

PARADISE CANYON LEAGUE

FOR STRAT-O-MATIC BASEBALL

RULES AND BYLAWS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Topic
1	The League
2	Rosters
3	The Annual WWW and Draft
4	Player Contracts
5	The Games
6	Pitchers
7	Defense and Positioning
8	Batters/Hitting
9	Stealing /Advancing Runners
10	The Playoffs
11	The Computer Game

1.0 - The League

- 1.1 **Name.** This Strat-O-Matic baseball league shall be named The Paradise Canyon League (PCL).
- 1.2 **Purpose.** The Paradise Canyon League is an organization based upon the friendship of the individual team owners. There is to be no monetary compensation for team ownership, or for championships sponsored by this league.
- 1.3 **Annual Meeting.** Each year the commissioner shall call together the members of the PCL for an annual meeting. The primary business of the meeting shall be to conduct the annual draft (see Section 3) and attend to issues related to the rules and bylaws of the league. However, an equally important purpose of the meeting is to continue to foster the friendships that exist between the members of the league. For this reason, each member of the league has agreed that he will not end his membership in the league over any dispute without first attending the next convention in an effort to rectify his concerns.
- 1.4 **League Officers.** At its annual draft meeting, the league shall elect willing officers to the positions of Commissioner and Operations Director. Each officer shall hold his position for a period of one year, with no limitation on consecutive terms. The **Commissioner** shall create committees and appoint committee heads as appropriate to deal with league business, which may include statistical compilations and the organization of the annual meeting. Additionally, he shall preside over all official league business and decisions, some of which are called out in these Rules and Bylaws. The **Operations Director** and/or any designee shall oversee operational matters for the year, including salary cap issues, and schedules, rosters, series results, and standings.
- 1.5 **Rules.** At the annual meeting the commissioner shall call teams together for a review and discussion of the rules of the league. Rules can be added, deleted or changed at this time with a two-thirds majority vote of the member teams. Once the annual draft has been completed, the league will be considered started and rules may not be added, deleted or changed without a unanimous vote of the member teams. In general, rules that would impact current roster players are implemented a year in advance of becoming active.
- 1.6 **Change of Ownership.** No team may be bought or sold for monetary compensation. Any changes of ownership or additions of new teams or owners must be approved by unanimous consent of the member teams.
- 1.7 **Folding of a Franchise.** In the unanticipated and unfortunate event that one or more of the franchises that make up the PCL should be surrendered to the league by its owner, the following shall dictate the fate of that franchise: 1) if an owner (existing or new to the league) is approved as set forth in section 1.6 of these rules, that owner will take over the franchise; or 2) the franchise shall be disbanded, with all players that were the property of the franchise becoming eligible for the next draft (provided they meet the eligibility criteria).
- 1.8 **Protests.** All protests must be made to the office of the commissioner, or an acting alternate should the commissioner himself be involved in the protest. All protests, including the form of sanction if any, shall be settled by a majority vote of the commissioner and any two other owners not involved in the dispute, which other owners shall be selected by the commissioner. All rulings shall be considered final and not subject to appeal.
- 1.9 **Timely Review of Away Games.** Upon receipt of Game Export files from a home manager, the visiting manager has the right to promptly review the series to ensure that his instructions were followed (most specifically the starting rotation). Any objection to the usage of players is to be filed with the commissioner within 10 days of the visiting manager's receipt of the files.

- 1.10 **Effect of Replayed Game.** Should a protest be upheld and a game is replayed, that game shall be treated as the last game of the relevant series. Box scores of the other games from the series shall be consulted to determine injuries, tired factors, etc. before the game is played.
- 1.11 **Continued Ownership.** Each owner shall have the right to retain any team he owned during the previous season on an ongoing basis, provided he completed his season's games.
- 1.12 **Teams.** The league shall be comprised of the following teams and owners, which membership shall be changed from time to time as set forth in Rule 1.6 above (with the intent to keep any owner who owns two teams in separate divisions):

Owners: Mike, Pat, Steve, Eric, Ken, Bob, Jim, and Gordon

<u>Teams/Divisions:</u>		
<u>Coastal Alto California</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>
Bay Area (MD)	Cabo (BO)	Augusta (GW)
Pebble Beach (BO)	Las Vegas (GW)	Chicago (JS)
Santa Barbara (EH)	Oxnard (EH)	St Louis (KH)
Southern Cal (KH)	Utah (SG)	Virginia Beach (MD)

2.0 - The Rosters

- 2.1 **Ownership Rights to Players.** An owner shall have rights to a player who is named to a roster until such time as that player is waived, cut, or lost to free agency.
- 2.2 **Seniority and Free Agency.** Each member of a PCL active roster as of the end of the 2023 season will retain his graduation year but will have his salary deleted. Each player obtained through the draft will be assigned a contract term of 4 years. A player becomes a Free Agent after the final season of his contract.
- 2.3 **Number of Roster Players.** Each team shall be required to maintain a 25 player major league roster and a 5 player minor league roster (injured reserve players are part of the minor league roster).
- 2.4 **Eligibility.** Players eligible for this league must fall into one of the following categories and meet the Minimum Playing Time Criteria (see subsection 2.7): 1) players currently active with a Team or Interleague* card from a "Feeder Team". Feeder Teams are the 15 National League teams plus the Mariners and Angels; 2) players currently active on non-Feeder Teams, that were named to a roster and initiated their activity in the PCL while on a Feeder Team; 3) Automatically Eligible Players, as defined in subsection 3.5 below. Any player without a Strat-O-Matic card is deemed ineligible for the PCL unless he has been placed on injured reserve as defined later in this Section. *An Interleague card shall be eligible if the player finished his season with a Feeder Team.
- 2.5 **Retired Players / No Name Cards - The "Z.Q Rule".** Due to licensing issues, SOM may not be allowed to use the names of players at times, so SOM prints the player's card with no name on it. Provided that a player's card can be clearly identified based on the statistics shown on the card, that card shall be eligible for use in PCL play (including draft eligibility).
- 2.6 **Roster Players With Two Or More Cards.** If a player receives an Interleague Card, such IL card shall be the only card for that player that is eligible for the league that year. Should an existing roster player be awarded two cards for a season by Strat-O-Matic (one American League and one National League) but no Interleague card, the team owner shall elect to use the card of his choice and must declare that choice to the league in his instructions at the beginning of the season. The card not used shall be ineligible for use throughout the entirety of the season. If

a draft-eligible player has two cards but no IL card, only the Feeder Team card will be eligible to be drafted and for play in the PCL for that following year.

