

# **RICHMOND HILL LADIES SLO-PITCH LEAGUE**

## **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**



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## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

		PAGE(S)
ARTICLE 1	NAME	3
ARTICLE 2	MEMBERSHIP	3
ARTICLE 3	OBJECTIVES	3
ARTICLE 4	REGISTRATION	3-4
ARTICLE 5	EXECUTIVE	4
ARTICLE 6	SPECIFIC DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE	4-6
ARTICLE 7	RULES OF THE LEAGUE	6-9
ARTICLE 8	MEETINGS OF THE LEAGUE	9-10
ARTICLE 9	REMUNERATION	10
ARTICLE 10	DEFINITION OF APPOINTED MEMBERS	10-11
ARTICLE 11	GENERAL ELECTIONS	11
ARTICLE 12	AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION	12

## **ARTICLE 1: NAME**

This organization shall be called:

### **THE RICHMOND HILL LADIES SLO-PITCH LEAGUE**

## **ARTICLE 2: MEMBERSHIP**

1. Any female resident within the boundaries of the town of Richmond Hill and existing players will be given first consideration.
2. Pay the registration fee as set out by the Executive.
3. Be 19 years or older as of January 1st of the current year.
4. A player who has paid their registration fee for the current year shall be entitled to vote at the annual meeting (notwithstanding those players refunded monies prior to July 1)

## **ARTICLE 3: OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Richmond Hill Ladies Slo-Pitch League are to promote, improve and encourage an interest in organized slo-pitch in the Town of Richmond Hill.

A major objective is to create a safe environment in which every eligible person may participate in a sport from which enjoyment and satisfaction can be derived.

## **ARTICLE 4: REGISTRATION**

1. Returning membership, all current players will be sent a registration form.
2. If a player does not receive a registration form by January 5<sup>th</sup> of the current year it is the player's responsibility to contact the President or Secretary of the League or the Parks and Recreation Department.
3. New members – an open registration will be held if deemed necessary by the current year's Executive. Any current player sponsoring a new player (cannot be returning from years past) to a maximum of two, will be guaranteed that the new players(s) can play on their team for the first year only. All others can still join. Two returning players that request to play together, forego the guarantee that sponsored new players can play on

their team. All of the above is applicable until Draft Night. Following Draft Night, please see Article 7a for clarification.

## **ARTICLE 5: EXECUTIVE**

The executive shall consist of a Past President, President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Equipment Coordinator, Tournament Coordinator, Web Coordinator and Team Representatives.

The membership shall nominate by the end of the final tournament from amongst themselves a:

PRESIDENT  
VICE-PRESIDENT  
SECRETARY  
TREASURER  
EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR  
TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR  
WEB COORDINATOR

If a team representative(s) has not been delegated, the team members shall appoint at the annual draft meeting, a team representative(s) to represent their team on the executive. If that is not possible at that time, a contact person for the team is appointed. A team representative must be selected by the team prior to the first game of the season.

The term office ( for all executive members except team representatives ) shall be that of two years following the annual general meeting. In the event of a vacancy occurring on the Executive, the remaining members of the Executive shall have the power to approach any member of the League to fill the vacancy. When three or more vacancies occur at the same time, excluding team representatives', a special general meeting of the League shall be called and members of the League elected to fill the vacancies.

## **ARTICLE 6: SPECIFIC DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE**

### **PAST PRESIDENT**

- Act in an advisory capacity to the President

- Assist the Executive as required
- Coordinate the nomination process

### PRESIDENT

The President shall have the powers to:

- Act as a signing officer for the League
- Preside at all meetings of the Executive and of the League
- Exercise the powers of the Executive in cases of emergency
- Be responsible for the preparation of game schedules and bases schedule
- Represent the League at the Richmond Hill Ball Association
- Preside at registration, when applicable (see Article 4.(3) )
- Review and approve league correspondence
- Arrange for meeting facilities and advise the Executive of location and date
- Obtain permits for diamond use and mobile recruitment sign

### VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice-President shall:

In the absence of the President have all the powers and perform all duties of the president

- Be responsible for the preparation and organization of Ladies Night and the final tournament dinner, the latter with assistance from the tournament committee

### SECRETARY

The Secretary shall:

