

LCSSA BYLAWS

ARTICLE I – DUES

- 1) Dues will be determined every year by the Lake City Slowpitch Softball Association (LCSSA) Board of Directors (League Officers) or group appointed by the Directors.
- 2) Dues will be set separately for Men's League, Women's League, and Co-ed League.
- 3) Dues will be for a determined for a set number of games, which may or may not include an end of the year tournament.
- 4) Dues will include fees and cost incurred to the league for the playing season, to include but not limited to; registration to the USA Softball SD, umpire game fees, balls, diamond rental, insurance coverage, and any unforeseen expenses.
- 5) League fees for the current season will be determined and announced at the March meeting.
- 6) League fees for the current season will be due along with a roster at April meeting.
- 7) No member shall be considered in good standing in this association until team and/or umpire fees for the current year have been paid.
- 8) A \$40 fee in addition to original payment will be charged submitters of insufficient fund, no account or closed account checks. Said players and/or teams will not be in good standing until checks are cleared.

ARTICLE II - RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS

- 1) Only members in good standing in this association shall be eligible to enter teams in the league or league sponsored tournaments
- 2) All members in good standing shall be kept informed by the Directors as to the meetings, schedules, and tournaments. This may be done by any or all of the following, phone, email, mail, league website, or in-person.
- 3) Any member of this association may host an invitational or bid for a state tournament, but must inform League Officers of intent, with the guarantee that there shall be no expense or liability to LCSSA. Liability of same being assumed entirely by the bidding body or sponsoring player, team, or umpire.
- 4) All suspended players and/or managers may request a hearing.
 - a) The Board of Directors will grant such hearing in a timely matter.
 - b) Players and/or managers may appeal to the state association after league hearing.

ARTICLE III – VOTING

- 1) Each voting member of the Executive Board shall be entitled to one vote in person or by proxy at special or annual meetings except for chairman of said meeting.
- 2) Each voting member of the Executive Board may vote for any emergency legislation.
- 3) Each team, in good standing with annual dues and submitted roster, shall be entitled to one vote.
- 4) Voting may be done in person, mail, or email at advertised league or annual meetings, or via mail or email for emergency meetings.
- 5) Any voting member of this Association may send an official delegate, with proper credentials, to attend the meeting, and said delegate shall be given recognition by the chair as a legitimate replacement entitled to all privileges including voting.
- 6) The meeting Chairman or assigned proxy shall have a voice in league and annual meetings, but shall not be entitled to vote unless otherwise qualified or to determine ties.

ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION

- 1) The Board of Directors shall consist of president, vice-president, secretary, treasure, UIC and immediate past president.
- 2) The president/treasure (odd) and the vice-president/secretary (even) shall be elected biennially in alternating years.
- 3) The president, vice president, secretary, treasure, and immediate vice president will be considered voting members
- 4) The UIC will be appointed by the Board of Directors as a non-voting member.
- 5) It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all league meetings, enforce a strict by-laws and rules of order and to perform all duties that commonly fall upon a presiding officer.

- 6) It shall be the duty of the Vice President, to assist and perform the duties of the President if is unable to attend or perform such duties.
- 7) It shall be the duty of the Secretary to take meeting note of all meetings of both the Board of Directors as well as the general, special, and emergency meetings. Also should do meeting reports, record vote totals and any other duty assigned by the president.
- 8) The treasure collect dues and other money and keep an accurate record of the receipts and disbursements of same. In order to effectively fulfill those duties, the State Commissioner's name shall appear as a signatory on the banking accounts of LCSSA. The treasure shall perform any other duties which commonly fall on that office.
- 9) All checks written on this organization may be signed by such parties as designated by the President.

ARTICLE V - ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS

- 1) The Board of Directors shall have general charge of the affairs and policies of the league; call special meetings when necessary; and general carry on the affairs of said Association; have jurisdiction over all purchases and disbursements, and appoint both standing and special committees.
- 2) The order of business of the Annual Meeting shall be as follows:
 1. Roll call.
 2. Minutes of the last meeting.
 3. Treasures Report
 5. Unfinished business.
 6. New business.
 7. Election of Officers.
 8. Adjournment
- 3) The Executive Board shall set an announced time and place of meetings, render decisions in disputes of teams, receive and act on unresolved protests in accordance with the By-Laws; act as a Court of Final Appearance in all matters; have final decisions on postponed or tied games.

