

# MAJOR LEAGUE RULES



2025

# **THE OFFICIAL PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL RULES BOOK**



Office of the Commissioner of Baseball  
1271 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10020

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## 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 Tender Deadline.

(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 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 Opening Day of the AA championship season through 5:00 pm ET on the 5th 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.

(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 and Minor League Basic Agreement 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, Administrative Leave, Suspended, Voluntarily Retired, Restricted, and Ineligible Lists; and

**(2)** with respect to Minor League Clubs, to the Injured, Development, Suspended, Voluntarily Retired, Restricted, 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).)

**(u)** The term “Tender Deadline” shall have the definition set forth in Article XX(A) of the Basic Agreement.

**(v)** The term “Major League Basic Agreement” or “Basic Agreement” shall refer to the 2022-2026 Basic Agreement between the 30 Major League Clubs and the Major League Baseball Players Association on behalf of Major League Baseball Players, effective March 10, 2022.

## MAJOR LEAGUE RULES

### MLR 1(a)

(w) The term “Minor League Basic Agreement” shall refer to the 2023-2027 Basic Agreement between the 30 Major League Clubs and the Major League Baseball Players Association on behalf of Minor League Baseball Players, effective March 30, 2023.

(x) The term “Minor League Contract” shall refer to the Minor League Uniform Player Contract and Dominican Summer League Uniform Player Contract. *See* Rule 3(b).

(y) The term “Dominican Summer League” shall refer to a Minor League in the International Rookie classification where each Dominican Summer League Club is an International Rookie Club.

### 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 earlier than the Monday immediately prior to the Tender Deadline and no later than the day before the Tender Deadline), 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 the Tender Deadline.

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 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.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

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

#### **(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, 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) RESERVE 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, Ineligible, Voluntary Retired, Administrative Leave, 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



## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 2(a)**

List. *See* Rule 2(a)(2) (First-Year Minor Contract), 2(c)(1)(F) (Major League Injured List; Player Limits), Rule 2(c)(4)(D) (Suspended List; Player Limits), and Rule 2(c)(11)(B) (Minor League Injured List; Player Limits).

**(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)** 165 players on its Domestic Reserve List from Opening Day of the AA championship season until 5 P.M. ET on the fifth day following the day that the last game of the World Series starts;

**(C)** 175 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 AA championship season;

**(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 (175 or 165), 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.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 2(a) to 2(b)**

**(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.

**(4) PLAYERS SIGNED FOR FUTURE SERVICES.**

**(A)** Major Leagues. No Major League Club may sign a player to a Major League Uniform Player's Contract for which the first championship season covered by the contract commences after the current calendar year until the day following the day that the last game of the World Series had started.

**(B)** Minor Leagues. With the exception of successor contracts in accordance with Rule 9(c), a Major League Club may not sign a player to a Minor League Contract for which the first championship season covered by the contract commences after the current calendar year until all Minor League seasons (including postseasons) have concluded.

**(5)** Excluding successor contracts subject to Rule 9(c), if a player signs with a Club before the conclusion of all Minor League seasons (including postseason), the first championship season covered by the Minor League Contract must be for the current calendar year. If the Minor League affiliate to which the player is initially assigned is no longer in season, the player will nonetheless be treated as if he had spent one (1) day during the championship season on that affiliate's Active List for that calendar year for purposes of Paragraph 5(d) of the Minor League Contract, consistent with the terms therein.

**(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 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 Contracts with such Major League Club.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 2(b)**

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 doubleheaders 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 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.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 2(b)**

(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 “27th 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 27th 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 27th 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 27th Player only if the Club’s addition of the 27th 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 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 27th 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).

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(vi) The addition of the 27th 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 27th 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 27th 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 current or two most recently completed championship seasons:

(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

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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 (A) following the 9th inning of an extra inning game, (B) in any game in which his team is losing by equal to or more than 8 runs, or (C) in any game in which his team is winning by equal to or more than 10 runs in the 9th inning 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. The minimum number of players on the Active List of a Class AAA Club shall be 24 (absent extenuating circumstances).

(B) The maximum number of players on the Active List of a Class AA Club shall be 28. The minimum number of players on the Active List of a Class AA Club shall be 24 (absent extenuating circumstances).

(C) The maximum number of players on the Active List of a Class High-A Club shall be 30. The minimum number of players on the Active List of a Class High-A Club shall be 24 (absent extenuating circumstances).

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**(D)** The maximum number of players on the Active List of a Single-A Club shall be 30. The minimum number of players on the Active List of a Single-A Club shall be 24 (absent extenuating circumstances).

**(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

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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 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, 10-day or 15-day lists to the 60-day list. Time spent on the 7-day, 10-day or 15-day lists prior to any such transfer shall count towards the 60-day minimum inactivity periods, whichever is applicable.

**(C) Recertifications.** The Club physician must maintain each player's injury status along with the player's estimated time of recovery in the Electronic Medical Record System ("EMR") and make such records available to the Commissioner's Office and the Players Association. (Except as provided herein, and consistent with Article XIII of the Basic Agreement, a Club certified athletic trainer must complete and submit the appropriate Standard Form of Diagnosis for Recertification for a player on the 7-day or 10-day list (15-day list for pitchers) when the player first becomes eligible for reinstatement to active status, and then every 10 days (15 days for pitcher) 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.



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**(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 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, except that Clubs participating in the postseason may place a player on the 60-day Injured List after the conclusion of the championship season for the sole purpose of naming a player to a postseason roster either prior to the start of a postseason series or as a replacement for injured players or players placed on the postseason bereavement, family emergency, or

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paternity lists in accordance with Rule 41(a)(3), (4), (5) or (6) that otherwise would cause the 40-man player Reserve List limit to be exceeded (*i.e.*, Clubs may not place a player on the 60-day Injured List for any other transaction such as a waiver claim);

(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

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(e.g., spouse, parent, grandparent, sibling, child or grandchild) or a 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.

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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 three (3) calendar days of the placement; provided that if the placement is made on the third day after the birth, and the Club has a game scheduled on that day, the placement must be made prior to the game. 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.

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**(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 Player's Contract or Minor League 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 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

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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.

**(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. On the date of the submission of Major League Active Lists described in Rule 2(b)(1), Clubs may designate players for assignment in advance of such submission in order to adhere to the Active List limit that goes into effect at the time the Commissioner or Commissioner's designee

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sets forth. 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).

#### **(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)** A player who violates a player contract or reservation may be reported 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 with any Major or Minor League Club.

**(D)** 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.

**(E)** 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

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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.

**(F) 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 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)(L) (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 was placed on the Restricted List.

**(G) 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.

**(H) 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.



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**(I) 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.

**(J) 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.

**(K) 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.

#### **(L) 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 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.

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(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 expected to be reinstated from the Restricted List between the mandatory Spring Training reporting date and the conclusion of the championship season is not required to be reinstated until such date (not exceeding 30 days after reporting to the Club as required by his contract) as the player is in condition to participate in championship games to the satisfaction of the player's Club. Clubs are permitted to assign players to participate in Minor League games during this 30-day period, during which assignment such players shall remain on the Restricted List and receive neither salary nor service time. A player expected to be 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 Restricted List must be reinstated before the player can be released unconditionally.

#### **(7) ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE.**

(A) Consistent with Attachment 52 of the Basic Agreement, the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may immediately place a Major League player accused of a Covered Act on Administrative Leave to investigate the player's alleged conduct. A player on Administrative Leave shall not be eligible to play for any Major or Minor League Club.

(B) Player Limits. Players on Administrative Leave shall not count against either the Reserve List or Active List limits.

(C) Salary. While on Administrative Leave, a Player shall continue to receive the salary and Major League service to which he otherwise would be entitled but for his placement on Administrative Leave.

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

**(E) 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 Administrative Leave. Should a Club fail to so tender or renew a contract, the player shall become a free agent without any restrictions or qualifications. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a player who properly has been placed on Administrative Leave pursuant to the Joint Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Policy 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 Administrative Leave until his Administrative Leave period expires or he is otherwise reinstated from Administrative Leave.

### **(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.

**(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 Restricted 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 Restricted List.

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**(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 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 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.

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**(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 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

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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 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 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.

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**(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 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 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.

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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 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



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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 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

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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 the Injured List for that particular Minor League Club. The three lists a Minor League player may be placed on during the championship season (including postseason for Clubs still participating in the Minor League postseason) 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 at a domestic affiliate 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

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Minor League Club physician. The Commissioner's Office, in conjunction with the MLB Medical Director, will review and approve such applications. Players assigned to a domestic affiliate may be placed on the Minor League 60-Day Injured List beginning on the tenth day prior to the start of the AAA championship season. The minimum period of placement on the Minor League 60-Day Injured List shall be 60 consecutive days of the championship season, 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 5th day following the conclusion of the World Series. The maximum number of players permitted on the Minor League 60-Day Injured List by any Club at any one time shall be 15; provided, however, that Players assigned to the Dominican Summer League and placed on the Minor League 60-Day Injured List shall not count towards the maximum number of players permitted on the Minor League 60-Day Injured List.

(iii) Minor League Full-Season Injured List. No player may be placed on the Minor League Full-Season Injured List at a domestic affiliate 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). Players may only be placed on or transferred to the Minor League Full-Season Injured List during the Minor League season due to a significant injury that requires a major surgery or medical procedure that would typically keep a player out for an entire season (e.g., Tommy John Surgery). Placement on the Minor League Full-Season Injured List requires pre-approval from the Office of the Commissioner. The application for placement on the Minor League Full-Season 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. Players assigned to a domestic affiliate may be placed on the Minor League Full-Season Injured List beginning on the tenth day

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

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prior to the start of the AAA championship season. The minimum period of placement on the Minor League Full-Season Injured List shall be the remainder of the Minor League season, including any postseason games, unless otherwise approved by the Office of the Commissioner. Players appropriately placed on the Minor League Full-Season Injured List must remain on such list until the 5th 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 or Minor League Full-Season 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.

**(C) Disposition of Injured Players.** *See* Article X(C) of the Minor League Basic Agreement.

### **(12) DEVELOPMENT LIST.**

**(A) Placement on the Development List.** A Minor League player may be placed on the Development List for any 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. 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 may be reinstated early if: (1) the player suffers an injury, and that player is required to be transferred to the Regular Injured List; or (2) the Club experiences a legitimate and unforeseen situation that requires the Development List player to be reinstated (*e.g.*, replacing an injured player or a player promoted to the Major League roster). Any

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inactive days on the Development List will count towards the minimum period of inactivity on the Regular Injured List if a player is transferred directly from the Development 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,

the player may be placed on the Minor League Club's Temporarily Inactive List. If the placement is pursuant to Rule 2(c)(13)(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.

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### **MLR 2(c) to 2(d)**

**(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 be assigned. 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.

#### **(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.

**(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) Occupying the Bench.** In accordance with Official Baseball Rule 5.10(k), the following individuals may occupy a bench or bullpen area during an official Major League game:

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(i) *Players.* Players on the Active Roster and substitutes in uniform, including players on the injured list in accordance with Official Baseball Rule 5.10(k).

(ii) *Uniformed Manager & Coaches.* From Opening Day through August 31 and during the postseason, a Major League Club may have no more than one (1) uniformed manager and eight (8) on-field uniformed coaches, instructors or bullpen coaches (including honorary coaches or instructors) during an official Major League game. Clubs are permitted to substitute for a manager or on-field uniformed coach who has left the Club on a temporary basis, provided 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. From September 1 through the conclusion of the championship season, a Major League Club may have one additional on-field coach, instructor or bullpen coach in uniform and occupying the bench.

(iii) *Uniformed Bullpen Catchers & Bat Boys/Girls.* Clubs may have two (2) bullpen catchers and two (2) bat boys/girls in uniform during a Major League game.

(iv) *Certified Athletic Trainers.* Clubs may have two (2) Certified Athletic Trainers sit on the bench during an official Major League game.

(v) *Additional Major League Staff.* In addition to the individuals identified above, a Major League Club may permit additional personnel to occupy the bench or bullpen area for a Major League game during the championship season and/or postseason with the permission of the Commissioner's Office. Each Club must provide the names of such individuals to the Commissioner's Office for review and approval in advance of the first game that individuals are expected to occupy the bench or bullpen area. Absent compelling justification, the Commissioner's Office will not approve the addition of such staff to occupy the bench unless they are:

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- (aa)** coaches or instructors;
- (bb)** Certified Athletic Trainers;
- (cc)** conditioning staff (*e.g.*, strength or conditioning coach, physical therapist, *etc.*);
- (dd)** Certified Mental Performances coaches;
- (ee)** interpreters for each unique language needed based on players eligible to play in the game;
- (ff)** equipment staff; or
- (gg)** home or visiting travel security assigned to the dugout.

Clubs are required to file and maintain a list of all uniformed coaches, and other Club personnel who are eligible to access the playing field, dugout or bullpen during the game throughout the championship season and postseason, and thus qualify as “On-Field Personnel” within the meaning of Major League Baseball Regulations 1-1 (“Sign Stealing and Pitch Identification”) and 1-2 (“Use of Electronic Devices and Video During Games”). Club Personnel that are not included on a Club’s list of On-Field Personnel are not permitted to access the playing field, dugout or bullpen during a game.

Unapproved individuals who occupy the bench or bullpen area during Major League games may be ejected by the umpire and they and their Club may be subject to discipline by the Commissioner’s Office.

#### **(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



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### **MLR 2(d) to 3(a)**

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.

**(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.

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### **MLR 3(a)**

**(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 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 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 calendar year the player signs 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

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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 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 re-signing 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 Restricted List for a period of one year, if the player does have an approved Minor League 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

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### **MLR 3(a)**

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 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 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 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

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### MLR 3(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 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.*, 9th 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.*, 9th, 10th, and 11th grades);

(ii) the player will be 17 years old by August 1 of a given Draft year;

(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.

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### **MLR 3(a)**

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 by August 1 of a given Draft year.

