

SAN PATRICIO GIRLS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

- A. The name of the organization shall be the San Patricio Girls Softball Association (hereinafter “SPGSA” or “the Association”).

ARTICLE II

- A. The purpose for which the Association was organized was not for profit, but will be operated exclusively for the promotion of instruction and training in the fundamentals of fast pitch softball. The net earning of which are devoted exclusively to charitable, educational and recreational purposes.
- B. SPGSA is organized exclusively for charitable, education, and scientific purposes including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- C. No part of the net earning of the association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, 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 in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the association shall be the carrying on the 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 the document, the association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, corresponding section of any future tax code, or (b) by an organization contributions to which are deductible under section 170(C)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- D. Upon dissolution of the association assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the association is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purpose.

ARTICLE III

- A. The government of the association shall be under the supervision of an Executive Board of Directors to be elected by the general association.
- B. The Executive Board shall consist of; the Association President, Association Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Scheduler, Coaches Representative , Concession Manager, Tournament Director, and Director of Publicity & Technology.
- C. The General Board shall consist of the following positions; Field director, Equipment Chairperson, Sponsorship Chairperson, and Division Commissioners. The association shall then duly elect the positions. If for any reason there are vacancies amongst the division commissioner positions, the duties of the division commissioners will inure to the following members: 16 & under recreational division commissioner duties will inure to the Association President, 12 & under recreational division commissioner duties will inure to the Association Vice President, 10 & under recreational division commissioner duties will inure to the Scheduler, 8 & under recreational division commissioner duties will inure to the Association Tournament Director, 6 & under recreational division commissioner duties will inure to the Coaches Representative, Select League division commissioner duties will inure to the Technology & Publicity Director. If for any reason any of these individuals is unable to serve as the commissioner due to coaching in that division the Association President has the authority appoint another board member to fill that duty.
- D. When acting as a coach or an assistant coach a board member has no official board capacity and has the same weight and authority as any other non-board member coach or assistant coach.
- E. SPGSA shall hold Board elections in September, November or December of the current year, for the upcoming year or at such time as approved by the current board of directors.
- F. The Executive Board shall be elected to serve two (2) year terms, elected in alternate years.
1. Seasons starting in even numbered years – President, Secretary, Scheduler, Tournament Director, and Publicity and Technology Director.
 2. Seasons starting in odd numbered years – Vice President, Treasurer, Coaches Representative , and Concession Manager.
 3. Only the current board shall vote for the President.

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- G. Terms of office shall commence immediately after elections and run through the following elections. Board members may be re-elected.
- H. If an individual is a candidate for any board position and runs for that position unopposed that person is automatically elected without need for a vote at the close of the board meeting during which annual elections occur, unless a board member makes a motion to require a majority approval of that candidate during that board meeting.
- I. The Executive Board of Directors shall meet as necessary and handle the affairs of the Association between scheduled meetings. The Executive Board shall be responsible for setting the agenda for the General Board meeting.
- J. The General Board shall meet with the Executive Board, on at least a monthly basis. No motions may be approved unless a quorum is present, except as provided in paragraph K of Article III. A quorum shall consist of at least one half of the board members. Board members must be given a minimum of a two days notice of the meetings. All attempts must be made to notify all board members of meetings. A simple majority will pass or fail a motion.
- K. Any board member may make a motion, which must be seconded, regarding matters of urgent importance and that motion may be voted upon outside of a regular or executive board meeting via electronic communications (such as email or group messaging applications) as long as a quorum of the board members vote and a majority of the quorum approves such a vote. The vote must remain open for at least 12 non-sleep hours, for the purposes of this paragraph sleeping hours will be defined as beginning at 9:00 p.m. and ending at 7:00 a.m. (note, a motion may not be made during sleeping hours) and may not take place on any Federal holiday. Following the approval of any such motion any board member may make a motion to re-vote on a motion approved in this manner at a regularly scheduled board meeting.
- L. The Executive Board may call special meetings, with a 24-hour notice as deemed necessary. A General Board member, through the Association President, may request special meetings.
- M. Each board member will be assigned a duty schedule during the spring and fall seasons. When assigned to duty the board member is the league representative at the fields, is responsible for field duties and maintenance, emptying trash containers, and generally ensuring that the games and operations proceed in a smooth manner. If a board member cannot fulfill his or her assigned duty slot, it is his or her duty to find a replacement.
- N. If a board member misses more than 3 board functions consecutively, meaning meetings or assigned duties, that board member is subject to removal by a motion with a majority vote. Once made the removal motion is automatically stayed until the next regular board meeting. When a removal motion is made the Association President shall make good faith efforts to contact that board member to notify them of the motion and to notify them that they have a right to appear at the next regular board meeting to explain their absences. If the Association President is the subject of the removal motion it shall be the Association Vice President's duty to make good-faith efforts to provide notice of the motion to the Association President. The removal motion may be voted upon at the next regularly scheduled board meeting following time the removal motion is made, but if the removal motion is made outside of a regularly scheduled board meeting via electronic means as outlined in paragraph K of Article III, it must be made at least 14 calendar days prior to the next regular board meeting so that the board member that is the subject of the removal motion may have a chance to receive proper notice and prepare a response.

