



By-Laws
2009

BLANK PAGE

Table of Contents By-Laws of the Hudson Girls Softball League

1. <u>IDENTIFICATION</u>	1
2. <u>OBJECTIVES</u>	1
3. <u>POWERS</u>	1
4. <u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	1
5. <u>EXECUTIVE BOARD</u>	1
6. <u>BY-LAWS</u>	2
6.1 BY-LAW COMMITTEE	2
6.2 BY-LAW CHANGES	3
7. <u>SENIORITY</u>	3
8. <u>LEAGUE POSITIONS</u>	3
8.1 GENERAL DUTIES	3
8.2 DIRECTOR	3
8.3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR	4
8.4 TREASURER	5
8.5 SECRETARY	5
8.6 MINOR, JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISION REPRESENTATIVES	6
8.7 INSTRUCTIONAL COODINATOR	6
8.8 HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION REPRESENTATIVE	7
8.9 FUND RAISING	8
8.10 TRAVELING TEAM REPRESENTATIVE	8
8.11 UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF	8
8.12 EQUIPMENT MANAGER	9
8.13 TEAM MANAGER	9
8.14 TEAM COACHES	10
8.15 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE	10
8.16 CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE	10
8.17 APPOINTED POSITIONS	10
9. <u>TEAM COACHING STAFF</u>	10
9.1 GENERAL	11
9.2 MANAGER'S DISCRETION	11
9.3 PLAYER DISCIPLINARY ACTION	11
9.4 SUSPENSION / DISMISSAL OF TEAM MANAGER OR COACH	11

10. <u>ELECTION OF LEAGUE POSITIONS</u>	11
10.1 GENERAL	11
10.2 FILLING VACANT POSITIONS	12
10.3 ELECTION NOMINATION COMMITTEE	12
11. <u>MEETINGS AND QUORUM</u>	12
12. <u>PROTEST COMMITTEE</u>	13
13. <u>REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES</u>	13
14. <u>UMPIRE EXPENSES</u>	13
15. <u>REGISTRATION</u>	13
16. <u>PLAYER ELIGIBILITY</u>	13
17. <u>SPRING TRY-OUTS</u>	14
17.1 WHO MUST TRY OUT	14
17.2 PLAYER PROMOTION	14
18. <u>DRAFT</u>	14
18.1 ELIMINATION OF TEAM(S)	14
18.2 DRAFT GUIDELINES	14
18.3 DRAFT OPTIONS	15
A. <i>MANAGER OPTION</i>	15
B. <i>COACH OPTION</i>	15
C. <i>SISTER OPTION</i>	15
18.4 JUNIOR AND SENIOR DIVISIONS.....	15
18.5 INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION.....	16
18.6 MINOR DIVISION	16
18.7 HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION	16
18.8 PLAYER PROTECTION RULES.....	17
19. <u>PRACTICE FIELDS</u>	17
19.1 SELECTION	17
A. <i>INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION</i> -	17
B. <i>MINOR DIVISION</i>	17
C. <i>JUNIOR, SENIOR, AND HIGH SCHOOL DIVISIONS</i>	17
19.2 PRACTICE FIELD DISCLAIMER.....	17
20. <u>GAME SCHEDULES</u>	17
20.1 INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION.....	17
20.2 MINOR DIVISION	17

20.3 JUNIOR DIVISION 17

20.4 SENIOR DIVISION 18

20.5 HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION 18

20.6 PLAYOFF HOME TEAM 18

21. AWARDS..... 18

21.1 INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION 18

21.2 MINOR DIVISION 18

21.3 JUNIOR DIVISION 18

21.4 SENIOR DIVISION 19

21.5 HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION 19

21.6 AWARD COMMITTEE..... 19

22. ALL STAR SELECTION 19

22.1 SELECTION 19

22.2 JUNIOR DIVISION 19

22.3 SENIOR DIVISION 19

22.4 INSTRUCTIONAL, MINOR AND HIGH SCHOOL DIVISIONS..... 20

23. DIVISION STANDINGS..... 20

24. PLAYING RULES..... 20

25. HGSL REVISED PLAYING RULES OF SPECIAL NOTE 20

25.1 GENERAL 20

25.2 PITCHING 22

25.3 INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION..... 22

25.4 MINOR DIVISION 22

25.5 JUNIOR DIVISION 23

25.6 SENIOR DIVISION 24

25.7 HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION..... 25

TABLE 1 LEAGUE POSITIONS 27

ADDENDUM TO HGSL BY-LAWS TRAVELING TEAMS 1

1. IDENTIFICATION

The official name shall be: "**Hudson Girls Softball League, Inc.**" Referred to herein as either "HGSL" or "league".

2. OBJECTIVES

- A. The objective of the Hudson Girls Softball League is to provide supervised and competitive softball program for the benefit of the young girls in the community. This league is promoting the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and reverence so that they may grow to be healthy and respected adults.
- B. The members of the league shall bear in mind that winning of games, although important, is secondary to the molding of future citizens.
- C. Instructional Division - The Instructional Division was established to allow Kindergarten and first graders an opportunity to be exposed to recreational softball. The emphasis is on skill development, team play, and softball enjoyment with the hope of instilling a love of the game.
- D. Minor Division - The Minor Division was established to allow second and third graders an opportunity to have game play, but in a non competitive setting. Minors have several practices in April and May and eventually play scrimmage games, wrapping up the year with a play off established each year based on the Minor Division Representative, and Manager input as to the skill level of that years players.
- E. Junior Division - The Junior Division was established to allow fourth and fifth graders an opportunity to play in competitive game situations with the emphasis on skill development, team play, and sportsmanship with winning, although pursued, remaining a secondary focus.
- F. Senior Division - The Senior Division was established to allow sixth, seventh, and eighth graders an opportunity to play in competitive game situations with the emphasis on skill development, team play, and sportsmanship with winning, although pursued, remaining a secondary focus.
- G. High School Division - The High School Division was established to allow ninth, tenth, and eleventh graders an opportunity to play recreational softball in a non-competitive game situation with the emphasis on team play, sportsmanship, and recreational softball with little or no emphasis on winning.

3. POWERS

The league shall have the following powers in addition to powers expressly or implicitly conferred on by law:

- A. To make and enforce rules and regulations to govern itself.
- B. To solicit funds for the proper operation of the league.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- A. The membership of this league shall be composed of the Executive Board members, managers, coaches, all parents or legal guardians of a team player and persons in appointed positions of the league.
- B. All individuals that have been elected to a position in the league must submit in writing their resignation when terminating service in the position or with the league.
- C. When choosing Team Managers and other elected league positions, the criteria for nomination shall be years of service to the league.
- D. There will be one vote per adult league member. No individual shall have more than one vote. Members must be present to vote; there is no provision for proxy voting.

5. EXECUTIVE BOARD

5.1 The embodied members of the Executive Board (E-Board) shall consist of:

Director

Deputy Director

Treasurer	Secretary
Umpire-In-Chief	Equipment Manager
Junior Division Representative	Senior Division Representative
High School Representative	Minor Division Representative
Instructional Division Representative	Travel Division Coordinator

NOTE: The person holding the position of Director may not also hold the position of Umpire-In-Chief.

- 5.2 No more than one-half the positions on the Executive Board may be held by individuals not associated with the league. Association with the league is defined as being either a member of a team's coaching staff or a parent of an active player.
- 5.3 A quorum to conduct business at any E-Board meeting shall require attendance by 50% or more of the E-Board members.
- 5.4 A tie vote means the issue DOES NOT carry.
- 5.5 The Executive Board shall have full responsibility for:
 - A. Approval of all fund raising events.
 - B. Award night activities and selection of awards to be given.
 - C. Planning and carrying out of all special activities.
 - D. Determining safety of equipment (bats, spikes, gloves, etc.) used by any player in the league regardless of whether purchased by the league or a player.
 - E. Filling any vacancies on the Executive Board between scheduled election meetings.
 - F. The administrative function of the league, including all business decisions affecting its operation and welfare.
 - G. Approval of league insurance.
 - H. Review and approval of a yearly budget.
 - I. Each year review, propose and update (if necessary) changes to the BY-LAWS prior to submitting these changes to the general members for voting.
 - J. Voting on the dismissal of an officer, manager, coach or any other league position.
 - K. Maintaining the Capital Improvement/Scholarship Fund to improve field conditions, purchase capital equipment, direct a Scholarship Fund, etc.
 - L. Voting on amendments to the BY-LAWS in conjunction with team managers or team representatives. If a member of the E-Board is also a team manager, that person may decide to vote as an E-Board member and have another individual represent their team.

6. BY-LAWS

The HGSL BY-LAWS shall be reviewed for adequacy and correctness every year by the E-Board. All members of the league are encouraged to also review the BY-LAWS.