**(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 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. In addition, a player who (i) is selected after the tenth round but does not sign by the Signing Deadline for the First-Year Player Draft pursuant to Rule 4(d)(4), and (ii) attends junior college for the following fall and spring semesters ("Draft-and-Follow Player") will be eligible to sign a contract with the selecting Club during the window between the end of the player's junior college season and the start of the Closed Period. *See* Rule 3(g)(1).

**(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

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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 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;

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(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 by March 15 of a given Draft year and remains out (through the date on which the player signs a contract).

(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 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. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Draft-and-Follow Player will be eligible to sign a contract with the selecting Club during the window between the end of the player's junior college season and the start of the Closed Period. *See* Rule 3(g)(1).

(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.



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### **MLR 3(a) to 3(b)**

**(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. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Draft-and-Follow Player will be eligible to sign a contract with the selecting Club during the window between the end of the player's junior college season and the start of the Closed Period. *See* Rule 3(g)(1).

**(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 by August 1 of a given Draft year (and thus is eligible for selection in that year's Draft under Rule 4(a)) will be deemed eligible to sign a contract with the player's selecting Club upon selection, or with any Club if not selected upon the conclusion of the 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.

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**(2)** Uniform Contracts 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 Major or Minor League Clubs and players on Minor League Reserve Lists shall conform to the following:

**(A)** Minor League Uniform Player Contracts. All contracts between Major League Clubs or Minor League Clubs and players on Minor League Reserve Lists assigned to affiliates in the United States and Canada shall be in the form prescribed by and the term defined by the Minor League Basic Agreement (“Minor League Uniform Player Contract” or “Minor League UPC”).

**(B)** Dominican Summer League Uniform Player Contracts.

**(i)** Form. All contracts between Major or Minor League Clubs and players on Minor League Reserve Lists assigned to the Dominican Summer League shall be in the form of the Dominican Summer League Uniform Player Contract that is appended to these Rules as Attachment 3 (“Dominican Summer League Uniform Player Contract,” “DSL Uniform Player Contract,” or “DSL UPC”).

**(ii)** Term.

**(aa)** All DSL UPCs between either a Major or a Minor League Club and a player who has not previously signed a contract with a Major or Minor League Club, excluding “Foreign Professionals” as defined in Rule 3(a)(1)(C) (“First-Year Dominican Summer League Uniform Player Contracts”), shall be for a term of seven Minor League playing seasons, unless the player is 19 years of age or older on the June 5 immediately preceding the player’s signing, in which case the term shall be six Minor League playing seasons.

**(bb)** All DSL UPCs between a Major or a Minor League Club and a player who has previously signed a DSL Minor League UPC (and who is not subject to the terms in Rule 3(b)(2)(B)(ii)(cc)) may be for any term not to exceed seven Minor League playing seasons (unless the player was 19 years of age or older on the June 5 immediately preceding the player’s signing of his First-Year Dominican Summer League Uniform Player

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Contract, in which case the term may not exceed six Minor League playing seasons) that is mutually acceptable to the signing Club and the player.

(cc) All DSL UPCs between a Major or a Minor League Club and a player who has previously signed a Major League UPC or a Minor League UPC that was assigned to a Minor League affiliate in the United States or Canada or who qualifies as a “Foreign Professional” as defined in Rule 3(a)(1)(C) may be for any term not to exceed two Minor League playing seasons that is mutually acceptable to the signing Club and the player.

(iii) Salary and Permissible Special Covenants. The minimum salary in each season covered by a DSL UPC shall be the amounts established from time to time by the Major League Clubs. A DSL UPC may only contain such special covenants as permitted by Major League Baseball.

(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 forms described by this Rule 3(b). All contracts shall be in duplicate and the player shall retain a counterpart original. All 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 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

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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 Uniform Player 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) [Reserved]**

**(2) [Reserved]**

**(3) [Reserved]**

**(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

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Bonus (and will not count toward a Club's Total Signing 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 \$150,000 provided to players selected after the tenth round will count toward a Club's Total Signing Bonuses. The first \$150,000 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 \$150,000 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 \$150,000 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.

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(vii) Signing Bonuses provided to Draft-and-Follow Players may not exceed \$225,000 and will not count against the Signing Bonus Pool for the Club that signs them.

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

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

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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 this Rule, a Club that is partially or fully exempt from market disqualification under Article XXIV of the Basic Agreement shall not be subject to the requirement that tax proceeds recipients cannot have a Market Score greater than 100.

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.

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**(5) Permissible Special Covenants.** A Minor League 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 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 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:



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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 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 playoff or other postseason 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,

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(iii) the sum of \$5,000 for the Major League level.

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 10th anniversary of the date the player executes the Minor League 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

## MAJOR LEAGUE RULES

### MLR 3(c) to 3(d)

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.

(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 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 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 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 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 3(d) to 3(g)**

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.

#### **(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 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:



## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 3(g)**

**(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 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.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Rule 3, in addition to the selecting Club, the other twenty-nine (29) Major League Clubs may communicate with a Draft-and-Follow Player, and the Draft-and-Follow Player shall be permitted to attend Pre-Draft workouts conducted by individual Clubs, beginning seven (7) days after the day that the last game of the player's junior college season starts. Furthermore, Draft-and-Follow Players are eligible for selection to the Top 300 Program (*see* Rule 4(j)(1)) and, if selected or invited by the Commissioner's Office as one of the up to 50 additional players pursuant to Rule 4(j)(2)(B), shall be considered an Invited Player and eligible to participate in the Scouting & Medical Combine prior to the next First-Year Player Draft.

**(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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 3(g)**

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.

**(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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 3(g)**

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;

(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

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 3(g) to 3(h)**

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 MAJOR LEAGUE CONTRACT RENEWALS, SALARY ADDENDUMS AND MINOR LEAGUE CONTRACTS.**

(1) Major League Tenders. In order to retain reservation rights over a Major League player, on or before the Tender Deadline each Major League Club must tender a Major League Uniform Player's Contract to each player on its Major League Reserve List by instructing the Office of the Commissioner to tender the player a contract for the term of the next year in accordance with Article XX(A) of the Major League Basic Agreement and Paragraph 10(a) of the Major League Uniform Player's Contract.

**(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 Contract to each player who has been assigned outright to a Minor League Club and who has either not previously signed a Minor League Contract or has previously signed a Minor League Contract that has expired. Such tender may be made to the player in person, by mail addressed to the player's last address of record with the Major League Club or by e-mail to the player's last known e-mail address.

(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 who does not have a salary for the next season set forth in his Minor League Contract or who must be provided a different salary rate than is otherwise set forth in his Minor League Contract under the Major League Basic Agreement. *See* Attachment 43 to the Major League Basic Agreement.

A Club is not required to tender a Salary Addendum to any other player.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 3(h) to 3(j)**

(C) If Rule 3(h) requires the Club to tender a player a Salary Addendum, such player may not participate in any championship season game until the player has signed that addendum.

**(i) MANAGER'S AND EMPLOYEE'S CONTRACTS.** Any active Manager, Coach, Trainer or Assistant Trainer designated by a Club pursuant to Section 3 of the Major League Baseball Players Benefit Plan must sign an employment contract that includes any terms prescribed by the Commissioner before rendering services to a Major League Club, and such contracts shall be filed with the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee within 10 days after the execution of the contract. Clubs may choose at their own discretion whether to sign any other employee to an employment contract and the terms of such contract. However, if the Club chooses to sign an employee to a contract, the contract must incorporate any terms required by the Commissioner's Office based on the employee's job function. All Club employees, irrespective of whether they are signed to an employment contract, must acknowledge in writing that they are required to comply with the Major League Constitution, any applicable Major League Rules, and any applicable MLB-issued policies in effect during the term of the person's employment.

### **(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 person not retained or employed by such Club for bringing such player

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### **MLR 3(j) to 4(a)**

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, the Commissioner shall maintain Tampering Policies that apply to (1) any player 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; (2) delineated Club employees and any Major or Minor League Club other than the Club with which the person is employed; and (3) any umpire and any baseball employer other than the baseball employer with which the umpire is under contract, or acceptance of terms.

## **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 by August 1 of that year, 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” 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.

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**MLR 4(b)**

**(b) SELECTION MEETING.**

(1) Scheduling. One three-day selection meeting shall be conducted each year between June 1 and July 20, and shall be known as the First-Year Player Draft or the Rule 4 draft. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the First-Year Player Draft shall not be commenced any later than one (1) day prior to the All-Star Game or Home Run Derby, whichever event occurs first. If the First-Year Player Draft is commenced on the day prior to either the All-Star Game or Home Run Derby (whichever occurs first), and on the same day as the Futures Game (or another All-Star event involving active Major or Minor League players), the First-Year Player Draft will commence no earlier than four (4) hours following the start of the Futures Game (or similar event). The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee shall, no later than December 1, announce the date of the commencement of the next year's First-Year Player Draft.

(2) Location. 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, video or other electronic means.

(3) Procedure. 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. Only Major League Clubs may make selections at the First-Year Player Draft. 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 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 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.

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**MLR 4(b) to 4(c)**

**(4) Rounds.** The First-Year Player Draft shall conclude after 20 selection rounds (not including selections made between numbered rounds pursuant to Rule 4(l) (Prospect Promotion Incentives), Rule 4(k)(2) (Competitive Balance Selections), and Free Agent Compensation Selections pursuant to Article XX(B) of the Basic Agreement). *See* Rule 4(c)(3) (Order of Selection Between Rounds). The first day of the First-Year Player Draft will begin with the first round and include all selections prior to the third round. The second day of the First-Year Player Draft will commence with the third round and end with the completion of the tenth round. The third day of the Draft will include the remaining rounds (11 through 20).

**(5) Time Limits for Selection.** Clubs shall have three (3) minutes between selections in the first round; two (2) minutes between selections that occur between the first and second rounds (*e.g.*, Prospect Promotion Incentive Selections, Competitive Balance Round A Selections, *etc.*); and one (1) minute between selections in all remaining rounds taking place on the first day of the Draft; provided that the announcement of selections may be delayed to accommodate the broadcast and Draft-eligible players who are attending the Draft in-person (consistent with past practice). There shall be a five (5) minute break at the conclusion of the first round. 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.

**(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 order of selections in the 20 numbered rounds of the First-Year Player Draft will be as follows, subject to any modifications pursuant to other provisions of the Major League Rules or the Basic Agreement.

**(A) First Round**

**(i)** The first six (6) selections in each year's Draft (excluding any Supplemental Selections provided pursuant to Rule 4(c)(2) below) will be awarded to six Clubs via a lottery



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### MLR 4(c)

(“Draft Lottery” or “Lottery”), which will be conducted between the conclusion of the championship season and December 31 in the prior calendar year, on a specific date to be determined by the Commissioner or the Commissioner’s designee (with notice to the Players Association on or before August 1).

(ii) Except as set forth in Rule 4(c)(1)(A)(iv) below, all Clubs that did not qualify for the postseason in the prior season (and that have not forfeited their first round selection) will be eligible for that year’s Draft Lottery (“Lottery Clubs”).

(iii) A Lottery Club’s initial odds of receiving a selection in the Lottery in a given year will be assigned in reverse order of winning percentage in the prior championship season (*i.e.*, the three Clubs with the lowest winning percentages in a given championship season will receive the best odds in the Lottery for the following year’s Draft), using the odds set forth in the table below. For the avoidance of doubt, all 18 Clubs that did not qualify for the postseason in the prior season shall be initially assigned odds pursuant to the table below, irrespective of whether they have forfeited their first round selection or are otherwise ineligible to receive a lottery selection pursuant to Rule 4(c)(1)(A)(iv) below.

#### LOTTERY ODDS

Team	Odds for #1 Selection	Team	Odds for #1 Selection
1	16.50%	10	1.80%
2	16.50%	11	1.40%
3	16.50%	12	1.10%
4	13.20%	13	0.90%
5	10.00%	14	0.80%
6	7.50%	15	0.60%
7	5.50%	16	0.50%
8	3.90%	17	0.40%
9	2.70%	18	0.20%

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### MLR 4(c)

If two or more Clubs have identical winning percentages in the immediately preceding championship season, the Lottery odds for each of those Clubs will be determined based on their respective winning percentages in the next prior championship season, with any remaining ties resolved by the tied Clubs' respective championship season winning percentages in each preceding year, until the tie is broken.

(iv) Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Club that is a payor or fully market disqualified under the Revenue Sharing Plan ("Non-Payee Club") may not receive a Lottery selection (*i.e.*, one of the first six selections, excluding any Supplemental Selections) in consecutive years, and a Club that is a payee and not fully market disqualified under the Revenue Sharing Plan ("Payee Club") may not receive a Lottery selection in three consecutive years. A Club's status as a Payee or Non-Payee Club, for the purposes of this Rule 4(c)(1)(A)(iv), shall be based on the Revenue Sharing Year in which the Draft occurs. For purposes of this Rule 4(c)(1)(A)(iv), a Non-Payee Club that was a Payee Club in the immediately prior year and received a Lottery selection in that year's First-Year Player Draft shall be eligible to receive a Lottery selection in that second year's First-Year Player Draft (provided that the Club had not received a Lottery selection in each of the two immediately preceding First-Year Player Drafts). In addition, any Club that has forfeited its first round selection may not receive a Lottery selection. Any Club that is ineligible to receive a Lottery selection by virtue of this Rule 4(c)(1)(A)(iv) or because the Club forfeited its first round selection shall have its Lottery odds reduced to zero, and the odds of the remaining Lottery Clubs shall be increased in proportion to each Club's original odds so that the cumulative odds of all eligible Clubs totals 100%.

(v) Once the Lottery has been conducted to determine which Clubs will receive the first six standard selections in that Draft, the order of selection in the first round for the remaining Lottery Clubs will be determined by reverse order of their respective winning percentages in the immediately preceding championship season. If two or more Clubs have identical winning percentages in the immediately preceding championship season, the selection order of those Clubs will

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### **MLR 4(c)**

be determined by winning percentage 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 year, until the tie is broken. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the standard first round selection of any Club that is ineligible to receive a Lottery selection by virtue of Rule 4(c)(1)(A)(iv) above shall occur no earlier than the 10<sup>th</sup> overall selection.

