

Saxonburg Area Girls Softball Association By-Laws

Revised: 9-23-19

Approved Date: 9-23-19

By Vote: 840

President:



Secretary:



Treasurer:



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ARTICLE I Name

This organization shall be known as the Saxonburg Area Girls Softball Association (SAGSA).

ARTICLE II Objectives

- A. The main objective of the Association is to instruct young people of this community the ideals of sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and reverence, and to further instruct and teach softball and team play.
- B. This objective shall be achieved by providing a supervised program of softball contests. The participants shall bear in mind that the objectives, as stated in "A" above, shall be the primary purpose of this program and that the need to win shall be placed second to the objectives in "A" above.

ARTICLE III Government

The government of the association shall be elected from members in good standing as follows: President, Vice-President, Fast Pitch Commissioner, Secretary, Treasurer, Field & Grounds Commissioner, Concession Stand Commissioner; and shall be known as the Board of Directors. All matters of policy and by-laws shall be considered by the Board and dealt with in accordance with Article VIII. It shall require a simple majority of members present at the meeting to adopt changes and have them implemented.

- A. Call to order
- B. Minutes of last meeting
- C. Treasurer's report
- D. Old business
- E. New business - An item to be discussed may be presented to the Board prior to the meeting or presented at the meeting for discussion and vote
- F. Adjourn

SECTION I Government Duties

- A. **PRESIDENT:** The President presides at all meetings, leads the local Association, recommends committees to the Board and generally supervises the entire operation of the Association. He/She may choose to be a member of any committee. The President is responsible to review the financial books monthly.
- B. **VICE-PRESIDENT:** Shall organize and oversee the organization's committees and shall rule in the absence of the President.
- C. **FAST PITCH COMMISSIONER:** Shall control the Fast Pitch League and is in charge of maintaining Fast Pitch games, practice schedules, and equipment.

- D. SECRETARY: The Secretary shall take minutes of all league meetings and send monthly minutes and league information to all managers, board members, and members in good standing who have requested to be on the mailing list. The Secretary shall be responsible for all correspondence of the league and notification of special meeting notices.
- E. TREASURER: Controls the checking account, makes monthly reports without exception on the financial status of the league, controls the local league financial books, and shall be responsible for all money handled by this league. All of the checks are to be signed by the President and/or the Vice-President and/or the Treasurer. Two (2) signatures are required. No cash transactions will be reimbursed without a receipt. Receipts in duplicate shall be filled out for all money received by the Treasurer if requested.
- F. FIELD & GROUNDS COMMISSIONER: Shall head the Field and Grounds Committee and be involved in all decisions/actions pertaining to the fields, fences, dugouts, and surrounding area. The Commissioner shall schedule all events pertaining to the maintaining of the fields (i.e. work days).
- G. CONCESSION STAND COMMISSIONER: Shall head the Concession Stand Committee and be involved in all decisions/actions pertaining to the concession stand. The Commissioner shall oversee the operation of the concession stand
- H. BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Fast Pitch Commissioner, Secretary, Treasurer, Field & Grounds Commissioner and Concession Stand Commissioner. This board shall be responsible for the investigation and acceptance of Managers and/or Assistant Managers into the Association. They shall also deal with any violation by either players or adult leadership and their decision shall be final in all protests.

SECTION II: Terms of Office

- A. Members of the Association shall elect the members of the Board for a term of two (2) years.
- B. President, Treasurer, Concession Stand Commissioner and Field & Grounds Commissioner shall be elected in July of all even years.
- C. Vice-President, Fast Pitch Commissioner, Secretary shall be elected in July of all odd years.

ARTICLE IV Meetings

- A. Regular monthly meetings shall be held on the fourth Monday of the month from January to September at 8:00 pm or after the last game during the playing season. The Board shall meet as necessary during the off season.
- B. A quorum shall be present before a meeting can be called to order. Eight (8) members in good standing (a member in good standing has attended 3 meetings in the past year or has participated in 3 league activities in the past year) shall constitute a quorum.
- C. A special meeting shall be called when requested in writing to the President and/or Secretary by three (3) members in good standing. The President shall, when

requested, call a special meeting within seven (7) days of the request. Members in good standing shall be notified within three (3) days of the meeting.