6.1 BY-LAW COMMITTEE

The BY-LAW committee is chaired by the Deputy Director and supported by two committee members appointed by the Director. The duties of the By-Law committee are:

- A. Review the BY-LAWS for accuracy, correctness and adequacy.
- B. Accept from division representatives, members or anyone else, requests for additions, changes or deletions to the BY-LAWS.
- C. Review all requests for accuracy and wording.
- D. Submit recommendations to the E-Board for their review and approval no later than January 15 on a yearly basis.
- E. Upon approval of the E-Board, prepare the final recommendations for review and voting by the general league body at a meeting held prior to the draft every year.
- F. Update the BY-LAW document to reflect all approved changes.

6.2 BY-LAW CHANGES

- A. Anyone may submit requests to add, modify or delete BY-LAWS.
- B. League members will submit change requests to the By-Law committee no later than October 15th.
- C. All proposed changes submitted will be reviewed by the E-board for content to assure that the requests are in the best interest of the league.
- D. Once approved by the E-Board, proposed changes will be sent to all team managers prior to the first general meeting of the new year by the League Secretary.

The E-Board approved changes will be presented to the league by the By-Law committee chairperson at the first general meeting of the new year for final approval or disapproval. There will be no discussion of details of the changes at this meeting. Explanations of the changes will be provided as part of the proposed change package.

The By-Law committee shall have the authority to make clerical changes or changes for consistency with approved changes without the need of having the general body vote on the changes.

7. SENIORITY

Seniority shall be used to determine selection of individuals for positions within the league. Seniority shall be determined by years of service to the league as Team Manager, Team Coach (either coach's option or second coach), Member of the E-Board, or other position. Positions within the league all carry the same weight in determining seniority. Only one year of service can be accumulated for each calendar year of involvement with the league.

8. LEAGUE POSITIONS

League positions, term of office, Executive Board membership, Protest Committee membership and reporting structure are defined in table 1, "LEAGUE POSITIONS".

8.1 GENERAL DUTIES

The following are duties applicable to all E-Board members, Managers, coaches and committee members in addition to those specific duties identified for each position:

- A. Adhere to the objectives and general requirements of the Hudson Girls Softball League BY-LAWS.
- B. Attend all scheduled league general meetings.
- C. Submit to the Treasurer, all receipts and records of expenditures within 72 hours.
- D. Obtain approval from the Executive Board on all expenses greater than \$500.00.
- E. Obtain approval from the Director on all expenses less than \$500.00.

8.2 DIRECTOR

The Director will be a two (2) year elected position, member of the E-Board and the Protest Committee. In addition to the general duties of all league officers, the duties of the Director are to:

- A. Schedule and preside over all league meetings, Executive Board meetings and the Protest Committee.
- B. Be responsible for all league activities, including fund raising.
- C. Select and dismiss persons in appointed positions.
- D. Be accountable for expenditures up to \$500.00 for normal league requirements.
- E. Coordinate all functional policies of the Executive Board.
- F. Appoint and supervise the activities of all committees.
- G. Coordinate fields with the Umpire-In-Chief when developing the schedule for games, practices, make-up games and playoffs.
- H. See that each team adheres to the rules, regulations and policies of the league.
- I. Submit an annual report at the annual January meeting.
- J. Coordinate league ALL STAR teams and players.
- K. Schedule and publicize league registration (sign-ups).
- L. Schedule and supervise the spring try-outs.
- M. Preside over the spring draft.
- N. Vote on all matters brought before the Executive Board and Protest Committee.
- O. Provide copies for the January meeting, as soon as possible, of proposed changes in the BY-LAWS to all voting members.
- P. Schedule annual team photographs.
- Q. Assure sponsor recognition such as plaques or pictures are obtained and presented to sponsors prior to the end of June each year.

8.3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR

The Deputy Director will be a two (2) year elected position, elected in alternate years of the Director position, a member of the E-Board and the Protest Committee. In addition to the general duties of all league officers, the duties of the Deputy Director are to:

Note: The Deputy Director's responsibilities are the same as those of the Director but exercised in the mode of an aide or adjutant. The Deputy Director would act as the Director if the Director were unavailable in an emergency circumstance or if delegated to act in the capacity by the Director.

- A. Assist in scheduling and presiding over all league meetings, Executive Board meetings and the Protest Committee.
- B. Assist in overseeing all league activities, including fund raising.
- C. Assist in selecting persons in appointed positions.
- D. Assist in coordinating all functional policies of the Executive Board.
- E. Assist in appointing and supervising the activities of all committees.
- F. Assist in coordinating fields with the Umpire-In-Chief when developing the schedule for games practices make-up games and playoffs.

- G. See that each team adheres to the rules, regulations and policies of the league.
- H. Assist in preparing an annual report for the annual January meeting.
- I. Assist in coordinating league ALL STAR teams and players.
- J. Assist in scheduling and publicizing league registration (sign-ups).
- K. Assist in scheduling and supervising the spring try-outs.
- L. Assist in presiding over the spring draft.
- M. Assist in ordering the awards approved by the executive Board for award and recognition presentations.
- N. Vote on all matters brought before the Executive Board and Protest Committee.
- O. Chair the Awards committee.
- P. Member of fund raising committee. (see paragraph 8.9)

8.4 TREASURER

The Treasurer will be a two (2) year elected position and member of the E-Board. In addition to the general duties of all league officers, the duties of the Treasurer are to:

- A. Attend scheduled meetings of the league and of the Executive Board. While in attendance, provide a report of the current status of the league's financial affairs.
- B. Provide financial reports in writing to be included in the minutes of the all league meetings.
- C. Maintain a legible and accurate set of records covering all financial transactions of the league and the summer Traveling teams
- D. Disburse amounts greater than \$500.00 when properly approved and authorized by the Executive Board.
- E. Disburse amounts less than \$500.00 when properly approved and authorized by the Director.
- F. Receive and deposit all league funds as directed by the Executive Board.
- G. Maintain appropriate records of expenditures of the petty cash account (maximum \$100.00).
- H. Maintain necessary records and submitting reports as required to the State of NH for the preservation of the league's status as a non-profit organization.
- I. Make payments of all approved expenses within the specified period of time to guarantee the league any discounts.
- J. Vote on all matters brought before the Executive Board.
- K. Establish the dates that the registration fees (moneys) plus any other receipts must be submitted.
- L. Prepare of an annual projected cash flow and budget.

8.5 SECRETARY

The Secretary will be a two (2) year elected position and member of the E-Board. The Secretary is a non voting member of the Protest Committee. In addition to the general duties of all league officers, the duties of the Secretary are:

- A. Attend scheduled meetings of the league and of the Executive Board and the Protest Committee.
- B. Record and transcribe the minutes of all league, Executive Board and Protest Committee meetings.
- C. Provide mailed written notice of all league meetings to all team managers two weeks prior to the meeting date..

- D. Coordinate all correspondence and mailings pertaining to the league activities and functions.
- E. Vote on all matters brought before the Executive Board.
- F. Prepare required ballots to conduct secret balloting for election of officers at designated meeting(s).
- G. A copy of the HGSL By-Laws shall be posted on the HGSL web site (HGSL.org). A copy of the by-laws and current A.S.A. Rule Book and any other applicable material will be available at the draft.
- H. Maintain a log of years of service and position(s) of each league member excluding players. Used to determine seniority for certain league positions.

8.6 MINOR, JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISION REPRESENTATIVES

The Division Representatives will be a one (1) year elected position, member of the E-Board and the Protest Committee. In addition to the general duties of all league officers, the duties of the Division Representatives are:

- A. Attend all E-Board and Protest Committee meetings.
- B. Represent their respective Team Manager's decisions in matters brought before the Executive Board and/or the Protest Committee.
- C. Assist in exercising the Director's duties.
- D. Vote on all matters brought before the Executive Board and/or the Protest Committee.
- E. Communicate results of all meetings to their respective Team Managers.
- F. Exercise prudent judgment on subjects of importance. On occasion, the Division Representatives must poll their respective Team Managers before voting.
- G. Solicit, on an annual basis from the team managers, any proposed changes to the BY-LAWS no later than October 1st.

8.7 INSTRUCTIONAL COORDINATOR

The Instructional Coordinator will be a one (1) year elected position, member of the E-Board and the Protest Committee. In addition to the general duties of all league officers, the duties of the Instructional Coordinator are:

- A. Attend meetings of the league, the Executive Board and the Protest Committee.
- B. Represent their respective Team Manager's decisions in matters brought before the Executive Board and/or the Protest Committee.
- C. Assist in exercising the Director's duties.
- D. Vote on all matters brought before the Executive Board and/or the Protest Committee.
- E. Communicate results of all meetings to their respective Team Managers.
- F. Exercise prudent judgment on subjects of importance. On occasion, the Division Representatives must poll their respective Team Managers before voting.
- G. Solicit, on an annual basis from the team managers, any proposed changes to the BY-LAWS no later than October 1st.
- H. Organize and staff an instructional program for kindergarten and first grade girls, for the purpose of introduction to the game of modified-pitch softball and for the preparation of membership into the "Hudson Girls Softball" Minor Division.
- I. Schedule and supervise practice sessions and optional competitive games.