(vi) Clubs that qualified for the postseason in the prior year ("Postseason Clubs") will select after the Lottery Clubs (and non-Postseason Clubs that were ineligible for the Lottery pursuant to Rule 4(c)(1)(A)(iv) above), in order based on their finish in the prior year's postseason. To illustrate, the four Clubs that lost in the prior season's Wild Card Series would select before the four Clubs that lost in the Division Series; and the two Clubs that lost in the League Championship Series would select before the two Clubs that played in the World Series; such that the Club that won the World Series would receive the last standard selection in the first round (and each subsequent round) of the next First-Year Player Draft. Within each grouping of Postseason Clubs based on their postseason performance in the prior season (e.g., among the group of four Clubs who lost in the prior Division Series), Payee Clubs will select before Non-Payee Clubs, and then, among the subgroups of Payee and Non-Payee Clubs, in reverse order of winning percentage in that prior championship season. If two or more Clubs who lost in the same round of the postseason and were in the same category based on their status under the Revenue Sharing Plan have identical winning percentages in the immediately preceding championship season, the selection order of those Clubs will be determined by winning percentage in the next prior championship season, with any remaining ties resolved by the tied Clubs' respective championship season winning percentages in each preceding year, until the tie is broken.

#### **(B) Remaining Rounds (2-20)**

(i) Lottery Clubs (including the six Clubs that receive selections in the first round via the Lottery) as well as any non-Postseason Clubs that were ineligible to receive a selection in the Lottery pursuant to Rule 4(c)(1)(A)(iv) above or

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because they forfeited their first round selection will select before Postseason Clubs, in reverse order of those Clubs' winning percentages in the prior championship season. If two or more such Clubs have identical winning percentages in the immediately preceding championship season, the selection order of those Clubs will be determined by winning percentage in the next prior championship season, with any remaining ties resolved by the tied Clubs' respective championship season winning percentages in each preceding year, until the tie is broken.

(ii) Postseason Clubs will select after the Clubs referenced in Rule 4(c)(1)(B)(i) above, in order based on their finish in the prior year's postseason, as described in Rule 4(c)(1)(A)(vi).

(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 First-Year Player Draft (even if that results in the Supplemental Selection being exercised in the top six (6) selections in the first round otherwise awarded pursuant to the Draft Lottery, resulting in one or more of the six (6) recipients of a Lottery selection in that Draft having the position of that selection moved back as a result). For example, if the unsigned player had been the 5th selection in the First-Year Player Draft, the Supplemental Selection awarded shall be the 6th selection in the next First-Year Player Draft, and the Club that received the 6th selection via the Draft Lottery shall now have the 7th overall selection.

(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

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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)** Order of Selections Between Rounds. The following order of priorities shall govern where multiple categories of selections have been awarded to Clubs between numbered rounds:

**(A)** Between Rounds 1 and 2

**(i)** Prospect Promotion Incentive Selections

**(ii)** Free Agent Compensation Selections Pursuant to Article XX(B)

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**(iii) Competitive Balance Round A Selections**

**(B) Between Rounds 2 and 3**

**(i) Competitive Balance Round B Selections**

**(ii) Free Agent Compensation Selections Pursuant to  
Article XX(B)**

**(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, which shall be at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the earlier of (i) August 1, or (ii) the date two weeks after the conclusion of that year's Draft; provided, however, that the Signing Deadline shall not fall on the same date as the Major League Trade Deadline described in Rule 6(d)(3), if such player has not utilized all of his potential college baseball eligibility; 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);

**(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

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**(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.

**(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

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at the preceding First-Year Player 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 Player 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 15 days have elapsed from the date of the contract 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.**

**(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



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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 Scouting & Medical Combine ("Combine").**

**(A) Date and Location.**

**(i)** The Combine will be held in June or July each year, and will be completed at least seven (7) days prior to the first day of that year's Draft.

**(ii)** By December 1, and after consultation with the Players Association, the Commissioner's Office will announce the date and location of the following year's Combine.

**(B) Eligible Players.**

**(i)** The Commissioner's Office may invite any players selected for the Top 300 Program, and up to 50 additional

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players who were not selected for the Top 300 Program, to participate in the Combine.

**(ii) Invitation Deadline.** The Commissioner's Office may notify players that they have been invited to the Combine at any point between January 1 and two weeks prior to the start of the Combine.

**(iii) Players who are invited to participate in the Combine ("Invited Players")** must notify the Commissioner's Office at least seven (7) days prior to the first scheduled day of the Combine if they intend to participate in the Combine (including in which activities they plan to participate). An Invited Player who fails to notify the Commissioner's Office of his intention to participate in the Combine at least seven (7) days prior to the first scheduled day of the Combine may be denied participation in the Combine, in the sole discretion of the Office of the Commissioner.

**(iv) Except as set forth below in Rule 4(j)(2)(c),** the costs of the Combine will be borne by the Commissioner's Office, which will work with the NCAA to ensure athlete eligibility is not affected by participation in the Combine. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if an Invited Player notifies the Commissioner's Office that he intends to attend the Combine but does not intend to participate in any of the medical, strength and conditioning, or on-field activities at the Combine, such player will be responsible for the costs related to his attendance at the Combine (*e.g.*, transportation, lodging), unless the player (i) participates in at least ten (10) requested individual team meetings; or (ii) upon request by the Commissioner's Office, engages in promotional activities at the Combine (*e.g.*, participates in an MLB Network (or similar national network) broadcast or interview).

**(C) Baseball Activities & Development.** The Office of the Commissioner may schedule voluntary baseball-related activities at the Combine, including games, on-field workouts, and individual meetings between players and Clubs.

**(i) Players Association personnel** will have equivalent access as Commissioner's Office officials (including necessary credentials) to restricted and non-restricted areas of the

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Combine facility (including playing field(s), meeting facilities, event space, *etc.*); provided, however, that (i) Players Association personnel will not be permitted to access individual player-Club meetings, medical examinations, or meetings involving Commissioner's Office and/or Club personnel only; and (ii) access for Players Association personnel will only apply during the hours when Combine activities are taking place.

**(ii)** The Commissioner's Office and the Players Association will meet on an annual basis to review the previous year's Combine and discuss ways to improve the event for future years, including by adding additional assessments or activities, with the goal of making the pre-Draft process more streamlined and efficient for players and Clubs. By February 1 of each year, the Players Association may provide the Commissioner's Office with a list of recommended coaches or instructors who would be interested in participating in baseball-related activities at the Combine.

**(iii)** The Office of the Commissioner may offer voluntary off-field player development programming and symposiums at the Combine, including career transition support (current and former player guidance, financial wellness, continuing formal education, *etc.*), health and wellness (prohibited substances, healthy relationships, *etc.*), joint MLB-MLBPA code of conduct expectations, and media training (social and traditional).

**(iv)** Invited Players shall be prohibited from participating in baseball activities with any Club during the period beginning three (3) days before the start of the Combine and ending with the conclusion of that year's Draft. Invited Players and Clubs may still conduct in-person or virtual meetings during this period.

**(D)** Medical Information. Invited Players who elect to participate in the medical portion of the Combine will be required to complete the following tests and assessments.

**(i)** Medical History Questionnaire and Release. Prior to arriving at the Combine, Invited Players must complete a medical history questionnaire administered by a medical

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representative designated by the Commissioner's Office and execute a release that authorizes medical providers to submit information collected at the Combine directly to the Commissioner's Office and the Clubs. The Commissioner's Office and the Players Association will agree upon the medical history questionnaire and release/authorization forms to be administered, which will be the only such forms provided to any Invited Player who participates in the Combine, except for any questionnaires, tasks, and release/authorization forms provided to players through the MLB Draft Prospect Link.

**(ii) Pre-Existing Medical Records.** The Invited Player must provide to the Commissioner's Office, at least one week prior to the start of the Combine, any pre-existing medical records relating to his physical condition that would reasonably affect his ability to perform services as a baseball player from the previous 24 months. Such pre-existing medical records shall include, but are not limited to, the following: orthopedic evaluations, rehabilitation notes, operative reports, and imaging (*e.g.*, MRI, X-Ray, CT Scans). The Commissioner's Office will provide resources to players and their families to help them with the process of collecting this information and providing it to the Commissioner's Office in a secure way. An Invited Player who withholds medical information covered by this section (ii) will be treated as if he declined to participate in the medical portion of the Combine and therefore will be subject to Rule 4(j)(4)(B)(ii)(bb) if he subsequently fails a Club-administered physical examination (*i.e.*, the Club shall be relieved of the obligation to offer the player a signing bonus, the player will not become a free agent, and the Club will receive a Supplemental Selection pursuant to Rule 4(c)(2) for failing to sign such a player).

**(iii) Physical Examination.** The Invited Player must undergo medical and orthopedic exams administered at the Combine by Club physicians, including:

**(aa)** Orthopedic and General Medical Physical Exam

**(bb)** EKG

**(cc)** Echocardiogram

**(dd)** Blood Testing: CMP, CBC with Differential/  
Platelet, Hemoglobin A1c

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In addition, the Commissioner's Office will establish a committee of three (3) Club physicians with expertise in primary care sports medicine who may recommend additional non-orthopedic medical testing and/or exams based on a player's medical history and/or physical exam (the "Medical Committee"). The Commissioner's Office and the Players Association will jointly select a general medical physician ("Independent Medical Physician") to consult with the Medical Committee on all non-orthopedic requests.

**(iv) Imaging.** The Invited Player must submit to an X-Ray and MRI without contrast for his throwing shoulder, throwing elbow, lumbar and cervical spine, knees (bilateral X-Ray only) and hips (bilateral X-Ray only) and any other body part with a physical injury that caused the player to miss time in the playing season immediately preceding the Draft. The Commissioner's Office will establish a committee comprised of three (3) Club physicians that will review all requests for additional imaging to ensure additional imaging is medically appropriate based on the player's medical history and/or physical exam (the "Imaging Committee"). The Commissioner's Office and the Players Association will jointly select an orthopedist ("Independent Orthopedist") who will consult with the Imaging Committee on all requests. All imaging must be conducted pursuant to protocols established by the parties' joint radiologist.

**(E) Vision.** Invited Players may choose to undergo vision exams at the Combine.

**(F) Strength and Conditioning.** Invited Players may choose to undergo a series of strength and conditioning assessments at the Combine, including anthropometric measurements, posture, range-of-motion, functional movement screens, and athletic activities (*e.g.*, sprints, jumps). The specific list of assessments will be determined after consultation with the parties' Joint Strength and Conditioning Coordinator.

**(G) Access to Information.** Invited Players who participate in the Combine will receive a copy of all (player-specific) information and data collected about them as part of the Combine.

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**(i)** All medical information collected at the Combine and distributed to Major League Clubs must be deleted and/or destroyed by the Clubs if a participating player is undrafted or does not sign with the drafting Club. In addition, for players who are drafted and sign with the drafting Club, all information and data collected at the Combine must be deleted and/or destroyed by all Clubs other than the signing Club.

**(ii)** All medical information collected at the Combine will be designated and treated as “highly confidential.” Unauthorized disclosure of any such information and/or data by Clubs shall subject the disclosing party to discipline and/or penalties by the Commissioner, including but not limited to monetary fines and/or forfeiture of Draft selections.

**(H)** Invited Players With Scheduling Conflicts. If an Invited Player elects to participate in the medical portion of the Combine but is unable to attend the Combine because of a conflict with his college or high school baseball season, or if he provides the Commissioner’s Office with another compelling justification for his inability to attend or participate in specific activities at the Combine, the Commissioner’s Office will work with that player to find an alternative means for him to complete the medical portion of the Combine (and thus qualify as a Combine Player for purposes of Rule 4(j)(4)(D) below), provided that the player is able to complete all medical testing at least seven (7) days prior to that year’s Draft. In order to be eligible for this accommodation, the Invited Player must notify the Commissioner’s Office of the conflict (or other compelling justification) at least seven (7) days prior to the first scheduled day of the Combine. If the Commissioner’s Office, in its sole discretion, determines that the player was unable to satisfy the medical portion of the Combine at least seven (7) days prior to that year’s Draft because of a continued conflict with the player’s college or high school baseball season or another compelling justification for his inability to complete the testing, the player will be subject to Rule 4(j)(4)(B)(i) (“Drafted Players Not Invited to the Combine”) in the event he subsequently fails a Club-administered physical examination.

**(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

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Draft (“Prospect Drug Testing Program”). All players named to participate in the Top 300 Program described in Rule 4(j)(1)(A) above shall be subject to random, unannounced drug testing during the 30-day period immediately preceding the First-Year Player Draft, which requirement may be completed at the Combine. Any player subject to random drug testing under the Prospect Drug Testing Program who refuses to be 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 15(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 Invited to the Combine. If a drafted player who was not invited to participate in the Combine 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 10th 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

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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 11th 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 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 Invited to the Combine.

**(aa)** Drafted Players Who Complete the Medical Portion of the Combine. If an Invited Player who fully complies with the medical portion of the Combine (*i.e.*, he satisfies the requirements set forth in above in Rule 4(j)(2)(D)(i)-(iv) (a "Combine Player")) is selected in that year's Draft, the Club that selects the Combine Player must, by midnight Eastern Time the evening before the Signing Deadline, offer that player a bonus equal to or greater than 75% of the Signing Bonus Value associated with the selection used to draft the Combine Player (or \$50,000 if the player was selected after the 10th 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)), in order for the Club to receive a Supplemental Selection pursuant to Rule 4(c)(2) in the event the Club fails to sign the player. If the Club does



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not offer the Combine Player at least 75% of the corresponding Signing Bonus Value (or \$50,000 if the player was selected after the 10th round), 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); 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.