- 2.7 **Minimum Playing Time Criteria.** In order to be on a PCL active roster, a player must meet the following criteria: a) 100 at bats for a position player, b) 25 innings pitched for a pitcher who is eligible to relieve, and c) 50 innings pitched for a Starter-Only pitcher.
- 2.8 **Players With Pitcher and Hitter Cards – The “Shohei Ohtani Rule”** A player that is issued both a pitching card and a hitting card by SOM shall be eligible for the draft, however, prior to the close of the waiver wire, the owner of the player must announce which card shall be on the roster. The owner of the player will own rights to any hitting or pitching card produced in future years, and could use the card of his choice in any future year (but never both cards in the same year).
- 2.9 **The “Ken McMullen Rule”.** No player may exceed his number of at bats or innings pitched, as designated on his Strat-O-Matic card, in a PCL season. Should a player be found to have exceeded his allowed number of AB's or IP's, the Commissioner may take disciplinary action including disqualification from the playoffs, or other such penalties.
- 2.10 **The “Ken McMullen Rule” - Part 2.** In order to be eligible to start a game, a position player must have at least 150 at bats on his card (125 for a catcher to start a game). The only exception is for an injury replacement, where no other player is eligible to start at that position. No pitcher with less than 50 innings pitched can start a game (see section 10 for playoff eligibility).
- 2.11 **Ken McMullen Rule – Part 5.** A position player who is ineligible to start based on the Ken McMullen Rule Part 2 may not enter the game until at least one of the following has occurred: 1- a player has been injured, 2- the opposing starting pitcher has been removed, 3- Four full innings have been played, or 4- he is pinch hitting for a batter that has already batted 3 times.
- 2.12 **Injured Reserve.** A player who was on a PCL roster in the previous year but does not have a card that meets the Minimum Playing Time requirement must be cut or placed into the minors.
- 2.13 **Minor League Players.** Each team will have five players on its minor league roster at the conclusion of the draft and again at the close of the Waiver Wire. A minor league player, once the waiver wire has closed, may not be promoted to the active roster of any team during that season. A player designated to the Injured Reserve counts as one of the minor league spots.
- 2.14 **Minor League Limitations.** Once a player has been placed on an active roster, a demotion to the minors or IR does not suspend the advancement of his service time.
- 2.15 **Players By Position.** All teams must use an active 25 man roster which contains at least two players who can play at each position.
- 2.16 **Trades.** Trades are not allowed.

3.0 - The WWW and Annual Draft

- 3.1 **Date/Location.** The annual draft shall be held in March, prior to the beginning of the season, at a site and time selected by the commissioner.
- 3.2 **Players Eligible.** Only those players eligible, as set forth in the Section on Rosters above, shall be eligible for the draft.
- 3.3 **Protected Players and Cuts.** After card values are released by SOM and time has passed for analysis of the cards, each team shall protect 13 players on its roster. The unprotected players

will be available for the WWW process. After conclusion of the WWW process the remaining unprotected players will be considered to be cut.

- 3.4 **Winter Waiver Wire:** Each team will select 3 players in the WWW. Selection order shall be: 1) randomize all teams that have not made the playoffs in the last three years, then 2) randomize all remaining teams that were not in the prior year championship series, then 3) the championship series loser and lastly the champion. Each team has as long as 24 hours to select a player or pass (or be deemed to have passed), although it is hoped that the process will move much more quickly than that. A team that passes can select a player to make up for the pass as soon as they are ready. For players selected in the WWW that are in the last year of their contract, the contract will be extended for one additional year.
- 3.5 **Automatic Eligibility Players (Formerly RFAs).** Players drafted in 2023 and before who were signed to 3 or 4 year contracts (either immediately after the auction or upon promotion from the minors) along with all players taken in the draft in 2024 and beyond, will be designated as Automatically Eligible Players. A player shall retain the AEP status until graduation provided that they remain on the same team that drafted them.
- 3.6 **Main Draft Format.** Before the first round of picks, the teams will be sorted into order based on the strength of the 16-man rosters, weakest to strongest (adjusted if needed such that the two championship series contenders from the prior year cannot pick before 7th). This order will be used for two rounds. The Commissioner will approve the formulas used for the objective assessment. The teams will be re-ordered after every two rounds based on the then-current strength of the teams. From the time a team goes on the clock, they will have 60 seconds to select a player. Failure to make a pick in 60 seconds does NOT forfeit the pick, but the team that has the next choice may pick during any time after the 60 seconds has elapsed. When any pick is made, the clock stops for administrative duties, and restarts when the commissioner or his designee so states. It is possible to have 3 or more teams all on the clock if the selection process has slowed. Player acquisition shall continue until each team has 30 players on its roster.
- 3.7 **PCL Roster Committee.** At a time to be specified by the Commissioner, which must be after the end of the draft but prior to the closing of the Waiver Wire, each team's roster shall be reviewed by the PCL Roster Committee. Such committee shall be named by the commissioner. The committee shall objectively and subjectively examine each PCL roster to determine compliance with PCL rules, including but not limited to a) having two players rated for each position, b) having enough starting pitchers and innings by starters, c) having enough innings in the bullpen, d) having enough at bats at each position, and e) ensuring that there are no ineligible players on the roster. The committee shall make recommendations as to roster make-up, player usage, Visiting Manager Instructions, and any other usage matters it deems appropriate. An owner who disagrees with the recommendations of the committee can appeal to the commissioner, or to the group at large.
- 3.8 **Post Draft Waivers.** At the conclusion of the draft, the teams will again be put in worst-to-best order one more time with teams being allowed to select any remaining eligible player as they announce the player to be cut. This process shall continue for one to two rounds, and may be extended if teams are prepared to announce additional waiver moves. Upon conclusion of these waiver rounds, additional waiver moves may be made (first in time, first in right) until the closing of the Waiver Wire, which time shall be announced by the commissioner. Once the Waiver Wire has closed, the teams are no longer allowed to make roster changes (either through acquisition of waiver players or through promotion of a minor league player) for the remainder of the season.
- 3.9 **The "Richard Hidalgo" Rule.** A waived player is not eligible until the following year's draft.

4.0 – Player Contracts

- 4.1 **Player Contracts.** Each player drafted will be assigned a contract of four years.
- 4.2 **Release of Previously Rostered Players – At Waiver Wire.** Any player may be cut during the post draft Waiver Wire process and replaced by the waiver selection.
- 4.3 **Retention of No Card Players.** Players that are not eligible to remain on a major league roster may be placed in the minors. The player's graduation date remains unchanged (the clock is ticking), and the player takes up one of the minor league slots allocated to each team.