- D. In order for all the teams to be aware of the happenings in the league a representative from every team in the association must be present at every monthly meeting. If a team misses two (2) consecutive meetings without just cause, the manager may be dismissed. The Secretary will keep a book for sign- in purposes. Hopefully this will give more people a chance to give input into the decisions made.
- E. Any Board member missing more than two (2) consecutive monthly meetings without just cause shall be asked to resign. Any board vacancy will be filled by standard election procedure.

ARTICLE V Election of the Board of Directors

- A. Nominations of Board members shall take place at the regular monthly meeting in June, via the nominating committee or from the floor on meeting day.
- B. Elections shall be held at the regular meeting in July as the last order of Old Business. The newly elected Board shall assume office prior to the beginning of New Business at the September meeting.

ARTICLE VI Committees

- A. The Board shall have the right to form any and all committees that are necessary to properly operate this Association.
- B. Suggested committees shall be as follows:
 - a. Ways and means
 - b. Equipment manager
 - c. Sponsorship
 - d. Concession
 - e. Fast-Pitch Tournament
 - f. Banquet
- C. The Vice President shall organize and oversee each committee, and will report on each committee at monthly board meetings. The Vice President shall be the point person for each committee.

SECTION I Terms of Office

- A. Ways and means: This is the fundraising operation of this Association. The President chairs it.
- B. Equipment manager: Appointed by the Board to maintain the supply of equipment necessary to operate league programs and work in conjunction with each Vice-President of his/her respective league in the distribution of equipment. The majority of the Board must approve all expenditures.
- C. Field and grounds: To be selected yearly and appointed by the Board.
- D. Nominating Committee: Appointed by the Board yearly.

- E. Sponsorship: Appointed by the Board yearly to help with finding team sponsorships.

ARTICLE VII Adult Membership

Requirements for membership shall be that each individual has an interest in the program, be a manager, coach, or be a parent or guardian of a registered youth. Each adult member in good standing (a member in good standing has attended here (3) meetings in the past year or has participated in three (3) league activities in the past year) shall have one (1) vote in any matter that comes before the Association for a vote. There shall be no voting for absent members.

ARTICLE VIII Amendments to the By-laws

- A. At the regular monthly meeting an amendment may be proposed and seconded. If it is seconded, it shall be read aloud by the Secretary and may be discussed. The proposal may be changed as the membership sees fit.
- B. At the next regular meeting the proposal shall be read aloud by the Secretary, voted upon and, if passed, adopted at that time.

ARTICLE IX Managers of All Leagues

- A. All league managers shall have the right to draft their own players according to Article XVIII.
- B. All managers shall be held responsible for their actions both on and in the area of the playing field.
- C. All managers are to be provided with a complete roster, which will include the names of the players who are on the team.
- D. All assistant managers and coaches must be listed on the roster.
- E. Managers and assistant managers must be at least nineteen (19) years of age; coaches under nineteen (19) must wear helmets when coaching bases.
- F. In the event the manager resigns, the assistant manager has first option to take the team, unless the position has become available within one year of a team reduction. In which case, the manager of the reduced team will be given equal consideration with the assistant manager. The Board will make the final decision.
- G. In the event of a vacant managerial position, preference will be given to existing and previously experienced league managers and coaches before the general public. The final decision will be made by the board members.

ARTICLE X Players

- A. Membership: Any amateur softball player who meets the American Softball Association (ASA) youth girls' requirements shall be considered for membership.
- B. Selection to a team - After being drafted or appointed, a player must play for the team that has selected her unless traded by agreement of the managers involved and the respective Commissioner of that league. Should any player quit a team, her contract

shall be held by that team for the remainder of that season and one full season after that season and then is returned to draft as a new player.