Notwithstanding the above, if (i) the Club shows that the player has an injury or defect that occurred, or was exacerbated, following the Combine, and such injury or defect is reasonably likely to impair the player's ability to perform services in the current or a future playing season; (ii) the player withheld relevant and required medical information during the Combine; or (iii) the player fails to complete a Club-administered physical examination requested by the Club, then the Club shall be relieved of the obligation to offer the player 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) (*i.e.*, the player will not become a free agent if he does not sign with the Club); 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. Any dispute regarding whether the conditions set forth in the preceding sentence apply to a particular drafted player will be submitted, for a final and binding resolution, to the Independent Orthopedist or Independent Medical Physician (as applicable).

**(bb)** Invited Players Who Do Not Complete the Medical Portion of the Combine. If an Invited Player who declines to participate fully in the medical portion of

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the Combine (*i.e.*, he does not complete the testing and assessments described in Rule 4(j)(2)(D)(i)-(iv) and therefore does not qualify as a Combine Player) is selected in that year's Draft, and subsequently fails a Club-administered physical examination, 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) (*i.e.*, the player will not become a free agent if he does not sign with the Club), 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.

**(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 Local Revenue 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

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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 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.** All Clubs that qualify as Payee Clubs (as defined above in Rule 4(c)(1)(A)(iv)) in a given Revenue Sharing Year will receive an additional selection in that year's First-Year Player Draft ("Competitive Balance Selection"). Eligible Clubs will either receive a Competitive Balance Selection following the conclusion of the first round ("Round A") or the second round ("Round B") of the Draft.

**(B) Designation of Competitive Balance Selections in 2023.** Clubs that received a Competitive Balance Selection in Round B of the 2022 First-Year Player Draft and remain eligible to receive a Competitive Balance Selection in the 2023 First-Year Player Draft will receive a Competitive Balance Selection in Round A of that Draft. All other Clubs eligible for a Competitive Balance Selection in the 2023 First-Year Player Draft will receive a selection in Round B.

**(C) Designation of Competitive Balance Selections in Subsequent Years.** In each subsequent First-Year Player Draft, 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

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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 eligible to receive a Competitive Balance Round Selection. Any Club that is eligible for a Competitive Balance Selection in a given 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.

**(D)** Ordering of Selections Within Competitive Balance Rounds. Clubs in Competitive Balance Rounds A and B shall select, within their Competitive Balance Round, in descending order of their respective winning percentages in the most recently completed championship season (*i.e.*, the Club in each Competitive Balance Round with the highest winning percentage in the most recently completed championship season, with ties broken by winning percentage in the immediately preceding season, shall select first in that Competitive Balance Round).

**(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)** Assignability. Forfeited Draft Selections and Competitive Balance Selections are assignable as follows:

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

**(ii)** 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.

**(iii)** 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.

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(iv) 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 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) Prospect Promotion Incentive (“PPI”) Selections**

(1) Eligible Prospects. For purposes of this Rule 4(l), an “Eligible Prospect” shall be any player who, as of the commencement of a given championship season:

(A) Has 60 days or less of career Major League service;

(B) Retains his rookie eligibility (defined below); and

(C) Was included in at least two of the most recent pre-season “Top 100” prospect lists published by Baseball America, MLB.com, and ESPN.com.

For the purposes of subsection (B) above, a player will be considered to retain his rookie eligibility for a given season unless, during one or more previous Major League championship seasons, he has accumulated more than (i) 130 at-bats or 50 innings pitched; or (ii) 45 days on a Major League Active Roster (excluding time on the Injured List).

Notwithstanding the criteria above, Foreign Professionals (*see* Rule 3(a)(1)(C)), Extended Free Agents (*see* Attachment 5 to the Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program), and players who, prior to making their Major League debut, agreed to a Major League contract covering more than one playing season cannot qualify as Eligible Prospects.

(2) Awarding of PPI Selections. A Club will receive a PPI Selection if an Eligible Prospect:

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(A) Accrues a full season of Major League service time (*i.e.*, the Eligible Prospect accrues 172 days of Major League service) pursuant to Article XXI(A)(2) with that Club in a championship season in which the player qualified as an Eligible Prospect entering that championship season; and

(B) In that same season or any other season in which the Eligible Prospect, at the start of the season, has not yet achieved the eligibility criteria for salary arbitration in Article VI(E)(1) of the Basic Agreement, the Eligible Prospect receives any of the following award consideration while under reserve to the same Club:

<u>Award</u>	<u>Place</u>
Rookie of the Year	1 <sup>st</sup>
MVP	Top 3
Cy Young	Top 3

(C) No Eligible Prospect may yield more than one PPI Selection during his career.

(3) Order of PPI Selections. PPI Selections will occur immediately following the end of the first round of the First-Year Player Draft in the year following the season in which the Eligible Player earned the relevant award consideration. If multiple Clubs receive a PPI Selection following the first round in the same Draft, the selections will be ordered in reverse order of winning percentage in the prior season, with Payee Clubs selecting before Non-Payee Clubs (as defined in Rule 4(c)(1)(A)(iv) above). If two or more Payee Clubs or two or more Non-Payee Clubs have identical winning percentages in the immediately preceding championship season, the selection order of those Clubs will be determined by winning percentage in the next prior championship season, with any remaining ties resolved by the tied Clubs' respective championship season winning percentages in each preceding year, until the tie is broken.

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

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 5(a) to 5(b)**

**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 postseason 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 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,

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

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

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 shall be subject to selection by other Major League Clubs at the Rule 5 Selection Meeting, with the exception of players on the Voluntarily Retired or Ineligible Lists, or on the Restricted List serving suspensions for violations of Major League Baseball's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program (unless the player's suspension was reduced pursuant to Section 8(B)(4) of the Program); Major League Baseball's Joint Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Policy; Major League Baseball's Minor League Drug Prevention and Treatment Program; or the Minor League Baseball Player Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Policy, 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:

(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;



## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 5(c)**

**(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 or the conclusion of all Minor League seasons (including postseason), whichever is later, 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 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 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.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 5(d) to 5(g)**

**(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.**

**(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;

## MAJOR LEAGUE RULES

### MLR 5(g)

(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.

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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 5(g) to 5(h)**

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.** A Major League Club that returns a selected player that was under a Minor League Contract for the entire championship season before the player's selection 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: (i) the Minor League Basic Agreement; or (ii) the rate set forth in the player's original Minor League Contract for that season, whichever is higher.

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 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 5(h) to 6(c)**

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.

#### **(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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 6(c)**

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).

**(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 to pay the player at the rate stipulated in the contract following the date of the assignment while assigned to assignee Club and all prior assignors and assignees

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 6(c) to 6(d)**

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).

**(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 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)** The Major League Trade Deadline shall occur annually on a date and time determined by the Office of the Commissioner from July 28 through August 3; provided that the Deadline shall not fall on the same date as the Signing Deadline for the First-Year Player Draft (*see* Rule 4(d)(4)). The Office of the Commissioner shall notify the Players Association of the date and time of the Major League Trade Deadline prior to December 1 of the preceding year. No Major League Uniform Player's Contract (including for outrighted players) shall be

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 6(d) to 6(f)**

traded to another Major League Club during the period commencing on the Major League Trade Deadline and ending upon the day following the day that the last game of the World Series starts.

**(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).

**(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 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



## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 6(f)**

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 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 6(f)**

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.

**(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.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 6(g)**

#### **(g) INJURY REHABILITATION**

##### **(1) Major League Rehabilitation Assignments.**

**(A) Rights and Benefits.** The rights and benefits of a player on a rehabilitation assignment to a Minor League club shall be as set forth in Article XIX(C)(3) (“Rehabilitation Assignments”) of the Major League Basic Agreement. 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).

##### **(B) Duration.**

**(i)** 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.

**(ii) UCL Reconstruction.** 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.

**(iii) Concussed Players.** 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 such rehabilitation assignment commences prior to the 7th day following the player’s initial placement on the 7-day Injured List. Beginning with the 7<sup>th</sup> day following the player’s initial placement on the 7-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.

**(C) New Injury or Reoccurrence.** 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 6(g)**

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 a rehabilitation assignment should notify the 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.

**(D) 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.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 6(g) to 6(h)**

**(2) Minor League.** Players placed on the Minor League Full-Season Injured List are not permitted to commence a rehabilitation assignment or participate in any intra-squad game activity. Players placed on the 60-day Injured List are not permitted to commence a rehabilitation assignment or participate in any intra-squad game activity until 45 days have elapsed from the date of the initial placement on an Injured List. The contract of a Minor League player on a 7-day or 60-day 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: 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 (subject to the applicable rules and limitations set out in Article X of the Minor League Basic Agreement). 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 6(h) to 7(b)**

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 and the Players Association (whose approval may be withheld only where the purpose of the assignment is to deprive the player of salary or other benefits under his Minor League UPC or the Minor League Basic Agreement).

### **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 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, the Major League

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Administrative 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

(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)

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 7(b) to 7(c)**

(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.

**(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 ASSIGNMENT SEASONS.** 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, 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



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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 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.

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**MLR 7(c) to 7(f)**

**(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) LIMITATIONS ON OPTIONAL ASSIGNMENTS PER SEASON.** For any player who has been optionally assigned to the Minor Leagues five (5) or more times in a single season (exclusive of Spring Training), any subsequent assignment to the Minor Leagues (other than a rehabilitation assignment) shall require outright assignment waivers. If a player who has been optionally assigned to the Minor Leagues five (5) or more times in a single season is assigned to a subsequent Major League Club, the player may be optionally assigned to the Minor Leagues one (1) additional time by the subsequent Major League Club, and any subsequent assignment to the Minor Leagues (other than a rehabilitation assignment) by that Club shall require outright assignment waivers. This additional optional assignment will not be granted if the player subsequently rejoins the first or any preceding Club during that season. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an optional assignment shall not be counted towards the limit described herein in the event a player, while on optional assignment, is assigned to another Major League Club and the assignee Club optionally assigns the player within 24 hours of acquisition (provided the player had not reported to the Major League Club during that time).

**(e) 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.

**(f) 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:

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 7(f)**

**(1)** From September 1 through the end of the Major League championship season, 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, except as provided in this Rule 7(f)(1). 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. Any player optioned to a Minor League affiliate or Spring Training Complex after the third day following Labor Day will receive Major League service (but not Major League salary) for the period of the optional assignment, including for any period of designation for players designated for assignment off of an optional assignment that occurred after the third day following Labor Day. Notwithstanding the foregoing, days on optional assignment made after the third day following Labor Day will be counted as days on option for the purposes of the Major League Rules and Basic Agreement (provided, however, that a player may only receive one day of Major League service per day on option).

**(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

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

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).

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

**(h) 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.

**(i) 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.

**(j) 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.

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**MLR 7(k)**

**(k) REACQUIRING PLAYER.**

(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, the Major League Administrative 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 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 Postseason 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).

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### **MLR 7(k) to 8(a)**

(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 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 for seven days. Outright assignment waivers may be requested and obtained in regard to a player who is on an optional assignment,

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 8(a) to 8(b)**

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>i.e.</i> , 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. Eastern Time on:	UR Waiver Claim must be entered by 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time on:	OR Waiver Claim Must Be Entered By 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time on:
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Sunday	Monday	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. Eastern Time on:	UR Waiver Claim must be entered by 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time on:	OR Waiver Claim Must Be Entered By 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time on:
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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Thursday	Friday	Monday
Friday	Monday	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 shall be in effect until 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the seventh day after the date they were obtained regardless of whether obtained while a player is on an optional assignment.

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.

**(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

## MAJOR LEAGUE RULES

### MLR 8(c)

claiming Clubs. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, if a Club already has claimed a player on Outright Waivers since the most recent voluntary Spring Training report date under Article XIV(A)(1) of the Basic Agreement, that Club shall be last in claim priority for that player (*i.e.*, that Club shall be treated for purposes of claim priority for that player as if the Club had the best winning percentage among claiming Clubs, regardless of the Club's actual current winning percentage). In the event two or more Clubs submit waiver claims on a player that they have already claimed on Outright Waivers since the most recent voluntary Spring Training report date, such ties shall be broken by reference to the Club's winning percentage (with the assignment going to the Club with the lowest winning percentage amongst the tied 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 postseason 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 postseason 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 to the tied Club with the lower percentage of games won at the close of the prior championship season, without regard to postseason 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 postseason 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.

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

**(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 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.

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(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, 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 waivers may be requested on an injured player immediately prior to or upon reinstatement from the Restricted List, provided the player was placed on the Restricted List as a result of a suspension under Major League Baseball's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program or Attachment 52 to the Basic Agreement, and provided the player was assignable in accordance with Article XIX(C)(2) of the Basic Agreement at the time the suspension was issued.

(8) 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.

(9) 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 8(d) to 8(g)**

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.

**(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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 8(g) to 9(b)**

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.

(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 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).



**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 9(b)**

**(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.

**(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.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 9(b)**

**(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.

**(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.** The provisions contained in this Rule 9(b)(9) apply to any termination of a Major League Uniform Player's Contract by a player in accordance with Paragraph 7 thereof. 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, absent an intervening Major League Uniform Player's Contract with another Club and

**(B)** Absent an intervening Major League contract with another Club, any player who has been 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.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 9(c)**

**(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 Contract, the player's Minor League 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 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 AND FREE AGENT CONTRACT SIGNING PERIOD.** 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 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 Contract expires, as set forth in Rule 9(c)(1). *See also* Rule 2(a)(4) & (5).

**(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 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 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 9(c)**

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 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 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 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.

**(7) MINOR LEAGUE FAILURE TO REPORT.** In the event a non-roster invitee to Major League Spring Training on a one-year Minor League Contract containing Major League terms does not make an Opening Day roster and subsequently does not report to a Minor League affiliate, that Minor League Contract will expire in accordance with Rule 9(c)(1) and the player will be declared a Minor League Free Agent.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES MLR 10 to 11(d)**

### **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.

**(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 Major League 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 Major League Basic Agreement.

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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 11(e) to 12(b)**

**(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 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 postseason 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 12(b) to 12(f)**

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 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.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES MLR 13(a) to 14(c)**

### **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.** 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, 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



## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 14(c) to 15(e)**

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 Series, 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 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 15(e) to 16(f)**

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 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.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES  
MLR 17(a) to 17(c)**

**Rule 17**

**UNIFORM PLAYING RULES**

**(a) PLAYING RULES.** Major League and Minor League Clubs shall play all games according to the provisions of the Official Baseball Rules, as modified by the Competition Committee or the Commissioner (as applicable) consistent with Article XVIII of the Basic Agreement.

