**OJBL League Rules**

A Major League draft in the form of an open auction is conducted on the first SATURDAY or SUNDAY after OPENING DAY of the season. Each team must acquire 23 players with an imaginary budget of $260. The total sum of protected players from the previous season deducted from $260 becomes the team's auction day budget. (see Opening Day Roster Protection)

The owner bidding first opens with a minimum bid of $1 for any eligible player and the bidding proceeds with each owner nominating a player for bid and the minimum amount. With each successful bid, the team then proclaims the position the player will fill and the sum of the acquisition is deducted from the team' remaining budget. The process continues until each team has filled their 23-man active roster.

Bidding will be made in alphabetical order by owner's last name from A-to-Z in "odd" years and Z-to-A in "even" years.

\*\*\*Players eligible at more than one position may be shifted during the draft or moved to the UTILTY spot if vacant

\*\*\*No team may make a bid for a player it cannot afford

\*\*\*No team may bid for a player who qualifies at a position that the team has filled and cannot be shifted to another position

\*\*\*Any NATIONAL LEAGUE active players protected on Opening Day that gets dealt to the AMERICAN LEAGUE on the first week of the season, prior to our auction may be retained.

\*\*\*We are a NATIONAL LEAGUE-ONLY league but any players dealt to the AMERICAN LEAGUE during the season will have their statistics continue through the remained of the year. The player may remain on the roster until Opening Day of the following season when he must be released if the player remains in the AL.

\*\*\*POSITION ELIGIBILITY: players who have played 20 or more games at all positions the previous season (for auction) and 10 or more during the season. Any player who has not played 20 games at any position, his primary position is the position(s) he played the most games the previous season. For all others (i.e. minor leaguers who have not yet played in the majors; players who were out all season due to injury, etc.) - regard the primary position(s) accorded by this site to be the eligible positions.

The object is to acquire an active roster of 23 players using as much of your budget as possible because any remaining amount cannot be used. It is for player acquisition only and has nothing to do with league fees.

THE PLAYER POOL

The Major League Opening Day rosters determine the league player pool available for auction. All NATIONAL LEAGUE\* players on an active Major League rosters on Opening day become eligible (except those protected from the previous season) for bidding including players on a Major League Disabled List\*

Any player on a Winter protected roster that does not make an opening day Major League roster may be protected on a team's Reserve Roster WITHOUT their salary deducted from a team's budget

\* a Disabled List exception is any Major League player who is placed on a 60-day DL before Opening Day. Those players may be kept as a Redshirt Reserve Keeper on your Reserve roster without any salary deducted from the auction budget. They may not be activated anytime during the season and their contract status is frozen until the following season
Note: suspended players are not eligible as an exception.

\* If a player is moved to a 60-DL after Opening Day but prior to the auction, he may be moved to a Redshirt Reserve. The deadline for that is 2 days before the draft to allow the Draft Room to recalculate and worksheet corrections

\* Minor Leaguers who are stuck on a Major League Disabled List during Spring Training and have not been officially been sent down are eligible for the auction. Note: those Minor League players considered are those that have never played a MLB game

\*Suspended NL players are eligible for auction.

\*If a 2nd-year player and entering his option year is on Reserve on Opening Day (due being sent to the minors or veterans who are the extended DL) the owner must declare to sign him to a long-term contract on Opening Day or he will be deemed an option year player if he is recalled to the majors during the season. If that player is not recalled all season, his status is frozen until the following season and he will revert back to 2nd-year status. The salary will NOT be deducted from the auction budget.

OPENING DAY ROSTER PROTECTION

At the beginning of each season and prior to Auction Draft Day, each team owner must submit a list of players that the owner intends to retain to open the season not to exceed 15 players (see Winter Roster) - this roster is due on the Opening Day of the Major League baseball season. Once all protected rosters are received, the protected rosters will be found in the ROSTERS section of this site along with their salaries. The remaining players become the Auction player pool.

