

## CHAPTER 181.

[S. B. 222.]

## PREVENTION OF CORRUPT BASEBALL PLAYING.

AN ACT relating to the playing of baseball, to prevent corrupting the game and certain participants therein, and providing penalties for the violation of the provisions of this act.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

Offering  
a bribe.

SECTION 1. Any person who shall bribe or offer to bribe, any baseball player with intent to influence his play, action or conduct in any baseball game, or any person who shall bribe or offer to bribe any umpire of a baseball game, with intent to influence him to make a wrong decision or to bias his opinion or judgment in relation to any baseball game or any play occurring therein, or any person who shall bribe or offer to bribe any manager, or other official of a baseball club, league or association, by whatsoever name called, conducting said game of baseball to throw or lose a game of baseball, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Accepting  
a bribe.

SEC. 2. Any baseball player who shall accept or agree to accept, a bribe offered for the purpose of wrongfully influencing his play, action or conduct in any baseball game, or any umpire of a baseball game who shall accept or agree to accept a bribe offered for the purpose of influencing him to make a wrong decision, or biasing his opinions, rulings or judgment with regard to any play, or any manager of a baseball club, or club or league official, who shall accept, or agree to accept, any bribe offered for the purpose of inducing him to lose or cause to be lost any baseball game, as set forth in the preceding section of this act, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

SEC. 3. To complete the offenses mentioned in the two preceding sections of this act, it shall not be necessary that the baseball player, manager, umpire or official, shall, at the time, have been actually employed, selected or appointed to perform their respective duties; it shall be sufficient if the bribe be offered, accepted or agreed to with the view of probable employment, selection or appointment of the person to whom the bribe is offered, or by whom it is accepted. Neither shall it be necessary that such baseball player, umpire or manager actually play or participate in a game or games concerning which said bribe is offered or accepted; it shall be sufficient if the bribe be given, offered or accepted in view of his or their possibly participating therein.

Completion  
of offense  
defined.

SEC. 4. By a "bribe" as used in this act, is meant any gift, emolument, money or thing of value, testimonial, privilege, appointment or personal advantage, or the promise of either, bestowed or promised for the purpose of influencing, directly or indirectly, any baseball player, manager, umpire, club or league official, to see which game an admission fee may be charged, or in which game of baseball any player, manager or umpire is paid any compensation for his services. Said bribe as defined in this act need not be direct; it may be such as is hidden under the semblance of a sale, bet, wager, payment of a debt, or in any other manner designed to cover the true intention of the parties.

"Bribe"  
defined.

SEC. 5. Any baseball player, manager or club or league official who shall commit any wilful act of omission or commission in playing, or directing the playing, of a baseball game, with intent to cause the ball club, with which he is affiliated, to lose a baseball game; or any umpire officiating in a baseball game, or any club or league official who shall commit any wilful act connected with his official duties for the

Acts of  
omission or  
commission by  
players,  
etc.

purpose and with the intent to cause a baseball club to win or lose a baseball game, which it would not otherwise have won or lost under the rules governing the playing of said game, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Venue of  
of action.

SEC. 6. In all prosecutions under this act the venue may be laid in any county where the bribe herein referred to was given, offered or accepted, or in which the baseball game was played in relation to which the bribe was offered, given or accepted, or the acts referred to in section 5 committed.

Bonus or  
extra  
compensa-  
tion.

SEC. 7. Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit the giving or offering of any bonus or extra compensation to any manager or baseball player by any person to encourage such manager or player to a higher degree of skill, ability or diligence in the performance of his duties.

Scope of act.

SEC. 8. This act shall apply only to baseball league and club officials, umpires, managers and players who act in such capacity in games where the public is generally invited to attend and a general admission fee is charged.

Passed the Senate March 3, 1921.

Passed the House March 8, 1921.

Approved by the Governor March 21, 1921.