For any Wild Card Series, Division Series, League Championship Series or World Series game, 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.

**(b) SCORING RULES.** Except where subject to the Competition Committee process pursuant to Article XVIII(A)(1) of the Basic Agreement, the Official Scoring Rules Committee, consisting of seven members to be appointed by the Commissioner, 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.

**(c) 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.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 18(a) to 19(a)**

**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 for the next championship season of both Leagues shall be provided to the Major League Baseball Players Association consistent with the terms of the Major League Basic Agreement. 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 and the Minor League Basic Agreement.

**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 postseason 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 postseason 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.”

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 19(b)**

**(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.

**(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 postseason, 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 19(b)**

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.

**(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;

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 19(b)**

**(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 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, Administrative Leave, 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 19(b) to 20(a)**

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.

**(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 postseason 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



## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 20(a) to 20(b)**

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;

(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. No (i) Major League Club, (ii) owner or stockholder of a Major League Club who (x) owns a 15% or greater interest in the Major League Club, (y) is the Control Person of the Major League Club or (z) is otherwise involved in the management of the Major League Club or (iii) 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 Minor League Club that is not affiliated with such Major League Club. 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 20(b) to 20(d)**

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, 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 (i) 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 or (ii) any Minor League Club that is not affiliated with such Major League Club unless otherwise approved by the Commissioner. 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

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**MLR 20(d) to 20(e)**

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. In addition, no employee of a Club (other than as permitted pursuant to the first sentence of this rule) shall, directly or indirectly, own stock or any other proprietary interest or have any financial interest in the Club which employs them unless (i) such employee is the Control Person of such Club or is a family member of the Control Person of such Club, (ii) such employee is an owner of the Club who holds an equity interest in the Club of at least 5% that was acquired in an arm's length transaction, (iii) such employee is employed by a Club that is or is wholly owned by a publicly-traded company, (iv) such employee is an employee of a diversified holding company, one of the assets of which is a Major League Club, who does not provide any services to such Club as part of the scope of his or her employment, or (v) such employee received such an interest in the Club by which he or she is then-currently employed prior to July 17, 2024. The Commissioner shall have the right to determine whether any individual qualifies as a family member of the Control Person, whether any equity interest in a Club was acquired through an arm's length transaction and whether an individual qualifies as an "employee of a Club" for purposes of the application of this rule.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 20(f) to 20(h)**

**(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.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 20(h) to 21(b)**

(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.

**(i) FOREIGN PROFESSIONAL LEAGUES.** No (i) Major League Club, (ii) owner or stockholder of a Major League Club who (x) owns a 15% or greater interest in the Major League Club, (y) is the Control Person of the Major League Club or (z) is otherwise involved in the management of the Major League Club or (iii) 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 otherwise have any financial interest in any foreign professional league or any foreign professional league club or loan money to or become surety or guarantor for any foreign professional league, foreign professional league club or a player of any foreign professional league club, unless approved by the Commissioner.

### **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

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 21(b) to 21(d)**

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 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.

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**MLR 21(e) to 22(a)**

**(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 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.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 22(a) to 23(a)**

(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.

**(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



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### **MLR 23(a) to 23(c)**

season or postseason 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 postseason. Subject to the approval of the 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 postseason 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

## MAJOR LEAGUE RULES

### MLR 23(c) to 25(c)

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 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 25(c) to 26(a)**

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 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.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 26(b)**

**(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 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).

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 26(c) to 26(d)**

**(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).

(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

## MAJOR LEAGUE RULES

### MLR 26(d)

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 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.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

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(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 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 26(d)**

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 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



**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 26(d) to 26(e)**

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 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.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 26(f) to 31**

**(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.

### **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 and Minor League Basic Agreement.

### **Rule 28**

**[Reserved]**

### **Rule 29**

**[Reserved]**

### **Rule 30**

**[Reserved]**

### **Rule 31**

**[Reserved]**

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**MLR 32 to 33(c)**

**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,

(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.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 34(a) to 34(c)**

**Rule 34**

**QUALIFICATION FOR POSTSEASON 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 formulae provided in Rule 34(c) below will be applied to determine the Club or Clubs deemed to have the higher winning percentage for these purposes. 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 three 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 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 formulae provided in Rule 34(c) below will be applied to determine the Club or Clubs deemed to have the higher winning percentage for these purposes. 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.** There shall not be any additional games played to break any ties in percentage of games won during the championship season in order to determine Division Champion, postseason eligibility, seeding, or home-field advantage. Instead, the following formulae will be applied to determine the Club or Clubs deemed to have the higher winning percentage for these purposes:

**(I) 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 34(c)**

**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 (which for all purposes of this Rule 34(c) shall mean intraleague games after the All-Star Break) during the championship season; or

**v.** If the Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the higher winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games plus one additional intraleague game during the championship season; or

**vi.** If the Clubs remain tied, then the procedures described in Rule 34(c)(1)(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 the Club with such higher winning percentage shall be the higher seed.

**(2) Three-Club Tie.** The Club deemed to have the highest winning percentage among the three tied Clubs shall be the tied Club that has a higher winning percentage in head-to-head competition against each of the other two tied Clubs 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(c)(1). If none of the three tied Clubs has a higher winning percentage in head-to-head competition against each of the other two Clubs, then the Club deemed to have the highest winning percentage shall be:

**i.** The tied Club with the highest winning percentage in head-to-head competition among the tied Clubs during the championship season. In the event there is a two-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1) shall determine the higher winning percentage among those tied Clubs; or

**ii.** If the three Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the highest winning percentage in intradivision games during the championship season. In the event there is a two-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1) shall determine the higher winning percentage among those tied Clubs; or

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 34(c)**

**iii.** If the three Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the highest winning percentage in intraleague games during the championship season. In the event there is a two-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1) shall determine the higher winning percentage among those tied Clubs;  
or

**iv.** If the three Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the highest winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season. In the event there is a two-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1) shall determine the higher winning percentage among those tied Clubs; or

**v.** If the three Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the highest winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games plus one additional intraleague game during the championship season. In the event there is a two-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1) shall determine the higher winning percentage among those tied Clubs;  
or

**vi.** If the three Clubs remain tied, then the procedures described in Rule 34(c)(2)(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 the Club with such better winning percentage shall be the higher seed. In the event there is a two-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1) shall determine the higher winning percentage among those tied Clubs.

Upon determination of the Club deemed to have the highest winning percentage among the three tied Clubs, the sequence of procedures set forth in Rule 34(c)(1) shall be applied to the two remaining tied Clubs in order to determine which of them shall be deemed to have the higher winning percentage among the two of them.

**(3) Four-Club Tie.** The Club deemed to have the highest winning percentage shall be:

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 34(c)**

**i.** The tied Club with a higher winning percentage in head-to-head competition against each of the other tied Clubs during the championship season; or

**ii.** If none of the four tied Clubs has a higher winning percentage in head-to-head competition against each of the other three Clubs, then the Club with the highest winning percentage in games among the tied Clubs in the championship season. In the event there is a three-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(2) shall determine the highest winning percentage among those tied Clubs. In the event there is a two-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1) shall determine the higher winning percentage among those tied Clubs; or

**iii.** If the four Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the highest winning percentage in intradivision games during the championship season. In the event there is a three-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(2) shall determine the highest winning percentage among those tied Clubs. In the event there is a two-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1) shall determine the higher winning percentage among those tied Clubs; or

**iv.** If the four Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the highest winning percentage in intraleague games during the championship season. In the event there is a three-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(2) shall determine the highest winning percentage among those tied Clubs. In the event there is a two-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1) shall determine the higher winning percentage among those tied Clubs; or

**v.** If the four Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the highest winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games during the championship season. In the event there is a three-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(2) shall determine the highest winning percentage among those tied Clubs. In the event there is a two-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1) shall determine the higher winning percentage among those tied Clubs; or

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 34(c) to 34(d)**

**vi.** If the four Clubs remain tied, then the tied Club with the highest winning percentage in the last half of intraleague games plus one additional intraleague game during the championship season. In the event there is a three-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(2) shall determine the highest winning percentage among those tied Clubs. In the event there is a two-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1) shall determine the higher winning percentage among those tied Clubs; or

**vii.** If the four Clubs remain tied, then the procedures described in Rule 34(c)(3)(vi) 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 the Club with such better winning percentage shall be the higher seed. In the event there is a three-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(2) shall determine the highest winning percentage among those tied Clubs. In the event there is a two-Club tie with the highest winning percentage, the procedures of Rule 34(c)(1) shall determine the higher winning percentage among those tied Clubs.

Upon determination of the Club deemed to have the highest winning percentage, the sequence of procedures set forth in Rule 34(c)(2) shall be applied to the three remaining tied Clubs in order to determine which of them shall be deemed to have the highest winning percentage among the three of them.

The Commissioner may determine the procedures to break any ties that are not otherwise provided for in this Rule 34(c).

**(d) ORDER OF APPLICATION OF TIE BREAKING PROCEDURES.**

**(1)** Ties for Division Championship and Division Champion Seeding. Ties for the Division championship of each Division will be determined first by application of the tie breaking procedures contained in Rule 34(c). After any ties for a Division championship are resolved, the tie breaking procedures will be applied (if necessary) to determine the first, second, and third seeding among the Division champions.



## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 34(d) to 35(d)**

(2) Ties for Wild Card Eligibility and Wild Card Seeding. After any ties for a Division championship are resolved, any ties for any Wild Card positions (the fourth, fifth, and sixth seeds in each League), shall be resolved by application of the tie breaking procedures contained in Rule 34(c). In the event there are ties for multiple Wild Card positions, a tie for the first Wild Card position (the fourth seed) shall be resolved first, followed by a tie for the second Wild Card position (the fifth seed), followed by a tie for the third Wild Card position (the sixth seed), as applicable.

### **Rule 35**

#### **POSTSEASON FORMAT**

**(a) QUALIFICATIONS FOR POSTSEASON.** Twelve (12) Clubs shall qualify for postseason play, as follows:

(1) The three Division Champions in each League (total 6 Clubs);  
and

(2) The three Wild Card Clubs in each League (total 6 Clubs).

**(b) POSTSEASON LEAGUE SEEDINGS.** The three Division Champions in each League will retain the first, second and third seeds, ranked in order of winning percentages in the championship season. The Wild Card teams in each League will receive the fourth, fifth, and sixth seeds, ranked in order of winning percentage in the championship season.

**(c) WILD CARD SERIES.**

(1) The Division Champions with the best record (first seed) and second-best record (second seed) in each League will receive first-round byes.

(2) The remaining Clubs that qualify for the postseason will play a best-of-three-game series in which the Club that wins two games will advance to the next round (the Division Series). The matchups will be determined by the Club's seeding (as described in Rule 35(b) above), as follows:

(A) The third seed in each League plays the sixth seed; and

(B) The fourth seed in each League plays the fifth seed.

**(d) DIVISION SERIES.** Two Division Series in each Major League shall take place after the conclusion of the Wild Card Series each year. Each Division Series shall be a best-of-five-games format. The two winners of the

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 35(d) to 37(c)**

Wild Card Series in each League will compete in the Division Series, with the first seed playing the winner of the Wild Card Series featuring the fourth and fifth seeds, and the second seed playing the winner of the Wild Card Series featuring the third and sixth seeds.

**(e) 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.

**(f) 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.

### **Rule 36**

#### **POSTSEASON SUPERVISION BY THE COMMISSIONER**

**(a)** The games in each postseason 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 Series, 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.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 38(a) to 38(b)**

**Rule 38**

**POSTSEASON SCHEDULE**

**(a) ORDER OF GAMES.** The Commissioner shall promulgate a schedule for the Wild Card Series, Division Series, the League Championship Series and the World Series.

**(1) Wild Card Series.** All Wild Card Series games shall be scheduled to be played in the ballpark of the Club with the higher seed as set forth in Rule 35(b).

**(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 seed than its Division Series opponent. Games 3 and 4 shall be scheduled to be played in the ballpark of the Club with the lower seed than its Division Series opponent.

**(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 seed than its League Championship Series opponent. Games 3, 4 and 5 shall be scheduled to be played in the ballpark of the Club with the lower seed than its League Championship Series opponent.

**(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. In the event two Clubs have identical winning percentages in the championship season, then home-field advantage shall be awarded to the team based on the tie-breaker procedures described in Rule 34(c).

**(b) POSTPONED AND SUSPENDED GAMES.** A Wild Card Series, 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 officials of the home and visiting Clubs and, with regard to player health and safety issues, the designee of the Major League Baseball Players

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 38(b) to 41(a)**

Association, shall determine whether, on account of weather or the conditions of the playing field, a Wild Card Series, Division Series, League Championship Series or World Series game shall be played or resumed or shall be suspended.

### **Rule 39**

#### **POSTSEASON SERIES TERMINATION**

**(a) BY VICTORY.** The Clubs participating in the Wild Card Series, 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 two in the case of each Wild Card Series, 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 postseason 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**

#### **POSTSEASON 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 POSTSEASON**

##### **(a) PLAYERS ELIGIBLE.**

**(1)** Major League Roster Players. To be eligible to play for a Major League Club in a Wild Card Series, Division Series, League Championship Series, or the World Series, a player must

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 41(a)**

(A) have been on a Major League Active, Injured, Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency, Paternity, Suspended, Administrative Leave, or Military List of such Major League Club as of 12:00 PM Eastern Time on September 1, on such date be under control, but on optional assignment, or on assignment from another Major League organization and not yet reported, or temporarily on the Restricted List but otherwise ruled eligible by the Commissioner or Commissioner's Designee; and

(B) have remained reserved to such Major League Club (at the Major or Minor League levels) through the beginning of the applicable postseason 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 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 postseason 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 postseason series may be named to the roster for such series or otherwise replaced under this Rule 41, provided that (i) players placed on the 7-, 10- or 15-Day Injured List may be replaced prior to the start of a series prior to the expiration of their minimum period of inactivity; and (ii) a player on the Injured List may serve as a replacement during a series if 10 days for position players or 15 days for pitchers or "Two-Way Players" have elapsed from the Injured List placement date and the player is otherwise eligible to serve as a replacement 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

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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 replacement occurred prior to the start of the Wild Card Series 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 Postseason Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List or the Postseason Paternity List under Rule 41(a)(5) or (6) following the start of that series.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Club may designate a 27th player for any postseason series, provided that the 27th 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 postseason series following a Major League Club's submission of its active roster for that series.