ARTICLE IV

BOARD MEMBERS AND THEIR DUTIES

EXECUTIVE BOARD

- A. ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT Shall:
- Preside at all meetings and conduct all of the activities of the Association.
 - Serve as chairperson of the rules and Association by-laws.
 - Have the authority to appoint a replacement for a board vacancy until the next association meeting.
 - Act as liaison between SPGSA and the City of Portland Parks and Recreation Director.
 - Have power to appoint a executive board member or general board member to fulfill the duties of a vacant executive or general board member seat, until the point where an individual comes forward to volunteer and be elected to that position.
 - Be responsible for the season draft.
 - Nominate the chairperson of the awards committee.
 - Coordinate with the publicity and technology director regarding and approve the organized rosters of each team and maintain their accuracy.
 - Serve as the Recreational 16 & Under league commissioner if that position is otherwise vacant.
- B. ASSOCIATION VICE PRESIDENT Shall:
- Assist the President at all times and preside and act in the President's absence.

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- Serve as chairperson of the Nominations Committee.
- Be responsible to see that the league is in compliance with softball governing body rules, i.e.; ASA, Pony, USSA, Little League, etc....
- Be responsible to see that the league has paid any and all dues to the softball governing body with which SPGSA chooses to affiliate itself with, i.e.; ASA, Pony, USSA, Little League, etc....
- Be responsible for creating a schedule of a league representative/field/concession duties for all board members during the spring and fall seasons.
- Serve as the recreational division commissioner for the Recreational 12 & under division if that position is otherwise vacant.
- Serve as liaison with the insurance carrier, ensuring the league is properly insured prior to teams starting practices. Will be responsible for filing claims as needed.
- Be responsible for ensuring that all insurance dues and information are collected and submitted in a timely manner

C. BOARD SECRETARY Shall:

- Take and publish minutes of all meetings.
- Conduct Association correspondence.
- Arrange meeting(s) places and notify all board members of upcoming meetings.
- Provide handout material and coordinate distribution of the same.
- Be responsible for arranging official team pictures to be taken during the softball season. The company selected needs to provide photo packages, coach's plaques and sponsors plaques.

D. TREASURER Shall:

- Keep and maintain financial records in ledger form of all income and expenses. He/She shall prepare monthly and yearly financial statements.
- Shall submit all records for income tax purposes to an Audit Committee appointed by the President by March 1 of the calendar year. No officer with signature authority shall serve on the Audit Committee. The Executive Board shall approve the tax return prior to filing.
- The Association shall maintain a checking account in a local bank to be selected by the Executive Board. The Treasurer is fully responsible for the detailed records of the operation account.
- Ensure all of Association checks written have two signatures. One of which will be the Treasurer and the second being the Association President, or Vice President.
- Prepare and annual budget to be approved by the general membership prior to registration for the upcoming year.

E. SCHEDULER Shall:

- Prepare the regular season schedule of play, including make-up or rain out games.
- Be responsible for drafting the pre-season practice field schedule.
- Maintain league standings.
- Liaison with the softball governing body UIC (Umpire in Charge) to coordinate the umpires initial schedule and any changes, cancellations, or special requests.
- Serve as the recreational division commissioner for the 10 & under division if that position is otherwise vacant.