- C. Registration and trades - The Commissioners shall supervise registration and shall be notified of all trades and record it.
- D. Late registration – Any player who signs up after the registration deadline may be placed on a team subject to the unanimous agreement of the Board.
- E. Player disciplining problems - the Board shall handle all player-disciplining problems and their decision shall be final.

ARTICLE XI Leagues

- A. Fast Pitch Leagues shall consist of: 8 and under (no younger than 5), 10 and under, 12 and under, 15 and under, and 18 and under age brackets
- B. All leagues - Each division shall be determined by Amateur Softball Association (ASA) rules. The ASA Handbook will determine all rules of play, unless superseded by league rules.
- C. Each team shall have at least one (1) adult manager.
- D. The Board shall decide league affiliation annually.

ARTICLE XII Schedules

- A. The master game schedule shall be compiled by the Commissioners and shall be presented to the league managers and the Board prior to exhibition season for approval.
- B. Rescheduled games:
 - a. Rainouts - The Commissioners will approve rescheduled home rainout games.
 - b. In the case of scheduled school functions in which the number of players on a team is reduced to a maximum of seven (7), the Commissioners will approve the rescheduling of the home games.
 - c. Games shall be rescheduled on the next open date including Saturdays.
- C. Regular season play will not begin before the third Monday of April of each year, and will end as close to June 30 as possible.

ARTICLE XIII Tournament Play

- A. Teams will be chosen at tournament tryouts and the managers present shall vote in rounds.
 - a. Tryouts will be scheduled and posted at the concession stand.
 - b. All managers are encouraged to attend tryouts.
- B. All girls are eligible to try out for any tournament team
 - a. Once selected to a team the player's obligation remains with that team unless negotiated by the respective managers.
- C. Tournament teams will practice according to ASA rules.
- D. Tournament team manager eligibility.

- a. First place team manager at the time of tournament tryouts will have first choice of age group that he/she coached that year for the upcoming tournament season.
- b. Second place manager will have first choice of the remaining age group for the upcoming tournament season and so on.

ARTICLE XIV Playing Rules

- A. Playing rules shall be exactly those suggested by the Amateur Softball Association (ASA).
- B. The Membership must approve local exceptions prior to the start of the season.

ARTICLE XV Financial Policy

- A. The Board shall have the authority to use funds necessary to operate the league without membership vote. Special needs shall be authorized by a majority vote of the members present at a regular or special meeting.
- B. The Treasurer is directly responsible for all money collections and disbursements. The financial books shall be open for review by any member in good standing.
- C. An audit is required by the Board once a year. The President shall appoint the auditing committee.
- D. This league will not reimburse any individual in this association for time, gas, or other expenses, other than injury incurred in this which is covered by insurance. This does not apply to Board-approved purchases for league use.

ARTICLE XVI Registration

- A. General
 - a. Two ways of registering
 - i. On-line through the SAGSA website
 - ii. Filling out the traditional paper registration form.
 - b. Registration will be held as posted, not later than the last day in February. 3. The Board of Directors will determine the registration period each year, but typically mid- December through the end of February.
 - c. Order of registration will be determined by the registration number each player is given when entered into the on-line data base.
- B. Purpose
 - a. ASA requires team rosters to be no more than 15 players. Therefore only the first 15 players are guaranteed a roster position.
 - b. Once the number of registered players, in a given age group, reaches 22; then two teams will be formed. Allowing up to 30 players to register in that age group.
 - c. Teams will continue to be formed at a minimum of 11 players and a maximum of 15 players.
 - d. Players will be notified that they are on a waiting list if they register at a time when roster positions are not available.

- e. Final roster positions will be determined at the end of the registration period by registration number and of those that are paid

C. Exceptions

- a. Every effort is to be made that every player has the opportunity to play. The Board of Directors may make exceptions as listed, but not limited to – allowing a team to be formed with less than 11 players, petitioning ASA to expand a roster beyond 15 positions; moving players into different age brackets to best fill roster positions; holding try-outs.
- b. The Board of Directors, as a last option, may inform players that don't have a roster position that there are no positions available.

