this Minor League Uniform Player Contract are fully described below:

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

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**ADDENDUM C-\_\_**

In accordance with Paragraph VII of the Minor League Uniform Player Contract to which the undersigned Player is a party, Player's monthly salary rate during the \_\_\_\_\_(Year) championship playing season shall be \$\_\_\_\_\_/month (\_\_\_\_\_ dollars per month.)

If a Player and Club have agreed on a different monthly salary rate if Player is on the Active or Injured List of a Club in a particular classification, that monthly salary rate, classification and any restrictions, contingencies, minimum service requirements, and other agreements concerning salary are fully set out below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Name (print or type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Club's Name (print or type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Club Representative's Name/  
Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Club Representative Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
City      State      Country      Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone No.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security No.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

FOR              Approved and recorded:

COMMISSIONER'S

OFFICE

USE ONLY      Date:

By:\_\_\_\_\_

Commissioner of Baseball

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**ADDENDUM C-\_\_**

In accordance with Paragraph VII of the Minor League Uniform Player Contract to which the undersigned Player is a party, Player's monthly salary rate during the \_\_\_\_\_(Year) championship playing season shall be:

<b>CLASSIFICATION OR SUBCLASSIFICATION</b>	<b>MONTHLY SALARY</b>	<b>EXAMPLE OF CLUB</b>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

If Player is on the Active or Injured Lists of Clubs in more than one subclassification or classification during the same pay period and is entitled to different salary rates for the different subclassifications or classifications, Player's salary shall be prorated in accordance with the number of days of Player's employment in each subclassification or classification compared to the number of days in that pay period. All other restrictions, contingencies, minimum service requirements, and other agreements concerning salary are fully set out below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Name (print or type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Club's Name (print or type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Club Representative's  
Name/Position



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\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Club Representative's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
City      State      Country      Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone No.      Social Security No.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

FOR              Approved and recorded:  
COMMISSIONER'S  
OFFICE

USE ONLY      Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Commissioner of  
Baseball

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

**MLR Attachment 3**

**ADDENDUM D**

In accordance with subparagraph A of Paragraph XVI and subparagraph G of Paragraph XVIII and all other terms of the Minor League Uniform Player Contract to which the undersigned Player is a party, Player's monthly salary rate during the \_\_\_\_\_(Year) championship playing season of the \_\_\_\_\_ League shall be \$\_\_\_\_\_/month (\_\_\_ dollars per month).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Team Player has agreed to perform  
for

\_\_\_\_\_  
Team Representative's Name/  
Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Name (print or type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Major League Club's Name (print  
or type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Major League Club  
Representative's  
Name/Position (print or type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Major League Club  
Representative's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

FOR \_\_\_\_\_ Approved and recorded:

COMMISSIONER'S

OFFICE

USE ONLY Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Commissioner of Baseball

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 12**  
**ATTACHMENT 12**

**NOTICE TO PLAYER OF RELEASE OR TRANSFER**

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date) (Year)

To Mr. \_\_\_\_\_

You are hereby notified as follows:

1. That you are unconditionally released.
2. That your contract has been assigned to the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Club of \_\_\_\_\_ League.
  - (a) Without right of recall.
  - (b) With right of recall.

(Cross out parts not applicable. In case of optional agreement, specify all conditions affecting player.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Name of Club

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

A copy must be delivered to the player. A copy must also be forwarded to the Commissioner.

**THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS** are given for the guidance of Club officials executing this form:

(1) If the player is unconditionally released, cross out all of paragraph 2, including subparagraphs (a) and (b).

(2) If the player is transferred outright to another Club, insert the name of that Club and of that Club's League in paragraph 2, and cross out the following:

(i) paragraph 1; and

(ii) subparagraph (b) of paragraph 2.

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**(3)** If the player is transferred by an optional agreement to another Club, insert the name of that Club and that Club's League in paragraph 2, and cross out the following:

**(i)** paragraph 1; and

**(ii)** subparagraph (a) of paragraph 2.

Also specify all conditions affecting the player (date recall option is to be exercised, etc.).