F. COACHES REPRESENTATIVE Shall:

- Coordinate with Local High School coaches to determine what coaching methods and practices will best prepare players to play at the high school and collegiate level.
- Coordinate Coach and/or Player clinics prior to the beginning of each season of play.
- Create practice plans for each recreational division and distribute the plans to the coaches.
- Serve as liaison between the Division Commissioners and the Executive Board.
- Preside at all Managers/Coaches meetings and shall only vote to break a tie.
- Obtain team managers and coaches.
- Maintain full compliance with the Constitution, by-laws, playing rules and regulation, and inform the Board of any violations.
- Ensure that all coaches and assistant coaches sign a "Coaches Code of Ethics" and maintain the signed copies throughout the season.
- Serve as the recreational division commissioner for the 6 & under division if that position is otherwise vacant.

G. CONCESSION MANAGER Shall:

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- Be overall responsible for the operation and stocking of the SPGSA concession stand prior and during SPGSA sponsored seasons and tournaments. In addition the Concession Manager shall be responsible for the selection and training of personnel who work in the concession stand.
- Ensure that the operation of the concession stand is conducted in accordance with league, city, and health code policies. Ensure the concession stand is kept clean and sanitary.
- Coordinate with the league treasurer a system of setting up a cash drawer, counting out money each day, and getting money to the treasurer for deposit.
- Keep control of all sets of keys to the concession stand. Only the following personnel should have a set of keys: President, Concession Manager, Assistant Concession Manager (If one has been appointed by the league) and City of Portland (for maintenance workers to enter for necessary work or repairs).
- Ensure the concession stand is open 15 minutes prior to scheduled games and remains open until 20 minutes are remaining in the last games scheduled.
- Ensure that all concessions workers are properly permitted to handle food products as required by local laws and codes.
- If the Concession Manager and Assistant Concession Manager are not present, a designated board member or duty board member may temporarily assume the responsibilities of concession manager.

H. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR Shall:

- Coordinate the scheduling and planning of all SPGSA tournaments, both league and affiliated organizations such as ASA.
- Liaison with other area ASA leagues to promote tournaments and inter-league tournament team play (when the league schedule permits).
- Develop committees to handle the different functions of the tournament (e.g. concession, gate, fields, tee shirts, etc.) and supervise these committees throughout the tournament.
- Ensure SPGSA, ASA tournaments are advertised on the internet (e.g. eteamz or virtual tournament director).
- Coordinate with the District UIC to have umpires available and a UIC on site for the duration of the tournament.
- Make recommendations to the Executive Board on amount to charge for team tournament fees and gate fees and whether any league teams will receive discounts and if multiple teams from the same organization will receive a discount.
- Ensure tournaments hosted by SPGSA are properly insured.
- Serve as the recreational division commissioner for the 8 & under division if that position is otherwise vacant.
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I. PUBLICITY AND TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR Shall:

- Publicize league events and news via social and traditional media.
- Be responsible for the leagues' social media account(s).
- Be responsible for maintaining and updating the SPGSA website.
- Be responsible for the electronic registration process.
- Be responsible for league technological assets including recommendations to update outdated systems.
- Distribute posters/flyers to local schools and businesses regarding league events (e.g. registration, tryouts, etc.) Publicity should increase during special Association events such as opening ceremonies, fundraisers, clinics, and community participation events.
- Organize the rosters of each team and maintain their accuracy.
- Be responsible for the assignment of post-draft players to teams.
- Serve as the division commissioner for the select league if that position is otherwise vacant.

GENERAL BOARD

A. EQUIPMENT CHAIRPERSON Shall:

- Determine the necessary equipment needed for the upcoming softball season and purchase same, within the budget outlined by the Executive board and approved by the General Board.
- Major purchases shall be handled via bid solicitation from at least three separate vendors. Said bids shall be submitted to the Executive Board for final approval.
- Be responsible for preparing team bags and special request equipment to coaches and ensuring that each coach signs for the equipment provided.
- Be responsible for coding all equipment as necessary and inventorying equipment prior to issuance to coaches and upon return of that equipment.
- Will provide game balls to the umpire.