ARTICLE XVII Players of Managers and Assistant Managers

A player's contract shall become the property of the team her parent is supervising.

ARTICLE XVIII Drafting (all leagues except 10U)

A. General

- a. Draft target date shall be within a week after tryouts. Tryouts scheduled as weather and field conditions permit. Time and place set by the Board.
- b. All managers are to be appointed by Board action prior to tryouts. Names of team and new or existing managers submitted to the Board prior to the meeting in March.
- c. Assistant managers shall be appointed after the draft unless they are parents of players already on the team or have no players in the program.
- d. In the event a manager cannot be at the drafting session he/she shall send a designated representative.
- e. All teams will draft to fill their present rosters only. Roster amounts agreed upon prior to tryouts. There shall be no drafting of future picks.

B. Eligibility of Players

- a. All players who miss tryouts for legitimate or emergency reasons (death in the family, moving, etc.) may be granted special tryout consideration prior to draft.
- b. A player must play for the team that selected her unless traded by agreement of managers involved and the respective Commissioner. Should any player quit a team, their contract shall be considered the property of that team for one (1) inactive season in that league, with no loss of draft pick to that manager. Player shall be redrafted after one (1) inactive season.
- c. A copy of all team rosters, specifying newly drafted players, their date of birth, and the dates they were drafted shall be distributed by the respective Commissioner prior to the first scheduled game each season. Trades, injuries, players not reporting or moving up, etc. must be kept current in order to keep track of all players and prevent redrafting. Updating shall be done when the season ends.

C. Order of Draft

- a. Draft position shall be determined by final standing of the previous year by winning percentage (games won divided by games played) regardless of the number of games played.
 - b. Last place team shall draft first on each round; next to last place shall draft second on each round; league champion shall draft last on each round; until all rounds are done.
 - c. Sisters of rostered players and family members of managers, assistants, and coaches shall be second round draft pick and each round after.
- D. Stocking of Expansion Teams* - When league expansion is necessary, teams will be determined as follows:
 - a. All existing team managers will protect ("freeze") five (5) players. These players will be in addition to the manager's daughter(s).
 - b. The players not "frozen" will be re-entered into the draft along with the new players. These players must show up for tryouts.
 - c. The manager of the expansion Team will then "freeze" five (5) players from the draft pool, not including the manager's daughter(s). If there is more than one expansion team, the order of selection will be done by coin toss, with each team alternating until each team has "frozen" five (5) players.
 - d. After all of the teams have the same number of "frozen" players (excluding their daughter(s)) drafting will continue as usual, with the new expansion team drafting first, the previous year's last place team drafting second, next to last team drafting next, with the previous year's league champion drafting last until all of the rounds are done or the teams have met their player limit.
- E. Reduction of Teams
 - a. Last team formed will be the first team reduced if necessary; unless a team has five (5) or less returning players (excluding the manager's daughter(s)). it may be dissolved first.
 - b. All players from the reduced team will re-enter the draft.

*An **EXPANSION TEAM** is a newly developed team created as a result of an increase in the number of players. However, if an existing team does not have five (5) returning players to protect ("freeze"), excluding the manager's daughter(s), it may be defined as an expansion team upon agreement of the respective Commissioner and the Managers involved.

ARTICLE XIX Special Situations

Special situations not covered by these by-laws shall be handled by the Board.

ARTICLE XX Dissolution

No part of the net earnings of the Association shall insure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers, or other private persons, except that the Association shall be

authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth herein. No substantial part of the activities of the Association shall be the carrying of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Association shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an association exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by an association contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1953 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

Upon the dissolution of the Association, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the Association, transfer all of the assets of the Association to a fund, foundation, association, or corporation organized and operated exclusively for the purposes specified in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.