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**ATTACHMENT 26**

**MAJOR AND MINOR LEAGUE OPERATING TERRITORIES**

**CLUB**

**OPERATING TERRITORY**

**Major Leagues**

American League

Baltimore	City of Baltimore; and Baltimore, Anne Arundel, Howard, Carroll and Harford Counties in Maryland; provided, however, that Harford County shall be shared with the Aberdeen Minor League Club
Boston	Suffolk, Middlesex, Essex, Bristol, Worcester and Norfolk Counties in Massachusetts; provided, however, that Worcester County and the area south and west of Highway 128 in Norfolk County shall be shared with the Worcester Minor League Club
Chicago	Cook, Lake, DuPage, Will, Kendall, McHenry and Grundy Counties in Illinois; and Lake and Porter Counties in Indiana; provided, however, this territory shall be shared with the Chicago Major League Club in the National League
Cleveland	Cuyahoga, Lorrain, Medina, Geauga, Lake and Summit Counties in Ohio; provided, however, that Summit County shall be shared with the Akron Minor League Club and Lake County shall be shared with the Lake County Minor League Club
Detroit	Wayne, Monroe, Washtenaw, Oakland, Macomb and St. Clair Counties in Michigan

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Houston	City of Houston; and Harris, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Liberty, Montgomery and Waller Counties in Texas; provided, however, that Fort Bend County shall be shared with the Sugar Land Minor League Club
Kansas City	Johnson, Wyandotte, Miami and Leavenworth Counties in Kansas; and Clay, Jackson, Cass and Platte Counties in Missouri
Los Angeles	Los Angeles, Orange and Ventura Counties in California; provided, however, that this territory be shared with the Los Angeles Major League Club in the National League
Minnesota	Ramsey and Hennepin Counties in Minnesota; provided, however, that Ramsey County shall be shared with the St. Paul Minor League Club
New York	City of New York; Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland and Westchester Counties in New York; Bergen, Hudson, Essex and Union Counties in New Jersey; and that portion of Fairfield County in Connecticut, located south of Interstate 84 and west of Route 58; provided, however, that this territory shall be shared with the New York Major League Club in the National League and Kings County shall be shared with the Brooklyn Minor League Club
Oakland	Alameda and Contra Costa Counties in California
Seattle	King County in Washington

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Tampa Bay	Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties in Florida; provided, however, that Pinellas County shall be shared with the Clearwater Minor League Club and the Dunedin Minor League Club and Hillsborough County shall be shared with the Tampa Minor League Club
Texas	Cities of Dallas, Ft. Worth and Arlington; and Collin, Dallas, and Tarrant Counties in Texas; provided, however, that Collin Country shall be shared with the Frisco Minor League Club
Toronto	Cities of Scarborough, York, East York, North York, Etobicoke and Toronto, commonly referred to as Metropolitan Toronto
<u>National League</u>	
Arizona	Maricopa County in Arizona
Atlanta	City of Atlanta; and Fulton, Cobb, Gwinnett and DeKalb Counties in Georgia; provided, however, that Gwinnett County shall be shared with the Gwinnett Minor League Club
Chicago	Cook, Lake, DuPage, Will, Kendall, McHenry and Grundy Counties in Illinois; and Lake and Porter Counties in Indiana; provided, however, that this territory shall be shared with the Chicago Major League Club in the American League
Cincinnati	Butler, Warren, Clermont and Hamilton Counties in Ohio; Boone, Kenton and Campbell Counties in Kentucky; and Dearborn and Franklin Counties in Indiana
Colorado	City of Denver; and Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Douglas, Jefferson and Denver Counties in Colorado

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Los Angeles	Orange, Ventura and Los Angeles Counties in California; provided, however, that this territory shall be shared with the Los Angeles Major League Club in the American League
Miami	Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties in Florida; provided, however, that Palm Beach County shall be shared with the Jupiter Minor League Club and the Palm Beach Minor League Club
Milwaukee	Milwaukee, Ozaukee and Waukesha Counties in Wisconsin
New York	City of New York; Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland and Westchester Counties in New York; Bergen, Hudson, Essex and Union Counties in New Jersey; and that portion of Fairfield County in Connecticut located south of Interstate 84 and west of Route 58; provided, however, that this territory shall be shared with the New York Major League Club in the American League and Kings County shall be shared with the Brooklyn Minor League Club
Philadelphia	Bucks, Montgomery, Chester, Delaware and Philadelphia Counties in Pennsylvania; and Gloucester, Camden and Burlington Counties in New Jersey
Pittsburgh	City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County in Pennsylvania
St. Louis	City of St. Louis; and St. Louis, Jefferson, St. Charles and Franklin Counties in Missouri; and St. Clair, Madison, Monroe and Jersey Counties in Illinois
San Diego	San Diego County in California