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**(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, 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);

**(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 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 postseason series a player who is unable to render service in such postseason series because of an acute, non-chronic injury or ailment (not recurring soreness over time) that occurred after the Club's roster

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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 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)** if the replacement occurs during the World Series, a pitcher who has pitched at least 80 pitches in a game may not be replaced under this Rule 41(a)(4) until the second day after that game had started; and

**(D)** the injured player being replaced shall be ineligible to play for the remainder of such series, as well as the next subsequent postseason series that year. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a replaced player, who has suffered an acute concussion during a postseason series, may be eligible to play in the next subsequent postseason 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 postseason series that year, may be eligible to



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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 Postseason 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 postseason series, unless three days have elapsed) be placed on the Postseason Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List during a postseason series. No player may be placed on the Postseason Bereavement/Family Medical 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 Postseason 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 Postseason Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List, the player must be reinstated to the postseason 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 Postseason 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.

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(6) Replacement for Players Placed on Postseason 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 postseason series, unless three days have elapsed) be placed on the Postseason Paternity Leave List during a postseason 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 Postseason 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. 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 Postseason 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 Postseason Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List, provided that any time spent on the Postseason 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 Postseason Paternity Leave List (or maximum period for placement on the Postseason Bereavement/Family Medical Emergency List if a subsequent transfer to such list was requested and approved), the player must be reinstated to the postseason 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 Postseason 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.

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### **MLR 41(b) to 43**

**(b) COACHES ELIGIBLE.** To be eligible for the Wild Card Series, Division Series, League Championship Series, or 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 POSTSEASON.** Each Minor League Club that participates in postseason 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 participates in postseason 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**

#### **POSTSEASON 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**

#### **POSTSEASON PLAYING GROUNDS**

Spectators will not be permitted to encroach or stand on the playing field at any time during a Wild Card Series, Division Series, League

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 43 to 44(d)**

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**

#### **POSTSEASON ADMISSIONS**

**(a) RATES.** The rates of admission and the conditions governing the same for Wild Card Series, Division Series, League Championship Series and World Series games shall be fixed by and under the control of the Major League Executive Council.

**(b) FREE LIST SUSPENDED.** The free list shall be suspended during Wild Card Series, 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 Series, 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 postseason 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 postseason tickets shall pay for them in such manner as the Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may direct.

**(d) SEAT DIAGRAM.** Prior to the first scheduled game of each Wild Card Series, 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 44(d) to 45**

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.

**(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 Series, 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 POSTSEASON 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 first two games of each Wild Card Series (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:

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR 45(a) to 45(b)**

**(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 Series 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 four Wild Card Series. Contributions shall be made into the pool as follows:

**(A)** Sixty percent of the total gate receipts from the first four World Series games;

**(B)** Sixty percent of the total gate receipts from the first four games of each League Championship Series;

**(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; and

**(D)** Sixty percent of the total gate receipts from the first two games of the Wild Card Series after deducting the traveling expenses of the visiting Clubs (up to a maximum of \$100,000 per Club per game) 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 four Wild Card Series.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

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**(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 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, Administrative Leave, 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 45(b)**

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; 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



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**MLR 45(b) to 45(c)**

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.

**(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.

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**MLR 45(c) to 45(d)**

**(4) Wild Card 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 two games of the Wild Card Series, as required by Rule 45(b)(1)(D), the balance of the gate receipts from said two Wild Card Series games shall be equally divided between the two Clubs participating in each Wild Card game.

**(B)** If the games in a Wild Card Series shall exceed two, the gate receipts of such third playoff game 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 Wild Card Series.

**(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).

**(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 (\$96,000 each) for the Wild Card Series losers, the total amount to be distributed to such Wild Card losers shall be increased to \$384,000 (\$96,000 each).

**(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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 45(d) to 48**

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 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

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### **MLR 48 to 50(c)**

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 Major League Basic Agreement, Minor League 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 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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR 50(c)**

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.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 3**  
**ATTACHMENT 3**

**Dominican Summer League**  
**Uniform Player Contract**

**Parties**

1. The parties to this Dominican Summer League Uniform Player Contract (“Contract”) are those identified in Paragraphs 1 (“Player”) and 2 (“Club”) of Addendum A.

**Recital**

2.(a) Club is, along with other Major League Clubs, signatory to the Major League Constitution (“Constitution”) and has subscribed to the Major League Rules (“Rules”). The parties to this Contract agree that they and this Contract are subject to and governed by the Constitution and Rules, which are fully incorporated in this Contract as if set forth herein verbatim.

2.(b) The Dominican Summer League is a “Minor League” as that term is defined in the Rules. The terms used in this Contract shall be construed in accordance with the definitions contained in the Rules.

**Scope**

3.(a) This Contract sets forth the terms and conditions of Player’s relationship with Club during all periods in which Player is under Contract with Club and assigned to the Dominican Summer League. The Dominican Summer League is a development league and, therefore, during its championship season, as well as at any other times during the term of this Contract, as Club may determine in its sole discretion, Club shall provide Player with baseball training and instruction to develop his skills as a baseball player. Furthermore, during stays at Club’s facilities, Player shall be provided secure and comfortable accommodations, nutritionally balanced meals, appropriate uniforms and sportswear, academic education, and life skills training. Player agrees to perform the baseball training activities provided by Club, to maintain his playing condition and weight, and to comply with all other obligations set forth in this Contract.

3.(b) Upon signing this Contract, Player shall execute all applicable Addenda and the enclosed Life Insurance Notice and Consent Form. Effective immediately upon the assignment of Player to a Minor League Domestic Reserve List, all provisions of this Contract (except for

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR Attachment 3**

Paragraph 5 (Term)) shall be suspended and Player shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the Minor League Basic Agreement between the Major League Baseball Players Association and the 30 Major League Clubs, including the Minor League Uniform Player Contract contained in Appendix B thereto, which shall govern the terms and conditions of Player's relationship with Club. The Major League Basic Agreement and the Major League Uniform Player's 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.

#### **Agreement**

4. In consideration of the foregoing, for the mutual representations, promises, covenants and agreements contained herein (including any Addenda) and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties to this Contract hereby agree as follows.

#### **Term**

5.(a) The term of this Contract commences on the date that this Contract is approved by the Commissioner's Office and concludes at 5 P.M. Eastern Time on the fifth day following the day that the last game of the World Series starts in the calendar year of the last championship season covered by this Contract or until this Contract is terminated, whichever occurs first.

5.(b) Term of First-Year Contracts. The term of all First-Year Contracts shall be seven (7) championship seasons, unless Player is 19 years of age or older on the June 5 immediately preceding Player's signing, in which case the term of the Contract shall be six (6) championship seasons.

5.(c) Term of Non-First-Year Contracts. The term of all Non-First-Year Contracts shall be the number of championship seasons agreed upon by Club and Player and included in Addendum A of this Contract; provided, however, that the term shall not exceed seven (7) championship seasons if Player was 18 years of age or younger on the June 5 immediately preceding Player's signing of his First-Year Contract and the term shall not exceed six (6) championship seasons if Player was 19 years of age or older on the June 5 immediately preceding Player's signing of his First-Year Contract. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if Player was previously assigned to a Minor League Domestic Reserve List, the maximum number of championship seasons shall be two (2) seasons.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR Attachment 3**

5.(d) Player will be credited with a championship season for purposes of determining the remaining term of this Contract if Player spent at least one (1) day during the championship season on Club's Minor League Active List, Injured List, or Development List; provided that, however, Player shall not be credited with a championship season for any championship season during which Player is properly placed on the Restricted List for a total of fourteen (14) days (or more) for failing to report to his Club, abandoning his Club, or otherwise intentionally refusing to perform services. For the avoidance of doubt, Player may not be credited with more than one championship season per calendar year, and Player shall not be credited with a championship season during any year 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. Club's championship season for each year covered by this Contract shall be fixed by the Office of the Commissioner.

5.(e) 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 obligations under this Contract, Club may require Player to perform training activities and maintain Player's playing condition and weight. Club may invite or direct Player to report for baseball activities, conditioning, or injury rehabilitation at such times and places as Club may determine. In the event Player fails to report for mandatory activities when required, Club may impose discipline on Player and also require Player to become fit for Player's duties to the satisfaction of Club at Player's own expense.

### **Payment**

6.(a) For the performance of Player's obligations under this Contract and promises hereunder, Club will pay Player at the applicable weekly rates set forth in Addendum C during the championship season, in regular installments set by Club. All obligations to make such payments, during any period, shall end immediately upon the expiration or termination of this Contract, subject to Paragraphs 17(d) and 20 of this Contract. If Player performs his obligations under this Contract for part of a week, Player shall receive such proportion of the applicable payment for the relevant week, calculated by comparing the number of days of Player's actual performance of his obligations under this Contract in the relevant week to a full seven-day week.



## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR Attachment 3**

6.(b) For the avoidance of doubt, Player shall not be entitled to any payment under this Contract for any period that Player is on a Major League Reserve List or Minor League Domestic Reserve List.

6.(c) Club shall be permitted to deduct from Player's payments under this Contract only those amounts that are specifically authorized by this Contract, or a separate authorization signed by Player. Any authorization for a deduction from Player's payments under this Contract must state with specificity the reasons for which the deduction is authorized.

6.(d) Player authorizes Club to make deductions from Player's payments under this Contract to reimburse Club for any damages to Club facilities caused by Player, money advanced to Player by Club, or disciplinary fine imposed on Player by Club, as permitted by the Rules.

#### **Injury of Player**

7.(a) Disability directly resulting from injury sustained in the course and within the scope of Player's obligations under this Contract shall not impair the right of Player to receive reasonable medical and hospital expenses incurred by reason of the injury and during the term of this Contract or for a period of up to 180 days from the date of initial treatment for such injury, whichever period is longer, but only upon the express prerequisite conditions that (a) written notice of such injury, including the time, place, cause and nature of the injury, is served upon and received by Club within five (5) days of the sustaining of said injury and (b) Club shall have the right to designate the health care facilities, physicians, dentists, certified athletic trainers or other medical professionals furnishing such medical and hospital services. Player, if requested by Club, must provide Club with written medical proof of Player's injury.

Any surgical, medical or hospitalization insurance payments received by Player for the period during which Club is paying him under this Contract, shall be paid over by Player to Club. If Player fails or refuses to pay these amounts to Club, Club is hereby authorized to deduct such amounts from any payments due to Player.

7.(b) In addition to Club's right to terminate this Contract as set forth in Paragraph 17, Club may suspend this Contract (including the accrual of credit for championship seasons and any payment obligations hereunder) if Player is unable to comply with his obligations under this Contract as a result of an injury sustained outside the scope of this Contract. For the

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR Attachment 3**

avoidance of doubt, self-inflicted injuries and injuries incurred during training undertaken by Player not under the direction or authorization of Club shall not constitute injuries in the course and within the scope of this Contract.

#### **8. [RESERVED]**

### **Uniform**

9. Club will select and furnish Player with necessary uniforms. Additionally, Club may, if it wishes to do so, provide to Player 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 by Club and shall not alter them. At the end of the championship season, or at the end of any postseason series games, or upon the assignment of this Contract or the unconditional release of Player, 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 if requested by Club. 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 in accordance with the Official Baseball Rules, Major League Rules or other applicable rules, regulations, or policies.

### **Loyalty**

10. Player agrees to perform his obligations hereunder diligently and faithfully, to keep himself in first-class physical condition, and to observe and to follow Club's training rules, and to conform at all times to high standards of personal conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship.

### **Player Promotional Obligations**

11.(a) In addition to Player's obligations in connection with playing baseball, Player agrees to cooperate with and participate in any and all reasonable promotional (*i.e.*, promoting Player's Club or baseball), charitable, and community-focused activities, endeavors or programs of Player's Club.

11.(b) Upon the reasonable request of Player's Club or Major League Baseball, Player will participate in, and/or cooperate with, any programming created by or on behalf of Player's Club or Major League Baseball that is focused on promoting Player's Club, Minor League Baseball, or Major League Baseball.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR Attachment 3**

#### **Use of Player Image by Club or Major League Baseball**

12.(a) Player's Club and/or Major League Baseball (and its related entities) may utilize Player's name, image, likeness, nickname, signature (or facsimile thereof), biographical sketch, playing record, picture, portrait, voice, caricature or other identifiable feature or rights of publicity (hereinafter, collectively, "Image") to promote baseball, Player's Club, Minor League Baseball, Major League Baseball, and any of their charitable or community-focused activities, endeavors, and programs.

12.(b) Player agrees that his Image may be captured in connection with performing his obligations under this Contract, including but not limited to, during Player's participation in all games, practices, exhibitions, and tournaments, along with all interviews, documentaries, biographical video segments, unscripted programming and other activities, provided they are captured on the playing field, at the ballpark, or at a location in which Player is participating in promotional, charitable, or community-focused activities pursuant to Paragraph 11(a) above (the "Recorded Images"). All rights in such Recorded Images shall belong to the Club and/or Major League Baseball and may be utilized by the Club, Major League Baseball and their licensees, assignees, and/or other designees in any and all forms of media.

12.(c) Player's Image will not be authorized by Club and/or Major League Baseball for use on or for a consumer product absent the consent of Player. Premiums, including giveaways or promotions to promote baseball, Player's Club, Major League Baseball and/or Minor League Baseball shall not be considered consumer products for purpose of this provision.

