



850 Ridge Avenue  
Suite 301  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
Office: (412) 321-8440  
Fax: (412) 321-4088

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6/17/2013

The following is a description of facts surrounding an incident involving the Sam Houston State Club Baseball Team on Saturday, May 11, 2013 both at the Stadium and at the LaQuinta Inn & Suites McKinney TX, the Official Host Hotel of the 2013 Gulf Coast Regional Tournament.

**Incident 1 (Reported by Regional Director-R. Norris):**

“The Sam Houston State Club Baseball team lost an extremely competitive game to Texas Tech at the NCBA Gulf Coast Regional on the evening of 5/11/13. The loss eliminated the team from post season play. Immediately following the final pitch, the shortstop Brian Tiemann and the pitcher Taylor Holt took the game balls and began heaving them over the outfield walls in anger. Approximately 6 balls were thrown in total causing the Regional staff members to have to leave the stadium to retrieve them.”

**Incident 2 (Reported by Hotel Manager-P. Singh to Regional Director-R. Norris):**

“Members of your group were responsible for this extreme case of vandalism during their Saturday night stay at around 3am in the morning.

We have filed criminal charges against the 4 members of your group who were responsible for this incident.

Here are the brief details of the property damage and vandalism;

1. Threatening other guests
2. Breaking beer bottles and throwing them all over the pool and parking area-(Estimated Cleanup charge \$250 plus)

Broken glass bottles were thrown into the pool. Estimate expense for pool clean up-\$1000

3. Breaking in and taking away the cash and change in 3 vending machines on 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.-Estimated Damages \$1000 and criminal charges filed with McKinney PD today.

4. Smoking into 3 rooms -\$750 property damage charge (\$250/room smoking charge, as this is non-smoking facility)

We will be informing the institution Sam Houston State University as well.

Your contact information has been provided for McKinney PD. Please provide information about all members of your group in rooms 309,313,315 and 317.

We have collected all evidence which clearly proves that these group members were directly involved in this incident.”

**Incident 2 (Reported by Eye Witness to Regional Director-R. Norris):**

“Saturday night at the hotel, a few guys from the Sam Houston State team were drinking and throwing trash and beer bottles at the pool. They were also making a ton of loud noises late at night. I had nothing to do with this and that's the main reason I'm telling you this so I will not get in trouble and most importantly my team.”

**Incident 2 (Statement by SHSU President-J. Cadle)**



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“On the night of 5/13 four SHSU players were in the La Quinta hotel hot tub for a large portion of the night. Brian Tiemann, Taylor Holt, Casey Hall and Danny Cavins were the four players. The account given to me by the four players and another player, Jose Alvarado who was only there for a brief period of time, is as follows: The players were all in the hot tub telling stories and drinking beer, some in bottles and some in cans. Brian Tiemann threw and broke multiple beer bottles, none of the beer bottles were thrown at hotel windows or individual people as was originally reported, although 1-2 bottles were thrown at the actual wall of the La Quinta by Tiemann. He was told to calm down by the other individuals and he threw the remainder of his bottles toward the road. A hotel employee then told Tiemann and the others to clean up the mess. Tiemann and Danny Cavins then proceeded to clean up the mess in the locations that were pointed out by said employee. No aggressive moves/ threats were made toward any employee as originally reported. Holt was also reported to have thrown bottles at some point although neither the amount nor the location have been able to be made clear by any of the 5 individuals who were at the scene at any point. A couple also complained to Casey Hall and Taylor Holt about going in and out of the hotel to which Casey Hall and Taylor Holt apologized for. Jose Alvarado was also there at the beginning of the evening although he left when beer bottles were thrown and gave a full and truthful account of the actions of the other four when he was present. I cannot stress enough that in no way did Jose Alvarado participate in the throwing of bottles/cans or the general making of noise. Casey Hall and Danny Cavins also had little impact on the night although they were present for the whole event. Taylor Holt threw bottles at some point although where/when and the amount are on clear. Brian Tiemann threw the vast majority of the bottles and seemed to be at the forefront of the event. These were the events of the night as given to me by the people who were present. All four players who participated are no longer with our program.”