8.8 HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION REPRESENTATIVE

The High School Division Representatives will be a one (1) year elected position, member of the E-Board and the Protest Committee. In addition to the general duties of all league officers, the duties of the High School Manager are:

- A. Attend all E-Board and Protest Committee meetings.
- B. Represent their respective Team Manager's decisions in matters brought before the Executive Board and/or the Protest Committee.
- C. Assist in exercising the Director's duties.
- D. Vote on all matters brought before the Executive Board and/or the Protest Committee.
- E. Communicate results of all meetings to their respective Team Managers.
- F. Exercise prudent judgment on subjects of importance. On occasion, the Division Representatives must poll their respective Team Managers before voting.
- G. Solicit, on an annual basis from the team managers, any proposed changes to the BY-LAWS no later than October 1st.
- H. Organize and staff a High School program for girls grade 9-11 who wish to play recreational softball in a non-competitive environment. It shall be considered a "fun" league and it is the responsibility of the Manager to maintain these qualities.
- I. Schedule and supervise practice sessions and optional competitive games.
- J. This position will exist only in years where the league intends to organize or attempt to organize teams for the high school division.

8.9 FUND RAISING

A fund raising committee, including a chairperson and the Deputy Director will be appointed by the Director. The duties of the fund raising committee are:

- A. Raise funds for the benefit of the HGSL. The members shall work together to seek ways of raising moneys year-round to satisfy the monetary needs of the league's program. Individual members may be assigned by the committee chairperson as event coordinators to manage specific fund raising events.
- B. Assist any of the above fund-raising event coordinators in the execution of their activities.
- C. Assure any money raised by the Fund-Raising Committee be given to the Treasurer within 72 hours of the completion of an event.

8.10 TRAVELING TEAM COORDINATOR

The Travel Team Coordinator will be a one (1) year appointed position. In addition to the general duties of all league positions, the Traveling Team Representative's duties are:

- A. Follow the guidelines set forth by the League.
- ~~B.~~ Schedule of the summer program
Promote the Summer program.
Coordinate Schedule of fields and umpires for the program with the league UIC.
- E. Organize Summer Tournaments.
- F. Additional duties are defined in Travel Team addendum paragraph 5.6
- G. Submit a summary of revenues and expenses for tournaments played to the director for the prior year's activities by February 1st.
- H. Submit a summary budget of revenues and expenses for tournaments planned to the director for the coming year's activities by February 1st.

8.11 UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF

The Umpire in Chief will be a two (2) year elected position, member of the E-Board and the Protest Committee In addition to the general duties of all league positions, the duties of the Umpire-In-Chief are:

- A. Arrange to obtain Umpires for Junior, Senior and High School Division games.
- B. Coordinate Umpire training clinics.
- C. Schedule the necessary Umpires for all regular, make-up, play-off and post-season games.
- D. Conduct a Managers' Briefing Session prior to the beginning of each new season.
- E. Track games worked by each Umpire, submitting information to the treasurer and authorizing payment of fees.
- F. Obtain Umpires should the league be approached to supply Umpires for any tournament game.
- G. Make available any required Umpire equipment at the scheduled fields prior to game time (if required).
- H. Schedule make-up games and play-offs.
- I. Assign practice and game fields for all teams.
- J. Inspect all ball fields prior to the start of the season for playing conditions.
- K. Determine whether a regular season game or playoff game should be canceled due to weather or safety conditions.

8.12 EQUIPMENT MANAGER

The Equipment Manager will be a two (2) year appointed position and member of the E-Board. In addition to the general duties of all league positions, the duties of the Equipment Manager are:

- A. Request and record equipment inventories and needs from the Team Managers prior to the Spring try-outs.
- B. Maintain records of all league equipment.
- C. Apply discretion when authorizing repair of equipment rather than the purchase of new equipment or uniforms.
- D. Procure and distribute uniforms, as specified for each division, and equipment to each team.
- E. Solicit quotations from various sports equipment and uniform outlets to determine the most favorable contract possible.
- F. Make purchases of all equipment and uniforms worth \$500.00 or greater as directed by the Executive Board. Make purchases less than \$500.00 as directed by the Director. Submit invoices, receipts and records of purchases as soon as possible to the Treasurer.
- G. Coordinate with the Field coordinator to ensure that all fields have the necessary equipment prior to the season.
- H. Store and safeguard league equipment and uniforms during the "off season".

8.13 TEAM MANAGER

A. TENURE

- 1) Once appointed by the Director, Team Managers retain their position within their Divisions until they either resign or move to another Division.
- 2) When a Team Manager chooses to move up or down to another level and there is another person wanting the same position, seniority in the league shall apply. A persons intentions to move must be expressed in person or in writing to the applicable Division Rep and the Director by the June general meeting. In case of a tie in seniority, the Director shall make the final decision.

B. DUTIES

In addition to the general duties of all league positions, the duties of the Team Managers are:

- 1) Assure that team players adhere to the rules, policies and regulations of the league.
- 2) Supervise and assume responsibility for the proper and personal conduct of the team players and coaches.
- 3) Participate in the yearly registration and spring try-outs.
- 4) Assure proper safeguards are taken to protect the league's equipment and uniforms.
- 5) Attend the preseason Managers briefing session and all general meetings of the league.
- 6) Participate in league fund raising programs including coordinating team parents and others in supporting concession stands during league activities.
- 7) Conduct oneself in a manner to set a proper example for the players as well as when working with the coaching staff and when dealing with officials during a game.
- 8) Select team coaches: No more than two (2) per team (on the official team roster).
- 9) Draft team players as outlined in Paragraph 18.
- 10) Work with the players to instill good sportsmanship and competitive softball; with the emphasis not just on winning. The molding of good character is of prime importance.

- 11) Establish a program to instruct and demonstrate proper techniques of playing modified / fast pitch softball; making it both a safe and enjoyable experience.
- 12) The manager of the home team will contact the Publicity Agent to report the score and highlights of the game (win, lose or tie).
- 13) Vote on Amendments of the BY-LAWS and election of league officials.
- 14) Communicate with the appropriate Division Representative on matters for the Executive Board and/or Protest Committee.
- 15) Submit to the Director in writing, protest of games.
- 16) Reschedule games with the UIC that have been cancelled due to weather or other conflicts.
- 17) Attend the Mandatory Managers Pre-Season Meeting. (Failure to attend or send a team representative will negatively effect the team's draft order and practice field selection).

8.14 TEAM COACHES

Team coaches are appointed by the Director (Manager) and approved by the Director. In addition to the general duties of all league positions, the duties of the Team Coaches are:

- A. See that the team players adhere to the rules, policies and regulations of the league.
- B. Supervise and assuming responsibility for the proper and personal conduct of the team players.
- C. Participate in yearly registrations and spring try-outs.
- D. Assist the Team Manager in carrying out his/her duties.
- E. Attend all General Meetings of the league.
- F. Participate in league fund raising programs.
- G. Conduct oneself in a manner to set a proper example for the players as well as when working with the coaching staff and when dealing with officials during a game.
- I. Work with the players to instill good sportsmanship and competitive softball; with the emphasis not just on winning. The molding of good character is of prime importance.
- J. Assume the duties and responsibilities of the Team Manager when the manager is absent.
- K. Vote on Amendments of the BY-LAWS and election of league officials.

8.15 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

A Scholarship committee appointed by the Director shall make recommendations to the E-Board regarding how potential scholarship funds may be awarded within the community.

8.16 CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

A Capitol Improvement committee appointed by the Director shall make recommendations to the E-Board concerning potential improvements to facilities or equipment that would significantly improve the quality of play for the league members.

8.17 APPOINTED POSITIONS

The appointment of individuals to positions within the league shall be made by the Director. The Director may choose to seek inputs and opinions from other league members but, the final decision on appointments shall be made by the Director.

9. TEAM COACHING STAFF

9.1 GENERAL

- A. The Team Manager will have complete authority and responsibility over the team.
- B. Other than the two allowed Team Coaches, additional help may be obtained when deemed necessary by the team manager.

Example: Score Keeper, Team-Mom or candy person, alternate coaches due to illness, business travel, or other personal reasons.

9.2 MANAGER'S DISCRETION

- A. Once a player has been placed on a team roster, that player must stay on the team except in cases of:

- 1) Disciplinary Action or
- 2) "Wake Up" Actions (benching the player) by the Team Manager.

Note...regardless of circumstances no player shall be removed from a team without the director's approval.

9.3 PLAYER DISCIPLINARY ACTION

When a persistent or significant problem with a player exists, the Team Manager's first responsibility is to inform the parents of the player's behavior, and to attempt to work with the player and her parents to correct the problem. Following this, if the problem continues, the Team Manager may consult with the Executive Board. The Executive Board will determine if the player will remain in the league. The parents of the player must be notified of the Board's decision.

9.4 SUSPENSION / DISMISSAL OF TEAM MANAGER OR COACH

- A. Where Team Managers and/or Team Coaches are not adhering to league rules, and/or complaints have been registered with the league, the Director will meet with the individual(s) involved to resolve all such situations.
- B. If compliance of the rules are not met by the individual(s), or additional complaints come to the attention of the Director, the matter will be brought before the Executive Board to review and to make a decision on the appropriate corrective action.
- C. The Executive Board has the power to suspend the individual(s) where they feel it necessary. The E-Board may allow the manager or coach to remain in position after a warning; if the situation persists or if the first occurrence in itself is not enough, the Executive Board may vote for dismissal.
- D. It is the team manager's responsibility to have their team represented at general meetings. Should a team not be represented at more than two consecutive meetings or at the Mandatory Managers Meeting the E Board may vote to dismiss the team manager and or coaches upon notification by the league secretary of non attendance .

10. ELECTION OF LEAGUE POSITIONS

League members holding "elected" positions as defined in Table 1 shall be elected as follows:

10.1 GENERAL

- A. FILLING VACANT POSITIONS - The election of Officers to fill vacated positions or positions that will be vacated will take place at a meeting held in June. League officers elected in June will not take office until the first meeting in September.
- B. SECRET BALLOT - Elections may be conducted by secret ballot at the discretion of the Director or by request and agreement of the members present.
- C. All adult league members shall be entitled to vote (see section 4) in the general meetings. One vote per member. No individual will have more than one vote. Members must be present to vote, there is no provision for proxy voting.

- D. TIES IN VOTING - Winners in the election will be decided by majority vote. If necessary, ties will be voted again. If tie continues, the Director shall make the final decision.

10.2 FILLING VACANT POSITIONS

The Director has the power to fill, by appointment, any vacancy in any office between scheduled elections. Any vacancy shall be filled within thirty (30) days and the appointment will be valid until the next scheduled election meeting.

10.3 ELECTION NOMINATION COMMITTEE

- A. Everyone nominated shall be contacted by the committee to verify acceptance of nomination prior to placing their name on the official ballot.
- B. The Election Committee and the Secretary will prepare ballots (if requested) for the election meeting.

11. MEETINGS AND QUORUM

- A. The election to fill vacant positions will take place in June of each year.
- B. Special meetings may be called by the Director and/or Executive Board of the league at times and places to be determined. The Director may delegate the authority to call special meetings to a member of the Executive Board of the League. The Director will make such delegation of authority known to all members of the E-Board
- C. All teams must be represented at league meetings by the team's manager, coach or representative. When a representative other than manager or coach represents the team, that representative shall speak and vote for the team's manager.
- D. There will be a mandatory league meeting at the completion of all play-offs. The purpose of this meeting is:
- a) Return all equipment
 - b) Critique the season
 - c) Select "Banquet" committee
 - d) Identify "Coaches Award" to the person responsible for ordering trophies
 - e) Senior managers vote on MVP award
 - f) Identify who is/is not returning as manager or coach.
 - g) Fill as g manager and coaching positions as is possible.
 - h) Determine regular season team finishing order for purposes of the next draft.
 - i) Submit BY-LAW change proposals to the BY-LAW committee
- E. There will be a mandatory league meeting the first Sunday after Labor day. The purpose of this meeting will include:
- a) Transfer of league responsibilities to newly elected and appointed members
 - b) Make as many appointments as possible
 - c) Fill as many manager and coaching positions as possible
- F. A quorum to conduct business at any general meeting of the league, shall be greater than fifty percent (50%) of the Executive Board, all team managers or their designated representatives.
- G. Children are prohibited from all meetings.
- H. The following circumstances require a majority affirmative vote of league members entitled to vote and present (no more than one vote per person). See section 11 for vote entitlement rules.
- a) To amend the BY-LAWS prior to the draft.
 - b) Election of league "elected" positions.
 - c) All matters presented to the membership as deemed necessary by the Executive Board.

- I. There will be a general meeting held in January or February. The date of this meeting will be determined by the director.
- J. There will be a Mandatory Managers Pre-Season Meeting held prior to the draft. The date of this meeting will be determined by the Director.

12. PROTEST COMMITTEE

A protest committee shall be formed and maintained to include members as identified in Table 1 to decide on matters as follows:

- A. The Director will chair the committee meeting.
- B. Decisions of the Protest Committee will require a majority vote of all the Protest Committee members present.
- C. The Protest Committee shall hold and supervise meetings on all protests and rule interpretations.
- D. In all cases where a committee member is directly or indirectly involved in a protest, that committee member will not be allowed to vote. However, that member may speak on the protest.
- C. The League Secretary will record, as appropriate, facts, actions and conclusions of the protest meeting but does not vote.
- D. A quorum to conduct a Protest Committee meeting shall require attendance by 50% or more of the Protest Committee members excluding the League Secretary.

13. REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

- A. The Director, other elected members and persons in appointed positions, shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred while performing league business.
- B. Reimbursement of personal expenses other than that stated above, will be entirely at the discretion of the Executive Board.

14. UMPIRE EXPENSES

Umpires will be paid a fee (negotiated on a yearly basis) for umpiring a league game or league sponsored game when approved by the Director..

15. REGISTRATION

- A. All girls must register in order to play in the league.
- B. Cut-off date for registration will be announced by the Director. Under unusual circumstances, the Director may allow late registrations depending on the age group and numbers of available positions on teams.
- C. All registration forms must be signed by a parent or legal guardian. The parent or guardian must indicate any medical conditions on the registration form.
- D. The Executive Board may, by majority vote, revise registration fees.

16. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- A. All Kindergarten/Readiness (K/R) and first (1st) graders must play in the Instructional Program.
- B. All second (2nd) and third (3rd) graders must play in the Minor Division.
- C. All fifth (4th) and sixth (5th) graders must play in the Junior Division.
- D. All sixth (6th) ,seventh (7th), and eighth (8th) graders must play in the Senior Division.

- E. All 9-11 graders must play in the High School Division.
- F. A player wishing to participate after the draft (Late Entry):
 - 1) Must be because of unusual circumstances.
 - 2) Must be approved by the Executive Board.
 - 3) Will be placed on a team with the fewest players.
 - 4) Once all teams have the same number of players, placement will be by order of the draft.
- G. Players who register for the league must reside in or go to school in the town of Hudson. Exceptions to this rule require approval by the E-Board:

17. SPRING TRY-OUTS

17.1 WHO MUST TRY OUT

- A. All 4th graders moving from the Minor Division into the Junior Division
- B. All 6th graders moving from the Junior Division into the Senior Division
- C. All 9th graders moving from the Senior division into the High School division.
- D. All new players to the league who are in grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,10,11
- E. All players who played the previous year in grades 4 through 7 and who indicated their desire to return to the draft on the registration form.

17.2 PLAYER PROMOTION

A player may move up into the next division of play, providing that the player has played 1 season in the lower division, attend the upper division tryout, and a team drafts that player. If the player does not get drafted in the upper division, then that player will return to their previous team. The Executive board may approve exceptions to this rule, upon request of a parent or guardian, on a case by case basis.

18. DRAFT

18.1 ELIMINATION OF TEAM(S)

Teams with the least number of returning players shall be the teams that are "dismantled" when necessary. Team Managers of "dismantled" teams shall have the first option to pick-up the next available team within that Division.

Exceptions (as noted in following sections) Daughter of Team Manager and Daughter of first coach "Coach's Option"

18.2 DRAFT GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are applicable to the Junior, Senior and High School divisions.

- A. Team Managers with no coaching staff must fill one (1) Team Coaching slot two (2) weeks prior to try-outs.
- B. Team Managers desiring but without a second Team Coach must acquire that coach after the draft.
- C. Any new Team Manager with a Team Coach drafts in the second (Coach) and third (Manager) round. No new Coach's/Manager's option is allowed until the daughter leaves the team. This also applies to existing Coaches. All existing Team Managers will declare which Team Coach's daughter was their option.
- D. All options to be exercised, as a result of the sign-ups (player registration), will be registered with the director prior to the start of the draft.
- E. The Director, will assign the round the player (option) is to be drafted and immediately record that selection in the appropriate round of the draft.

- F. All girls who try out will be drafted first. The names of the girls who did not try out will be picked from a hat last.
- G. The desired number of players per team will be determined prior to the draft (see 18.4C). The number of girls required to even out the teams will be selected from the girls that tried out to move up into the division. Team managers will rate the tryouts and selection will be based on the rating. These girls will then become eligible to be drafted in any round with draft options applied as applicable. For parity purposes, these girls will be considered part of the lower grade for the division (grade 4 or 6).

18.3 DRAFT OPTIONS

The following options are applicable to the Minor, Junior, Senior and High School divisions. Once a player is optioned or drafted into the Team Manager's or Team Coach's option position on the roster, that player remains in that position until that player leaves the team. If a team receives a new Team Manager, the new Team Manager's daughter will replace the current Team Manager's option/draft position. Upon the written request of a Team Manager, the Executive Board, prior to the draft, by a majority vote, may remove the player from the Team Coach's Option/draft position so the Manager can protect a new Coach's daughter.

A. MANAGER OPTION

A Team Manager may reserve the right to protect his/her daughter or sibling by drafting her by / in round three (3) of the draft. When the Team Manager has more than one (1) daughter to be drafted, the second and subsequent shall be drafted in accordance with the Sister option. If a Team Manager drafts his/her daughter or sibling as a sister option, the following year she is designated as his/her Team Manager's option.

B. COACH OPTION

A Team Manager may reserve the right to protect the Team Coach's daughter or sibling by drafting her by/in round two (2) of the draft. When the Team Coach has more than one (1) daughter to be drafted, the second and subsequent shall be drafted in accordance with the Sister option. If a Team Coach drafts his/her daughter or sibling as a sister option, the following year she is designated as his/her Team Coach's option.

C. SISTER OPTION

A Manager must reserve the right to protect the sister of a returning player, when so indicated by the player's parent at sign-ups, by drafting her in the fourth round of the draft. When more than one sister is to be drafted, each sister shall be drafted sequentially.

18.4 JUNIOR AND SENIOR DIVISIONS

- A. The draft for the Junior and Senior Divisions will (if at all possible) be conducted on the same day as the try-outs.
- B. After the try-outs and before the draft begins, the Director will add the number of players returning to the number of the players who did and did not try-out, to arrive at the total number of players in each of the Junior and Senior Divisions.
- C. By dividing the number determined in 18.4.B by the number of Senior Division teams, and the number of Junior Division teams, the Director will establish the number of players each Team Manager will have on his/her team and for which he/she will be responsible for after the draft. A number of players moving up will be selected to even out the teams (See 18.2G).
- D. All girls who try-out will be drafted first; the names of girls who did not try-out will be placed into a hat and drafted last.
- E. All rounds of the draft will be conducted according to the reverse order of finish in the prior year's regular season play (last place team drafts first).
- F. Each team is eligible to draft in the first two (2) rounds; provided there is room on their roster.
- G. Team Coach's Option: Must be exercised by or in round two (2).
- H. Team Manager's Option: Must be exercised by/in round three (3). Sister Option: Must be exercised by or in round four (4).

- I. From the third (3rd) round on; teams will draft according to need, parity, and options. The teams should strive for the following unless exceeded by or at the end of the draft, or a player was drawn from the hat, or by addition of a late entry
 - Junior - close to equal number of 4th and 5th graders,
 - Senior - close to equal number of 6th, 7th and 8th graders;
- J. A team with Zero players as defined by a new team or a team with no returning players will be allowed three (3) draft selections before another team selects a player. This team will draft in the reverse order of finish and draft as usual (a new team is assumed to have finished first).
- K. Returning players will be placed in rounds 4, 5, 6 . . . of the Draft Roster for draft picks.
- L. Parity shall continue over into the hat selection and names shall be drawn by grade parity.
- M. The draft shall be a closed meeting. Only Team Managers and Coaches for the Division drafting players, the Director, Secretary and other appropriate E-Board members may attend the draft sessions.
- N. In the event of a Junior or Senior Division team being eliminated due to low registration, those girls on the roster scheduled to return to that team may either try out for another team or have their name pulled from the hat.

18.5 INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION

New players will be assigned to a team by selecting their names by lottery.

Exception: At the discretion of the Director and Instructional Division Representative, arrangements may be made to assign non sisters to the same team. For example: car pooling or other compelling reason.

18.6 MINOR DIVISION

New players will be assigned to a team by selecting the players names lottery.

Close to equal number of 3rd and 4th graders per team.

Exception: At the discretion of the Director and Minor Division Representative, arrangements may be made to assign non sisters to the same team. For example: car pooling or other compelling reason.

18.7 HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION

- A. The draft for the High School Division will (if at all possible) be conducted on the same day as the try-outs.
- B. After the try-outs and before the draft begins, the High School Division Representative will add the number of players returning to the number of the players who did not try-out, to arrive at the total number of players for the division. .
- C. By dividing this number by the number of High School Division teams, the Division Representative will establish the number of players each Team Manager will have on his/her team and for which he/she will be responsible for after the draft.
- D. All girls will try-out will try-out each year; the names of girls who did not try-out will be placed into a hat and drafted last.
- E. All rounds of the draft will be conducted according to the alternating order of finish in the prior year's regular season play (last place team drafts first).
- F. Each team is eligible to draft in the first two (2) rounds; provided there is room on their roster.
- G. Team Coach's Option: Must be exercised by or in round two (2).
- H. Team Manager's Option: Must be exercised by/in round three (3). Sister Option: Must be exercised by or in round four (4).
- I. From the third (3rd) round on; teams will draft according to need, parity and options. Close to equal number of 9th, 10th, 11th graders. Unless exceeded by or at the end of the draft, or a player was drawn from the hat, or by addition of a late entry.

- J. A team with Zero players as defined by a new team or a team with no returning players will be allowed three (3) draft selections before another team selects a player. This team will draft in the reverse order of finish and draft as usual (a new team is assumed to have finished first).
- K. Returning players will be placed in rounds 4, 5, 6 . . . of the Draft Roster for draft picks.
- L. Parity shall continue over into the hat selection and names shall be drawn by grade parity.
- M. The draft shall be a closed meeting.
- N. In the event of a High School Division team being eliminated due to low registration, those girls on the roster scheduled to return to that team may either try out for another team or have their name pulled from the hat.

18.8 PLAYER PROTECTION RULES

- A. The Team Manager must place on the roster all players who will be returning for the next season.
- B. No player in the Junior, Senior, or High School divisions may be traded or transferred from one team to another without the approval of the Executive Board.
- C. Instructional and Minor divisions players may be transferred from one team to another under compelling reasons with the approval of the division representative.

19. PRACTICE FIELDS

19.1 SELECTION

A. INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION -

Fields assigned by the Umpire In Chief and the Instructional Division Representative.

B. MINOR DIVISION

Fields are assigned by the Umpire In Chief and the Minor Division Representative.

C. JUNIOR, SENIOR, AND HIGH SCHOOL DIVISIONS

The team with the most new players will have first choice in selecting practice fields and times. In the event of teams having an equal number of new players, the team with the worst record will have priority for the first date. The second choice dates will be in the reverse order.

19.2 PRACTICE FIELD DISCLAIMER

The Hudson Girls' Softball Division does not condone nor authorize, either expressively or implied, team practices to be held at other than regularly scheduled league playing fields and facilities.

20. GAME SCHEDULES

20.1 INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION

The intent and function of the Instructional Division does not consider playing actual competitive games.

20.2 MINOR DIVISION

- A All teams will practice in the month of April with no more than two (2) activities per week.
- B. In the month of May, the first two weeks will be used for scrimmages only. The remainder of the month will be used to play games.
- C. Each team should play every team once. The remainder of the games will be determined by randomly picking names from a hat.
- D. During the regular season (exclusive of the playoffs), no more than two scrimmages/games should be scheduled for a team in a seven day period.

20.3 JUNIOR DIVISION

- A. All teams will play a ten (10) game schedule.
- B. The game schedule will be determined and distributed prior to the start of the season by the UIC.
- C. Each team will play every team once. The remainder of the games will be determined by randomly picking names from a hat.
- D. When games in progress are “called” by the Umpire, it is the responsibility of the team managers to reschedule the game with the UIC within 3 days, and to continue or re-play the game at it’s newly scheduled time. If one or both of the managers cannot field a team at the available make-up game times, then the game will be eliminated, and the forfeit rule applied.

20.4 SENIOR DIVISION

- A. All teams will play a ten (10) game schedule.
- B. The game schedule will be determined and distributed prior to the start of the season by the UIC.
- C. Each team will play every team once. The remainder of the games will be determined by randomly picking names from a hat.
- D. When games in progress are “called” by the Umpire, it is the responsibility of the team managers to reschedule the game with the UIC within 3 days, and to continue or re-play the game at it’s newly scheduled time. If one or both of the managers cannot field a team at the available make-up game times, then the game will be eliminated, and the forfeit rule applied.

20.5 HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION

- A. All teams will play six (6) to eight (10) games depending on the number of team in the division.
- B. Schedule is to be determined yearly.

20.6 PLAYOFF HOME TEAM

In the playoffs the team with the best regular season record shall be the Home team throughout the playoffs..

21. AWARDS

The following guidelines will be used when issuing trophies, jackets, and other awards deemed appropriate by the Executive Board. Any awards bestowed on a team and/or team member by a private donor or donors must be presented at a non Hudson Girls’ Softball League function.

21.1 INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION

- A. Certificates shall be given to all Instructional Division players.
- B. In addition to certificates, the Instructional Division players may also be provided a season ending party such as ice cream or pizza, with the approval of the Director.

21.2 MINOR DIVISION

- A. Awards given to the Minor Division players shall be selected by the Minor Division Representative and approved by the Director.
- B. Awards shall be given to all Minor Division team players. The specific type of award (trophies, medals, plaques and so forth) will be selected by a committee appointed by the Director.

21.3 JUNIOR DIVISION

- A. The team finishing first (1st) in the regular season will receive a trophy or other similar award regardless of the playoff results.
- B. Awards shall be given to all Junior Division team players. The specific type of award (trophies, medals, plaques and so forth) will be selected by a committee appointed by the Director.

- C. Each Junior Division team will award only one "Coach's Award" to the player on the team who was the most "coachable" player. (This is NOT a Most Valuable Player Award).

21.4 SENIOR DIVISION

- A. The team finishing first (1st) during the regular season will receive a trophy or other similar award regardless of the playoff results.
- B. Awards shall be given to all Senior Division team players. The specific type of award (trophies, medals, plaques and so forth) will be selected by a committee appointed by the Director.
- C. All MVP nominees (Senior Division, 8th grade only) must have played in the HGSL a minimum of three (3) years, the exception is that a player who moves into Hudson must play a minimum of two (2) years in the HGSL.
- D. Each Senior Division team will award only one "Coach's Award" to the player on the team who was the most "coachable" player. (This is NOT a Most Valuable Player Award).
- E. A girl must be in the 8th grade and have played in the HGSL for three (3) years (Jr./Sr.) to be eligible for a HGSL jacket at no cost to the girl. A girl playing for two years shall pay one half of the cost should she want a jacket. A girl playing for the first time or one year shall have to pay the entire cost for a jacket should she want one.

21.5 HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION

Issue of awards to High School Division players shall be determined annually by a committee appointed by the Director.

21.6 AWARD COMMITTEE

An award committee chaired by the Deputy Director will be appointed by the Director to make recommendations to the E-Board for the selection of the awards to be presented. The committee will obtain cost estimates, make selections as to style, color, size and inscriptions on awards. After approval of the E-Board, the committee will order the awards to ensure timely delivery for presentation.

22. ALL STAR SELECTION

22.1 SELECTION

- A. Selection of players for "All Star" Games is applicable to the Junior and Senior Divisions only. Players will be selected by the coaching staff of each team, and are expected to participate in the all star game..
- B. In the event a player selected to an all star team removes herself from the roster, a replacement player may be selected by her team coaching staff and will replace the original player as the all star recipient.

22.2 JUNIOR DIVISION

- A. Four (4) players from each team will be selected on each All Star Team, (if there are 5 or 6 teams). If there are more than 6 teams only three (3) players per team will be selected. If there are less than 24 players, the Director may add additional players to maintain a 24 player count.
- B. The even teams in the standings one week before the All Star game will play the odd teams (i.e. 1, 3, 5, 7 will play 2, 4, 6, 8).
- C. In the Juniors, the Team Manager of the team with the best record one week before the All Star game shall manage their Division's (odd or even numbers) All Star Team.
- D. Should the designated manager be unavailable to manage the All Star team, the manager of the next place team within that Division shall become the manager.

22.3 SENIOR DIVISION

- A. Four (4) players from each team will be selected on each All Star Team, (if there are 5 or six teams). If there are more than six teams only three (3) players will be selected. If there are less than 24 players, the Director may add additional players to maintain a 24 player count.

- B. The even teams in the standings one week before the All Star game will play the odd teams (i.e. 1, 3, 5, 7 will play 2, 4, 6, 8).
- C. In the Seniors, the Team Manager of the team with the best record one week before the All Star game shall manage their Division's (odd or even numbers) All Star Team.
- D. Should the designated manager be unavailable to manage the All Star team, the manager of the next place team within that Division shall become the manager.

22.4 INSTRUCTIONAL, MINOR AND HIGH SCHOOL DIVISIONS

Instructional and Minor Divisions will not participate in All Star games.

22.5 High School Division

The High School Division may select and recognize an "all star team" which may participate against other local teams throughout the year as desired.

23. DIVISION STANDINGS

Division Standings will be determined by the point system. (Wins = 2-points, Ties =1-point and Losses = 0-points). In case of a tie in the standings, the following criteria will be used:

- A. INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION - Does not apply
- B. MINOR DIVISION - Does not apply
- C. JUNIOR DIVISION
 - 1) Fewest Losses during the season.
 - 2) Most wins during the season.
 - 3) Of the teams tied, that which has the best head to head record against the other.
 - 4) Single game elimination if needed.
- D. SENIOR DIVISION
 - 1) Fewest Losses during the season.
 - 2) Most wins during the season.
 - 3) Of the teams tied, that which has the best head to head record against the other.
 - 4) Single game elimination if needed.
- E. HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION
 - No standings will be kept in the High School Division.

24. PLAYING RULES

The Official A.S.A. Fast Pitch Rules" shall apply, including all local amendments (Special Rules) to the same. The following are HGSL exceptions, clarifications or modifications to the A.S.A. Official Rules of Softball.

25. HGSL REVISED PLAYING RULES OF SPECIAL NOTE

25.1 GENERAL

- A. One (1) Team Manager and two (2) Team Coaches per team will be allowed on the playing field during games.
- B. All games start according to league schedule, unless the UIC is notified at least 1 day in advance, and the game is rescheduled in advance of the league scheduled start time.
- C. Teams shall field 10 players, four outfielders, four infielders, a pitcher, and a catcher. All team players shall be placed in the batting order, with no penalty for missing players.

- D. Forfeit Rule: If required, teams have an additional 15 minutes after the scheduled game start time to field at least eight (8) players. Beyond that time, the game will be forfeited by the team without sufficient a number of players. In the event that neither team has a minimum of eight players the game will be recorded as a loss for both teams. If a game has been officially forfeited and the coaches and remaining players wish to play a scrimmage game, they may do so in the remaining available game time. The home team manager is responsible for informing the Umpire In Chief about forfeited games.
- E. Pre-game fifteen (15) minute workouts using the infield of the field is as follows: Visitors - thirty (30) minutes before game time; Home Team - fifteen (15) minutes before game time.
- F. When a game is in progress and a team can field only seven (7) players due to illness or injury, the game may continue and will be considered an official game.
- G. Rainout days: Up until game time, the decision on whether or not the playing conditions are bad enough to prevent playing of the game shall be made by the Umpire-In-Chief, or their designee. Such decisions shall be made no sooner than 90 minutes before game time. When a rainout day occurs, make up games will be rescheduled by the Umpire-In-Chief and are official games. If one or more of the managers cannot field a team at the scheduled make-up game time, then the forfeit rule shall apply.
- H. Team members are allowed to cheer for their team only. Remarks shall not be directed to any opposing player. For example, a catcher cannot say "swing" to the batter. Violations of this rule will be considered unsporting conduct and may be grounds for ejection from the game by the umpire.
- I. There is a six (6) run maximum per inning, regardless of outs. No batter will come to bat once six (6) runs have been scored in that team's half inning. More than six (6) runs can be scored in a team's half of the inning provided play has not stopped on the sixth (6th) run crossing home plate. Exception to this rule applies to the Minor Division, see paragraph 25.4.
- J. The home team is assigned to the 1st base side of the field, is responsible for supplying the game ball, getting and setting the bases, returning field equipment (i.e., bases & helmets) and calling Publicity Agent with game results (win, lose or tie).
- K. The visiting (away) team will occupy the 3rd base side of the field.
- L. There will be no designated hitter used in Minor, Junior ,Senior, and High School Divisions.
- M. All players will wear the uniform as intended and it shall be maintained by the player and worn in proper order. Shirts must be tucked completely in the players pants.
- N. A catcher must wear a catcher helmet with earflaps, mask and throat guard during the game and if "warming up" a pitcher at any time. Any player "warming up" a pitcher "on" or "off" the playing field must wear a catcher's mask.
- O. Combs, rings, exposed necklaces, and any dangling or loop earrings (studs are allowed) shall not be worn or carried (including within pants pockets) by any active player during game time.
- P. All play-off games must be played to completion which means extra innings will be played until a team wins. If a game is called, it will resume from that point if the game is an official game. A playoff game is official in the Junior Division after three (3) full innings have been played. A playoff game is official in the Senior Division after four (4) full innings have been played. If it is not an official game, the entire game will be replayed. Re-schedule must be coordinated with the Umpire-In-Chief and played within three days.
- Q. Every player will play a minimum of three (3) full innings per game. A player inserted into the line-up in the top of inning five (5) for a Senior game or top of inning four (4) for a Junior game will be considered to have met this requirement, regardless of whether or not there is a last half of the final innings. If this rule is not adhered to, the game will be forfeited. If a game is canceled due to Umpires' decision, subs will be considered to have played.
- R. All teams will make the play-offs regardless of rain canceled games, forfeitures or standings.
- S. A third strike (swinging or called) whether caught by the catcher or not will result in the batter being called "out".

- T. Open substitutions are allowed at any time during regular, All Star or Play-off games. Open substitution is defined as allowing any player to be removed from play and re-inserted at any time during a game. Exception is the pitcher who when removed from the mound cannot return to the mound until the next inning.
- U. The E-Board may implement any ASA "Option" rule such as "Double First Base" without requiring a change to the By-Laws.

25.2 PITCHING

- A. Pitching Delivery shall be as defined in A.S.A. Modified (A) or A.S.A. Fast Pitch rules.
- B. The pitcher shall notify the umpire of which pitching rule will be used prior to each inning. The Umpire shall notify opposing team coaches.
- C. The pitcher shall not change the pitching rule during an individual batters at bat. Changing the rule between batters is allowed, however, the umpire must be notified prior to the A.S.A defined preliminary pitching steps.
- D. A three (3) foot arc from point of release is allowed.
- E. No individual may pitch more than three (3) innings of "windmill" style pitching in a Junior Division game and no more than four (4) innings of "windmill" style pitching in a Senior Division game.
- F. No High School team may pitch more than three (3) innings of "windmill" style pitching in a High School Division game.

25.3 INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION

- A. All batters and base-runners must wear batting helmets with chin straps.
- B. All pitchers must wear batting helmets with chin straps.

25.4 MINOR DIVISION

- A. A completed Minor Division game will consist of five (5) innings or two (2) hours of maximum playing time.
- B. Pitching distance from front of Pitcher's rubber to point of home plate 30 feet
- C. Distance between bases shall be 55 feet
- D. There shall be no intentional walks.
- E. The infield-fly rule will not apply.
- F. Throwing of the bat will be treated as an illegally batted ball. The ball is dead and the batter is out. This rule shall be enforced after the umpire has given a warning to both teams after a player from either team has thrown the bat.
- G. All pitchers, batters, and base runners must wear a batting helmet with a chin strap and face guard.
- H. Score keeping shall not be kept .
- I. Determination of play-off match-ups will be by lottery.
- J. Base runners are allowed to advance one (1) base only on each overthrow.
- K. There shall be no bunting.
- L. The half inning will end once the offensive team has "batted around" or the third out is made whichever happens first.
- M. No base-runner may "take a lead". The base-runner may only leave a base when the ball is *hit*.

25.5 JUNIOR DIVISION

- A. A Junior game will consist of six (6) innings. A called game shall be regulation if 4 or more innings have been completed. If the home team is at bat and they either tie or go ahead in the 4th inning and the game is called, it will be considered a finished inning.
- B. A "called" game which results in a tie after four (4) complete innings, will be recorded as a tie and will not be completed. Games that are not regulation tie games shall be resumed at the exact point where they were stopped. If the home team is at bat and they either tie or go ahead in the inning when the game is called, it will be considered a finished inning.
- C. Pitching distance from front of Pitcher's rubber to point of home plate 35 feet.
- D. Distance between bases shall be 60 feet.
- E. There shall be no intentional walks.
- F. At the end of four (4) complete innings a 15 run ("mercy") rule will apply which will end the game.
- G. Caps will be worn properly, jerseys shall be tucked within the pants .
- H. When a thrown bat hits anyone on the playing field, including dugout areas, the action will be treated as an illegally batted ball. The ball is dead and the batter is out. No runners may advance.
- I. Division champ shall be decided by a double elimination tournament.
- J. Infield positions shall consist of a maximum four players plus the pitcher and catcher. Outfield positions will start each play "on the grass".
- K. Bunting is permitted unless a runner is on third base. If a batter contacts the ball while bunting with a runner on third base, the batter is OUT.
- L. No fake bunt, drag bunt or slap bunt is allowed. Should the bat make contact with the ball while executing an illegal bunt, the batter is out. Note: a fake bunt is when a batter shows the bat in a standard bunting position and suddenly pulls the bat back and swings away in a normal manner.
- M. Stealing bases will be governed by ASA 10U rules, including on a passed ball. A passed ball is any pitched ball that touches the ground, backstop or any part of the playing field. Runners starting at first or second base are entitled to advance or steal one base only per pitch with liability to be put out. Runners starting at third base may not steal or advance to home but are liable to be put out if they come off base.
 - 1. A runner attempting to advance beyond the one base they are entitle to advance or steal, may be put out while between bases. A runner cannot be put out while in sole contact with a base.
 - 2. After all play ceases, and the ball becomes dead, if a runner occupies a base beyond the one the runner was entitled to advance or steal, the runner will be returned to the correct base without liability to be put out.
 - 3. If a batter strikes out and the ball is dropped, the batter is out and cannot advance to first base, but the ball remains live for the purpose of throwing an advancing runner out.
 - 4. A batter who receives a base on balls, cannot advance past first base. If the batter-runner advances further, once the ball becomes dead, return the batter-runner to first base.
 - 5. Awarded bases will apply to all runners.
 - 6. Runners can only score on:
 - a. A batter ball
 - b. A base on balls or a hit batter with the bases full, or
 - c. On an awarder base when the ball goes:
 - 1) Out of play, or
 - 2) An illegal pitch

- N. No base-runner may "take a lead". The base-runner may only leave a base when the ball leaves the pitchers hand on delivery. If the base runner leaves before the ball leaves the pitchers hand, the base-runner is out.
- O. There will be no Infield Fly Rule for the Junior Division.
- P. A pitcher, after hitting two batters in one inning or three in the game, will be removed from the position of pitcher for that game. The batter must make a reasonable attempt to avoid being hit by the pitch. The umpire will use his or her judgement about what consists a "batter being hit by a pitch" and whether or not the batter made a reasonable attempt to get out of the way.
- Q. A player who throws equipment (bats, gloves, helmet) in anger will be ejected from the game. The Umpire will determine if equipment was thrown in anger.
- R. All pitchers, batters, and base runners, must wear a batting helmet with a chin strap and face guard.

25.6 SENIOR DIVISION

- A. A Senior game will consist of seven (7) innings. A called game shall be regulation if 5 or more innings have been completed. If the home team is at bat and they either tie or go ahead in the 5th inning and the game is called, it will be considered a finished inning.
- B. A "called" game which results in a tie after 5 complete innings, will be recorded as a tie and will not be completed. Games that are not regulation tie games shall be resumed at the exact point where they were stopped. If the home team is at bat and they either tie or go ahead in the inning when the game is called, it will be considered a finished inning.
- C. Pitching distance from front of Pitcher's rubber to point of home plate 40 feet.
- D. Distance between bases shall be 60 feet
- E. At the end of five complete innings a 15 run ("mercy") rule will apply which will end the game
- F. Caps will be worn properly, jerseys should be tucked within the pants.
- G. An intentional walk will be allowed once per team per game only if there is a runner(s) in scoring position (2nd and/or 3rd base). 1st base need not be occupied. The team manager or pitcher will notify the umpire of the intentional walk. The batter will be awarded first base. No pitch will be thrown. An obvious violation of this rule will lead to disciplinary action of the Team Manager and/or Team Coach.
- H. When a thrown bat hits anyone on the playing field, including dugout areas, the action will be treated as an illegally batted ball. The ball is dead and the batter is out. No runners may advance.
- I. Infield positions shall consist of a maximum four players plus the pitcher and catcher. Outfield positions will start each play "on the grass".
- J. Bunting is permitted unless a runner is on third base. If a batter contacts the ball while bunting with a runner on third base, the batter is OUT.
- K. Stealing bases will be governed by ASA 10U rules, including on a passed ball. A passed ball is any pitched ball that touches the ground, backstop or any part of the playing field. Runners starting at first or second base are entitled to advance or steal one base only per pitch with liability to be put out. Runners starting at third base may not steal or advance to home but are liable to be put out if they come off base.
 - 1. A runner attempting to advance beyond the one base they are entitle to advance or steal, may be put out while between bases. A runner cannot be put out while in sole contact with a base.
 - 2. After all play ceases, and the ball becomes dead, if a runner occupies a base beyond the one the runner was entitled to advance or steal, the runner will be returned to the correct base without liability to be put out.
 - 3. If a batter strikes out and the ball is dropped, the batter is out and cannot advance to first base, but the ball remains live for the purpose of throwing an advancing runner out.
 - 4. A batter who receives a base on balls, cannot advance past first base. If the batter-runner advances further, once the ball becomes dead, return the batter-runner to first base.
 - 5. Awarded bases will apply to all runners.

6. Runners can only score on:
 - a. A batted ball
 - b. A base on balls or a hit batter with the bases full, or
 - c. On an awarded base when the ball goes:
 - Out of play, or
 - An illegal pitch
- L. No base-runner may "take a lead". The base-runner may only leave a base when the ball leaves the pitcher's hand on delivery. If the base runner leaves before the ball leaves the pitcher's hand, the base-runner is out.
- M. A pitcher, after hitting two batters in one inning or three in the game, will be removed from the position of pitcher for that game. The batter must make a reasonable attempt to avoid being hit by the pitch. The umpire will use his or her judgement about what consists a "batter being hit by a pitch" and whether or not the batter made a reasonable attempt to get out of the way.
- N. A player who throws equipment (bats, gloves, helmet) in anger will be ejected from the game. The Umpire will determine if equipment was thrown in anger.
- O. All batters, and base runners, must wear a batting helmet with a chin strap and face guard.

25.7 HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION

- A. A High School game will consist of seven (7) innings. A called game shall be regulation if 5 or more innings have been completed. If the home team is at bat and they either tie or go ahead in the 5th inning and the game is called, it will be considered a finished inning.
- B. A "called" game which results in a tie after 5 complete innings, will be recorded as a tie and will not be completed. Games that are not regulation tie games shall be resumed at the exact point where they were stopped. If the home team is at bat and they either tie or go ahead in the inning when the game is called, it will be considered a finished inning.
- C. Pitching distance from front of Pitcher's rubber to point of home plate 40 feet.
- D. Distance between bases shall be 60 feet
- E. At the end of five (5) complete innings a 15 run rule will apply.
- F. An intentional walk will be allowed once per team per game only if there is a runner(s) in scoring position (2nd and/or 3rd base). 1st base need not be occupied. The team manager or pitcher will notify the umpire of the intentional walk. The batter will be awarded first base. No pitch will be thrown An obvious violation of this rule will lead to disciplinary action of the Team Manager and/or Team Coach.
- G. When a thrown bat hits either the catcher or the umpire the action will be treated as an illegally batted ball. The ball is dead and the batter is out. No runners may advance.
- H. Infield positions shall consist of a maximum four players plus the pitcher and catcher. Outfield positions will start each play "on the grass".
- I. Bunting is permitted unless a runner is on third base. If a batter contacts the ball while bunting with a runner on third base, the batter is OUT.
- J. Pass ball. A pass ball is any pitched ball that touches the ground, backstop or any part of the playing field.
 - Base runners may advance one base with liability to be put out.
 - Base runners shall not advance from third to home.
 - If a play is made on any runner at any base, the ball is live and runners may advance with liability to be put out including from third to home.

Table 1 LEAGUE POSITIONS

POSITION	TERM of OFFICE (Years)	ELECTED or APPOINTED	E-BOARD MEMBER	PROTEST COMMITTEE MEMBER	REPORTS DIRECTLY TO
Director	2	ELECTED	Yes	Yes	E-BOARD
Deputy Director	2	ELECTED	Yes	Yes	Director
Treasurer	2	ELECTED	Yes	No	Director
Secretary	2	ELECTED	Yes	Yes *	Director
Umpire-In-Chief	2	ELECTED	Yes	Yes	Director
Equipment Manager	2	APPOINTED	Yes	No	Director
Junior Division Representative	1	ELECTED	Yes	Yes	Director
Senior Division Representative	1	ELECTED	Yes	Yes	Director
High School Representative	1	ELECTED	Yes	Yes	Director
Minor Division Representative	1	ELECTED	Yes	Yes	Director
Instructional Coordinator	1	ELECTED	Yes	Yes	Director

Team Manager	1	APPOINTED	No	No	Director
Team Coach	1	APPOINTED	No	No	Director
Fund Raiser Coordinator	2	APPOINTED	No	No	Director
Traveling Team Representative	1	APPOINTED	No	No	Director
Team Manager	1	APPOINTED	No	No	Director
Team Coach	1	APPOINTED	No	No	Director
BY-LAW Committee	1	APPOINTED	No	No	Director
Scholarship Committee	1	APPOINTED	No	No	Director
Capital Improvement Committee	1	APPOINTED	No	No	Director
Election Nominating Committee	1	APPOINTED	No	No	Director

* The secretary is a non-voting member of the Protest Committee

Addendum to HGSL BY-LAWS Traveling Teams

1. INTRODUCTION

This addendum to the Hudson Girls Softball League (HGSL) By-Laws is established to define the unique elements applicable to the Travel Teams program. The travel team activities sponsored by the HGSL shall comply with the existing HGSL BY-LAWS except as noted herein.

The BY-LAWS as identified herein form an addendum to the existing HGSL BY-LAWS but are subject to the changes approved by the HGSL Executive Board only and not the general league.

2. PURPOSE

To provide a highly competitive level of softball play to interested girls.

3. BACKGROUND

The Hudson Girls Softball League (HGSL), herein referred to as HGSL or League, was designed to provide young girls in Hudson an opportunity to learn and play softball in a manner suitable to all girls regardless of athletic capabilities. The HGSL policy is to play all girls who register.

Since inception, the HGSL has grown both in size and in quality of play to the point that many girls wanted to continue play each year after the regular league finished. Teams were established for play during the summer months. These teams were known as "Traveling All Stars", "Summer League" and "Traveling Teams".

The type of play available during the summer months is known as "tournament" play. Tournaments are sponsored throughout the country and are organized by type of softball (slow pitch, modified pitch and fast-pitch) and age groups such as 10 & under, 12 & under, 14 & under, 16 & under and 18 & under.

4. GENERAL

- 4.1. Tournament play is very competitive and is aimed at the more athletic players who want to play in tournaments during the summer months.
- 4.2. Player skills must be carefully determined in order to assure that only capable and qualified girls are selected to play in travel team action.
- 4.3. Prior to trying out, it must be made clear to the potential players and their parents the major differences from the regular league in that:
 - A. Tournament play is more intense athletically (much faster and more difficult).
 - B. Girls selected on a Travel team may not play in every game.
 - C. Making practice sessions is mandatory. There may be more than two practice sessions per week.
 - D. Travel will be required. Not all tournaments are played in the Greater Hudson area which may require some costs in addition to the registration fee.
 - E. Parents are required to assist their teams by helping in working at fund raising events and working at Hudson hosted tournaments.
- 4.4. The number of teams in each age group (10 & under, 12 & Under, 14 & Under, 16 & Under and 18 & Under) will be determined by the E-Board.

5. ORGANIZATION

The organizational responsibilities listed below are in addition to those stated in the HGSL BY-LAWS. Only the duties as applicable to Travel teams are stated below.

5.1. Director

The HGSL Director shall oversee the operations of the Travel teams activities and adherence to the HGSL BY-LAWS.

5.2. Executive Board

- A. Approve the number of teams per age group.
- B. Approve the selection of Team Managers and Coaches.

5.3. Treasurer

Individual travel teams will use an independent team treasurer and account to manage their finances..

5.4. Team Managers and Coaches

All team managers, coaches, tournament coordinators, and other positions involved with HGSL travel teams shall report to the Travel team Coordinator of the HGSL.

The team manager is responsible for seeing that all members of the team use only ASA approved equipment.

5.5. Travel team Representative

- A. Plan for all tournaments that will be hosted by HGSL. Planning will address coordination with ASA, fields, ground crews, trophies, concessions and publicity.
- B. Serve as, or appoint a, Tournament Director, in accordance with ASA rules, when HGSL serves as sponsor for any tournament.
- C. Expend without other approvals, funds up to \$500.00 per league hosted tournament.

5.6. Travel team Committee

- A. A committee appointed by the Travel Team Coordinator, will consist of three individuals including the Travel team Coordinator. Other committee members will include:

An individual responsible for setting up and maintaining all playing fields for tournament play hosted by HGSL including scheduling all volunteers.

An individual who will set up and oversee all concessions at all fields including scheduling volunteers to operate the concessions..

- B. This committee is subject to all applicable HGSL BY-LAWS in effect.
- C. The function of this committee is to assist the Travel team Coordinator in planning activities associated with the Travel teams and HGSL hosted tournaments.

6. SELECTION OF TEAM MANAGERS

Team Managers will be approved by the E-Board.

Note: Seniority of candidate in the HGSL does not apply to Travel team manager selection.

7. SELECTION OF TEAM COACHES

Team Coaches will be approved by the E-Board.

Note: Seniority of candidate in the HGSL does not apply to Travel team coach selection.

8. TRY-OUTS

8.1. ADVANCED NOTICES

Date, time and location or try-outs will be announced to all HGSL Team Managers at a general meeting as soon as dates are confirmed. Team Managers will notify players of the date, time and location.

8.2. ELIGIBILITY

All players in the Hudson Girls Softball League are eligible to try out for the travel teams.

8.3. SELECTION OF PLAYERS

Players will be selected based on their displayed talent.

9. FINANCE

9.1. SEPARATE ACCOUNTING

The Treasurer shall maintain financial records so as to segregate the finances of Travel teams from the league.

10. EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS

10.1. The Travel teams are authorized to use HGSL equipment, uniforms, and trademark when and as required.

11. PRACTICE FIELDS

Practice and scrimmage fields will be assigned by the UIC and Travel Team Representative.