\*\*\*The Major League Opening Day Rosters determine which players may be reserved and which must be active

\*\*\*you may protect a maximum of 15 players to your active roster and an unlimited number to Reserve (Reserve players cannot be on an active Major League roster on Opening Day)

\*\*\*accompanying your submitted roster, you must indicate whether any players entering their "option year" (2nd-year players from the previous season) will be signed to long-term contracts and the terms of that contract (see Long-Term Contracts) - The Salary of that player will then be adjusted and deducted from the $260 budget

\*\*\*all other active players retained will assume their current salary status (including "option year" players not signed to a contract extension)

\*\*\*the Salary of Minor League players are NOT deducted

THE ROTATION DRAFT

At the conclusion of the Auction phase, the Rotation phase begins in which teams select 17 additional players in a 17-round draft...Initially, players selected in this fashion comprise a teams. Reserve roster

\*\*\*Any baseball player is eligible for this draft with the exception of any player on an AMERICAN LEAGUE team or in an AL minor league system

\*\*\*In the Rotation Draft, owners are not required to select players by position - they may choose any combination of positions. The key is to draft a combination of Major League reserves (those players left available after the auction) to back up active positions and Minor League prospects for your own farm system

\*\*\*Teams may draft college baseball players, high school players, Cubans, your next door neighbor - anyone that isn't affiliated with the AMERICAN LEAGUE....Note: If you draft an unsigned player and signs with an AL team, he is considered an American League player and cannot be activated.

\*\*\*The order of selection for the 17 rounds is determined by the order in which teams finished in the previous standings...the 5th Place team chooses First followed by the 6th through 12th - then 4th through 1st to complete each round. That order is subject to change based upon trades made in a previous season.

\*\*\*Any Minor League prospects (or any player off your Winter Roster that did not make an Opening Day Major League roster) protected from a previous season may be retained and each player protected counts as one of the 17 Reserve players

\*\*\*The Salary for players drafted in the Rotation Draft becomes as follows:

$10 - rounds 1 through 6
$5 - rounds 7 through 12
$2 - rounds 13 through 17

For each prospect protected from the previous season, a team must select which rounds they wish to PASS.

Once a player is drafted in the Rotation Draft, his Salary remains the same each season he is in your Farm system.

STARTING LINEUP

The first week of the season becomes the only week where you may adjust your lineup to either include or exclude statistics compiled that first week upon acquiring them on Auction day. Teams have until 12:00 MIDNIGHT on Sunday Night following the auction draft to adjust their auction day roster retroactive to the start of the baseball season by activating players from their reserve and de-activating from their active roster.

THE RESERVE ROSTER

An owner may demote a player from its active roster and promote a player from the Reserve roster at any time and that move will take effect with statistics beginning and ending with the start of the next report period ( player being de-activated ends his statistics on Sunday with the newly activated player's stats start on Monday which begins the new Report period. Such a move must fulfill an open position requirement whether by replacing the demoted player's position or by shifting another player to fill that position so long as that player is eligible to assume that position.

\*\*\*The Reserve Roster may not exceed 17 players - if an unbalanced trade leaves a team with more than 40 players, a team must waive a player(s) to maintain a 40 player limit. Teams may maintain a Reserve Roster with less than 17 players.

\*\*\*A player acquired via trade from another team's Active roster is considered ACTIVE and another team's Reserve roster RESERVE at the time of the trade. The acquiring team must make the necessary changes before the start of the next Report period if they want to change the player's status for the next week.

\*\*\*Once a Minor League player is called up by the Major Leagues and accumulates enough AT BATS (130 ABS) or INGS PITCHED (50 IP) during the season to no longer be called a ROOKIE the following season - that player becomes a FIRST-YEAR player regardless if he remains on your reserve roster the entire season.

\*\*\*Major Leaguers who are designated 1st+ or 2nd+ players are those players whose service clock started but did not make the Opening Day rosters and are eligible for Reserve. Once they are called up during the season, the 1st+ year players become 2nd year and 2nd+ players become option year players.

PLAYER SALARIES

The Salary of a player is determined by the time and means of his acquisition and does not change until the player is released; his contract expires, or is signed to a long-term contract.

\*\*\*The salary of a player acquired in the auction draft or signed as a Free Agent during the season is the final bid made to acquire that player.

\*\*\*The Salary of a player acquired in the Rotation Draft is dependent upon the round in which the player was drafted

\*\*\*The salary of a player claimed on Waivers is $10

LONG-TERM CONTRACTS

A player's contract is his original Salary and remains the same for 2 consecutive seasons as long as his service is uninterrupted (that is he has not been waived or released)

The player enters his OPTION YEAR in his THIRD SEASON

Prior to the start of the season, the owner must decide:
\*to retain the player for a FINAL season at the same Salary
\*return to the Player Pool
\*Sign to a guaranteed long-term contract

If retained for his "option year" at the same Salary, that player must return to the player pool the following year.