5.0 - The Games

- 5.1 **Designated Hitter.** Beginning in 2023 we will use the designated hitter.
- 5.2 **The Season.** The season shall consist of 90 games.
- 5.3 **Current Format.** Each team shall play 3 home and 3 away games with every team in the league, and an additional 4 home and 4 away games with each team in its own division.
- 5.4 **Same Owner Series.** Series to be played between teams having the same owner shall be played at the beginning of the season.
- 5.5 **Instructions.** Each team's owner will play all of its home games and mail instructions governing the play of his team while on the road. Changes to instructions once they have been published should be minimized, and should have an emphasis on correcting over-usage.
- 5.6 **Instructions Deadline.** All instructions must be sent by the date set by the Commissioner.
- 5.7 **Use of Instructions.** The home team's decisions for the visiting team shall be bound primarily by such instructions, and secondarily, by an objective good faith effort to present such visiting team's abilities in its best light. In the case of conflict between the two, the instructions shall take precedent.
- 5.8 **Keeping Score.** The home team's manager shall be responsible for sending to the league operations director and the visiting manager the Game Export Files for each game played. Upon completion of each game, the home manager is to save the box score and play by play files (at least). Games which need to be recreated on the computer (e.g. played with dice and cards), are to be recreated by the home manager.
- 5.9 **Injuries.** No player shall be injured for a period longer than the last game of the series in which he was injured.
- 5.10 **Completion of the Season.** All regular season games must be completed by a date which is to be established by the commissioner and communicated to the owners during or prior to the annual convention. Failure to complete the home season by this date shall subject a team to penalties as determined by the commissioner, which could include ineligibility for the playoffs.
- 5.11 **Orderly Progression of the Season.** In order for managers to enjoy a realistic progression of games being played from the spring throughout the summer and to increase the likelihood of compliance with the rule governing Completion of the Season, the commissioner will publish a schedule indicating how many home games each team is to play by specific due dates. Once these due dates have past, and the manager's games have not been played, a final warning with a final due date will be assigned. If this final due date passes without the games in question being played, a surrogate manager will be appointed to play these games. Any owner who believes that he may be unable to keep current with this requirement should

consult the commissioner as soon as possible. While the delinquent manager may recommend to the commissioner a surrogate manager to play his games, this decision as to who plays these games rests solely with the commissioner. Every effort will be made by the commissioner to appoint a surrogate manager who does not have a conflict of interest regarding the games in question.

- 5.12 **Manager's Best Effort to Win.** The manager is expected to make every effort to maximize his team's win total for the season, even if his general manager has obtained and signed players with an eye toward the future. This best effort to win should be evident in the team's instructions, as well as in game management situations.
- 5.13 **Strat-O-Matic Rules.** Strat-O-Matic rules shall apply except as set forth in the following sections. An effort has been made to match PCL rules to SOM rules as closely as possible, in order to allow use of the SOM computer game (see section 9). Any changes that SOM makes to the game that cannot be modified with computer options are automatically adopted by the PCL. Any changes to Player Cards that are announced after the Annual Player Draft shall NOT be accepted for play during that season.
- 5.14 **15 Innings in Enough.** A PCL game that remains tied after the 15th inning shall be deemed to have been a bad dream. The game will be restarted as if it had never happened. The same lineups and starting pitchers are to be used in the replay. This rule does not apply to playoff games. <Note: the game should not be saved, use File/Close/Discard from the game menu>

6.0 - Pitchers

- 6.1 **Starts.** No pitcher may start more than 20 games in a given year.
- 6.2 **Required Rest.** A minimum 5 man rotation must be used. No pitcher may start more than 1 game per 3 or 4 game series.
- 6.3 **Eleven is Enough.** Regardless of his endurance factor inning, a starter shall pitch no more than 11 innings.
- 6.4 **Two Batters is Not Enough - Joe Saunders Rule.** A starting pitcher may not be removed from the game until one of the following events occurs: a) he has pitched at least 4 innings; b) he has given up 4 or more runs; c) he has given up 3 or more runs and it is the 3rd inning or later; or d) he is tired. The only exception is that he may be pinch hit for after pitching three innings regardless of how many runs he has allowed. See playoff rules for a modified version of this rule for the playoffs.
- 6.5 **Endurance Rating for a Starter.**
- a) A pitcher with a Starting Endurance rating of less than 4 may not start a game. If such pitcher is a Starter Only, he shall be assigned a Reliever rating equal to the Starter Rating on the card.
 - b) Starting Pitcher endurance ratings of 4 or 5 shall be increased by 1. Those with a rating of 6 and 180 or more innings pitched shall be changed to a 7.
- 6.6 **The Closer Rule.** The PCL does not use the closer rule. See the subsection entitled One-Inning Relievers for a related issue.
- 6.7 **Maximum Innings For a Reliever.** A relief pitcher shall pitch no more than two innings beyond his endurance factor in any game. For a series, a relief pitcher may pitch the number of innings that result from the following calculation: Endurance factor + number of games in the series [a 3 inning reliever in a 4 game series could pitch 3 + 4 = 7 innings]. During the Playoffs, each 7 game series shall be treated as one series, meaning that a 3 inning reliever shall be limited to 10 innings for the series [3 + 7 = 10].

- 6.8 **Minimum Batters for Relievers.** Starting with the 2021 season, a relief pitcher may not be removed from the game until he has faced at least three batters or ended the half inning.
- 6.9 **Consecutive Games For a Reliever.** A relief pitcher may not pitch in three consecutive games in the same series. [see *Emergency Use of Ineligible Pitchers* for exception]
- 6.10 **One-Inning Relievers.** In order to compensate strong closers for the fact that the PCL has not adopted Closer Rules, a 1 inning reliever with a closer rating of 4 outs or more is treated as a 2 inning reliever. Additionally, a 1 inning reliever that has 60 or more innings pitched on his card is to be treated as a 2 inning reliever.
- 6.11 **The “Ismael Valdes Rule”.** A pitcher who starts more than 12 games in the PCL shall be considered a Starter Only, and cannot relieve during the PCL season [see *Emergency Use of Ineligible Pitchers* for exception].
- 6.12 **Starting and Relieving in the Same Series.** Pitchers that are designated as both Starters and Relievers by their SOM cards may not serve in both capacities during the same series. [see *Emergency Use of Ineligible Pitchers* for exception]
- 6.13 **Starters as Relievers.** No starter may pitch in a relief role and vice versa unless his card designates him as such [see *Emergency Use of Ineligible Pitchers* for exception]. However, after all relievers have been used in a game, a starting pitcher may be used in relief. In such a case, the next pitcher to relieve must be a starter not scheduled for the series or the starter for the next game in the series if all unscheduled starters have been used.
- 6.14 **Emergency Use of Ineligible Pitchers.** There are three classes of pitchers that are ineligible to pitch in a game unless an emergency situation exists. These classes are identified in subsections 6.7, 6.11, and 6.12. In an extended game, after all eligible relievers have been used, ineligible pitchers are to be used in the following order: 1) Pitchers with Starter only status who have not pitched in the series; 2) Pitchers with Starter only status who have not pitched in the most recent two games of the series; 3) Reliever who has pitched in the last two games of the existing series.

This rule does not allow a reliever to exceed his limit on maximum innings per series. A manager shall not manage his team in a fashion as to intentionally gain advantage by the use of these otherwise ineligible pitchers. This would preclude taking the last eligible pitcher that had innings available to pitch out of the game, unless there was an offensive advantage to be obtained that justifies the removal of the pitcher.

- 6.15 **Endurance Factor For Starters Who Relieve.** A starting pitcher who relieves in an emergency situation is subject to the endurance treatment that is assigned by the computer game. His endurance factor for the game in which he relieves and any subsequent starts in that series are not to be manually adjusted.
- 6.16 **No Injuries for Pitchers.** Pitcher injury ratings shall all be set to zero.