**After reviewing the incident reports and statements, NCBA President-S. Sanderson then contacted Sam Houston Club President-J. Cadle, offering an opportunity to state his defense before a ruling was made. A deadline of Monday, June 17, 2013 was set for Sam Houston to provide a statement. His response:**

“My final comments on the incident are as follows. Myself nor any other member of SHSU Club Baseball knew about the incident when it took place. I did not even know about the vending machines or the smoking charges until weeks after the regional tournament. If I or any other officer had been present at the incident it would have been stopped immediately however, we were asleep in our own beds and had no way to stop the incident or knowledge of what was occurring. The 4 players who participated in the incident have been kicked off of the team due to their horrible representation of the NCBA, SHSU Club Baseball and Sam Houston State University. As for the on field happenings, while I do regret and apologize for the actions of the SHSU players who were mentioned in Ryan Norris's report it was an on field incident and should be seen as such. In any game that such actions occur the players involved should and would receive suspensions for what happened at the end of the game with the throwing of baseballs and the swearing at the umpire. The players in the report are the very same as in the hotel incident, while they clearly deserve disciplinary measures SHSU Club Baseball has worked hard and conducted itself well all year long. Ryan Norris himself has come up to the team and I after games and complimented us on our on-field conduct and how well behaved we were. He has also commented to me more than once about the great job our program was doing throughout the year. One on field incident does not erase the fact SHSU Club Baseball has and will continue to be a model NCBA team for years to come. While the actions of the individuals in the hotel are unforgiveable please take into consideration these were the actions of individual people not the actions of the entire SHSU team. Myself and the other members of the team know it is



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a great honor and privilege to be a part of the NCBA and we look forward to future where we hope we will get a chance to compete to win the NCBA World Series and bring the title to Huntsville, Texas.”

The incident (2) described above is considered conducting baseball operations in a manner deemed unacceptable by NCBA standards. The incident (1) described above is considered poor sportsmanship and a general lack of appreciation for the privilege to play competitive collegiate club baseball in the NCBA.

### **Disciplinary Action:**

The Sam Houston State University Club Baseball team will be placed on probation for two seasons (2014 and 2015). During the first season (2014) the SHSU Club Baseball Team will be post-season INELIGIBLE. During the second season (2015), the SHSU Club Baseball team will be post-season ELIGIBLE, but only if they win their Conference. Thus, the SHSU Club Baseball team will be INELIGIBLE to receive an “at-large” bid to post-season play during the second NCBA Season on probation (2015). There are reports that Sam Houston State University will be suspending the Club Baseball Team internally for the 2014 season. Should such an internal suspension occur, the NCBA’s Disciplinary action against the team described above would be put on hold and would not go into effect until the team returns to operational status within the NCBA either at the DI or DII level.

Both Brian Tiemann and Taylor Holt are suspended from participating in the NCBA for one full season (2014) due to their post game behavior at the ball park. There are reports that Sam Houston State University will be suspending the Club Baseball Team internally for the 2014 season. Should such an internal suspension occur, the NCBA’s Disciplinary action against Brian Tiemann and Taylor Holt described above would be put on hold and would not go into effect until the team returns to operational status within the NCBA either at the DI or DII level.

### **Notes:**

Brian Tiemann and Taylor Holt were disciplined individually based upon their actions which took place immediately following the NCBA Sanctioned Regional Baseball Game on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Their conduct was a clear display of their lack of respect for their opponent, the umpires, their Regional Director, the NCBA, and the game of baseball. Thus their “privilege” to play the game within the NCBA has been temporarily revoked.

The Sam Houston State Team was disciplined as a whole despite the incident at the host hotel being the result of the actions of a few individuals. While at any NCBA Sanctioned event, it is the responsibility of the leadership of each team to monitor and be accountable for all members of their team while at the host hotel as well as at event sponsor establishments. This disciplinary ruling is in line with similar incidents which occurred with UMass (2005) and Delaware (2011).

Sandy Sanderson  
President  
National Club Baseball Association