If signed to a LONG-TERM CONTRACT, the player's salary becomes the sum of the current salary plus $5 for each additional year the player is signed beyond the OPTION YEAR

For example: if a player's salary entering his option year is $10 and a team wishes to sign that player to a 3-year contract, that player's salary becomes $20 beginning with the OPTION YEAR and would remain at $20 for the following 2 seasons.

A player may be signed to a LONG-TERM CONTRACT just ONCE after which that player must re-enter the player pool.

A player under a long-term contract may be waived and that NOT have to assume that player's remaining salary in any future auction. Once that player is released, his salary value ends.

TRADES

From the completion of the ROTATION DRAFT until MIDNIGHT of the SUNDAY on or following AUGUST 1, teams are free to make trades of any kind without limit (except as indicated in the ANTI-DUMPING clause)

NOTE: beginning 2019, the Trade deadline will move to the first MONDAY on or following AUGUST 1 up until the first MLB game of that day which represents the start of the new scoring period

Teams must be able to fill any vacant position on their active roster to complete a trade. In other words, a team trading a player must either get a player to fill that position via the trade or by promoting a player for that position off the Reserve roster. Minor Leaguers prospects that have not reached Major League status are ineligible for promotion.

At no point may a team have more than 17 players on its Reserve roster or more than 40 players on it's combined rosters...a team may not have more than 23 players on its active roster except during September Roster Expansion (see Roster Expansion)

\*\*\*Between AUGUST 1 and SEPTEMBER 1 (or the SUNDAY on or following representing the end of the Report week), trades may only be made between teams that are adjacent to each other in the previous standings

NOTE: first MONDAY following SEPTEMBER 1 (same as mentioned in First deadline change)

\*\*\*Between SEPTEMBER 1 and the end of the season and between OPENING DAY and AUCTION DRAFT DAY, no trades may take place at all.

ANTI-DUMPING

The following players are considered "ASTERISK" players:
\*players signed to a LONG-TERM contract
\*players playing out their OPTION YEAR
\*players with a salary of at least $25

Such players may be traded only under the following conditions:
\*one team may trade "asterisk" players to another team provided that for each "asterisk" player traded, one is received in the same deal
\*The above notwithstanding, a team may make ONE trade per season involving and unequal exchange of "asterisk" players so long as it unequal by just ONE "asterisk" player. In other words, a team make ONE deal that is a 1-for-0, 2-for-1, 3-for-2, etc. exchange of "asterisk" players.

FREE AGENT ACQUISITION

Active NATIONAL LEAGUE players not on any Rotisserie League active or reserve rosters at the conclusion of the auction/rotation draft become free agents. During the course of the season, the pool of free agents include:
\*Minor League players (not on a Reserve roster) promoted to the NL
\*players traded from the AL to the NL
\*waived players who were not claimed the following week

\*\*\*Players traded from the AL who are on the DL or any minor leaguers or major leaguers who previously played in the majors are eligible but must be placed on the active roster for one week even if they are sent to the minors right away. Minor Leaguers traded from the AL who never played in the Major leagues are ineligible for Free Agent status until they play their first game in the NL

NOTE: The Franmil Reyes Precedent: Rookies must be listed in the Transactions Report by Sunday to be eligible for FAAB. A report of a parent club purchasing the contract from their AAA affiliate is not considered being called up until appearing in the Transactions Report.

Beginning the first week following the first standings report (usually starting the second SUNDAY after the auction draft) and continuing through the season until the last weekly transaction deadline before SEPTEMBER 1, such free agents may be signed without limit in the following manner:

\*\*\*each team shall have, for the purpose of acquiring free agents during the course of the season, an imaginary Free Agent Acquisition Budget (FAAB) of $100

\*\*\*by 10:00 PM SUNDAY of each report week, each owner has the opportunity to place a bid from the $100 FAAB on a given Free Agent. The minimum bid shall be $1 and the maximum shall be the amount of FAAB remaining

\*\*\* Bids are made through the Add/Drop on the league site or by emailing them in. You are allowed to email a priority list of players to pick up and drop. When placing bids through the Add/Drop on the site - after placing your bid(s), go to your team lineup page and check the status of your bid under PENDING TRANSACTIONS to see when the site intends to auction off your player. If it is not the week you want, email your bid to both John & Don…sometimes players traded from the AL on Sunday will not appear in the site’s Add/Drop menu

\*\*\*A Free Agent is assigned to the highest bidder which will be determined after the FAAB deadline of each week.. If more than one team bids the same amount, the player is assigned to the lowest team in the previous standings

\*\*\*you are not required to waive a player if your roster is less than 40 players

\*\*\*If you bring up someone off your Reserve roster to fill a vacant position, that player must have played in the Major League.