- Attend all meetings of the League and keep minutes
- Be responsible for the correspondence of the League
- Perform all general duties
- Maintain a current list of the League's players and their contact information
- Maintain a waiting list for the current year
- Prepare and e-mail out registration forms and hand over fees to the treasurer.
- Remit fee to insurance to Softball Ontario
- Record all amendments to the by-laws of the League
- Act as signing officer of the league

### TREASURER

The Treasurer shall:

- Ensure that a record of all monies received and disbursed be kept
- Ensure that all monies received be deposited in the bank
- Ensure that all disbursements are made by cheque
- Act as a signing officer of the League
- Present a financial statement at each annual meeting
- Keep the Executive informed of the financial status of the league

#### TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR

The tournament Coordinator shall:

- Coordinate responsibility for the planning and organization of the two yearly tournaments with the assistance of the tournament committee (comprised of 2 reps from each team)
- Purchase prizes for tournaments and year end winning teams

#### EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR

The Equipment Coordinator shall:

- Acquire and schedule the umpires for all League games including tournaments games
- Be responsible for the purchase and storage of equipment and the ordering of uniforms
- Be responsible for determining diamond condition and informing team representatives when games are cancelled

#### WEB COORDINATOR:

The Website Coordinator shall:

- Keep the website up to date (schedule, executive members, correspondence, notices etc...)

#### TEAM REPRESENTITVES

The Team Representative shall:

- Be responsible for the team's equipment and line-ups
- Ensure that all players have the opportunity to play equal time per game. Players will not sit out consecutive innings unless the player requests to sit out consecutive innings
- Represent and communicate the feelings of their team at Executive meetings

- Inform the secretary of any player changes or registration
- Inform the team of general business discussed at all Executive meetings

#### **ARTICLE 7: RULES OF THE LEAGUE**

- a) Teams of up to fifteen players will be chosen by means of a common draft from separate pools and sub pools; 1) player new to the league, 2) players who have indicated a willingness to pitch, 3) all other players returning to the league and 4) players who have indicated a willingness to be a team rep. Having been assigned to a specific team, players will not be permitted to switch teams. New players or returning players registering after Draft Night will be placed on the team with the least numbers of players and following that in sequence according to team number.
- b) When a player misses three (3) consecutive games without contacting their team representative, it is the responsibility of the team representative to attempt to contact the player, then inform the Executive, who will in turn decide whether said player shall be removed from the League. If a player resigns, a refund may be given up to the date of the draft night.
- c) Consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in parks and Town controlled facilities without appropriate license and will be strictly enforced. Individuals and/or teams who fail to abide will jeopardize the field use privileges of their team/league.
- d) Teams will keep score during the regular season.
- e) Prizes: First place and second place prizes only at the first tournament. First place, second place, third place and fourth place prizes at the final tournament.
- f) All Official Slo-Pitch Rules will apply with the addition/revisions of the following:
  - i) The second team listed on the schedule is the home team and is responsible for keeping score and getting the results to the web representative
  - ii) All games will be 7 innings or 1 hour and 15 minutes
  - iii) All players shall be in the batting rotation
  - iv) Maximum of five runs scored per time at bat with the exception of the designated open inning
  - v) Commitment line in effect , the home plate belongs to the catcher
  - vi) A pitching mat will be used at home plate. A legally delivered pitch landing on the plate or the pitching mat will be called a strike.
  - vii) The league will not use the 12 run mercy rule

- viii) The league will not use the SPO courtesy runner rule, unlimited courtesy runners may be used in a game. The runner will be the player who was the last out and who is able to run. All courtesy runners must be taken at first base unless injured in the field.
- g) Children and spouses are restricted from the players' benches and the playing field during all games as our insurance does not cover them
- h) The league will use the optic green balls
- i) **For tournaments** all Richmond Hill Ladies Slo-Pitch rules apply with the following addition and/or revisions:
- All Games are a maximum of seven innings. No inning to start after 1 hour and 15 minutes. All innings in the round robin must be played out.
  - The Championship Final and Consolation Final are 7 innings, but the bottom half of the seventh inning will not be played if the home team is winning. In the event of a tie after 7 innings, extra innings will be played until a winner is decided.
  - All players are requested to be at the park no less than 15 minutes prior to game time
  - Home team to be decided by a coin toss prior to the start of the final games
  - First through fourth place in each division will be decided as follows:  
Total points: Win – 2; Tie – 1; Loss – 0  
Results of games between tied games.  
Run differential (maximum 12 runs/games)  
Total runs
- PICK UP RULE: If a team is short players (less than 11 but more than 6), they may use player(s) from the League members at the park. All League members who are present and wish to play may submit their name to the scorekeeper. All names will go into a hat and will be draw in the presence of both team representatives. Teams may fill their roster up to 11 players, (to allow players the opportunity to rest), the tenth and eleventh players must be placed at the bottom of the batting order. The substituting player may only play the same position for two innings in a game. The subs can/will play the whole game, just no more than one same position for more than two innings. Teams with less than 7 natural players will forfeit the game.
- A team may pick up a full time pitcher for tournament games from the pool of volunteer full time pitchers, if their full time pitcher is absent or



unable to play due to injury. The selected full time pitcher may pitch the entire game if necessary. The pitcher drawn, if the 12<sup>th</sup> player, will not play any other position and will not bat.

A player injured during the game can withdraw with no penalty of an out during regular season and tournament.

To qualify to play in the August tournament, a player must attend 50 % of the regularly scheduled games from the time of her activation as a player in the league. Exceptions to this would be injured players or those deemed exceptions by the executive.

- Warm Up Pitches 5 allowed first inning
    - 1 pitch between remaining innings
    - 5 pitches to a new pitcher in the game
  - Inclement Weather Rule – In case of rain or extreme heat, the following rules apply to a game of less than 5 complete inning:
    - a) If the game is delayed and continued on the same day, the game will restart from the point of delay
    - b) If the game is delayed to the next day, the entire game will be played.
- j) **A strike is called** by the umpire:
- a. For each legally pitched ball entering the strike zone before touching the ground and at which the batter does not swing. It is a strike if the ball touches home plate and is not swung at.
  - b. For each pitched ball swung at and missed by the batter.
  - c. For each foul tip held by the catcher. The batter is out if it is the third strike. The ball is dead on any strike. (no arc is required as per SPO)
  - d. For each foul ball not legally caught, including the 3rd strike.
  - e. For each pitched ball swung at and missed which touches any part of the batter.
  - f. When any part of the batter's person is hit with his/her own batted ball, when he/she is in the batter's box, and he/she has less than two strikes.
  - g. When a pitched ball hits the batter while the ball is in the strike zone.
- EFFECT:** *Sec. 7, d-g, The ball is dead and base runners must return to their bases without liability to be put out.*

## **ARTICLE 8: MEETINGS OF THE LEAGUE:**

### **Annual Meeting – Item 1**

- a) The annual meeting of the League shall be held before the 15<sup>th</sup> day of November in each year
- b) Notice of the annual meeting will be published at the final tournament stating time and location.
- c) The order of business at the annual meeting shall be as follows:
  - Reading of the minutes of the last annual meeting
  - President's report
  - Treasure's Report
  - Consideration of constitution, by-laws, regulation and rules and amendments and alterations thereof
  - General business
  - Announcement of the Executive
- d) At the annual meeting only those League members that were members of the League the previous season are entitled to vote. Voting will be decided by the majority present.

### **Executive Meetings – Item 2**

- a) Executive meeting will be held on dates designated by the president
- b) The president shall call an executive meeting at the request of one third of the members of the executive
- c) Quorum – fifty percent of the Executive shall constitute a quorum

### **General Meeting – Item 3**

A general meeting may be called at the written request of one third of the League or at the discretion of the executive

### **Draft Meeting – Item 4**

A Draft meeting will be held during the month of March. At this time, players shall:

- a) Be drafted by a team
- b) Select a team representative
- c) Select a team name

## **ARTICLE 9: REMUNERATION**

No Executive member or members of the league shall receive any remuneration for carrying out her duties. However, expenses may be allowed while engaged in duties or training on behalf of the League, at the discretion of the Executive.

## **ARTICLE 10 – DEFINITIONS OF APPOINTED MEMBERS:**

### **Tournament Representative**

- attend all tournament meetings
- share any committee responsibilities for organizing and planning tournaments
- presentation of tournament awards

## **ARTICLE 11 – GENERAL ELECTIONS**

General elections for the executive will occur at the AGM. Early voting will be arranged for league members who attend school outside of the GTA.

## **ARTICLE 12 – AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION**

Any proposed amendment or revision to the Constitution requires a majority of the existing Executive and must be voted on by the general membership at the general meeting.