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- Will be responsible for the collection of all equipment at the end of the softball season. Returned equipment if damaged by means other than routine wear will be reported to the Executive Board and shall be the responsibility of the coach who signed for the equipment.

B. SPONSORSHIP CHAIRPERSON Shall:

- Seek sponsorship for participating teams.
- Match teams with sponsors preferred team.
- Pursue alternate methods of Association sponsorship.
- Organize the purchase and printing of uniforms for each team, and distribute them to the teams before the start of the season.
- Three bids shall be received for purchased. The chairperson shall make recommendation to the executive board for approval to award bid.

C. 6 & UNDER DIVISION COMMISSIONER Shall:

- Act as liaison between the 6 & under coaches and the Executive Board and General Board..
- Handle all complaints associated with the 6 & under division, presenting cased to the Executive Board when necessary.
- Not be a coach or manager of a team in the 6 & under division.
- Assist the Field Director with field maintenance.

D. 8 & UNDER DIVISION COMMISSIONER Shall:

- Act as liaison between the 8 & under coaches and the Executive Board and General Board..
- Handle all complaints associated with the 8 & under division, presenting cased to the Executive Board when necessary.
- Not be a coach or manager of a team in the 8 & under division.
- Assist the Field Director with field maintenance.

E. 10 & UNDER DIVISION COMMISSIONER Shall:

- Act as liaison between the 10 & under coaches and the Executive Board and General Board..
- Handle all complaints associated with the 10 & under division, presenting cased to the Executive Board when necessary.
- Not be a coach or manager of a team in the 10 & under division.
- Assist the Field Director with field maintenance.
- Assist with coach selection prior to season.
- Coordinate tryouts, draft, and all-star selection for age division.

F. 12 & UNDER DIVISION COMMISSIONER Shall:

- Act as liaison between the 12 & under coaches and the Executive Board and General Board..
- Handle all complaints associated with the 12 & under division, presenting cased to the Executive Board when necessary.
- Not be a coach or manager of a team in the 12 & under division.
- Assist the Field Director with field maintenance.
- Assist with coach selection prior to season.
- Coordinate tryouts, draft, and all-star selection for age division.

G. 16 & UNDER DIVISION COMMISSIONER Shall:

- Act as liaison between the 16 & under coaches and the Executive Board and General Board.
- Handle all complaints associated with the 16 & under division, presenting cased to the Executive Board when necessary.
- Not be a coach or manager of a team in the 16 & under division.
- Assist the Field Director with field maintenance.
- Assist with coach selection prior to season.
- Coordinate tryouts, draft, and all-star selection for age division.

H. SELECT LEAGUE COMMISSIONER Shall:

- Act as liaison between the Select League coaches and the Executive Board and General Board.
- Handle all complaints associated with the select league, presenting cased to the Executive Board when necessary.
- Not be a head coach or manager of a team in the select league.
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COMMITTEES

- A. REGISTRATION COMMITTEE Shall:
- Be chaired by the Association Publicity and Technology Director.
 - Be responsible for creating, coordinating, advertising, and organizing online and in-person registration.
 - Provide a list of categorized registrants to the Association President and appropriate Division Commissioners.
 - Any board member may volunteer to be a member of the registration committee.
 - Be responsible for collecting and conducting an initial review of applications for team and/or partial team entry into the recreational divisions, as well as applications for exemptions to minimum age requirements. The committee shall then present each such application to the Board for approval or denial.
- B. AWARDS COMMITTEE Shall:
- Be chaired by a nominee of the Association President
 - Be responsible for the solicitation and procurement of all awards sponsored by the association (within budgetary constraints as outlined by the Executive Board). Major purchases shall be handled by soliciting bids from at least three trophy suppliers. Said bids must be submitted to the Executive Board for final consideration.
- C. NOMINATION COMMITTEE Shall:
- Be chaired by the Association Vice President and shall be composed of three other people.
 - Be appointed no later than the end of the current season of play. Their names and phone numbers will be posted for those interested in a board position to submit their names for elections.
 - Actively seek people to serve on the Board of Directors (Executive and General).
 - Be responsible for the verifying that the people nominated are willing to accept and serve in those positions, if elected.
 - Present the Association President with the slate of verified candidates prior to the annual election meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor on Election Day (these nominees must be present at the meeting, unless mitigating circumstances prohibit the nominee from being present and then they must have made this known to the nomination committee).
- D. ALL STAR COMMITTEE Shall:
- Be chaired by the Association Scheduler and composed of three other people.
 - Be responsible for ensuring the all star selection process outlined by these By-Laws are followed and for organizing each divisional all star team and all star coaches.
 - Be responsible for coordinating with the relevant organization(s) to enter the SPGSA all star team(s) into all-star tournaments.
 - Be responsible for communicating with All-Star parents regarding dates, travel arrangements and any fees associated with All-Star team participation.
 - Be responsible for creating a funding and support plan for the All Star teams each season and presenting a suggested plan to the Board for approval.