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San Francisco City of San Francisco; and San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey and Marin Counties in California; provided, however, that Santa Clara County shall be shared with the San Jose Minor League Club

Washington District of Columbia; and Arlington, Fairfax and Prince William Counties, and all independent cities bordering such counties, in Virginia

### Minor Leagues

#### Triple-A

Albuquerque (NM) Bernalillo County in New Mexico

Buffalo (NY) Erie County in New York

Charlotte (NC) Mecklenburg County in North Carolina

Columbus (OH) Franklin County in Ohio

Durham (NC) Durham and Wake Counties in North Carolina; provided, however, that Wake County shall be shared with the Carolina Minor League Club

El Paso (TX) El Paso County in Texas

Gwinnett (GA) Gwinnett County in Georgia; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Atlanta Major League Club in the National League

Indianapolis (IN) Marion County in Indiana

Iowa Polk County in Iowa

Jacksonville (FL) Duval County in Florida

Las Vegas (NV) Clark County in Nevada

Lehigh Valley (PA) Lehigh County in Pennsylvania

Louisville (KY) Jefferson County in Kentucky

Memphis (TN) Shelby County in Tennessee

Nashville (TN) Davidson County in Tennessee

Norfolk (VA) Cities of Norfolk, Portsmouth and Hampton in Virginia

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Oklahoma City (OK)	Oklahoma County in Oklahoma
Omaha (NE)	Douglas County in Nebraska
Reno (NV)	Washoe County in Nevada
Rochester (NY)	Monroe County in New York
Round Rock (TX)	Travis and Williamson Counties in Texas
Sacramento (CA)	Sacramento and Yolo Counties in California
St. Paul (MN)	Ramsey County in Minnesota; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Minnesota Major League Club in the American League
Salt Lake (UT)	Salt Lake County in Utah
Scranton/ Wilkes-Barre (PA)	Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties in Pennsylvania
Sugar Land (TX)	Fort Bend County in Texas; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Houston Major League Club in the American League
Syracuse (NY)	Onondaga County in New York
Tacoma (WA)	Pierce County in Washington
Toledo (OH)	Lucas and Wood County in Ohio
Worcester (MA)	Worcester County and the area south and west of Highway 128 in Norfolk County in Massachusetts; provided, however, that this operating territory shall be shared with the Boston Major League Club in the American League
<u>Double-A</u>	
Akron (OH)	Summit County in Ohio; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Cleveland Major League Club in the American League
Altoona (PA)	Blair County in Pennsylvania
Amarillo (TX)	Potter County in Texas
Arkansas	Pulaski County in Arkansas

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Biloxi (MS)	Harrison County in Mississippi
Binghamton (NY)	Broome County in New York
Birmingham (AL)	Jefferson County in Alabama
Bowie (MD)	Prince Georges County in Maryland
Chattanooga (TN)	Hamilton County in Tennessee
Corpus Christi (TX)	Nueces County in Texas
Erie (PA)	Erie County in Pennsylvania
Frisco (TX)	Collin County in Texas; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Texas Major League Club in the American League
Harrisburg (PA)	Dauphin County in Pennsylvania
Hartford (CT)	Hartford County in Connecticut
Midland (TX)	Midland County in Texas
Mississippi	Rankin County in Mississippi
Montgomery (AL)	Montgomery County in Alabama
New Hampshire	Hillsborough County in New Hampshire
Northwest Arkansas (AR)	Washington County in Arkansas
Pensacola (FL)	Escambia County in Florida
Portland (ME)	Cumberland County in Maine
Reading (PA)	Berks County in Pennsylvania
Richmond (VA)	City of Richmond, and Henrico and Chesterfield Counties in Virginia
Rocket City (AL)	Madison County in Alabama
San Antonio (TX)	Bexar County in Texas
Somerset (NJ)	Somerset County in New Jersey
Springfield (MO)	Greene County in Missouri
Tennessee	Knox and Sevier County in Tennessee
Tulsa (OK)	Tulsa County in Oklahoma
Wichita (KS)	Sedgwick County in Kansas