7.0 - Defensive Players - Positioning

- 7.1 **Catcher Blocking the Plate.** The PCL has adopted the blocking the plate rule.
- 7.2 **WP/PB/Balk Rules.** The PCL has adopted these rules.
- 7.3 **Maximum E-Ratings.** Maximum E Ratings have been adopted by the PCL.

- 7.4 **Maximum Range Ratings.** Maximum Range Ratings have been adopted by the PCL for all position players, including pitchers.
- 7.5 **Pitchers.** A position player may not pitch and a pitcher may not play a fielding position, except that he may pinch hit and pinch run.
- 7.6 **Other Positions.** At all other positions, a player may play out of position only in the eighth inning or later or where necessitated by injury (and only where no other player with the position is available). The defensive rating assigned by SOM will apply. *Note: See Rule 10.3 "Geovany Soto Rule" for playoff application.*
- 7.7 **LF-5 At Other OF Positions.** SOM allows 5 rated left fielders to play RF or CF as a 5 rated fielder. As long as SOM allows this the PCL will accept the SOM ratings for these players.

8.0 - Batters and Hitting

- 8.1 **Ballpark Effects.** Each team shall designate the numbers to apply to ballpark effect singles and homeruns in their home ballparks. Prior to the annual draft, a team may change the dimensions, not to exceed a change of +3 or -5. After the annual draft, but prior to starting the season, each team may again change its dimensions, provided that the change is no more than +/- 1 and that the change is a movement back toward the prior year's dimensions. The differential between Left and Right (for both singles and homers) must not exceed 8. Prior to the 2024 draft all ballpark numbers can be reset by the managers, but there will be no "revert back" process after the 2024 draft.
- 8.2 **Balks/Wild Pitches/Passed Balls.** The super advanced chart rules relating to balks, wild pitches, and passed balls shall be used.
- 8.3 **Weather Effects.** Weather Effects shall not be used for PCL play.
- 8.4 **Limitation on use of Intentional Walks.** Intentional walks cannot be issued prior to the 8th inning under the following circumstances: 1) with the bases empty, 2) any time first base is occupied. In the 8th inning or later you may walk a hitter under any circumstances.
- 8.5 **Pitcher Hitting Cards.** Pitcher hitting cards shall be used only when the pitcher is batting for himself in lieu of a DH being in the game. This precludes pitcher hitting cards being used to pinch hit. A pitcher can be used to pinch run.

9.0 - Stealing/Advancement of Runners

- 9.1 **Good Leads.** The SOM Super Advanced Stealing system is in use by the PCL.
- 9.2 **The Hitter During a Steal Attempt.** Once an attempt to roll for a good lead is undertaken the batter may not be taken out for a pinch hitter.
- 9.3 **Trailing Runner.** The SOM rules regarding sending trailing runners, throwing to the cutoff man, and cutting off a throw for the lead runner are in effect.
- 9.4 **Extra Innings start with man on second.** The PCL has adopted the MLB rule that a player is to be placed on second base to start each extra inning.

10.0 – The Playoffs

- 10.1 **The "Ken McMullen Rule" - Part 3.** No batter with less than 150 at bats (125 for a Catcher) or 80 innings pitched, as referenced on his card, will be eligible to start a post-season game.

- 10.2 **The “Dave Doster Rule” or Ken McMullen Rule Part 4.** In any playoff series, each player is limited to 15% of the AB or IP that appear on his card, rounded to the nearest AB or IP.
- 10.3 **The “Geovany Soto Rule”: Position Players out of Position During Playoffs.** During the playoffs, rule 7.7 is modified to read “after the eighth inning” instead of “in the eighth inning or later”.
- 10.5 **Playoff Seeds and Format.** The three division winners will be seeded #1, #2, and #3 for the playoffs (in order of their respective records), and the teams with the next two best records will be wild card entrants into the playoffs, seeded #4, and #5. Seed #4 will host seed #5 in the first round of the playoffs. The second round will see the #1 seed hosting the winner of the #4 vs #5 series, with #2 hosting #3. Finally, the Championship series will pit the two remaining teams. Each series consists of a best of seven games format. In any playoff series, the team with the higher seed shall be the home team for games 1, 2, 6 and 7.
- 10.6 **Tie-Breakers for Playoff Seeding.** In the event that one or more playoff teams are tied for a playoff position, the following tie-breakers will be used to establish which seed is assigned to each team: 1) Head to head competition, 2) If teams are within the same division, division record, 3) Coin toss. In the event of a tie between three or more teams, the same tie-breakers shall apply. If a certain tie-breaker eliminates (either through victory or defeat) a team from the tie, but two or more teams remain tied, the tie-breaker procedure continues on to the next level rather than reverting to the first tie-breaker for the smaller group of teams.
- 10.7 **Tie-Breakers for Qualifying for Playoffs.** In the event that there is a tie in the end of season standings whereby one or more of the tied teams will qualify for the playoffs, and one or more of the tied teams will not qualify, the following playoff procedures will be used. Starting pitching rotation for playoff games shall be a two pitcher minimum format, with all other injuries and fatigue reset after each game. Play-in games shall be played using playoff rules, and all play-in games shall be considered one playoff series for the purpose of calculating usage limitations. Home teams for play-in games shall be determined as shown in brackets below:
- 2 teams for 1 spot - Playoff game <head to head regular season, else coin flip>
 - 3 teams for 1 or 2 spots - Round robin tournament, if split 1-1, run differential tiebreaker <coin flips, ensuring 1 home and 1 road game for each team>
 - 4 teams for x spots - Single elimination playoff tournament, random draw for opponents. <after draw, use head to head then coin flips for home team, “finals” home team by head to head then coin flip.>
 - 5 or more teams for x spots - Single elimination playoff tournament, random draw for byes and opponents <same as 4 teams above>.
- 10.8 **Injuries (rule 5.10).** All injured players shall return to health during the next travel day in the playoff series. The most games a player could miss due to a single injury would be the remainder of game 3, plus all of games 4 and 5 before the travel day would heal his wounds.
- 10.9 **Required Rest - Playoffs.** Starting pitchers that have an asterisk endurance rating may start in the playoffs after two games of rest, while starting pitchers without an asterisk must rest for three games between starts. A pitcher that has relieved in a playoff game must rest at least three games (two games if an asterisk) before starting a game in the same seven game playoff series. A pitcher that has started a game must rest three games (two games if he has an asterisk) before he can relieve in the series. All pitchers are considered fully rested at the beginning of any seven game playoff series.
- 10.10 **Maximum Innings For a Reliever (rule 6.5).** During the Playoffs, each 7 game series shall be treated as one series, meaning that a 3 inning reliever shall be limited to 10 innings for the series [3 + 7 = 10]. This maximum is reduced, if applicable, by the Dave Doster Rule (10.2)

to arrive at a maximum number of innings for a reliever in a series. In the event that one or more games in the series lasts longer than 14 innings, all relievers used in those games will be allowed 1 extra inning for the series for each game he pitched in that goes beyond 14 innings.

