

## LEAGUE CODES

### LONG BEACH / ORANGE COUNTY SURF AND SUN SOFTBALL LEAGUE

#### Article 1: Purpose

**1.01:** The purpose of the League Codes is to define the League policies relevant to the governance, rules of play, standing committee rules, and the player code of conduct for the Long Beach/Orange County Surf and Sun Softball League (League).

#### Article 2: Amendments and Additions

**2.01:** This Code may be amended and additions may be made by a majority vote of the present Team Representatives and the Board Members at the League Meeting (Council), unless otherwise specified in the applicable article(s) of the Restated By-Laws, and/or a quorum does not exist.

**2.02:** Proposed changes must be submitted in writing to the Secretary and provided in writing to the Board and Team Representatives at least one (1) week before consideration for a vote.

**2.03:** Any new policies, rules, or guidelines must be added to this Code and approved by the majority vote of the entire council as stated in 2.01.

**2.04:** Amendments and additions shall be effective immediately upon passing, unless otherwise specified within the amendment or addition.

**2.05:** Any amendments made to this Code that do not require the approval of the entire council must be presented to the membership at the next league meeting.

**2.06:** Amendments made by the Board shall not take effect until the Board has presented the changes at a League Meeting.

**2.07:** The Team Representatives shall have the power to undo amendments made by the Board with a majority vote from all the Team Representatives in that current season as defined in section 10 of the League Bylaws.

#### Article 3: Player Eligibility

**3.01:** A player is eligible in the League provided said player:

- a. Is at least 18 years of age upon joining the League.
- b. Has signed and accurately complete the League-approved release of liability Membership Form via the League website.
- c. Is on a team's roster according to roster procedure outlined in Article 6 of this Code.
- d. Is not under suspension or disqualification from any NAGAAA/ASANA Leagues.
- e. Is not on the active roster of another NAGAAA League or another NAGAAA team.
- f. Does not change from one League team to another League team during the spring season more than once, except in the case of a team withdrawing from the League, or if the player is cut by a League team.
- g. Is not receiving professional consideration as either a softball or baseball player, especially by accepting money directly or indirectly.
- h. Properly handles League and team property, responsibilities and monies as herein defined.
- i. Meets requirements listed in Section 5.03 of the Restated Bylaws.
- j. Registers with the League using their full legal first and last name, as it appears on their government issued identification (ID) that they will use at tournaments, World Series, or other softball related functions.

**3.02:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from the Council.

#### Article 4: Team Manager

**4.01:** The Team Manager (Manager) is the official Team Representative of the team at the League Meetings and to the Board. The Manager may delegate this responsibility to another person on their team's roster who is a member in good standing as defined in the By-Laws.

**4.02: Alternate Team Representative:** The Team Manager must designate two alternate Team Representatives who can attend the League Meetings on their behalf if they cannot attend.

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- 4.03:** The Manager is responsible for ensuring their players have properly registered with the League before that player takes the field.
- 4.04:** The Manager is responsible for assuring all fees (Team Fees, Membership Fees, and any other fees) are submitted, with a roster of all players for which the fees are covering, to the League by the due date set by the Board.
- 4.05:** The Manager is responsible for informing their players of any Bylaw or Code violations they witness their players doing and, if necessary, to inform the Board.
- 4.06: Manager Participation in League Meetings of the Membership:** It is the responsibility of all teams to attend all League Meetings of the Membership to ensure that quorum is maintained and league business can be conducted in a timely manner.
- a. **Minimum League Meeting Requirements**
    - i. Spring - Attend at least 4 of the 6 spring season league meetings. 67% participation.
    - ii. Fall - Attend at least 3 of the 4 fall season league meetings. 75% participation.
  - b. **League Meeting Fee** - Teams that do not meet the minimum requirement defined in section 4.06(A) in any given season may be assessed a League Meeting Fee. The League Meeting Fee may be charged to the team along with the Team Fee and due the same date as the Team Fee in the next season in which the team is active. The fee shall be \$60 for spring season or \$40 for fall season, whichever season the minimum requirement was not met. The League Meeting Fee shall follow the team manager to any team they manage in the next active season. The Board has discretion to waive the League Meeting Fee.
  - c. Any league member in good standing as defined in the bylaws, Section 5.03.03, may represent a team at the league meeting.
  - d. **League Meeting Incentives Drawing** - As an incentive for teams to participate on a regular basis the league shall hold a drawing during the last meeting of each season. Teams that meet the attendance standards listed below shall be entered into a drawing with a chance to win a \$200 escrow account credit.
    - i. Spring - Attend 5 or more scheduled league meetings - 83% participation
    - ii. Fall – Attend all 4 league meetings - 100% participation
    - iii. Only one team may win the drawing in each season. The prize money will be deposited into the team's escrow account and may only be used to pay for future team fees and membership fees. It may not be used for non-league expenses and may not be transferred to other teams. Escrow account rules shall apply.
- 4.07:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from Council.

### Article 5: Team Membership and Eligibility

- 5.01: Team Membership Application:** The Team Manager must, in the first month of a given season, January for spring or August for fall, submit an application to the League registering their team for that season. This application will establish the Team's Membership in the league.

The application must include the team name; the team's division of play and level; the Manager's contact information; and the two alternate Team Representatives with their contact information.

This application will entitle the Team Representative to vote in the first League Meeting of the season, but the team fee must be paid by the due date set by the Board to finalize the Team Representative's right to vote.

For quorum purposes all teams voting rights shall end at the conclusion of the season in which they are a registered team; June 30 for spring and November 30 for fall. In order to maintain voting rights a team must participate in the current season as defined in the Article 10 of the Bylaws

- 5.02:** In addition to team membership requirements specified in our Restated Bylaws, a team shall maintain an active roster of not less than nine (9) or more than eighteen (18) eligible players to remain as a team. This does not apply to League Sponsored teams as outlined in Article 25 of this code.

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**5.03:** In order to maintain eligibility, a team shall:

- a. Be responsible for requiring all players have signed and accurately complete the League approved release of liability membership form via the League website.
- b. Be responsible for following the requirements of Article 6: Team Roster Procedure.
- c. Provide team roster changes to the Division Director in writing before the next regularly scheduled game the team plays.
- d. Not compete with ineligible players.
- e. Pay all fees by their due dates.
- f. Wear like jerseys with a number on the back as stated in Article 7.06 of this Code.

**5.04:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

#### **Article 6: Team Roster Procedure**

**6.01:** Before its first regular season game, each team shall submit its roster to the Division Director using the approved roster form. The roster must be filled out completely. A roster may have up to eighteen active players, and four non-players.

**6.02:** A team's official roster may be changed by:

- a. Informing the Division Director of the change.
- b. Providing the name of the new player.
- c. Submitting the rating/classification of the player, if necessary.
- d. Ensuring the player has signed and accurately completed the League-approved Release of Liability Membership Form via the League website.
- e. Paying the player's Membership Fee prior to them taking the field.

**6.03:** A team's final roster must be submitted to the Division Director by the deadline given for transmittal to NAGAAA/ASANA. Players may not be added after the given deadline without approval from the Board.

**6.04:** The League teams will follow NAGAAA/ASANA guidelines for allowances for adding players to their World Series roster as appropriate for the division.

**6.05:** All rosters must have their players' full legal first and last name, as it appears on their government issued identification (ID) that they will use at tournaments, World Series, or other softball related functions.

**6.06:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

#### **Article 7: Equipment and Uniforms**

**7.01: Equipment Required:** Each team and player must provide its own bats, warm-up balls, and other individual equipment.

**7.02: Game Balls:** The League shall provide the Manager with a game ball for the games they are scheduled to be the home team. It is the Manager's responsibility to bring the new ball if they are the home team and a used ball if they are the visiting team.

**7.03: Approved Bats:** Only USA Softball approved bats will be allowed for play in all divisions. Umpires will check all bats before the beginning of each game. Any bat that is found to have a flat surface, or is cracked, dented, or altered from the original manufactured form shall be confiscated by the umpire.

**7.04: Altered Bats:** The use of altered bats is strictly prohibited and may lead to loss of eligibility.

**7.05: Cleats:** The use of metal cleats is prohibited.

**7.06: Uniforms:** Teams are to have:

- a. Like-colored shirts.

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- b. A whole number (0-99) of contrasting color at least 6 inches high must be worn and visible on the back of all uniforms.
- c. No players on the same team may wear identical numbers (Numbers 0 and 00 or 3 and 03 are not considered examples of identical numbers).
- d. Visible jewelry (watches, bracelets, rings, necklaces, earrings, lip rings, nose rings, bands, and similar wristbands, etc.), pagers, keys, clips, and sunglasses on top of hats may not be worn during games.

**7.07:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

#### **Article 8: Park Etiquette**

**8.01:** All League members are expected to maintain proper behavior while at any playing fields in which the League plays.

**8.02:** All League members must follow all park rules while at the park whether they are playing or not.

**8.03: Illegal Drugs and Alcohol:** Using illegal drugs and drinking alcohol is prohibited at the fields at any time.

**8.04: Smoking:** Smoking rules vary among the fields where the League holds games. Some field ban smoking entirely. If the facility does not allow smoking all League members are required to follow the no smoking rule and not smoke at the fields, in the dugout, in the bleachers, in the parking lot, etc.

If smoking is permitted at a facility, all League members must dispose of their used cigarette properly.

**8.05:** League members may not be intoxicated while at the fields at any time.

**8.06:** Signs, flyers, and other such advertisements must be in good taste when distributed at the fields. Many parks are family areas, and all League members must be respectful.

Teams distributing materials at the fields are responsible to ensure they have collected, removed, and disposed of the materials properly.

**8.07:** Managers and Board Members are responsible to help enforce these rules if they witness a League member or League guest violating the rules.

**8.08:** The League is a guest at the fields. Violation of these rules may endanger the League's ability to reserve the fields in the future, therefore, may result in disciplinary action from the League, including suspension or expulsion.

**8.09:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

#### **Article 9: Player Conduct and Acts of Disqualification**

**9.01:** All players are expected to treat all players, Board Members, umpires, facilities, visitors, and spectators with respect.

**9.02:** All League members are required to maintain sportsmanlike conduct immediately preceding, during, and following: practice, League functions, games, and at tournaments.

Unsportsmanlike conduct and cheating may result in ejection from the game and could result in further disciplinary action.

**9.03:** All League members are required to follow the League's Restated Bylaws and Codes.

**9.04:** A team or individual member may be disqualified for a period of time by the Board for violations of this Code and/or League Bylaws.

- a. The following acts shall result in a forfeiture of fees paid and require a minimum of one-year suspension from participation in the League, or on a team roster, including tournaments and World Series:
  - i. Physical violence

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- ii. Fraud
- iii. Receiving professional considerations (such as money or cash prizes)
- b. The following acts shall result in a forfeiture of fees paid and may result in suspension from participation in the League, or on a League roster, including tournaments and World Series, as determined appropriate by the Board:
  - i. Participation while knowing that a player or players do not meet eligibility requirements
  - ii. Competing knowingly with disqualified players
  - iii. Unsportsmanlike conduct
  - iv. Issuing threats of physical violence.
  - v. Harassment
  - vi. Using altered bats
- c. The Board may review other violations or situations not listed above to determine the appropriate penalty.

#### 9.05: Disciplinary Procedure

- a. **Investigating Officer:** The Commissioner shall be the Investigating Officer for all incidents that may require disciplinary action by the Board. If the Commissioner is conflicted, the responsibility shall fall to the Vice Commissioner. If both the Commissioner and Vice Commissioner are conflicted, the Board shall appoint a Board Member to conduct the investigation.
- b. **Recusal:** All Board Members involved or who may have a conflict of interest must recuse themselves from the process. The decision will be left to the remaining Board Members without a conflict regardless of a quorum.
- c. **Procedure:** The Investigating Officer shall contact all parties involved within three days of being notified of the incident. This includes: all witnesses, the person(s) filing the complaint, the person(s) being accused of the violation, and the team managers of all involved. All parties are given three days to respond to the Investigating Officer's inquiry.
- d. **Lack of Response:** If no response is received, and the Investigating Officer has made an attempt in good faith to make contact, the process may proceed. The Investigating officer should provide evidence of their attempts.
- e. **Contact Methods:** Contact must be made via a phone call, and leave a voicemail if there is no answer. In addition, a follow up email must be sent to the appropriate parties using the information provided at the time of registration with the League. The Investigating Officer must also attempt to verify the contact information with the team manager.
- f. **Reporting Findings:** The Investigating Officer shall collect all evidence and statements from all involved and submit a report to the Board that includes the evidence and recommendations within two days. This may be done via an email, at a special Board Meeting, or at a regularly scheduled Board Meeting. After reviewing the evidence presented, the Board shall decide within two days to hold a hearing or dismiss the issue.
- g. **Hearing:** In the event the Board determines a hearing is appropriate the Investigating Officer shall allow a period of two weeks in which the person(s) accused may come before the Board. If the person(s) are not available within that time frame of two weeks they may submit their response in writing to be read at the hearing. If the accused cannot make the hearing the Board may choose to not meet in person and discuss their decision via email or other appropriate forms of communication.
- h. **Request to Reschedule Hearing:** The accused person(s) may request to reschedule the hearing to the next prescheduled Board Meeting if they cannot meet within the allotted two-week period. It is at the Board's discretion to grant or deny this request.
- i. **Disciplinary Decision:** The Board, upon review of all the facts, and in conjunction with the bylaws and codes, must determine the appropriate action. The Board shall have the authority to impose an appropriate penalty.
- j. **Communication of the Board Decision:** The Investigating Officer shall contact all parties regarding the Board's decision. This should include a phone call, and a follow up email. The Board should be copied on the final decision email.
- k. The Board's decision shall take effect immediately upon communication, unless otherwise specified.

**9.06: Appealing a Board Ruling to the League:** The League member(s) shall have the opportunity to present their case to the Team Representatives at a League Meeting. The Team Representatives shall have the power to review and over-turn the Board decision with a majority vote from all the Team Representatives present at the meeting.

**9.07: Penalties for Being Ejected:** Any League member ejected by an umpire for unsportsmanlike conduct is automatically suspended from League play for the remainder of the day without appeal. The ejected player has two minutes to leave the athletic facility. If there is no substitution for the ejected player, the game will be ruled a forfeit.

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In addition, the player is also automatically suspended from playing for the next two games in which their team is scheduled. The player may not play with other teams during their suspension. The player must leave the field and may not return until the suspension is lifted. Further penalties may result depending on the severity of the infraction. The Board has the authority to review the situation and lift the suspension if they deem appropriate.

**9.08: Penalty for Playing an Ineligible Player:** If a team plays with an ineligible player, that team will forfeit all games played with that ineligible player. The team will also pay the umpire fees for that game and may be assessed a penalty fee up to \$200. This penalty does not include the rating or classification process.

#### Article 10: Protests

**10.01:** A team contesting a player's eligibility must register an official protest following the League's protest rules. An official protest must involve a question about a rule interpretation, an illegal player, or an ineligible player, including rating or classification violations.

**10.02:** There will be no protest involving a decision based upon the judgment of the umpire.

**10.03:** Only the Manager or acting Manager may notify the plate umpire of their intent to play the game under protest. An official protest must be registered to the umpire before the next legal or illegal pitch or before the umpire leaves the field of play. The protest must be noted on the line-up sheet or League scorecard with all the details. If the protest cannot be resolved immediately, the game should go on.

**10.04:** Any player who is challenged on eligibility will be requested to show a valid ID to the umpire. If they cannot provide ID they may not play. The umpire will designate the player in question on the line-up sheet.

**10.05:** After properly notifying the plate umpire, all protests (including player eligibility) must then be submitted in writing accompanied by a \$100 protest fee received by a Board Member not affiliated with the team being protested, or the team submitting the protest. This must be done within 48 hours following the protested game; otherwise the game will stand as played. The information will be reviewed by the Board and the UIC, ruled upon, and the Board will respond to the protest within 72 hours of receiving the protest.

**10.06:** The protest fee will be returned if the protest is upheld. If the protest is denied the protest fee goes in the general fund of the League.

#### Article 11: Rules of Play

**11.01: Time Limit:** For League play, time limit will be in effect. The time limit will be set and ratified with the League schedule.

**11.02: Official Scorebook:** The official scorebook will be that of the home team. The visiting team is highly encouraged to confirm the score with the home team and plate umpire every half (1/2) inning.

**11.03:** The League shall follow USA Softball rules with the exception of any changes listed below in this Article.

**11.04: Courtesy Runner:** Each team is allowed one courtesy runner per inning, unless both managers agree on more prior to the start of the game. The courtesy runner is the last out, or if it is the first inning and there are no outs the last batter in the batting line-up. If an injury occurs during a game, a runner will be allowed only with the approval of the opposing coach; otherwise, the Manager will need to use a substitute or keep the injured player in the game.

Fall ball may have unlimited courtesy runners.

**11.05: Extra Batters:** Teams may have up to twelve (12) players in their batting line-up. If a team starting with twelve (12) players loses a player during the game and has no substitute, then an out will be assessed whenever that player would have come up to bat. If there is no substitute for the ejected player, the game will be ruled a forfeit as stated in Article 9.09 of this Code.

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For fall ball, teams may bat up to the maximum amount of the players on their roster.

**11.06: Specific Field Rules:** The umpire will address all rules for each field at the time the line-ups are exchanged.

**11.07: Home Run Limits:** Homerun rule will set by the Board prior to the start of each season based on the facilities.

**11.08: Strike Count:**

- a. Open Division: All batters will begin with a 1-1 count and ONE foul to give on the 2<sup>nd</sup> strike.
- b. Women's Division: All batters will begin with a 1-1 count and NO foul to give on the 2<sup>nd</sup> strike.

**11.09: Base Stealing and Leading Off:** Base stealing and leading off is not allowed.

**11.10: Double Bag Rule:** The bases for all games will be 70-foot base paths.

The USA Softball double-bag rule is in effect if being used at that field. Defensive players must use the inside bag at first base (1st), offensive players must use the outer bag if not continuing to second base.

In the event of a wild throw to 1st base, both bags are open to both players. In the case of a single bag at 1st base, defensive players must use the inside half of the bag, offensive players the outside half when running through the bag.

**11.11: Short-Handed:** A team must have at least nine (9) players present to start or continue a game. If a team starts a game with less than ten (10) players, then the vacant position must be listed last in the batting order and an out will be assessed each time the vacant position comes to the plate in the batting order.

If a team is playing short-handed and an additional player arrives, that player may enter the game immediately and must be inserted into the vacant position.

**11.12: Forfeits:** Scheduled game time is forfeit time. If games are behind schedule, then game time will be as soon as the umpire starts the game clock. Any team not able to field nine (9) players by the scheduled time of their game shall forfeit.

A forfeited game shall be scored as 7-0 in favor of the team not at fault. A double forfeit game shall be considered a loss for both teams.

The forfeiting team shall pay a fine equal to the umpire fee before their next scheduled game. After three forfeits, the team Manager must meet with the Board and may be in jeopardy of being dropped by the League or be assessed other penalties.

**11.13: Ejected Players:** Ejected players have two (2) minutes to leave the athletic facility. If there is no substituted for the ejected player, the game will be ruled a forfeit as stated in Article 9.07 of this Code.

**11.14: Run Rule:** A game will end if any team is leading by:

- 20 after 3 innings
- 15 after 4 innings
- 10 after 5 innings

This rule is in effect for all games.

**11.15: Tie-Breaker:** In the event of a tie after time has expired the International Tie-Breaker rule shall go into effect. The last batter from the previous inning is placed on 2nd base and the game resumes. The following exceptions shall apply:

- a. Batters will start with a full count and have no foul to give.
- b. There will be only 2 additional innings for the tie-breaker. If there's still a tie at the end of 2 tie-breaker innings the game will end in a tie.

**11.16:** During the spring season players are only eligible to play on their rostered team; this excludes League Sponsored teams mentioned in Article 24 below.

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**11.17: Interdivision Games:** In order to provide games to smaller divisions during the spring season it may be necessary to schedule interdivisional games. All interdivisional games will only count toward the higher division teams' division standings and count toward their world series berth record as well count as qualifying games. However, in order to ensure that all games are played and no harm is done to the higher division team, if a lower division team forfeits an interdivisional game with a higher division team, then the result of the forfeit will count toward both teams' standings, world series berth, and qualifying games.

**11.18:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

#### **Article 12: Team Line-up Cards**

**12.01: Team Line-up Cards:** Team Line-up Cards (Line-up) must be turned into the umpire when the umpire calls for them during the pregame meeting. This will be the official batting order. Line-ups need to include player's first initial and last name with a jersey number.

**12.02:** Any team playing short-handed may immediately add the additional player into the 10<sup>th</sup> spot on the Line-up Card.

**12.03: Line-up Card Procedures:**

- a. List each player's first initial and last name with a jersey number in order that they will bat.
- b. List each substitute's first initial and last name with a jersey number.
- c. The complete Line-up Card should be turned into the umpire when the umpire calls for them during the pregame meeting.

**12.04:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

#### **Article 13: Team Sign-in Sheets**

**13.01: Team Sign in Sheets:** Each player must sign the Team Sign-in Sheet (Sign-in Sheet) to be considered as participating prior to the end of each scheduled game and submit it to the plate umpire.

**13.02:** A player present at the playing site and who has signed the Sign-in Sheet will receive credit for post-season eligibility regardless whether or not they enter the game; however, they must still be present at the conclusion of the game.

**13.03:** All players eligible and present to participate in a game must be listed on that team's legal league roster.

**13.04:** Any team with players who have played in a game, but have not signed the Sign-in Sheet shall forfeit that game.

**13.05:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

#### **Article 14: End of Season Playoff Tournament**

**14.01:** At the conclusion of the spring season there shall be an End of Season Playoff Tournament (playoffs). The playoffs will not be part of the regular spring season schedule. Divisions must have at least four teams to hold a playoff.

**14.02:** The top four teams of divisions large enough to hold a playoff will be placed in a tournament. Seeding shall be according to how each team placed during the regular spring season. Tie records will be determined using the format outlined in Article 14.

**14.03: Playoff Format**

- l. Game 1 - 1<sup>st</sup> place vs 4<sup>th</sup> place
- m. Game 2 - 2<sup>nd</sup> place vs 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- n. Game 3 - 3<sup>rd</sup> place game - Loser of game 1 vs loser of game 2
- o. Game 4 - Championship Game - Winner of game 1 vs winner of game 2

**14.04:** Final Standing Format for Spring shall be:

- a. Division Champion - Winner of the championship game.



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- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Loser of the championship game.
- c. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Winner of the 3<sup>rd</sup> place game.
- d. 4<sup>th</sup> Place - Loser of the 3<sup>rd</sup> place game.
- e. All other places (5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, etc.) shall remain the same as they were at the conclusion of the regular season.

**14.05:** The rules of play for the playoff games shall be the same rules used during the spring season as outlined in Article 11 above with the exception of the following:

- a. In the event of a tie, international tiebreaker rule shall go into effect.
- b. The higher seed shall be the home team for all games.
- c. Games 3 and 4 shall have 2 umpires.
- d. Games 1, 2 and 3 will be no new inning after 55 minutes.
- e. Games 4, the Championship Game, shall be a full 7 innings.

**14.06:** The league shall cover the umpire fees for all playoff games.

**14.07:** The playoffs will not be used to determine World Series berths. Article 16 will define the berth process.

**14.08:** No playoffs will be held for divisions of less than four teams; the regular season standings shall apply.

**14.09:** Divisions with only one team will not be considered division champions for that division.

**14.10:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

#### **Article 15: Seeding for the Playoffs**

**15.01: Seeding for Playoffs** - The final standings at the conclusion of the spring season will determine the seeding of the teams in the playoffs.

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> place team will be number one seed.
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> place team will be number two seed.
- c. 3<sup>rd</sup> place team will be the number three seed.
- d. 4<sup>th</sup> place team will be the number four seed.

**15.02:** If at the end of the spring season, two or more teams finish with identical won-lost-tie records the following process will be used to break a tie:

- a. The head-to-head record will determine the team that is given the higher place in the spring season standings and higher seed in the playoffs.
- b. If the head-to-head records are identical as well, the tie will be broken by determining the run differential of the head-to-head games.
- c. If the run differential is identical as well, the tie will be broken by a coin toss.

**15.03:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from the Council.

#### **Article 16: NAGAAA/ASANA World Series Berth Distribution**

**16.01:** The World Series berths will be determined by using final standings at the conclusion of the regular spring season. The highest placing team in each division that filed for World Series (WS) Intent, will receive a Berth to the NAGAAA or ASANA World Series tournament, as appropriate.

**16.02:** If there are additional Berths given to the League by NAGAAA/ASANA, they will be distributed according to the following criteria:

- a. If there are an equal number of teams in each division that are Intent, the team that places highest in their division standings will be awarded the additional Berth.
- b. The division with the most Intent teams will be awarded the additional Berth.
- c. Divisions with one team will not automatically receive a World Series Berth unless specified by NAGAAA/ASANA.

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**16.03:** Only games played within a team's own division will be counted towards qualification for World Series Berth. The only exceptions to this rule are games played between:

- a. Open A vs Open B
- b. Open B vs Open C
- c. Open C vs Open D
- d. Women's A vs Women's B
- e. Women's B vs Women's C
- f. Women's C vs Women's D

**16.04: World Series Intent Fees:** Teams must pay a non-refundable Intent fee to be eligible for consideration for the League's berths to the NAGAAA/ASANA World Series.

This fee shall be in an amount determined by the Board. The due date for said fee will be determined by the Board. A check made out to the League for the full amount set by the board must be submitted to the Division Directors by the due date. No fees will be accepted by the League after the due date has passed. The fee is nonrefundable.

**16.05:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

### Article 17: League Schedule

**17.01:** A schedule of all teams' first League games will be distributed to all team Managers prior to the start of the season. The schedule will list the date, time, and place of each League game.

**17.02:** The Vice-Commissioner or a designee shall create the League Schedule for all Divisions.

**17.03: Bye Requests:** Bye requests must be submitted to the Vice-Commissioner by the due date set by the Board. The Vice-Commissioner will try to accommodate all possible requests, but they are not guaranteed. The Board shall determine the rules governing bye requests.

**17.04:** The Vice-Commissioner shall submit a draft schedule to the Board for review and approval prior to distributing the approved schedule to the League.

**17.05:** No Board Member, Manager, or Team Representative may change a Board approved schedule without prior approval from the Board. All Managers of the affected teams must be informed of all changes.

**17.06:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

### Article 18: Open Division Code

**18.01: Amendments to the Open Division's Code:** This Section of the code will be voted on and amended by a majority of the Open Division Team Representatives, and does not require a vote of the entire council; however, the Board shall have shall have the power to review and over rule any amendments made by the Open Division Team Representatives.

**18.02:** The Open Division Team Representatives will hold a Breakout Session during the League Meeting to address Open Division issues.

**18.03:** No amendments or rules may be in conflict with the League Codes or Restated Bylaws

**18.04:** Amendments must be provided in writing or emailed to all the Board Members and Open Division Team Representatives at least one (1) week before consideration for vote.

**18.05:** Player and team ratings will default to NAGAAA Guidelines.

### Article 19: Women's Division Code

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**19.01: Amendments to the Women's Division Code:** This Section of the code will be voted on and amended by a majority of the Women's Division Team Representatives, and does not require a vote of the entire Council; however, the Board shall have the power to review and overrule any amendments made by the Women's Division Team Representatives.

**19.02:** The Women's Division Team Representatives will hold a Breakout Session during the League Meeting to address Women's Division issues that directly affect the Women's Division.

**19.03:** No amendments or rules may be in conflict with the League Codes or Restated Bylaws.

**19.04:** Amendments must be provided in writing or emailed to all the Board Members and Women's Division Team Representatives at least one (1) week before consideration for vote.

**19.05:** Player and team classifications will default to ASANA Guidelines.

### Article 20: Rating and Classification Committee Process

**20.01: Purpose:** The purpose of the Open Division Ratings Committee and Women's Division Classification Committees (hereafter known as committee) is to provide teams with guidelines to rate/classify their players, promote a better understanding of player skills, and to achieve consistency and accuracy of player ratings/classifications throughout the league.

**20.02: Committee Make Up:** The committee shall have the following roles:

- a. **Committee Chairperson:** The Division Director shall be the chairperson of the committee. The chair shall preside over all meetings; they may participate in the discussions, but may only vote to break a tie. The Committee Chair holds the ability to protest any player's rating.
- b. **Elected Members:** The Open Division and the Women's Division shall both elect five members to be part of their division's committee. The elected members shall serve for a period of one year. They may take part in the discussion and vote on the ratings/classification for their division (open/women). Elected Members also hold the ability to protest any player's rating, but will not hold a vote for the protest in which they filed.
- c. **Member at Large:** The MALs role shall be limited to taking minute for all committee meetings, and any additional duties as needed by the committee. They will not be required to make observations, may not participate in the discussion, and will not have a vote.

**20.03: Non-Committee Roles:**

- a. **Team Representative:** The official team representative shall be the team manager or anyone on his or her roster in which they delegate that responsibility to. Each team representative shall have the right to vote for the elected members of the committee. During committee meetings the team representative may speak in defense of the player(s) in question on their roster, or participate in discussions when submitting a protest. Only the team representative may speak on behalf of their team.
- b. **Board Members:** The board members that are not listed above in section 20.02 will not have a role in the committee; however hold the ability to raise a protest on any player within the league.
- c. **Commissioner:** Absent a conflict of interest, the league commissioner reserves the authority to change a player's rating/classification before submission to NAGAAA or ASANA, with the exception to article 20.04a.ii.
- d. **UIC:** UIC may attend any committee meeting and provide observations made during game of play. The UIC is not a voting member of the committee.

**20.04: Responsibilities of the Committee:**

- a. **Changes to Ratings/Classifications:** The committee shall have the sole responsibility to rate/classify all league players in their division. The word "division" refers to the Open Division or Women's Division and not their level of play.
  - i. Requests to lower the rating/classification of a player to play in tournaments must be approved by the committee.
  - ii. The committee's decision is final. One appeal can be made to the committee with submission of new evidence that was not available during the committee's process. Once the appeal is ruled upon the committee's decision is final and cannot be reversed.

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- b. **Reporting to the Board:** The Committee Chair shall report to the board on committee activity and operations during each board meeting, or when appropriate. However, protest details will not be provided until the protest has been resolved.
- c. **Reporting to the Team Representatives:** Committee business will be an agenda item during every breakout session. The Committee Chair will report on activities and operations when appropriate. However, protest details will not be provided until the protest has been resolved.

#### 20.05: Election Rules and Processes:

- a. **Candidate Process:** Any league member who is in good standing with the league as outlined in bylaws article 5.03.03 and meets the qualifications within article 20.05b may submit their name to be nominated for election. They must submit their name and their qualifications to the Division Director one week prior to the February league meeting or they may do so in person at the February league meeting. The Division Director shall distribute the qualifications to the team representatives prior to or during the February league meeting.
- b. **Qualifications:** All nominees must have at least five (5) years of rating/classification experience; this can be modified at the Committee Chair's discretion to allow for adequate nominations. Experience would include any combination of the following: rating/classifying team players on a roster for submission to the league; sitting on World Series protest committees; participation in prior league committees as the team representative. The Committee Chair shall review each candidate's qualifications for approval.
- c. **Ballots:** A candidate may only be placed on the ballot if they meet the qualifications outlined in section 20.05b. The ballots must contain the first and last name of the candidate, their team name, and their division level of play.
- d. **Voting:** Each team representative will be given one ballot and allowed to vote for five different candidates during the yearly committee election. Multiple votes for the same candidate on a single ballot will be considered void for that candidate. Write-in elections will not be accepted.
- e. **Election:** The election will be held during the February league meeting's breakout session. The five candidates with the most votes shall be elected to the committee. In the event of one or more ties, the Committee Chair shall break all ties in accordance with section 20.02a. The votes shall be counted by the Committee Chair during the breakout session and the winners announced.
- f. **Committee Limitations:** No more than one elected member may come from the same team, or family of teams, such as teams with the same name, but in a different level of play. In the event that two or more elected candidates are from the same team, or family of teams, the candidate with the most votes shall be elected. The Committee Chair shall vote to break a tie in accordance with section 20.02a
- g. **Elected Member's Term:** The elected members term shall begin at the time of election and ending after the following year's committee election.

#### 20.06: Vacancies and Removal Process:

- a. **Filling Vacancies:** If a vacancy occurs before an elected member's term has expired the chair shall appoint another qualified candidate to fill the vacancy with approval from the remaining elected committee members. The appointed member must meet the qualifications outlined in section 20.05b, and may not violate the committee limitations outlined in section 20.05f. The appointment shall be in effect immediately upon approval. The appointee's term shall expire according to section 20.05g.
- b. **Removal:** Any team representative may move a motion, which is duly seconded to remove an elected Committee Member and after discussion on the motion, may vote to remove an elected Committee Member by a majority vote at any league meeting breakout session as long as a quorum of the team representatives is present for that division.

#### 20.07: Committee Rules and Procedures:

- a. **Committee Meetings:** The chair shall schedule regular committee meetings, as necessary, to discuss and address any protests or other rating/classification issues. The meetings may take place via conference call, at the fields, following a league meeting, or any other location the committee deems appropriate. The committee meetings are closed sessions and only those who are part of the committee may attend.
- b. **Delegation of Duties:** The Committee Chair may delegate duties to the committee members and the MALs as necessary to ensure timely completion of all tasks. However, the Committee Chair must present all communication to the league regarding committee business.
- c. **Voting Within the Committee:** Decisions shall be made by simple majority. No committee member may abstain from a vote unless a conflict of interest exists as outline in section 20.07f. The committee will be encouraged to hold a thorough discussion on each question being raised before voting.

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- d. **Committee Rulings:** Rulings of committee will take effect upon formal notification being presented to the team representatives, and the Board. The Committee Chair shall inform all team representatives and the Board within 72 hours of a ruling, or before the next scheduled game day; whichever comes first. Rulings on a player's rating/classification will remain in effect until the conclusion of the season in which it was ruled.
- e. **Committee Integrity:** Committee members shall refrain from discussions outside of committee meetings, which involve details of a protest being evaluated. Committee members may ask to review any team scorebook; team representatives must provide the scorebooks upon request for review. Violation of this section may result in removal from the committee. The process is to be evaluated and determined by the board.
  - i. All league members shall not make inquiries, lobby or make suggestions to a course of action regarding unresolved protests. League members participating in this type of behavior will be construed as a violation of the league's code of conduct, pursuant to article 9.
- f. **Conflict of Interest:** A conflict of interest will include members from the same team, same family of teams, or family members.
  - i. If a conflict of interest exists for the chair, he/she may not participate in the discussion or vote to break a tie. The chair must appoint a member within the committee to assume the role of the Committee Chair, and would only vote to break a tie.
  - ii. If a conflict of interest exists for the committee member, or a MAL the chair shall remove that member from the process.
  - iii. Any team representative, board member or committee member may submit to the team representatives during the breakout session that a conflict of interest may exist with one or more committee members. A motion must be moved, and duly seconded with quorum for a vote to proceed and determine if a conflict exists. The committee member(s) must abstain from the process, and any votes cast by those members must be excluded. The following league meeting from the committee's determination must raise issues of possible conflict of interest.
- g. **Attendance:** Elected committee members must attend the league meetings in order to ensure rating/classifications are addressed as necessary. The Ratings Committee members shall have the same attendance requirements as board members, and may be removed by the chair for non-participation.

#### 20.08: Rating/Classification Submission Procedures:

- a. **Rating/Classification Submission:** Each season team representatives must submit to their Division Director a roster of player ratings/classifications for their respective team. The Division Director will determine the due date for this submission. The Division Director will consolidate all ratings/classifications into one package and submit them to the committee members, team representatives, and the Board prior to the start of the season.

When submitting the new ratings/classifications to the Division Director, team representatives must use the most current ratings/classifications for returning players. The team representative can only add questions to the current rating/classification and may not remove any questions. For new players with no prior rating/classification, team representatives may submit a new rating/classification they feel is appropriate, this is subject to protest process in article section 20.09.

#### 20.09: Protest Procedures:

- a. **Protests Request:** Any team representative shall have the ability to protest any player who either plays within, or is rated to play within their respective division level of play. The team representative must submit their protest to the Committee Chair. The Committee Chair will inform the team manager that there is a protest regarding his or her team, but will not provide specific details of the protest.
- b. **Protest Form:** All protest must include the player's first and last name, team name, division of play, jersey number, player position, and question(s) being protested. The protesting party must include their first and last name, team affiliation, and contact information.
- c. **Supporting Evidence:** The protesting team shall submit evidence supporting their protest. Only evidence obtained within the prior 12 months may be submitted. This would include league play and tournament games.
- d. **Observation:** The committee may use any events in which they witnessed during the last 12 months to aid in their decision-making process. This would include watching a player during league games, tournament games, practice, scrimmages, or other league play. Committee members must observe the protested player perform the skill set in question. Committee members are encouraged to make observations individually if possible.
- e. **Timeframe:** The committee shall be given the opportunity to observe a minimum of two games in which a protested player is playing. This must be completed within three scheduled weeks of play following the filing of the protest. If

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the player is not playing in a game during the timeframe the committee will be given additional time to watch. The Committee Chair shall communicate with the protesting party if additional time is required.

#### 20.10: Upheld Protest of Player Rating/Classification:

- a. The player or team, whose rating/classification is raised, which results in the player(s) or team exceeding the divisional guideline will have one of the following occurs:

For player(s) whose rating/classification is in conflict with the NAGAAA or ASANA Guidelines:

- a. A player who has exceeded the maximum division rating/classification for an individual must be placed on a team in the appropriate division based on player's new rating/classification.
- b. If no team in the new division voluntarily accepts the player(s) on a team within 72 hours, the Division Director, using criteria such as number of players on rosters, etc., will assign the player to a team in the new division.

OR

- a. The player(s) who exceeded the maximum division rating/classification for an individual may stay on current team as a non-playing member.
- b. For player(s) who increase their team rating/classification surpasses the NAGAAA or ASANA Guidelines:
  - i. The team must play in the appropriate division the following season if the player remains on the team.
  - ii. The team may finish the remainder of the season in its current division with the following limitations:
    - a. The Top 10 rated/classified players on the team roster may not exceed the maximum team rating for the division.
    - b. Teams that exceed the maximum team rating will be considered a new team and operate under the guidelines specified in Article 25.02 of this code.

#### 20.11: Lowering Rating/Classification of a Player:

- a. **Written Justification:** Team representatives can request to lower a player's most recent rating/classification. The team representative must submit the proposed new rating for the player attached with a written justification for the reduction to the Committee Chair. The team representative should also provide statistics and/or other evidence supporting the point(s) in question should be removed. The burden of proof lies within the team representative, not the committee.
- b. **Distribution of the Justification:** The Committee Chair shall then distribute the proposed new rating and the written justification to the committee and to the appropriate team representatives. The appropriate team representatives includes those within the division of play that the player currently plays in, as well as the division of play that the player would be eligible to play in. The distribution must occur at least one week prior to the player taking the field for play. The team representative must provide the required documentation to the Committee Chair timely to allow him/her the ability to distribute to the appropriate parties.
- c. **Provisional Approval to Play in a Lower Division:** If the committee does not object to the player's proposed new rating/classification, the player will be provisionally allowed to play in the lower division pending a full committee decision or upon filing of a protest. The player's previous/current rating shall remain until the committee votes to remove the point(s) in question.

#### 20.12: Penalties:

- a. **Penalty for Submitting Failed Protests:** If team representative submits four or more failed protested questions, the team will no longer have the right to protest for the remainder of that season.
- b. **Team/Player Rating/Classifications Limits:**
  - i. **Changes to Player's Ratings/Classifications:** A team roster will exceed limits if they have more than four changes made, within a season, to their ratings/classifications by the committee. This includes situations outlined in section 20.11 regarding the process to re-rate a player. Any points that are requested to be removed in this situation and are denied by the committee will count as a change.
  - ii. **Changes to Team Ratings/Classifications:** A team will exceed limits if they have more than a 3-point increase or decrease in their team's total rating/classification that were made by the committee.
  - iii. **Changes Made by the Team Representative:** Changes made by the team representative to their team's ratings/classifications prior to any protest being filed, will not be counted against the team.
  - iv. **Player Rating/Classification that Exceeds a Division's Limit:** Teams will exceed limits if they have any player rating/classification increased by the committee, which would exceed the divisional limits.
    - a. Any team with player(s) that exceed the divisional limits will forfeit their eligibility to earn a berth to the World Series during the same year, unless there is an available berth that has not been assigned.

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- b. Any team that exceeds the divisional team limits will forfeit their eligibility to earn a berth to the World Series during the same year, unless there is an available berth that has not been assigned.
- c. **Penalties for Exceeding Limits:**
  - i. **Ratings/Classification Approval:** Team representatives who have submitted ratings/classifications that exceeded the limits listed above will be required to submit all future ratings/classifications to the committee for approval before they can be placed on the league schedule for any team in which they are acting as the team representative. The penalty shall remain in effect for any team representative from that same team for the specified period in Article 20.12(d).
  - ii. **Ratings Workshop:** The team representative from that team must also attend a ratings workshop prior to submitting ratings held by the Division Director or a designee. The workshop topics will include a review of the ratings/classifications definitions.
  - iii. **Additional Penalties:** Additional penalties may be assessed up to, but not limited to, a two-game suspension or longer for egregious ratings/classification violations. These matters will be recommended to the board to address.
- d. **Penalty Timeframe:** The penalty shall remain in effect for 12 months from the date of the decision that finds the limit(s) was/were exceeded outlined in article 20.12b. The penalty cannot be reversed or appealed.

### Article 21: Liberty Classic Committee

- 21.01: Purpose:** This committee shall be charged with planning, managing, and hosting the Liberty Classic Tournament every year.
- 21.02: Liberty Classic Director:** The Commissioner shall appoint the Liberty Classic Director (Director) with approval from the Board. The Director shall be the Chairperson of the committee and managing director for the tournament.
- 21.03: Committee Members:** Anyone, League member or not, may be part of the Liberty Classic Committee. Board Members should participate in the committee and during the tournament functions.
- 21.04: Budget:** The Board shall approve a budget for the committee. Once the budget is approved the committee is free to spend the money as allocated. Any changes to the budget will require Board approval. The League Treasurer shall review and keep all invoices and receipts as well as ensure the budget is adhered to.
- 21.05: Tournament Rules:** The Liberty Classic Committee shall establish the rules of the tournament.
- 21.06: Committee Rules:** The meetings shall follow rules outlined in Section 12.02 of the Restated Bylaws as appropriate.
- 21.07: Reports and Documentation:** The Director shall report back to the Board and Team Representatives at the League Meeting on the status of the tournament planning.

The Director shall be responsible or compiling all documents, contact information, and other information used and acquired during their time as Director. This file should be handed over to the Commissioner upon the conclusion of the tournament for future uses.

The Treasurer shall report back on the financial status upon conclusion of the tournament and payment of all expenses.

- 21.08:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

### Article 22: Hall of Fame Committee

- 22.01: Purpose:** The purpose of the Surf and Sun Softball League Hall of Fame Committee is to provide an historical perspective and perpetuate the history of our League.
- 22.02: Membership Eligibility:** Any member of the League, living or deceased (including players, Managers, coaches, scorekeepers, sponsors or fans), who have been in the League for at least eight (8) years are eligible for nomination as long as they are or were in good standing with the League as defined in Section 5.03.03 of the Restated Bylaws.

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**22.03: Nomination Application:** Nomination Applications to the Hall of Fame shall be submitted to the Hall of Fame Committee Chairperson. The application may be submitted by any person, who is in good standings with the League as defined in Section 5.03.04 of the Restated Bylaws, and which who are familiar with the candidate.

A nominee's contributed towards League enhancement and advancement must have been significant and continuous during their time with the League.

Application should include a photograph of the nominee, if possible. The photograph will become the property of the League.

**22.04: Voting Members:** Voting members shall consist of the following:

- a. Hall of Fame Committee Chairperson
- b. The current Board as outlined in the Bylaws
- c. The living Hall of Fame inductees who have been active in the league within the past year.
- d. An active Hall of Fame Inductee is defined as the following: umpire, scorekeeper, sponsor, or someone who has current knowledge of the league's events. The Hall of Fame Committee Chairperson shall have discretion to determine if these people meet the qualifications.
- e. The Hall of Fame Committee Chairperson shall submit a complete list of voting names to the board for final approval.
- f. None of the voting members listed above shall have more than one vote.
- g. Votes may be cast as a yes vote, no vote, or abstain.
- h. Any voters that do not respond may be removed as a voter in future votes.

**22.05: Nomination Timeframe:** Nominations to the Hall of Fame shall be open year-round, but the official induction shall not take place until the spring season.

**22.06: Voting Timeframe:** Voting for the Hall of Fame shall be open for 14 days.

**22.07: Voting Process:** Hall of Fame Chairperson will prepare a Hall of Fame Voter Package. The package shall include a ballot with the names of all nominees, and a copy of the Nomination Application.

Voting may be submitted by email, or US postal service.

Voting members will have 14 days from the date the Hall of Fame Voter Packages are distributed to vote. The voting members may vote for as many of the nominees as they wish.

A 'Yes' vote means that you believe that the person nominated has exhibited values and accomplishments deserving of the inclusions to the Hall of Fame.

A 'No' vote means that you do not believe the candidate is currently worthy of inclusion at this time.

The Hall of Fame Chairperson will verify the validity of the voting members, tabulate the results of the voting, and notify the nominees, the Board, and the living Hall of Fame candidates of the results.

**22.08: Induction:** Induction requires a candidate to receive 'Yes' votes from a simple majority of the eligible voting membership. In the event that no one receives the required number of votes for that year, they may be re-submitted the following year and up to three (3) consecutive years. Each member elected that year will be recognized at a time and place designated by the Board of that year; preferably at the league closing party in the spring.

**22.09: Hall of Fame Stipend for NAGAAA/ASANA Induction:** The Board may, upon review of the League's financial status, offer a stipend of up to \$400 to offset the costs of travel to the NAGAAA/ASANA host cities. The Board shall deem if and when this is appropriate. The stipend amount may differ depending upon the circumstances.

**22.10:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

### Article 23: Team Escrow Accounts



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**23.01:** Team Escrow accounts may be created on behalf of League teams to manage donations, refunds from the League, and other income to their team.

**23.02: Escrow Account Owner:** The Team Manager shall be the owner of the escrow account. Only the Manager may request funds, transfer funds to other teams, or close the account.

**23.03: Non - Participation and Account Closure:** Teams that are not active with the League for more than one season will have their escrow accounts automatically closed and all money remaining in the account shall be forfeit to the League account. Account closure will take place at the start of the second consecutive season of non-participation with no further notice.

**23.04:** The Treasurer shall manage the escrow accounts and provide account balances as requested.

**23.05:** All funds distributed by the Treasurer from a team's escrow account shall be in the form of a check.

**23.06:** The Board shall make all other rules and decisions regarding escrow account and have final authority.

**23.07:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

### Article 24: Refunds

**24.01: Escrow Account Credit:** The board may provide a refund from the League to League teams in the form of an escrow account credit that may only be used to pay for future League fees. The Board shall determine if an escrow account credit is appropriate.

**24.02: Cash Refunds:** The Board may offer a refund of cash in the form of a check if appropriate.

**24.03: Sponsor Refund:** Refunds for sponsorships shall be issued in the form of a check to the business or person that made the donation.

**24.04: Membership Fee Refunds:** Members shall be entitled to a refund of their membership fee up to the first scheduled day of league play.

**24.05: Team Fee Refunds:** Team fees shall become nonrefundable two weeks after the fees were due or upon completion of the schedule, whichever comes first.

**24.06:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

### Article 25: League Sponsored Teams

**25.01:** The Board may create teams during the spring and fall seasons for the purpose of building the League and developing new players as a team. These teams usually come out of the League Play Days and other recruitment methods. They should tend to consist of players that are new to NAGAAA/ASANA leagues.

**25.02:** The new teams shall be permitted to operate as if they were in fall ball during the spring season. The team's games will not count towards the season standings and the team will not be eligible for the World Series Berths.

**25.03:** For their first season of play, the Board may offer financial assistance to the League sponsored team in the form of a discount, as determined by the board, on their Team Fee. The Membership Fee and Umpire Fees must remain unchanged. The Board may also offer other forms of financial support as they determine appropriate.

**25.04:** The Board shall determine what teams qualify for this assistance. However, the Board should only extend this type of sponsorship to teams that have mainly new players to softball. Teams that have simply changed their name; merged with other teams; come from another league; have accumulated a large number of new players onto an existing team; or create other new teams are not eligible for the League sponsorship.

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**25.05:** The Division Directors shall be the default managers of the Play Day teams, but may also ask other League members to manage as well.

**25.06:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

#### **Article 26: Social Media Policy**

**26.01:** The League maintains all social media site pages (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) as places where our fans and friends can share and discuss ideas and information and connect with other fans, friends, family, and teammates.

Much of the content, visuals, and other types of materials found on our sites are provided and posted by the fans of League. While the League reviews User Content for compliance or any readily apparent illegal content, League does not and may not, warrant, endorse, approve of or even necessarily agree with any or all User Content.

The League reserves the right to delete any content deemed offensive, violent, or inappropriate.

**26.02:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

#### **Article 27: Standing Board Appointees**

**27.01:** The Commissioner shall make the following appointments each year. These appointments shall be confirmed by the Board.

- a. Umpire-In-Charge (UIC)
- b. Liberty Classic Tournament Director
- c. Social Media Director
- d. Events Director

**27.02:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

#### **Article 28: League All-Star Game and Selection Process**

##### **28.01: Division All-Star Games**

- a. Each division that consists of at least five teams shall have an All-Star Game that will occur during the Spring Season on a date determined by the Board.
- b. Small Divisions All-Stars
  - i. Divisions of less than five teams will not have an All-Star Game.
  - ii. If a division is not large enough to hold their own All-Star Game they shall be allowed to submit players to play in the All-Star Game in the division immediately below or above their division.
  - iii. Number of players they may submit are:
    - a. 1 team - 4 players
    - b. 2 teams - 2 players from each team
    - c. 3 teams - 2 players from each team
    - d. 4 teams - 1 player from each team

##### **28.02: All-Star Manager**

- a. All managers for each division shall vote for two managers they would like to be selected as the All-Star Manager for their division's All-Star Game.
- b. **Small Division Managers** - Managers of teams from the smaller divisions that will not be holding an All-Star Game will be include in the All-Star Manager selection process with the division their team is submitting players to play in.
- c. The All-Star Manager Selection process should be done a few weeks before the All-Star Draft Party.
- d. No manager may vote for themselves during the voting process.
- e. The commissioner shall vote to break any ties.
- f. The two mangers with the most votes will manage the All-Star Teams.
- g. If any manager declines to manage an All-Star team the next manager with the most votes will be selected.

##### **28.03: All-Star Submission by the Teams**

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- a. Each team manager shall have their team vote for the players they would like to be submitted to the All-Stars Draft. Managers must consult their teams to vote for their team's submissions.
- b. Teams will submit the names to the Commissioner on a date determined by the Board.
- c. Each team, with the exception of the small divisions, may submit:
  - i. 3 outfielders
  - ii. 3 infielders
  - iii. 1 pitcher
- d. The Commissioner shall compile the All-Star submissions into a list for the draft.
- e. Players may be submitted to the draft for one position only.
- f. No team may submit more than the allotted number listed above.
- g. Players must commit to playing in the All-Star Game before being submitted to the All-Star Draft by their team.
- h. Each All-Star Manager shall draft an even amount of the smaller division players to play on their team after the larger division spots have been filled.
- i. All players submitted from the smaller divisions must be drafted.

#### **28.04: All-Star Draft Party**

- a. The league shall hold an All-Star Draft Party a few weeks before the All-Star Games are scheduled on a date determined by the Board.
- b. During the All-Star Draft Party, the All-Star Managers shall draft the players from the All-Star list.
- c. The All-Star Manager to draft first shall be determined by a coin toss prior to the draft.
- d. The Commissioner shall announce the name of the player and the player's team name as they are selected by the All-Star Managers.
- e. At least one player from each team must be selected to play on one of the All-Star teams, with exception of the players being drafted from a small division group. They will be evenly divided among the two teams.
- f. All teams shall consist of no more that 15 players and 1 manager.

#### **28.05: All-Star Game Rules:** Regular season rules shall apply with the exceptions below:

- a. Each player shall play at least two innings.
- b. Run Rule - A game ends if a team is up 15 runs after 5 innings.
- c. Time Limit - No new inning after 60 mins.
- d. Teams will be formed regardless of the team rating/classification caps.
- e. The All-Star Manager may play as well.
- f. There shall be 2 umpire per All-Star Game paid for by the league.

**28.06:** This article may be amended by the Board without approval from council.

### **Article 29: Publication**

**29.01:** A copy of the Restated Bylaws and this Code and amendments thereto shall be published annually and available on the League website.