ARTICLE V

- A. The association will provide two seasons per year, one in spring and one in fall. A season may be cancelled and/or postponed based the occurrence of a natural or man-made disaster affecting San Patricio county, a two-thirds board vote, or lack of registration to the point where the association would be unable to financially sustain itself if the season went forward.
- B. The association will offer a recreational league and a select league in each season. During the fall season the association will offer a high school league.
- C. Recreational league will take individual entries only. In the fall season all participants MUST participate in the try-out and draft selection process. In the spring season new players and players choosing not to return to their previous team from the preceding spring season MUST participate in the try-out and draft selection process. **SOLE EXCEPTION:** A team or a portion of a team may complete an application (which will be created by the Technology and Publicity Director and presented to the board for approval) to enter the recreational league as a whole or partial team. Upon receipt of an application to enter as a whole or partial team the board will review the application and then make a determination by majority vote to either accept the application or deny the application. The board should consider the totality of the circumstances when considering an application, no single factor should be considered as an automatic qualifier or disqualifier. The Board's determination to either accept or deny an application SHALL NOT have any precedential effect for that same team in regards to applications for future seasons or for any other team or partial team's applications. A team or partial team submitting an application MUST consist of players that all fall within the same age division, i.e. a whole or partial team wishing to enter the 8 & Under division must consist of a team of players that fall into the 8 & Under division or that fall into the 6 & Under division, that team could not consist of a mixture of

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8 & under players with 6 & under players or vis versa. Any teams or portions thereof admitted via the application process are subject to the following stipulations/requirements:

- a. The team or portion thereof IS subject to having players added to their team via the draft process if the number of registrants and teams require that more players be placed on the admitted team for team balancing purposes.
 - b. The team or portion thereof MUST have a volunteer designated to act as manager/head coach for that team.
 - c. The team or portion thereof will pay the individual rate entry fee for each player rather than paying the fee for a select team. If the team or portion thereof has already paid the select registration fee that money will be put toward the amount owed as individual entries, and the team as a whole or the parents individually will pay the remainder.
 - d. The Board has the authority to set a fee to apply to enter as a whole team or portion thereof, the Board is not required to charge an application fee, but may do so and change the fee by a majority vote.
- D. Select and High School league will take whole team entries only and will not participate in the try-out and draft process. High School Division will accept entries from local high school teams only. A 16 & Under Select Team may petition the board to enter the high school division. A petition for a 16 & Under select team to enter the high school division must be approved with a majority board vote.
- E. A division may be collapsed/merged into another division or eliminated prior to any given season if less than 20 players register in a recreational division or less than 2 teams enter a select division one week prior to try-outs or with a majority vote of the board.
- F. If any select division fails to have 2 or more teams enter the teams that have entered may choose to enter the next highest select age division, apply with the board to enter the recreational division as a whole team, dissolve and play as individuals in the corresponding recreational division, or receive a refund of the select registration fee. Under no circumstance will a select or high school team be allowed to enter a recreational division as a whole team, unless they apply and are approved by the Board as described in Article V, Paragraph C.
- G. The association will offer the following divisions during the spring season: Recreational 6 & Under, Recreational 8 & Under, Recreational 10 & Under, Recreational 12 & Under, Recreational 16 & Under, Select 8 & Under, Select 10 & Under, Select 12 & Under, Select 16 & Under. The Board may add another division with a majority vote of the Board.
- H. The association will offer the following divisions during the spring season: Recreational 6 & Under, Recreational 8 & Under, Recreational 10 & Under, Recreational 12 & Under, Recreational 16 & Under, Select 8 & Under, Select 10 & Under, Select 12 & Under, Select 16 & Under, and High School Division. The Board may add another division with a majority vote of the Board.
- I. A player must be younger than or at the maximum age indicated for each division. A player's age is judged by their age on December 31st of the preceding calendar year. A player may choose to play in a higher age division, but may not play in an age division for which they do not qualify due to breaching the maximum age (no exception or exemption shall be made to this provision regarding maximum age). The minimum age for the 6 & under division in the spring season is 4 years old on December 31st of the preceding calendar year. The minimum age for the 6 & under division in the fall season is 4 years old on August 31st of the current calendar year. The minimum age for all other divisions is 5 years old on December 31st of the preceding calendar year. A Parent or legal guardian may request an exemption to the minimum age limitations by contacting the board in person at a meeting, in writing, or via electronic communications. The parent must explain why they feel an exemption is warranted, the nature of the exemption sought, and provide a signed waiver of liability (to be drafted by the Publicity and Technology Director and approved by the Board). The Board's decision to accept or deny a request for any exemption SHALL NOT have any precedential effect for that same player for future requests or for any other player's application for an exemption.