- 10.11 **Starters as Relievers - Playoffs.** During the playoffs, all pitchers that are rated as starter only are to have Reliever/3 or Reliever/4 added to their rating as follows; pitchers with less than 150 innings on the card will be Rel/3 while pitchers with 150 innings or more will be Rel/4.
- 10.12 **Two Batters is Not Enough - Joe Saunders Playoff Rule.** Beginning with the 2015 playoffs, a Starting Pitcher may not be removed from the game until one of the following events occurs: a) he has pitched at least 3 innings; or b) he has given up 2 or more runs.
- 10.13 **Marathon Playoff Games and Pitcher Usage.** The 15 Innings is Enough rule is not in effect in the playoffs. However, in a very long game, if both managers feel that the series is at risk of becoming a farce based on the long game, they may elect to wash out the game. Pitcher usage in extreme games should first be to use all pitchers that are eligible to pitch in the game (realizing that if you are past 14 innings you have an extension on the number of innings per series available). Starters that have pitched recently (not yet eligible to start a game) should be used based on who is closest to being ready to start, and the die rolls must be monitored to catch Tired "dot" rolls since the game may not know the starter is tired. Finally, starting pitchers who are scheduled to start before the next break in the series should be the last to be used and the scheduled starter for the following day may not be used. (note, the game may consider them to be tired when they make their next start, an outcome that should not be reversed). All pitchers, including starting pitchers (subject to Rule 10.9) will be reset at the next break in the series.
- 10.14 **Completion of Playoffs.** While the league encourages head to head play during the playoffs, it is also important for the participating teams to push to get the games played as quickly as is practical in order to get the season completed and allow for the beginning of off-season activities.

11.0 - The Computer Game

- 11.1 **Computer Game Adopted.** The SOM CDROM version of the computer game has been adopted by the PCL. The Commissioner shall be responsible to ensure that guidance is distributed to all owners each year as to the settings for the computer game.
- 11.2 **Maximum Rules.** The only one of the Maximum Rules that is used by the PCL is the Robbing the HR Rule.
- 11.3 **SOM Regulator.** The SOM Regulator shall not be used by the PCL.
- 11.4 **Fielding Ratings/Endurance Factors.** Each manager is responsible to ensure that the SOM computer ratings correspond with the SOM card ratings. In the event of any discrepancy, the card ratings will be adopted as official. The manager must instruct other managers to change any incorrect ratings as part of his instructions. These instructions shall be specific (i.e. "change Tinkers' from ss4e48 to ss4e28", not "check Tinkers' ss rating"), and cover fielding ratings and endurance factors (a 1 inning reliever that needs to be a 2 inning reliever).
- 11.5 **Game Export Files and Box Score & Play by Play Files.** These files are to be sent to the visiting manager consistent with subsection 5.12 of these rules. These files are to be sent as quickly as is reasonably possible after completion of the series.

RULE CHANGES FOR 2024

Outcome	Who	Proposal
Approved	G/J/K	Switch from Auction to Draft. Eliminate all references to money and salary caps and costs. All non-player acquisition rules remain unchanged. All existing graduation dates will remain but the dollar amounts will be deleted. Each player acquired in the Draft or in the post-draft waivers will be assigned a 4 year graduation date.
Approved	G/J/K	Teams cut down to 13 before the WWW. Cut players go into the WWW. WWW selection order unchanged, lottery among team that have not made playoffs, then lottery among others, then the two championship teams.
Approved	G/J/K	Each team takes 3 players in the WWW, all remaining players are then dropped into the draft if eligible. The WWW should help balance the teams.
Approved	G/J/K	The first round of the draft will be based on the relative strength of the 16 man post WWW rosters. See fourth Oxnard Rule Change for replacement
Approved	G/J/K	All remaining rounds will be snake rounds, but we will randomize the order for each pair of rounds. We will take breaks between rounds.
Approved	G/J/K	After all teams have 30 players, we will randomize one last time and start a snake draft that will allow teams to cut a player and make a waiver move <<GW Note, changed to worst to first one more time since we have changed our approach>>. As many rounds as the owners need. Since there are no dollars and no cap, there is freedom to make as many changes as you like (based on talent available).
Approved	Clarify	Can pick up own player in WWW. Old rule that prohibited it no longer needed as no money to be saved.
Approved	Mike	In the first round of the draft, the prior year world series participants cannot pick before 7 th
Approved	Eric	Reset ballparks next year? See fifth Oxnard Rule Change and rule 8.1

Relative Strength of 16 man Rosters: We will use the data that GW produces each year for the old TOP 60 list (no longer needed). That raw number for each player will be adjusted (see below) and the 16 players adjusted values will be added together. Lowest total would go first in the first round of the draft. The premise is that if there is a “best player” in the draft, the weakest team will get him.

Hitters, use the GW formula and adjust it downward when At Bats are less than 325 (by half of the percentage below 325). Formula is Base Score x (1- (325-AB)/325/2). Final minimum score of 50, final max score of 150. Agreed in Oxnard to factor speed into Base Score as “plus Running Speed minus 12”.

Pitchers, use a fixed value minus the GW formula (since pitcher formula has low scores are good). Fixed value is 185 for RHSP, 165 for LHSP and RHRP, and 145 for LHRP. Score is adjusted down for starting pitchers when IP<110 and for RP when IP<45 as per hitter adjustment. Final minimum score of 50, max of 150.

Test run using 2022 season was presented in Zoom meetings. 2023 data to be sent out shortly.

Approved Oxnard	lots	Change Active Rosters from 26 to 25, overall roster remains at 30 (5 man minor league).
Approved Oxnard	Rule 6.5	Change the starting pitcher endurance factor rule. We will continue to add 1 inning of endurance to all 4 and 5 inning starters. For 6 inning starters with 180 or more innings pitched we will also add 1 inning.
Approved Oxnard	Rule 6.6	We will eliminate pitcher injuries by changing all pitchers to a 0 in the injury factor.
Approved Oxnard	Rule 3.6	We will utilize the “worst to best” draft order approach throughout the main draft, using formulas that have been approved by the commissioner with input from the league. We will initially plan to recalculate the data every two rounds.
Approved Oxnard	Rule 8.1	Ballparks can be reset before 2024 draft, no changes after. Rule unchanged for future. 11/6 update, new ballparks to be announced at least a week before the draft.

Approve Zoom 11/6		When using the formula to set draft order we will use top 13 of 16 players, 14 of 18, 15 of 50, etc up to 19 of 28 and 20 of 30 to set the order for the post draft waiver process.
Zoom 11/6	clarify	WWW order will not be set until the 13 man protected rosters are finalized. Per existing rule teams out of playoffs last 3 years are randomized in the first group.
Zoom 11/6		GW send out updated rules. GW send out WWW draft order. GW send out formula definitions. GW send out previously approved WWW contract extension
Zoom 11/6		The formula to be used for strength of roster is to be available to all owners.