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High-A

Aberdeen (MD)	Harford County in Maryland; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Baltimore Major League Club in the American League
Asheville (NC)	Buncombe County in North Carolina
Beloit (WI)	Rock County in Wisconsin
Bowling Green (KY)	Warren County in Kentucky
Brooklyn (NY)	Kings County in New York; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the New York Major League Club in the American League and the New York Major League Club in the National League
Cedar Rapids (IA)	Linn County in Iowa
Dayton (OH)	Montgomery County in Ohio
Eugene (OR)	Lane County in Oregon
Everett (WA)	Snohomish County in Washington
Fort Wayne (IN)	Allen County in Indiana
Great Lakes (MI)	Midland County in Michigan
Greensboro (NC)	Guilford County in North Carolina
Greenville (SC)	Greenville County in South Carolina
Hickory (NC)	Burke and Catawba Counties in North Carolina
Hillsboro (OR)	Washington County in Oregon
Hudson Valley (NY)	Dutchess County in New York
Jersey Shore (NJ)	Ocean County in New Jersey
Lake County (OH)	Lake County in Ohio; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Cleveland Major League Club in the American League
Lansing (MI)	Ingham County in Michigan
Peoria (IL)	Peoria and Tazewell Counties in Illinois
Quad Cities (IA)	Scott County in Iowa and Rock Island County in Illinois

## MAJOR LEAGUE RULES

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Rome (GA)	Floyd County in Georgia
South Bend (IN)	St. Joseph County in Indiana
Spokane (WA)	Spokane County in Washington
Tri-City (WA)	Franklin County in Washington
West Michigan (MI)	Kent County in Michigan
Wilmington (DE)	New Castle County in Delaware
Winston-Salem (NC)	Forsyth County in North Carolina
Wisconsin	Outagamie County in Wisconsin
Vancouver (BC)	Greater Vancouver District in British Columbia

#### Low-A

Augusta (GA)	Aiken County in South Carolina and Richmond County in Georgia
Bradenton (FL)	Manatee County in Florida
Carolina (NC)	Wake County in North Carolina; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Durham Minor League Club
Charleston (SC)	Charleston County in South Carolina
Clearwater (FL)	Pinellas County in Florida; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Tampa Bay Major League Club in the American League and the Dunedin Minor League Club
Columbia (SC)	Lexington and Richland Counties in South Carolina
Daytona (FL)	Volusia County in Florida
Delmarva (MD)	Wicomico County in Maryland
Down East (NC)	Lenoir County in North Carolina
Dunedin (FL)	Pinellas County in Florida; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Tampa Bay Major League Club in the American League and the Clearwater Minor League Club
Fayetteville (NC)	Cumberland County in North Carolina
Fort Myers (FL)	Lee County in Florida

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Fredericksburg (VA)	City of Fredericksburg, and Stafford County in Virginia
Fresno (CA)	Fresno County in California
Inland Empire (CA)	San Bernardino County in California; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Rancho Cucamonga Minor League Club
Jupiter (FL)	Palm Beach County in Florida; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Miami Major League Club in the National League and the Palm Beach Minor League Club
Kannapolis (NC)	Cabarrus and Rowan Counties in North Carolina
Lake Elsinore (CA)	Riverside County in California
Lakeland (FL)	Polk County in Florida
Lynchburg (VA)	City of Lynchburg, and Bedford County in Virginia
Modesto (CA)	Stanislaus County in California
Myrtle Beach (SC)	Horry County in South Carolina
Palm Beach (FL)	Palm Beach County in Florida; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Miami Major League Club in the National League and the Jupiter Minor League Club
Rancho Cucamonga (CA)	San Bernardino County in California; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Inland Empire Minor League Club
St. Lucie (FL)	St. Lucie County in Florida
Salem (VA)	Cities of Salem and Roanoke, and Roanoke County in Virginia
San Jose (CA)	Santa Clara County in California; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the San Francisco Major League Club in the National League
Stockton (CA)	San Joaquin County in California

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Tampa (FL)	Hillsborough County in Florida; provided, however, that this county shall be shared with the Tampa Bay Major League Club in the American League
Visalia (CA)	Tulare County in California