\*\*\*The newly acquired Free Agent must remain on the active roster for at least ONE week.

\*\*\*A Free Agent signed for a salary of at least $25 is deemed to have a limited NO-TRADE clause in his contract and may not be traded during the current season.

WAIVER CLAIMS

Players are placed on waivers when they cannot be accommodated on a teams. active roster because of space or positional limitations or the result of acquiring a Free Agent. These may be signed off waivers under the following conditions:

\*\*\*The waiver period commences immediately following notification of a team's Free Agent signing and extends until the next FAAB deadline

\*\*\* NEW RULE: Place Zero Dollar bids for placing a Waiver Claim. If there are no Zero Dollar bid claims but FAAB dollars are bid then it becomes a FAAB bid and the salary becomes the winning bid. Zero Dollar bids will have the first priority over any FAAB bid. EXCEPTION: the team that originally waived the player can only re-claim that player if no one else places any claim but may place a bid

\*\*\*The player is awarded to the lowest ranking team in the previous week's standings and his salary becomes $10 and first-year player status

\*\*\*Once making a successful claim, the team must waive an ACTIVE player as well in the same manner as FAAB signings

\*\*\*If a waived player goes unclaimed after ONE week, the player enters the player pool for bidding

\*\*\*teams may re-claim a waived player if no other teams placed a waiver claim on that player

\*\*\*minor leaguers claimed off waivers are exempt from the one-week active status and can be placed immediately on reserve

NOTE: When FAAB is concluded for the season, the Waiver Wire also ends. There will be no Waiver claims following the final FAAB.

SEPTEMBER ROSTER EXPANSION

Each team may expand its ACTIVE roster for the stretch drive by promoting from its reserve roster an unlimited number of players after SEPTEMBER 1 (effective the first MONDAY following). Such players are NOT assigned positions and do not have to fulfill any eligible position. Thus, there is no 23-man active roster limit for the remainder of the season

\*\*\*Any player recalled for the first time from its reserve roster becomes a FIRST-YEAR player

\*\*\*Select the players you wish and their statistics will go into effect immediately upon appearance on a major League roster after the first Report period after SEPT 1...after that week, any players recalled will have their statistics go into effect the following MONDAY (just like any other week). The reason for this clarification is that some minor-leaguers don’t get initially recalled because they may be participating in a Minor League play-off. If you include those players on your original list of promotions, they will be considered ACTIVE and their stats will accumulate right away upon recall

There is NO additional fee for expanding your roster.

WINTER ROSTER

Effective FEBRUARY, each owner is required to submit a list of 20 players, irrespective of their positions, taken from their combined active and reserve rosters to become your protected Winter roster.

\*\*\*Any rosters turned in past the deadline will be required to protect any players lost to the American League

Following the submission of Winter Rosters, there is no 23-man roster limit following any offseason multi-player trade.

TRANSACTION DEADLINES

Teams have until the first MLB game played on MONDAY to make any transactions to go into effect for that week

The FAAB and WAIVER CLAIM deadline is 10:00 PM on SUNDAY

TIE-BREAKER

At the end of the season, if teams are tied in total points, a tie-breaking formula is used in this order:

1- Head-to-Head comparison in each category with the team winning the tie-breaker by finishing ahead of the other(s) in a majority of categories

2- If still tied, the tie is broken by a figure that combines total AT BATS plus triple the number of INNINGS PITCHED

THE FENOKE REQUIREMENT

In determining the final Standings:

If a team fails to qualify for the minimum of 4250 At Bats or 900 IP, they receive Zero Points in AVG (At Bats) and in ERA & WHIP (Innings Pitched). Their slot in that category where they would have finished becomes vacant and all other teams maintain their place in the category. They would not move up.

WINNING TEAMS

The TOP FOUR teams in Total Points at the end of the year receive a share of the league fund. The monetary distribution is as follows:

1ST PLACE - 50% of the league Fund
2ND PLACE - 25%
3RD PLACE - 15%
4TH PLACE - 10%