Jim Audit Changes: 11/27/23:

- 2.9 – remove salary cap penalty
- 2.11 – remove #4, PH for pitcher
- 3.2 – remove “DH only cards not eligible”
- 5.6 – Replace Mail Instructions with Send Instructions
- 5.10 – eliminate “salary cap penalty”
- 5.12 – eliminate “salary cap penalty”
- 7.6 – reworted to follow SOM use of players out of position, see below

Actual Changes:

- **Change the word Auction to Draft many places**
 - **Section 4 The Auction is now Section 3 The Draft**
 - **Section 3 Salary Cap and Player Contracts is now Section 4 Player Contracts**
- 2.2 **Seniority and Free Agency.** Each member of a PCL active roster as of the end of the 2023 season will retain his graduation year but will have his salary deleted. Each player obtained through the draft will be assigned a contract term of 4 years. The only exceptions are for M class players (see the Minor League Players section below) and for players near the end of their career. Prior to the auction the Commissioner will oversee a process to assign a 2-year option for players that are 35 years old (per Bob’s spreadsheet) and not expected to create another card. A player becomes a Free Agent after the final season of his contract.
- 2.3 **Number of Roster Players.** Each team shall be required to maintain a 25 player major league roster and a 5 player minor league roster (injured reserve players are part of the minor league roster).
- 2.4 **Eligibility.** Players eligible for this league must fall into one of the following categories and meet the Minimum Playing Time Criteria (see subsection 2.7): 1) players currently active with a Team or Interleague* card from a “Feeder Team”. Feeder Teams are the 15 National League teams plus the Mariners and Angels; 2) players currently active on non-Feeder Teams, that were named to a roster and initiated their activity in the PCL while on a Feeder Team; 3) Automatically Eligible Players, as defined in subsection 3.5 ~~4.5~~ below. Any player without a Strat-O-Matic card is deemed ineligible for the PCL unless he has been placed on injured reserve as defined later in this Section. *An Interleague card shall be eligible if the player finished his season with a Feeder Team.
- 2.12 **Injured Reserve.** A player who was on a PCL roster in the previous year but does not have a card that meets the Minimum Playing Time requirement must be cut or placed into the minors. ~~qualifies for Injured Reserve status if he 1) was on a PCL roster during the previous year, 2) is not in the last year of his contract, and 3) was not awarded a card for the current year or does not qualify for the Active Roster based on Minimum Playing Time Criteria. IR status must designated at the cut date. A player on IR who is waived after the auction is effectively cut at the full price, which requires sufficient cap space for the current year payment.~~

- 2.13 **Minor League Players.** Each team ~~will have~~ ~~may assign up to~~ five players to its minor league roster at the end of the draft and again at the close of the Waiver Wire, ~~provided they meet the eligibility requirements set forth above. Players placed into the Minor Leagues prior to the close of the waiver wire have no seniority assigned for the first year (he will have M as a graduation date). They will be assigned a graduation date when cuts are made for the following season.~~ A minor league player, once the waiver wire has closed, may not be promoted to the active roster of any team during that season. A player designated to the Injured Reserve counts as one of the minor league spots.
- 2.14 **Minor League Limitations.** Once a player has been placed on an active roster, a demotion to the minors ~~or IR~~ does not suspend the advancement of his service time.
- ~~2.14 b) **Minor League Limitations.** A player who is eligible to start a PCL game, and whose contract price is \$15 or more may not be designated as M class. He may be placed in the minors, but must be assigned a contract expiration date as in rule 3.3 Player Contracts.~~
- 2.17 **Winter Waiver Wire (WWW).** **INCORPORATED IN NEW 3.4.** After card values are released by SOM and time has passed for analysis of the cards, the Commissioner shall convene a WWW process. During this process teams may choose to make one or more of their players available for the WWW. Once the list of players on the WWW is published, the teams will take turns selecting a player or passing. The order for this process shall be determined as follows: First) randomize all teams that have not made the playoffs in the last three years, Next) randomize all remaining teams that were not in the prior year championship series, Finally the championship series loser and lastly the champion. Each team has as long as 24 hours to select a player or pass (or be deemed to have passed), although it is hoped that the process will move much more quickly than that. A team that passes can select a player for up to 24 hours after the time they passed, at which point their pass becomes permanent. ~~A team that passed in one round can still select a player in subsequent rounds. The process shall last for an unlimited number of rounds.~~
- 2.18 **Winter Waiver Wire Impact on Graduation Dates Contract Values.** **INCORPORATED IN NEW 3.4** When a player is selected on the WWW, ~~the purchasing owner shall have the player's contract reduced by 50% (rounded up as always). the contract expiration date shall remain unchanged except that a contract with only one year remaining will~~ may be increased by one year (such announcement to be made at the time of the WWW selection). The player moving will lose his RFA or AEP status. The team that released the player in the WWW process shall make a severance payment to the player equal to half of what the severance payment would have been under the contract had the player been cut (rounded up, but in all cases there will be a savings of at least \$1 from the cost to cut the player). ~~Term Cut and Full Cut options will apply as contained elsewhere in the rules.~~
- 2.19 **Michael Pineda Rule.** ~~A player who has had his contract reduced by 50% by the WWW process are subject to the following: a) may not be placed on IR status for the upcoming season, b) may be placed in the minors at full price but may not receive the 75% salary reimbursement, c) can be waived after the auction but any future payments will be based on the original contract value.~~
- 2.20 **Unselected Winter Waiver Wire Players.** ~~Any player put up for the WWW that is not selected remains on their current team until the cut date, at which time the owner can cut the player per standard rules or force the player to accept a new salary level equal to the amount described in Rule 2.18. By forcing a 50% pay cut on the player, the team shall lose any Restricted Free Agent rights, and the player's contract expiration date may not be changed in this process.~~

- 2.21 **Richard Hidalgo Rule—Part 2.** No conspiracy. A player who is put on the WWW by one team may not be claimed off the WWW by another team of the same ownership. Further, any player claimed on the WWW that is subsequently cut during the same offseason will cost the new team the cut cost of the ORIGINAL contract.
- 2.22 **Too Good for WWW Rule.** Some players may be deemed to be too good to be in the WWW. Such players will be placed into the auction instead of the WWW (even if the card would otherwise be ineligible for the auction). The owner placing the player into the WWW process will receive the same treatment whether or not the player is deemed to be too good. To determine if a player is too good, they will be compared to the pre cut available players list, using the formulas that are used to create the top 60 list. Those that are too good would be position players that would be in the top three at their position and have at least 200 AB including DHs (OF will compare to top 3 CF or top 6 corner OF); RHSP with 90 IP in the top 10; LHSP with 90 IP in the top 4; RHRP with 40 IP in the top 16 and LHRP with 40 IP in the top 4.

4.0 – Player Contracts

- 4.1 **Salary Cap.** Every team will receive a salary cap for each season of \$275 for a minimum of 26 and a maximum of 30 players. Teams must be within the cap at all times after cuts are announced, including during the auction, at the waiver wire, and at all times during the PCL season. In order to be within the salary cap, the sum of a team's committed salaries plus its open major league roster spots must not exceed the salary cap. A team may be over the cap during the off-season, but must be within the salary cap upon announcing its cuts. Other salary cap details include:
- (a) Salary cap dollars cannot be traded.
 - (b) Unspent salary cap dollars cannot be carried over to future years.
 - (c) The Operations Director or commissioner will appoint one or more league members to monitor the salary cap position of each team.
 - (d) The most money a team can bring into the auction is \$125.
- 4.2 **Roster Penalty Tax.** Upon completing cuts and establishing its pre auction roster, each team that has less than 13 players shall be assessed a salary cap penalty. The penalty shall be \$3 for the first player, \$4 for the second player, and so on. [Example: 12 man roster, penalty is \$3; 10 man roster, penalty is \$12—\$3+\$4+\$5].
- 4.1 **Player Contracts.** Each player drafted will be assigned a contract of four years. Prior to the closing of the waiver wire each team must assign its newly acquired players a contract term of three or four years or designate that player as a Minor Leaguer. Minor Leaguers will have M-Class and will be assigned a contract of 1 to 3 years during the following year Cut Date Process. All player contracts held as of the close of the Post Auction Waiver process are guaranteed for the remaining life of the contract at the assigned salary cap value.
- 4.4 **Release of Previously Rostered Players—On Cut Date.** Players that were on the prior year's major or minor league roster, and whose contract has not yet expired can be released from their contracts by paying a severance fee equal to 50% of the remaining value of the contract due (# years remaining times salary). The payment can be made in full in the year the player is cut, or over the remaining term of the contract. A player that has been cut but is being paid over time does NOT count against either the 26 man major league roster or the 30 man total roster. Announcement of these cuts must occur at the time designated by the commissioner for cuts, such cuts cannot occur after this date or during the auction.
- 4.2 **Release of Previously Rostered Players – At Waiver Wire.** Any player may be cut during the post draft Waiver Wire process and replaced by the waiver selection. ~~Players that remained on the roster after the cut date, and that are cut during the Post Auction Waiver process, have already earned their salary for the upcoming season. If a player has the upcoming year plus one future year on his contract when cut, the future year will be paid in that year. If a player~~

has the upcoming year plus 2 or 3 future years the manager will determine whether the player will be a Fully Paid Cut or a Term Cut at the Cut Date during the following offseason:

- 4.6 ~~**Deferred Salary Cap Charge.** A team that has no remaining salary cap is allowed to use \$1 of its next year's salary cap only if the roster review committee requires a player change.~~
- 4.7 ~~**Cutting of M-Class Players.** At the time that roster cuts are due, a player that was in the minor leagues and has a contract term of M may be cut with no charge to the salary cap.~~
- 4.8 ~~**Release of Newly Acquired Players.** A player that was won at the current year's auction can be released during the waiver wire process, but the team remains responsible for 100% of the player's auction value for the current year. The team would have no future commitment to the player.~~
- 4.9 ~~**Release of No Card Players.** Players that are not eligible to remain on a major league roster may be cut from the team, with the team paying the player 50% of the remaining contract due (# years remaining times salary). The team has the same options for paying off the contract in a lump sum or over time as they have for any Previously Rostered Player.~~
- 4.3 ~~**Retention of No Card Players.** Players that are not eligible to remain on a major league roster may be placed in the minors. The player's graduation date remains unchanged (the clock is ticking), and the player takes up one of the 5 minor league slots allocated to each team. For the year that the player has no card, the team will be charged for 25% of his salary cap total.~~
- 4.11 ~~**Automatic Death Insurance.** A player who is alive and on a PCL roster, and who subsequently dies may be cut with no contract cost.~~

3.0 - The WWW and Annual Draft

- 3.1 ~~**Date/Location.** The annual draft shall be held in March, prior to the beginning of the season, at a site and time selected by the commissioner.~~
- 3.2 ~~**Players Eligible.** Only those players eligible, as set forth in the Section on Rosters above, shall be eligible for the draft. Hitters with no defensive position listed are not eligible for the draft.~~
- 3.3 ~~**Protected Players and Cuts.** After card values are released by SOM and time has passed for analysis of the cards, each team shall protect 13 players on its roster. The unprotected players will be available for the WWW process. After conclusion of the WWW process the remaining unprotected players will be considered to be cut.~~
~~Number Selected / Cuts The number of open roster spots on the 30-man pre-auction roster shall be determined after player cuts are made, with such cuts being finalized on a date established by the commissioner. Each team must cut enough players to be within its Salary Cap as of the cut date.~~
- 3.4 ~~**Winter Waiver Wire:** Each team will select 3 players in the WWW. Selection order shall be: 1) randomize all teams that have not made the playoffs in the last three years, then 2) randomize all remaining teams that were not in the prior year championship series, then 3) the championship series loser and lastly the champion. Each team has as long as 24 hours to select a player or pass (or be deemed to have passed), although it is hoped that the process will move much more quickly than that. A team that passes can select a player to make up for the pass as soon as they are ready. For players selected in the WWW that are in the last year of their contract, the contract will be extended for one additional year. for up to 24 hours after the time they passed, at which point their pass becomes permanent.~~
~~After card values are released by SOM and time has passed for analysis of the cards, the Commissioner shall convene a WWW process. During this process teams may choose to make~~

~~one or more of their players available for the WWW. Once the list of players on the WWW is published, the teams will take turns selecting a player or passing. The order for this process shall be determined as follows: First) randomize all teams that have not made the playoffs in the last three years, Next) randomize all remaining teams that were not in the prior year championship series, Finally the championship series loser and lastly the champion. Each team has as long as 24 hours to select a player or pass (or be deemed to have passed), although it is hoped that the process will move much more quickly than that. A team that passes can select a player for up to 24 hours after the time they passed, at which point their pass becomes permanent. A team that passed in one round can still select a player in subsequent rounds. The process shall last for an unlimited number of rounds.~~

- 2.18 **Winter Waiver Wire Impact on Graduation Dates Contract Values.** **INCORPORATED IN NEW 3.4** When a player is selected on the WWW, ~~the purchasing owner shall have the player's contract reduced by 50% (rounded up as always).~~ the contract expiration date shall remain unchanged except that a contract with only one year remaining will ~~may~~ be increased by one year ~~(such announcement to be made at the time of the WWW selection).~~ The player moving will lose his RFA or AEP status. The team that released the player in the WWW process shall make a severance payment to the player equal to half of what the severance payment would have been under the contract had the player been cut (rounded up, but in all cases there will be a savings of at least \$1 from the cost to cut the player). Term Cut and Full Cut options will apply as contained elsewhere in the rules.
- 3.5 **Automatic Eligibility Players (Formerly RFAs).** Players drafted in 2023 and before who were signed to 3 or 4 year contracts (either immediately after the auction or upon promotion from the minors) along with all players taken in the draft in 2024 and beyond, will be designated as Automatically Eligible Players. A player shall retain the AEP status until graduation provided that they remain on the same team that drafted them ~~at their original salary for the term of their service~~
- 3.6 **Main Draft –~~Player Selection Format.~~** ~~Before the first round of picks, the teams will be sorted into order based on the strength of the 16-man rosters, weakest to strongest (adjusted if needed such that the two championship series contenders from the prior year cannot pick before 7th). This order will be used for two rounds. The Commissioner will approve the formulas used for the objective assessment. The teams will be re-ordered after every two rounds based on the then-current strength of the teams.~~ From the time a team goes on the clock, they will have 60 seconds to select a player. Failure to make a pick in 60 seconds does NOT forfeit the pick, but the team that has the next choice may pick during any time after the 60 seconds has elapsed. When any pick is made, the clock stops for administrative duties, and restarts when the commissioner or his designee so states. It is possible to have 3 or more teams all on the clock if the selection process has slowed. Player acquisition shall continue until each team has 30 players on its roster ~~Player selection is a combination of auction and draft styles, as follows:~~
- ~~a) The first 60 players will be auctioned off, in a predetermined order based on anticipated contract values. The composition of the Top 60 will approximate 32 to 37 pitchers (favoring rightys about 3:1 and light on lefty relievers) and 23 to 28 position players (2 to 4 per position).~~
 - ~~b) After the Top 60 have been auctioned, we will switch to draft format. Draft order will be random and will be reestablished for each dollar level. We will draft players at each dollar level until no teams want to select a player at that price. We will proceed in the randomized order (no a snake order) for that dollar level, and the reset the random order for the next dollar level.~~
 - ~~c) The first round of the draft will be for \$20 players. When it is a team's turn to draft, if there is a player that they want to purchase for \$20 they may do so, or they may pass.~~
 - ~~d) The following rounds of the draft will be for \$16, \$12, \$10, \$8, \$6, \$4, \$3, \$2, and \$1.~~

- e) ~~From the time a team goes on the clock, they will have 60 seconds to select a player. Failure to make a pick in 60 seconds does NOT forfeit the pick, but the team that has the next choice may pick during any time after the 60 seconds has elapsed. When any pick is made, the clock stops for administrative duties, and restarts when the commissioner or his designee so states. It is possible to have 3 or more teams all on the clock if the selection process has slowed.~~
 - f) ~~There will be a meaningful break after the Top 60 for roster evaluation prior to the draft rounds. There will be other breaks at the end of rounds as agreed upon (as per usual).~~
 - g) ~~Player acquisition shall continue until each team has 30 players on its roster or has exhausted salary cap dollars.~~
- 3.7 **Minimum Contracts.** ~~Upon completion of the player selection process, each player will be assigned either a contract of either 3 or 4 years. The only exception is that prior to the beginning of the auction, some players may be designated as "1 year only" players by the commissioner. These players will typically be those that are not anticipated to produce future SOM cards.~~
- 3.8 **Minimum Bids / Increments / Rounding of Salaries.** ~~The minimum opening bid shall be \$1, and all bids shall be in whole numbers. The salary that results from any formula that is applied (such as multiplying by 25% to calculate the cost of a cut player) that results in a fractional amount shall be rounded upward to the nearest whole number (e.g. \$4.25 becomes \$5).~~
- 3.9 **Invalid Bids.** ~~Any bid that, if successful in winning the player, would meet any of the following criteria, shall be invalid; a) the bid puts the team over its salary cap, b) the bid leaves the team with fewer dollars available under the salary cap than it has open positions on the major league roster, c) would put the team over 30 players.~~
- 3.10 **Bidding on Passed Players.** ~~Upon completion of bidding on a player, any team can open the bidding on any player that was previously announced for auction but for whom no opening bid was made.~~
- 3.11 **PCL Roster Committee.** ~~At a time to be specified by the Commissioner, which must be after the end of the Auction but prior to the closing of the Waiver Wire, each team's roster shall be reviewed by the PCL Roster Committee. Such committee shall be named by the commissioner. The committee shall objectively and subjectively examine each PCL roster to determine compliance with PCL rules, including but not limited to a) having two players rated for each position, b) having enough starting pitchers and innings by starters, c) having enough innings in the bullpen, d) having enough at bats at each position, and e) ensuring that there are no ineligible players on the roster. Additionally, the Operations Director or his designee shall review the roster to determine compliance with the salary cap. The committee shall make recommendations as to roster make-up, player usage, Visiting Manager Instructions, and any other usage matters it deems appropriate. An owner who disagrees with the recommendations of the committee can appeal to the commissioner, or to the group at large.~~
- 3.12 **Post Draft Waivers.** At the conclusion of the draft, the teams will again be put in worst-to-best order one more time with teams being allowed to select any remaining eligible player as they announce the player to be cut. ~~teams are allowed to select any remaining eligible player, by virtue of the owner's declaration of such waiver selection. The salary cap charge for a player claimed on waivers will be \$1. If the claiming of the player would put the team over 30 players or over the salary cap, the owner must immediately announce the waiver of one or more existing roster players. Proceeding in priority order, each team shall either announce a waiver move or pass in rapid succession. This process shall continue for one to two rounds, and may be extended if teams are prepared to announce additional waiver moves. Upon conclusion of these waiver rounds, additional waiver moves may be made~~

(first in time, first in right) until the closing of the Waiver Wire, which time shall be announced by the commissioner. Once the Waiver Wire has closed, the teams are no longer allowed to make roster changes (either through acquisition of waiver players or through promotion of a minor league player) for the remainder of the season.

3.13 The "Richard Hidalgo" Rule. A waived player is not eligible until the following year's auction.

6.5 Endurance Rating for a Starter.

- a) A pitcher with a Starting Endurance rating of less than 4 may not start a game. If such pitcher is a Starter Only, he shall be assigned a Reliever rating equal to the Starter Rating on the card.
- b) Starting Pitcher endurance ratings of 4 or 5 shall be increased by 1. Those with a rating of 6 and 180 or more innings pitched shall be changed to a 7.

6.16 No Injuries for Pitchers. Pitcher injury ratings shall all be set to zero.

8.1 Ballpark Effects. Each team shall designate the numbers to apply to ballpark effect singles and homeruns in their home ballparks. Prior to the annual draft, a team may change the dimensions, not to exceed a change of +3 or -5. After the annual draft, but prior to starting the season, each team may again change its dimensions, provided that the change is no more than +/- 1 and that the change is a movement back toward the prior year's dimensions. The differential between Left and Right (for both singles and homers) must not exceed 8. Prior to the 2024 draft all ballpark numbers can be reset by the managers, but there will be no "revert back" process after the 2024 draft.

7.6 Other Positions. At all other positions, a player may play out of position only in the eighth inning or later or where necessitated by injury (and only where no other player with the position is available). ~~Such player shall be a "5" fielder and he shall have the maximum "e" rating for that position. Additionally, a player at catcher or outfield shall have a +5 arm (and catchers shall have a T-rating of 1-20).~~ The defensive rating assigned by SOM will apply. *Note: See Rule 10.3 "Geovany Soto Rule" for playoff application.*