

# JUNIOR REGIONAL TRANSFER POLICY

## OCTOBER 2024



### PURPOSE

To ensure the continued success and sustainability of the Game played under the Baseball Australia Little League program, the NSW Baseball League (NSWBL) wishes to ensure that teams fielded by Clubs in Junior Competitions are as strong, well-matched, and viable as possible.

To achieve these objectives, Baseball NSW (BNSW) has adopted this Regional Policy to regulate the system of Players eligible to play in Junior competitions, moving between Clubs and within Associations.

The intention of BNSW in adopting this Policy is to:

1. Maintain a level of stability in the membership of Regional Associations, Clubs, and teams.
2. Prevent Clubs and Associations from obtaining an unfair proportion of the best and most talented Players.
3. Provide Clubs and Associations with incentives to develop Players, their teams, and the Game in their regional districts.

This **Junior Regional Policy** governs Transfers, separately from the provisions of the existing BNSW/BA Player Transfer Policy. In this instance, where any inconsistency exists between either the BNSW/BA Player Transfer Policy and this Policy, the latter shall prevail, and the former shall to the extent of the inconsistency not apply.

For this policy, players will be considered to be transferring into another team within their 'natural' age group. Any subsequent application to 'play up' in an alternate age group will be considered in line with this policy.

This Policy does not apply to or regulate the movement of:

1. Players in relation to Senior Baseball;
2. Sydney Metropolitan Junior Association competition or transfer requests

### DEFINITIONS

The following terms have the corresponding meanings when used in this Player Transfer Policy:

**Affiliate** has the same meaning as that term in the Constitution.

**Association** means the governing body for each regional competition.

**BA** means Baseball Australia.

**BNSW** means Baseball NSW.

**Charter** means the representative entity within boundaries as defined by BNSW and those clubs that exist within these boundaries.

# JUNIOR REGIONAL TRANSFER POLICY

## OCTOBER 2024



**Clearance** means the process by which a Player is cleared to play non-representative baseball in any other Association, other than their primary regional Association.

**Club** means an organization that enters teams to participate in Competitions.

**Competitions** mean baseball tournaments, competitions, matches and fixtures conducted by and between Associations with the approval of, and under the auspices of, BNSW.

**Constitution** means the constitution of BNSW as amended from time to time.

**Friendship Player** means any player who has been permitted to play in a team, not within their 'home' association.

**Friendship Player Rule** means the Baseball NSW Friendship Player Policy.

**Game** means the sport of baseball.

**Junior Competition** means age-limited Competitions for players League-Age 16 and under.

**Junior Regional Transfer Policy** means this Player Transfer Policy.

**Little League** means all those Leagues that comprise the BNSW and BA format competition, (Little League Minors, Little League Majors, Intermediate League, Junior League, and Senior League).

**Member** has the same meaning as that term in the Constitution.

**New Club** means a Club for which a Player wishes to Register to play Junior Baseball.

**NSWBL** means New South Wales Baseball League Incorporated, ABN 56 56 8633 609.

**Player** means a person who is Registered to play Baseball.

**Regional Associations** means each of the regional governing bodies of the BNSW, they being the:

- a) Central Coast Baseball Association
- b) Coffs Harbour Baseball Association
- c) Far North Coast Baseball Association
- d) Hastings Baseball Association
- e) Illawarra Baseball Association
- f) Newcastle Baseball Association
- g) Northern Rivers Baseball Association
- h) Tamworth Baseball Incorporated
- i) Wagga Wagga Baseball Association
- j) Baseball Canberra\*

**Registered** means the process of a person registering to play baseball according to the State Registration Policy and **Register** and **Registration** have corresponding meanings.

**Registration Permission** means permission granted by a Player's New Club's Association, allowing the Transfer of a Player.

# JUNIOR REGIONAL TRANSFER POLICY

## OCTOBER 2024



**Representative Player** means a Player who has played Representative Baseball at an Association level at any time.

**Representative Baseball** means Competitions conducted by the BNSW in the Australian Little League age groups, namely the NSW Little League, Intermediate League, Junior League, and Senior League State championships.

**Season** means a baseball season commencing in about September and ending in the following August in a combined calendar year, for example, the "2022-2023 Season".