ARTICLE VI

- A. In the spring and fall seasons the association will create an all star team for the following divisions: Recreational 8 & Under, Recreational 10 & Under, Recreational 12 & Under and Recreational 16 & Under.
- B. In order to be eligible to participate on an all star team for any of the four divisions a player must:
- a. Be registered in the age division of the same all star team to which they are selected (i.e. a younger player in an older division is only eligible in the division in which they chose to play).
 - b. Must not miss more than half of the scheduled and/or make-up games
 - c. Be selected via the selection process outline in Article VI, Subpoint C.
- C. All star selection will be governed by the rules set out by the softball governing body with which SPGSA chooses to affiliate itself and the following criteria

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- a. Prior to closing ceremonies, the managers of each division will meet and nominate a maximum of 6 players each, who they feel merit consideration for all stars. Then each manager will rank the top 12 players from the pool of all nominated players. A coach may not include his own nominations amongst his 12 player rankings, but rather may only rank those nominated by other managers. The rank sheets will be tallied the top 12 players receiving the most favorable rankings will be selected as all stars.
 - b. The coach of each all star team will be selected by a vote amongst the managers of each division, respectively. The elected coach must then receive approval by the board.
- D. The Board will provide funding and support for the All Star teams as suggested by the All Star Committee for each season and then approved by the Board.

ARTICLE VII

MEMBERSHIP

A. Anyone who applied for general membership to the softball program is a member and shall have vote at all general meetings.

PARTICIPATION

A. Any youth who meets the requirements of age and other requirements that are stated in the constitution are eligible to participate in the activities of the association.

SUSPENSION

- A. The full Board of Directors shall, at any time by two-thirds majority vote, have the authority to suspend any member of the Association whose conduct is determined to be detrimental to the purpose and objective of the program.
- B. The member being disciplined shall be entitled to a hearing before the full Board of Directors. A written request for hearing must be submitted to a Board member within 48 hours of notification of discipline.

ARTICLE VIII

RULES

- A. ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER, revised will govern all meetings.
- B. League rules shall be prepared fully by the Board of Directors and approved by the Association. These rules shall govern league play and discipline, and shall be filed with the Association President before league play begins

ARTICLE IX

AMENDMENTS AND RULE CHANGES

Amendments must be passed by the general membership by a two-thirds majority vote of those present. These amendments must be publicized to the general membership prior to a vote.

Rule changes must be passed by a full Board of Directors by a two-thirds majority of those present. These rule changes must be presented to the full Board of Directors in writing at least two weeks prior to a vote.

Exceptions to the rules and regulations may be made to the full Board of Directors with a two-thirds majority of the full Board approving.

IF ANY OF THE PROVISIONS IN THESE BY-LAWS ARE FOUND TO BE INVALID FOR ANY REASON, THE OFFENDING PROVISION SHALL BE REMOVED AND ALL REMAINING SECTIONS AND ARTICLES SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT.