**TYLER COUNTY SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION BYLAWS**

**Preamble**

It is the primary purpose of this association to provide a supervised softball program for girls of Tyler County and its surrounding communities. For eligibility refer to USA Softball Age Calculator for the current season.

**ARTICLE I NAME AND LOCATION**

Section 1) The name of this league shall be Tyler County Softball Association.

Section 2) The principal office and fields shall be located across from the airport on CR 2025 Woodville, TX 75979. The mailing address is P O Box 2274 Woodville, TX 75979.

Section 3) The Tyler County Softball Association will participate as a member of the USA Softball District 38.

**ARTICLE II DIVISION/DIRECTORS**

Section 1) The association shall consist of a board to oversee the operations of the organization. The executive board shall be made up of four members: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary.

Section2) Non-executive members shall be determined by the executive board. Each participating town is required to have adequate representation.

**ARTICLE III ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Section 1) Election of executive and non-executive board members shall be based on appointment by the board and shall be approved by the current board members.

Section 2) Only members in good standing with the association and community may serve as an officer.

**ARTICLE IV DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

All officers are responsible to perform their duties in accordance with the guidelines as it pertains to the association.

Section1) President: Shall serve on the board to give professional and personal input and to serve as a tie breaking vote or to establish a quorum if needed. The president shall preside at all board meetings. President shall have general supervision of the affairs of the association, maintain order during the meeting, and shall appoint officers in their respective division to fill vacancies occurring during the year until the end of current year. He/She will make themselves available during registration each year. Will ensure the integrity of officers, league supervisors, and coaches. Shall be on financial accounts and legal documents.

Section 2) Vice-President: Shall in the absence of President, perform all the duties of that office and shall assist the President in any other duties or problems that may arise. He/She will make themselves available during registration each year.

Section 3) Treasurer: Shall be responsible for paying bills and keeping an accurate account of the financial records for the association and present a financial statement at each board meeting. Shall be on financial accounts.

Section 4) Secretary: Shall keep records of all meetings and conduct all necessary correspondence of the association.

**ARTICLE V RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BOARD**

Section 1) It is the board’s responsibility to oversee the Tyler County Softball Association and its contents. This includes maintaining its fields, buildings, fences, utilities, (water, electricity, trash, and sewer), grounds, equipment (motorized, non-motorized, and electrical), and finances (accounts, donations, taxes, insurance, and association fees).

Section 2) Any or all activities taking place at the softball park shall only take place with the knowledge and majority approval of voting members of the board. Any use or negligence of park shall be subject to criminal charges.

Section 3) Any changes to local association rules shall only be made by the board. These changes can take place during any called board meeting and become final once voted on by the current board.

Section 4) To do everything within our power to make sure there is a certified umpire for each scheduled game. (8u – 14u)

Section 5) All members must attend at a minimum 50% of all meetings. In the event that a board member is unable to attend 3 consecutive meetings, the board must discuss reasons and determine if it is necessary to replace said member.

Section 6) Any board member can be removed from the board by a vote from other members. Discussing board business with the general public and not standing behind other members is justification for immediate removal. Once a decision is made all board members are expected, whether they voted for or against the decision, to support the majority decision.

Section 7) Any board member has the authority to remove individuals from the park.

**ARTICLE VI MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1) Any community member who is in good standing and wishes to participate, either by signing up their child to play, sponsoring a sign, coaching, or donating funds to the association during the current year will be considered members of the Tyler County Softball Association.

**ARTICLE VII MEETINGS**

Section 1) Meetings of the Tyler County Softball Association will be held once a month in October, November, and December. Special board meetings will be held as needed. At any regular or special called meeting a majority of voting members shall constitute a quorum. Board members that do not attend 50% of meetings in a year shall be asked to step down or could be voted out from their position.

Section 2) In the event a quorum cannot be met board members can be called on the phone, however if a quorum is present no members will be called.

Section 3) In the event there is a need to deal with any issue immediately a text message can be sent to get member votes on any issue. All members are expected to respond within 5 hours to have their input considered.

**ARTICLE VIII COACHES**

Section 1) All coaches are required to complete and sign a coach’s application form and a community relations form. The board will select coaches based upon need and said applications. The board can decline to allow anyone to coach for any reason. Returning coaches are typically given priority but complaints will be taken into consideration. Coaches priority remains with the player and the town and will reset after player you are coaching ages out of TCSA. A coach is not registered until the player is registered and payment is completed.

Section 2) All coaches are subject to background check.

Section 3) All coaches are required to participate in all fundraising activities deemed appropriate by the board. This includes volunteering or providing a parent volunteer in the concession stand as requested by the Tyler County Softball Association. Coaches shall inform parents of their responsibility to participate in fundraising events and concessions as needed.

Section 4) All coaches are required to participate in regularly scheduled work days and field maintenance as requested by Tyler County Softball Association.

Section 5) All coaches are required to maintain a positive attitude and set a proper example for their team anytime they are participating in a Tyler County Softball Association event or representing the Tyler County Softball Association in any way. Failure to act accordingly can be justification to not only prevent a coach from returning but also to remove a coach mid-season.

Section 6) All coaches not in compliance with all of Article VIII or any other requirements provided by the board are subject to removal by the board.

Section 7) All coaches positions will be taken into consideration by the board. Final decision will be decided by the board based upon enrollment and experience.

Section 8) If for any reason a coach decides to not complete the season with the team the board must be notified of the change.

**ARTICLE IX DIVISION AND TEAM SELECTION**

Section 1) The association will be divided into the following divisions: 6u, 8u, 10u, 12u, and 14u. Any player wishing to move up an age group early must have board approval. This may or may not be allowed due to it making a team in any age group or more than one year early. In addition, once registration is completed the town the player is signed up in is the town they must remain in, unless they have to be drafted in another town due to not enough players in registered town.

Section 2) Each division will have its own division rules that will be revised by the board yearly and available to coaches at the initial meeting of the season.

Section 3) At the beginning of the season there shall be a draft set for any town having enough players to make 2 or more teams in a division. If a town does not have enough players registered to form a team in a division, the board reserves the right to place the players from that town in another town’s draft.

Section 4) All registered players shall be entered into the draft in the town they register in. The draft will be set in the form of a snake draft.

Section 5) At the beginning of the draft returning coaches have the option to select up to five (5) players that were frozen or drafted by that coach in the previous years draft. New coaches will then have the option to pick from available players until each team has the same number of players. If there is more than one new coach, the new coaches will draw numbers and draft in accordance with the number they draw until each team has an equal number of players. Example: (1,2)(2,1)(1,2)… until each team has an equal number of players.

Section 6) Once all teams have an equal number of players all coaches shall draw a number and draft in accordance with the number they draw. Example: (1,2,3,4) (4,3,2,1) (1,2,3,4) …. Until each player is drafted.

Section 7) Siblings within the same household and registered in the same division shall be on the same team. When siblings are in the same draft when one is picked the other automatically goes to the same team. If first sibling is frozen the second is not included in the freeze.

Section 8) Each coach has a limit of 12 kids per team with the exception of not enough players to make another team. This will be for 10u to 14u. Limit of 13 per team in 6u and 8u due to 10 players on field.

Section 9) All trades must be approved by the board. A parent saying they don’t want their daughter to play for X coach after draft is not acceptable.

Section 10) Refunds are subject to board approval as soon as registration is submitted minus expenses.

**ARTICLE X ALL STAR ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION**

Section 1) All star teams shall be chosen from eligible players at the conclusion of the season. Players that do not live or go to school in Tyler County are not eligible for all stars. In the event that all regular season game cannot be completed in time to determine first place, the board can use any reason it sees fit to determine who will coach the all-star team. IE:Taking first round of games where each team played against each other once. If necessary, the board can flip a coin or draw names from a hat. Every effort will be made to complete the season in time but mother nature may not allow.

Section 2) The head coach of record of the team that wins the division championship, as long as they are in good standing with the league, shall have first option to be head coach of that division’s all-star team. If he/she declines such position then it will go to their assistant, then to the 2nd place head coach and on down to the last place team. Only the first assistant coach on the first place team will have the option. No other assistant coaches will be considered unless all head coaches decline. If no coaches take the team, then there will be no all-star team for that division.

Section 3) The Tyler County Softball Association will sponsor one all star team from each division to participate in the District All Star tournament each year. The board can always make an exception to this if they choose to. Example: An extremely talented age group or an extra large number of teams in an age group.

Section 4) The all-star head coach shall choose the players to form the all-star team. Players must be chosen from the players that played in the age division during the regular season that the all-star team will be representing at the tournament. The team will be comprised of players from a majority of teams within said age division. Example: Pick from 4 out of 5 teams or 6 out of 7. No more than 5 players from any one team can make the all star team. Special consideration can be made if for example only 2 teams in the age group. This only applies to association sponsored all-star teams.

Section 5) All star head coach shall pick his/her assistants from any head/assistant coaches from the current season. Board must approve non-current coaches.

Section 6) All star teams shall be allowed twelve (12) players per team.

Section 7) If an all-star team wins the USA district 38 tournament the association will also sponsor that team at the state tournament.

**ARTICLE XI UNIFORMS**

Section 1) The Tyler County Softball Association board will decide the type of uniform that will be used each year for the regular season and All-star tournaments. No 2 teams in any age group are allowed to have the same color uniform (similar color for example 2 shades of gray). No alterations may be made to uniforms(for example: names on back)

**ARTICLE XII BUSINESS AND EXPENSE ACCOUNTS**

Section 1) Ballpark Account: all monies from concession revenue, signups, donations, and sign sponsorship shall be deposited into the ballpark bank account. This account shall be used to pay league fees, bills, maintenance fees, concession workers, concession fees, equipment, umpires, insurance, and any other needs with the majority of the board’s approval.

**AMENDMENTS**

The Bylaws may be amended at any regularly scheduled board meeting by a quorum of the board with a majority vote of that quorum or by unanimous vote of the executive board at an executive board meeting. When the executive or entire board makes a decision, it is considered final.

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