**Senior Competitions** mean open-age Competitions or those competitions catering for players League-Age 16 and over who are not considered Little League eligible for the purposes of this Player Transfer Policy.

**Transfer** means the transfer of the Registration of a Player, who is eligible to play Baseball, from a Club to another Club.

**Transfer Permission** means permission granted by the BNSW District Administrator for any player wanting to transfer to another Charter to trial or compete in a NSW State Championships.

### PLAYER TRANSFERS

*BNSW will not approve player transfers for Charter eligibility between regional junior and metropolitan junior Charters unless it complies with existing BNSW transfer guidelines. Should a player transfer be approved, it will be at BNSW's sole and absolute discretion.*

- 1) BNSW may grant a Transfer Exemption or a Registration Permission under this Policy under the following circumstances:
  - a) The player has changed addresses and can verify that they now live within the boundary of the proposed new Charter;
  - b) The player can verify that they are attending school within the boundary of the proposed new Charter boundary;

Players who wish to transfer charter due to a change of address must complete a Regulation [II\(d\)](#) or [IV\(h\)](#) waiver form to confirm that the new residential address or school are within the new charter boundaries. In these cases, the following must apply:

- a. The player must apply for and be granted a clearance from the player's original club.
- b. The executed clearance form shall be submitted to Baseball Australia/Little League International (BA/LLI) and the clearance shall only be complete once approval has been granted by the Charter Committee in Williamsport. The clearance form must contain details about why the player has requested the clearance.

# JUNIOR REGIONAL TRANSFER POLICY

## OCTOBER 2024



- c. Such players shall then be deemed to be "redshirted" and cannot play in any Tournament ("All-Star") team for that season – this is an LLI requirement and cannot be waived.

### **Baseball NSW-sanctioned events**

Any participation in a Baseball NSW event will classify that player as having represented an association or area in which they reside.

- i. Sydney Cup
  - ii. Rookies Cup
- 2) The only right of appeal open to a Player, Club or Association (together with an "Appellant") in respect of any decision made under this Policy concerning a Player is set out in this rule 2).

### ***Where the Existing Club's Association and the New Club's Association are the same***

- a. An Appellant may appeal a decision (an "Appeal") to grant or refuse to grant a:
  - iii. Clearance;
  - iv. Transfer Permission; or
  - v. Registration Permission;

(a "Transfer Decision") to the District Administrator of the League, by written notice addressed to the District Administrator setting out the grounds on which the Appeal is made and attaching all relevant documents and information relied on by the Appellant.

- b. Any Appeal made under rule 2(a) must be made within five (5) days of the Appellant receiving notification of the Transfer Decision which is appealed against.
- c. The only basis on which an Appellant may Appeal a Transfer Decision is:
  - i. If this Policy has been incorrectly applied by the Existing Club or the Association in making a Transfer Decision;
  - ii. If a Transfer Decision has been made based on incorrect or incomplete information concerning the Player concerned; or
  - iii. If Exceptional Circumstances exist concerning the Player, and those Exceptional Circumstances have not been properly considered in relation to the Transfer Decision the subject of the Appeal.
- d. The District Administrator shall, after having considered the Appellant's Appeal, either:
  - i. Refuse the Appeal, in which case the original Transfer Decision stands; or
  - ii. Allow the Appeal, in which case the District Administrator shall substitute the Transfer Decision for a new decision and then order the Existing Club to do all things necessary to give effect to the new Transfer Decision.
- e. The decision of the District Administrator concerning any Appeal is final and shall not be capable of review.

***Where the Existing Club's Junior Association is different to the New Club's Association***

- f. In any case where an Appeal concerns a Transfer Decision involving different Junior Associations;
  - i. The Appeal shall be made to, and determined by, the NSW District Administrator; but
  - ii. In all other respects, rules 2(a) to 2(e) shall apply and govern the determination of the Appeal.

**Friendship Player Rule**

For this Policy, the Friendship Player Rule is only applicable to dual-registered regional players wanting to participate in the Sydney Cup. The Friendship Rule does not apply to regional players wanting to trial for a Metropolitan Association's Little League All-Star team – regardless of whether the player is dual registered and if their 'home' association cannot enter an All-Star team in the player's age-eligible Charter.