12.(d) Player's Image will not be authorized by Club and/or Major League Baseball for use by third-parties to promote their goods or services absent consent of Player. This provision shall not prohibit the use of Player's Image or Recorded Images: (i) to promote baseball, Player's Club, Minor League Baseball, Major League Baseball, and any of their charitable or community-focused activities, endeavors, and programs; (ii) in a segment or content that promotes or relates to a game and is sponsored by a third-party, including, but not limited to, events during a game, game highlights, awards, plays of the day, contests, and similar materials; or (iii) by or on behalf of any distribution or production partner or platform, to promote the broadcasting of games by such partner.

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**Player Endorsements, Sponsorships, & Public Appearances**

13.(a) Player agrees that prior to authorizing any third-party to use or license Player's Image, Player must receive the written consent of Club, which shall not be withheld except in the reasonable interests of Player's Club or Major League Baseball; provided, however, that in any case, there shall be no direct or implied endorsement by Player's Club or Major League Baseball of such third-party, or its goods or services.

13.(b) Except as otherwise permitted pursuant to this Contract, Player will not make public appearances, participate in programming, including, without limitation, radio, digital, interactive media, or television programs or segments, or participate in or consent to the use of any element of his Image, without the written consent of Club, which shall not be withheld except in the reasonable interests of Player's Club or Major League Baseball.

**Player's Representations**

As a further inducement to Club to enter into this Contract, Player represents to Club as follows:

14.(a) Player has no physical or mental defects which would prevent or impair the performance of Player's obligations under this Contract.

14.(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 Contract, acquire or hold any such stock or interest.

14.(c) During the term of this Contract, Player will not play baseball other than for Club, except that Player may, with Club's written consent, participate in Winter League play, provided that if the Winter League is a party to a Winter League Agreement with the Office of the Commissioner, the terms and conditions of Player's eligibility for and participation in Winter League play (including any right of Club to withhold consent for such participation) shall be governed by the Winter League Agreement then in effect. Additionally, Player represents that he 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 Contract or limits the rights granted Club under this Contract or that impairs Club's ability to fully exercise such rights.

14.(d) 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 baseball player. Accordingly, from and after the date of execution of this

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

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Contract, Player agrees that Player shall not engage in automobile or motorcycle racing, hang gliding, fencing, parachuting, skydiving, boxing, wrestling, karate, judo, football, professional league 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 intercollegiate or professional athletics in any sport whatsoever.

14.(e) Player further represents that (i) Player's name, of which Player's signature to this Contract consists, as well as his date of birth, as set forth in this Contract, including its Addenda, are Player's proper and legal name and date of birth, and are not a fictitious or assumed name or false date of birth, and that all personal information concerning Player in Addendum A is true and accurate; (ii) Player is eligible, in accordance with the Rules, to execute this Contract; (iii) Player has the full authority to grant the rights contained in this Contract and to execute, deliver and perform the obligations under this Contract; and (iv) the execution and delivery of this 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 this Contract is duly executed and delivered by Player.

#### **Physical Examination**

15.(a) When requested by Club, Player shall submit to a complete physical, psychiatric, psychological and/or dental examination at the expense of Club. Upon the failure or refusal of Player to do so, Club may take such action against Player as it deems advisable under this Contract.

15.(b) It is specifically provided, however, that if Player signed this Dominican Summer League Uniform Player Contract while not under reserve to a Major or Minor League Club (whether or not previously party to a Major League Uniform Player's Contract or Minor League Uniform Player Contract), within ninety (90) days subsequent to the execution of this 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 baseball and was present at the time of execution of this Contract by Player, Club may terminate this Contract without further payment provided for in this Contract or any Special Covenants to this Contract. Such a termination, however, must be effected (including notification to the Commissioner's Office) within one

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR Attachment 3**

hundred five (105) days subsequent to the execution of this Contract by Player. In the event of a termination pursuant to this subparagraph, this Contract shall be void and of no force or effect between the Parties and Player shall repay any bonus, benefits or other payments provided pursuant to any Special Covenants to this Contract.

#### **Assignments**

16.(a) Player specifically agrees and understands that this Contract may be freely assigned by Club (and reassigned by any assignee Club) to any other Club in accordance with the Rules.

16.(b) In the event Player or this Contract is assigned (to another level of Club's Minor Leagues or the Major Leagues, or to another Club), following Player's receipt of notice of such selection or assignment, Player shall report to the Club to which Player was assigned as soon as possible (given the mode of transportation authorized or furnished to Player by Club). If Player fails to report to the assignee Club as soon as possible, Player shall not be entitled to any payment for the period from the date upon which Player received notice of assignment through the date Player actually reports to the assignee Club.

16.(c) Upon assignment of this Contract from Club to another Club, the assignee Club shall be liable to Player only for payments accruing from the date of assignment, while the assignor Club shall remain liable to Player for all payments accrued prior to and including the date of the assignment. *See Rule 6(c).*

16.(d) Player agrees that Player will execute the standard form Major League Uniform Player's Contract then in effect if Player is selected to a Major League Active List, Reserve List, or other Major League list contemplated by the Rules (following an assignment, direction to perform or otherwise) at any point during the term of this Contract. Effective immediately upon the assignment of Player to a Minor League Domestic Reserve List, Player shall be subject to the Minor League Uniform Player Contract.

16.(e) [Reserved]

16.(f) Player also specifically agrees and understands that Club may freely direct Player to perform his obligations under this Contract for any Major League or Domestic Minor League Club, in such circumstances Player's obligations shall be as set forth in the Major League Uniform Player's Contract or Minor League Uniform Player Contract, as applicable.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

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If Club directs Player to perform services for a Club, Player agrees to report to the Club as soon as possible (given the mode of travel authorized or furnished to Player by Club), and to perform all services for such Club in a diligent and faithful manner. If Player fails or refuses to report as soon possible, Player shall not be entitled to payment for the period from the date upon which Player received notice of the direction to perform to the date on which Player actually reports to the directed Club.

#### **Termination**

17.(a) Player may terminate this Contract, upon written notice plainly identified as a default notice sent to Club and the Office of the Commissioner (attention: Labor Relations Department), if (i) Club defaults in the payments to Player provided for in Addendum C and (ii) Club fails to remedy such default within fifteen (15) days after the receipt by Club and the Office of the Commissioner of the written notice of such default. Player's right to terminate this Contract pursuant to the foregoing shall be limited to defaults which are material in nature. Should such a material breach on the part of Club be alleged, Player shall remain under contract to Club; however, Club and Player will cooperate in the handling of any claim brought with respect to such alleged breach so that such claim may be submitted to arbitration on an expedited basis.

17.(b) Club may terminate this Contract upon written notice to Player if Player at any time shall:

(i) Fail, refuse or neglect to conform Player's personal conduct to high standards of personal conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship;

(ii) Fail, refuse or neglect to keep himself in first-class physical condition;

(iii) Fail, refuse or neglect to obey Club's requirements respecting Player's conduct and obligations;

(iv) Fail in the judgment of Club to exhibit sufficient skill or competitive ability to qualify or to continue as a baseball player as a member of Club's team;

(v) Fail, refuse or neglect to render Player's obligations hereunder, or in any other manner materially breach this Contract; or

(vi) Fail, refuse, or neglect to abide or otherwise violate any of the rules and policies set forth in Paragraph 18 below.

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

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17.(c) If Player becomes disabled, Club may also terminate this Contract in accordance with Paragraph 7 above.

17.(d) Notwithstanding the foregoing, if Player is injured in the course and within the scope of his obligations in this Contract and Club terminates this Contract as a result of such injury, Player shall be entitled to payment for two weeks from the date of the injury at the applicable weekly rate in Addendum C; provided, however, that satisfaction of the conditions in Paragraph 7(a) are an express prerequisite to Player's entitlement to such payment. It is specifically provided, however, that such period for which Player is receiving payment shall not be considered for purposes of determining whether any additional payments may be due Player under any Special Covenants to this Contract.

### **Rules & Policies**

18. Club and Player agree to accept, abide by and comply with all provisions of the Rules, as well as the following policies for Minor League Players Assigned Outside of the United States and Canada: Drug Prevention and Treatment Program; Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Child Abuse Policy; Sports Betting and Integrity Policy; Social Media Policy; Workplace Code of Conduct; Weapons-Free Workplace Policy; Tobacco Policy and any other applicable policies, rules or regulations in effect in the Dominican Summer League which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Contract, provided that Club, together with the other Major League Clubs, reserve the right to modify, supplement or repeal any provision of said Rules or other rules and regulations in a manner not inconsistent with this Contract.

### **Discipline**

19. For violation by Player of any provision of this Contract, Club may impose a fine and deduct the amount thereof from Player's payments under this Contract or may suspend this Contract for a period, including the payments to Player, or both. Written notice of the fine or suspension of this Contract or both and the reason thereof shall in every case be given to Player. In the event of any dispute or claim between Player and Club arising from or related to discipline imposed on Player, the sole and exclusive forum available to Player to resolve such dispute shall be arbitration by the Commissioner. Player may exercise such right to arbitration by filing a written, itemized and detailed appeal with the Commissioner within



## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

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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 other tribunal or forum.

#### **Disputes**

20. All disputes between Player and Club concerning or related in any way with the negotiation, signing, execution or termination of this Contract (including, but not limited to, the unconditional release of Player) shall be resolved by Arbitration before the Arbitration and Alternative Conflict Resolutions Court of the Santo Domingo Chamber of Commerce and Production “AACRC”), in accordance with the Agreement entered into by the Commissioner and the AACRC and the AACRC’s Rules for Arbitration of Sports Disputes. Player or Club may exercise such right to arbitration by filing a written, itemized and detailed appeal with the AACRC within 120 days of the event giving rise to the claim. The decision of the AACRC shall be final and binding. Player and Club understand that the decision of the AACRC may not be challenged in any other tribunal or forum.

#### **Publication**

21. Club or the Commissioner’s Office, or any of them, may make public the findings, decisions or record of any inquiry, investigation or hearing, including in such record all evidence or information given, received, or obtained in connection therewith.

#### **Special Covenants**

22. Any and 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 Contract must be fully described in Addendum B (“Special Covenants”). Clubs and First-Year Players are prohibited from entering into any Special Covenant except those expressly permitted under Rule 3(c)(5). Clubs and Non-First Year Players are prohibited from entering into any Special Covenants except those approved by the Office of the Commissioner.

#### **Legislation And Suspension**

23. This Contract is subject to 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,

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR Attachment 3**

this Contract is subject to the authority of the Commissioner to suspend the operation of this Contract, including the payments to Player, during any emergency or any cessation or suspension of play in the Major Leagues, Minor Leagues, or Dominican Summer League. In the event that this Contract is suspended pursuant to the terms of this Paragraph, it is specifically agreed between Player and Club that the payments paid to Player at the weekly rate set forth in Addendum C, as applicable, shall be paid only for the portion of the season in which the Contract is not suspended. Moreover, in the event that this Contract is suspended pursuant to the terms herein, it is also specifically agreed between Player and Club that Club's exclusive right to Player's services shall remain in effect and that this Contract shall continue in full force and effect for the remainder of its term once the suspension ends.

#### **Entire Agreement**

24. Club and Player covenant that this 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 Dominican Summer League Uniform Player Contract executed by Player and Club, filed with and approved by the Office of the Commissioner.

#### **Approval**

25. This is the only Dominican Summer League Uniform Player Contract form (and addenda thereto) permitted. No different form shall be used and no clause shall be added or eliminated without the specific written approval of the Office of the Commissioner. Any written or oral agreement between Player and Club not contained in this Contract shall be invalid and unenforceable, and may subject both parties to discipline by the Commissioner. Further, this Contract, including any addenda or attachments, shall not be valid, recognized or enforced unless filed with and approved by the Commissioner.

#### **Player Information and Notices**

26. Player will immediately provide Club (and any Club to which this Contract is assigned) with Player's current home address, e-mail address, and cell phone number (or other number at which Player may be reached via WhatsApp or other messaging application), and commits to keep such information current in the event of changes. Any written notice required to

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
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be given by Club to Player under this Contract may be accomplished, at Club's option, by sending the notice via e-mail to Player's last known e-mail address, by physically delivering the notice to Player, and/or by other electronic means agreed upon by Player and Club. The effective date of any notice physically delivered to Player shall be the date on which the notice is physically delivered. The effective date of any e-mail notice by the Club to Player will be the date on which the notice is sent. A copy of this Contract, when approved by the Commissioner, must be delivered to Player in person or by e-mail.

**Governing Law**

27. This 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 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 Contract.

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**DOMINICAN SUMMER LEAGUE  
UNIFORM PLAYER CONTRACT**

**ADDENDUM A**

1. Player's Information: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First Middle Last)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Email)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Permanent Street Address)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(City, ST, Country, Zip)  
  

_____ (SSN or SIN)	_____ (Telephone No.)	_____ (Date of Birth)	_____ (Player's Initials)
_____ (Cell Phone No.)	_____ (WhatsApp No.)		
2. Club's Name: \_\_\_\_\_
3. First championship season covered by Contract: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Year)
4. Execution Date of this Contract: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)
5. Pursuant to subparagraph \_\_\_\_\_, and subject to a change at any time, Club initially directs Player to perform for the \_\_\_\_\_ Club of the Dominican Summer League.

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**STATUS OF PLAYER**

**First Minor League Contract**

*Passed Over*

*Non-Drafted Player ( Foreign League, independent League )*

**Previous Contract**

*Assigned from Major League Club*

*Completed Previous Minor League Contract (free agent)*

*Released Player*

*Major League Free Agent*

*Foreign Professional*

*Successor Contract*

**Player information (Must be completed for first Contract)**

Pos: \_\_\_\_\_ Hgt: \_\_\_\_\_ Wgt: \_\_\_\_\_ Bats: \_\_\_\_\_ Throws: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(State) (M/Y)

College: \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(State) (M/Y)

Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Country)

**CONTRACT TERM (FOR FIRST-YEAR PLAYERS ONLY)**

This Contract shall be, consistent with the Rules, for a period of [*auto populated by eBIS*] championship seasons.

**CONTRACT TERM (FOR NON-FIRST-YEAR PLAYERS ONLY)**

This Contract shall be, consistent with the Rules, for a period of  
championship seasons.

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**ADDENDUM B**

*Special Covenants: In accordance with Paragraph 22 of this 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 Contract are fully described below.*

*Any Special Covenants which entitle Player to receive 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, or Military List prior to the date upon which the payment becomes due and payable to Player, payments 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 Contract, including any Special Covenants. In the event the official date of placement on any of the lists enumerated above is later than the date Player ceased to be an active Player, the earlier date shall apply in determining the new date for payment following Player's reinstatement to an Active List of Club.*

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR Attachment 3**

#### **ADDENDUM C**

Player shall receive \_\_\_\_\_ per week during the [insert year] championship season in exchange for performance of Player's obligations under this Contract.

The payment in each Dominican Summer League UPC for First-Year Contracts shall be the amount established by the Major League Clubs in accordance with the Rules. The minimum payment in each season covered by a Dominican Summer League UPC for Non-First-Year Contracts shall be the minimum amount established from time to time by the Major League Clubs in accordance with the Rules.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

**MLR Attachment 3**

**ADDENDUM D**

**[INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]**



**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 3**

**ADDENDUM E**

During such time that Player is directed to perform for a Minor League Club in a Minor League entirely outside the United States or Canada, Club may assign to a wholly-owned subsidiary of Club ("Affiliated Entity") its obligations to make any and all payments to Player under this Contract and to pay any applicable governmental authority on behalf of Player any required withholding taxes attributable to Player. Although Affiliated Entity itself is not a Major or Minor League Club, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Contract, Player and Club agree that Affiliated Entity shall abide by all rules, regulations and policies otherwise applicable to a Major League Club, including but not limited to, the Major League Constitution, the Rules, and the policies applicable to Club as if Affiliated Entity were a Major League Club. Player and Club further agree that either Club or Affiliated Entity may exercise the rights of Club pursuant to this Contract during such times that Club has assigned obligations in regard to Player to Affiliated Entity. Player, during such times that Club has assigned obligations in regard to Player to Affiliated Entity, shall continue on the Reserve List of Club, as well as on whatever roster limit of Club described in the Rules (including, but not limited to, the Active List and the Inactive Lists) on which Club places Player. Affiliated Entity shall not establish or maintain a Reserve List, Active List, Inactive Lists or any other roster list described in the Rules. Player and Club acknowledge specifically that Paragraph 20 shall apply to any disputes or claim between Player and Affiliated Entity, as if Affiliated Entity were Club, and agree that such specific acknowledgment shall not be interpreted to imply or establish that any other provision of this Contract does or does not apply to Affiliated Entity.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

**MLR Attachment 3**

**ADDENDUM F**

**[INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]**

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

**MLR Attachment 3**

**ADDENDUM G**

**[INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]**

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 3**

**ADDENDUM H**

As a material inducement for signing this Contract, each of Player, and Player's parent (or legal guardian), if Player is under 21 years old, (collectively "Affiants") swears (or swear), under penalty of perjury, that:

- A. Each of Player's age and identity as stated in Addendum A of this Contract is totally accurate and correct;
- B. Neither Player nor any of Player's parents or legal guardians has provided money or other valuable consideration to any representative of Club in connection with the signing of this Contract;
- C. Neither Player nor any of Player's parents or legal guardians has received any money or valuable consideration from any Club employee for securing this Contract;
- D. The birth certificate, a copy of which is attached to this Addendum H and is hereby made an integral part of this Addendum H,
  - (i) corresponds to Player and the information contained therein in relation to Player is entirely authentic and accurate;
  - (ii) has been provided directly by Affiants to Club, and in addition, has been requested and obtained directly by said Affiants before the applicable government entity; and
  - (iii) has not suffered any alterations or damages that could have changed the original content of such birth certificate;
- E. Player has sufficient legal capacity to execute this Addendum H or the parent or legal guardian who signs this Addendum H jointly with Player holds the ability and sufficient capacity to act on Player's behalf, in accordance with all applicable laws; and
- F. Affiants have executed this Addendum H in full awareness of its content, by their free and own will, without the influence of anyone whosoever.

## MAJOR LEAGUE RULES

### MLR Attachment 3

In the city of \_\_\_\_\_, state or province of \_\_\_\_\_, country of \_\_\_\_\_, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of the month of \_\_\_\_\_ of the year \_\_\_\_\_.

---

Player's Name (print or type)

---

Name of Father-Mother-Guardian  
(circle one) (print or type)

---

Player's identity card (*e.g.*, cedula,  
etc.) (if necessary under law of  
jurisdiction in which this document  
is notarized)

---

Father-Mother-Guardian's (circle  
one) identity card No. (*e.g.*, cedula,  
etc.) (if necessary under law of  
jurisdiction in which this document  
is notarized)

---

Player's Signature

---

Signature of  
Father-Mother-Guardian (circle  
one) (print or type)

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 3**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Notary Public for the \_\_\_\_\_, Registration  
No. \_\_\_\_\_, **CERTIFY AND GIVE FAITH:**

(Name of Notary)

(Jurisdiction of Notary)

that the signature contained in this document was placed before me freely  
and voluntarily by \_\_\_\_\_, who declared under oath

(Player Name)

that the signature used on this Addendum H is the same that he uses in all  
the acts of his life, both public and private, in the city of \_\_\_\_\_, state  
or province of \_\_\_\_\_, country of \_\_\_\_\_, on the \_\_\_\_\_  
day of the month of \_\_\_\_\_ of the year \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Notary Public (print or  
type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Notary Public

Seal of Notary Public  
(if necessary under law of  
jurisdiction in which this document  
is notarized)

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 3**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Notary Public for the \_\_\_\_\_, Registration  
No. \_\_\_\_\_, **CERTIFY AND GIVE FAITH:**

(Name of Notary)

(Jurisdiction of Notary)

that the signature contained in this document was placed before me freely  
and voluntarily by \_\_\_\_\_, who declared

(Name of Parent or Guardian)

under oath that the signature used on this Addendum H is the same that he  
uses in all the acts of his life, both public and private, in the city of  
\_\_\_\_\_, state or province of \_\_\_\_\_, country of \_\_\_\_\_, on  
the \_\_\_\_\_ day of the month of \_\_\_\_\_ of the year \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Notary Public (print or  
type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Notary Public

Seal of Notary Public  
(if necessary under law of  
jurisdiction in which this document  
is notarized)

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 3**

**LIFE INSURANCE NOTICE AND CONSENT FORM**

1. Your Major League Affiliated Club (“Club”) intends to insure your life under the League-wide Player Life Insurance Policy (or any replacement thereof) and League Disaster Insurance Policy (or any replacement thereof), as well as the Club-purchased insurance policy or policies, if any, whose maximum amount of insurance coverage is referenced in the fourth bullet point in Paragraph 2 below (if included in this consent) (collectively the “Policy”).” The purpose of the Policy is to offset amounts that your Club may pay under this Contract or a Minor League Uniform Player’s Contract (as applicable) (collectively the “Player Contracts”), in the event of your death and/or to provide financial assistance to your Club, other affected Clubs or the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball for costs and damages to your Club, other affected Clubs or the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball that they may incur as a result of your death.
2. The maximum amount of life insurance coverage for which you may be insured under the Policy issued will be equal to the sum of:
  - Seven million dollars (\$7,000,000), of which a minimum of four million (\$4,000,000) will be provided to Club and up to an additional three million (\$3,000,000) to either Club, other affected Clubs or the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball;
  - The payments provided under your Player Contracts, up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000); and (if applicable)
  - Seventy-five percent (75%) of the amount by which the payments provided under your Player Contracts exceeds one million dollars (\$1,000,000), all of which will be provided to your Club
  - And [Amount], all of which will be provided to Club.

In no event will the amount for which your life is insured under the Policy ever exceed a maximum limit of [thirty seven million dollars (\$37,000,000)]. The amount of coverage that your Club purchases under the Policy may be reduced under certain circumstances in order to reflect (if applicable) other insurance coverage on your life. The amount of insurance coverage that your Club purchases under the Policy may decrease over time as the amount owed under your Player Contract is paid to you.

3. Your Club may purchase insurance coverage on you under the Policy before you and your Club sign your Player Contract. Your Club will do



## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR Attachment 3**

so only when and if there is an agreement in principle with you as to the terms of your Player Contract and such terms have been reported to, and confirmed by, the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball.

4. The Policy may be in effect for the length of your Player Contract and may be in effect for periods that extend beyond the length of your Player Contract, including for periods after your relationship with Club has terminated. Each time you enter into a new or revised Player Contract, a new Policy may be purchased and you may be asked to sign a new consent form.
5. Your Club, other affected Clubs or the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball will be the beneficiaries of any life insurance proceeds payable under the Policy in the event of your death.

#### **Consent for Life Insurance Coverage**

**By signing below, I agree to, consent to, and understand the following:**

- A. I may be insured under the Policy up to a maximum face amount equal to the sum of:
  - Seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) of which a minimum of four million (\$4,000,000) will be provided to my Club and up to an additional three million (\$3,000,000) to either my Club, other affected Clubs or the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball;
  - The payments provided under my Player Contract, up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000), and (if applicable);
  - Seventy-five percent (75%) of the amount by which the payments provided under my Player Contract exceeds one million dollars (\$1,000,000) all of which will provided to my Club;
  - And [Amount], all of which will be provided to my Club.
- B. The amount for which my life is insured under the Policy will never exceed a maximum limit of [thirty seven million dollars (\$37,000,000)]. The amount of coverage may be reduced under certain circumstances in order to reflect (if applicable) other insurance coverage on my life. The amount of insurance coverage may decrease over time as the amount owed under my Player Contract is paid to me.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 3**

- C. My Club (or a Trust established by my Club and other Major League Baseball clubs, the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball or a combination of Clubs) will be the owner of the Policy. My Club will be the beneficiary and, in an amount not exceeding three million dollars (\$3,000,000), other affected Clubs and the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball may also be beneficiaries of the Policy.
- D. The Policy may be in effect for the length of my Player Contract and may be in effect for periods that extend beyond the length of my Player Contract, including for periods after my relationship with Club has terminated. Each time I enter into a new or revised Player Contract, a new Policy may be purchased and I may be asked to sign a new consent form.
- E. Neither my heirs nor I will receive any rights or benefits, including the payment of a death benefit, under the Policy. The death benefit under the Policy will be payable to my Club, or, in an amount not exceeding three million dollars (\$3,000,000), may be payable to other affected Clubs or the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball. This consent has no effect on any other life insurance policies I hold or that any other person holds on my life.

**Proposed Insured (please complete)**

Name (First, Middle Initial, Last): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Home address: street/city/state/zip)

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Insured Print Name of Insured*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 3**

**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, addenda, and any other attachments.

**CLUB DATE AND SIGN HERE**

**AS TO CLUB:**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date (Write Out Month)

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Club Representative's  
Signature

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLAYER DATE AND SIGN**

**HERE AS TO PLAYER:**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date (Write Out Month)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player's Signature

**PLAYER ATTESTS THAT THIS AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED  
IN:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(State)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Country)

**PARENTS OR GUARDIAN CONSENT**

Irrevocable consent is given to the performance and execution of this 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 16 hereof, and any payment and any restrictions thereon that are hereinafter negotiated or set by the Club pursuant to Paragraph 6 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 Contract. These consents and promise to hold harmless are expressly given as an inducement to enter into this contract.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 3**

_____ Date	_____ Signature of Father-Mother-Guardian (circle one)	_____ City/State
---------------	--	---------------------

_____ Date	_____ Signature of Father-Mother-Guardian (circle one)	_____ City/State
---------------	--	---------------------

FOR                      Approved and recorded:

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE USE

DATE:

\_\_\_\_\_

**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.

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 12**

**(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.*).

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR Attachment 26**

#### **ATTACHMENT 26**

##### **MAJOR AND MINOR LEAGUE OPERATING TERRITORIES**

###### **CLUB**

###### **OPERATING TERRITORY**

###### **Major Leagues**

###### American League

Athletics

Alameda and Contra Costa Counties in California; provided, however, that, until the Athletics Major League Club relocates to Las Vegas, Nevada, the operating territory shall also include Sacramento and Yolo Counties, California, which two counties shall be shared with the Sacramento Minor League Club.

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, Lorain, 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

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 26**

Detroit	Wayne, Monroe, Washtenaw, Oakland, Macomb and St. Clair Counties in Michigan
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
Seattle	King County in Washington



**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 26**

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

National League

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

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 26**

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

## MAJOR LEAGUE RULES

### MLR Attachment 26

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

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 26**

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; provided, however, that, until the Athletics Major League Club relocates to Las Vegas, Nevada, these two counties shall be shared with the Athletics Major League Club
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

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 26**

Altoona (PA)	Blair County in Pennsylvania
Amarillo (TX)	Potter County in Texas
Arkansas	Pulaski County in Arkansas
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
Columbus (GA)	Muscogee County in Georgia and Russell County in Alabama
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
Knoxville (TN)	Knox and Sevier County in Tennessee
Midland (TX)	Midland County in Texas
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
Tulsa (OK)	Tulsa County in Oklahoma

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 26**

Wichita (KS)	Sedgwick County in Kansas
<u>High-A</u>	
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 and Anderson Counties in South Carolina
Hillsboro (OR)	Washington County in Oregon
Hub City (SC)	Spartanburg County in South Carolina
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

## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR Attachment 26**

Quad Cities (IA)	Scott County in Iowa and Rock Island County in Illinois
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
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

**MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**  
**MLR Attachment 26**

Fort Myers (FL)	Lee County in Florida
Fredericksburg (VA)	City of Fredericksburg, and Stafford County in Virginia
Fresno (CA)	Fresno County in California
Hickory (NC)	Burke and Catawba Counties in North Carolina
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



## **MAJOR LEAGUE RULES**

### **MLR Attachment 26**

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
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