ARTICLE VI – TEAMS & PLAYERS

- 1) Only qualified players shall be eligible to participate in LCSSA competition. Players must meet the guide lines and by-laws of LCSSA.
 - a. For a player to be eligible to play they must sign the team roster before taking the field. This includes all league games for the year.
- 2) Players may on multiple teams with these stipulations:
 - a. The teams they play with must be in different divisions (This includes, men's, women's and co-ed leagues)
 - b. No games with be held up with play waiting for a player to finish playing a game on same night from different league.
- 3) Men's, Women's, and Co-ed teams may borrow a max of 2 players per game.
- 4) Men's Division:
 - a. The middle division may roster 4 players from upper division.
 - i. May only have combo of 4 upper players on the field per game.
 - b. The lower division may roster 2 players from any league above.
 - i. May only have a combo of 2 upper players on the field per game.
- 5) Women's Division:
 - a. May roster 2 players from an upper league
 - i. May only have a combo of 2 upper players on the field per game.
- 6) Co-Ed Division:
 - a. May only be on one roster
- 7) Roster forms and waiver forms must be completed by the 2nd week of scheduled play
- 8) Players may switch team rosters under following conditions:
 - a. The existing manager signs a release form.

- b. Must be approved by the Board of Directors.
 - c. No player can switch rosters with less than 3 weeks of league play.
- 9) If any team is in violation of said rule the team will forfeit that game.
- a. The player may be subjected to a 1 year suspension.

ARTICLE VII - CLASSIFICATION AND PROCEDURES

- 1) Purpose and Objective: Establish rules and guidelines for the classification of players and teams for league and tournament play.
- a. Classify players and teams on the basis of past performance and current roster. Reclassifying to a higher level as applicable.

ARTICLE VIII – TOURNAMENTS

- 1) To be eligible to play in the league tournament the player must have at least 2 league games played.
- 2) No one can play in tournament if no games have been played from the roster of team playing.

ARTICLE VIX – RULES

- 1) The playing rules of this Association are to be governed by the rules approved by the National Joint Softball Rules Committee.
- 2) Below are the revised for the purpose of the LCSSA League play.
 - a. Game times will be set by league board.
 - b. The scorecard must contain full names & numbers of all players and signed by acting manager.
 - i. The person signing the scorecard is the only team member able to discuss a play call in question or rule interpretation with an umpire.
 - ii. It is the team manager’s job to control the players.
- 3) Teams need 7 rosters players to start a game plus two (2) borrowed players.
 - a. Teams may not add borrowed players to the lineup once the game has started.
 - b. If playing short, team will take an out in each short position on the lineup card.
- 4) Run ahead rule in all divisions of league play are 15 after 3 innings and 10 after 5.
- 5) The league board of directors holds the right to make any additional moves deemed necessary to insure equal competitive nights of play.
- 6) Rainouts are the call of board and UIC. Rainouts will be announced an hour before the 1st game of the evening, if possible, on website and radio.
- 7) Games started but not finished because of weather or other circumstances.
 - a. A game will be considered official if home team is ahead after 4 ½ innings or visitor ahead after 5.
 - b. If not an official game, the games will resume play on another night designated by scheduler with game score and ball and strike count continued. Game will continue where left off.

ARTICLE X – PROTESTS

- 1. Teams that wish to protest either player eligibility or rule misrepresented by umpire may do so with a 25.00 fee. If team wins the protest, they will get the money back.
- 2. All protests will be handled by UIC and league board.
- 3. Eligibility offenses will result in forfeited game and suspension.

ARTICLE XI – PLAYER CONDUCT

1. Fighting will not be tolerated. Players involved in fight in the complex grounds would result in immediate ejection and must leave complex for the night and may result in suspension after an investigation by board.
2. If a player threatens or inflicts any violence on an umpire it would result in at least a 1 year suspension and will go before the state for further penalty.
3. Excessive profanity will result in ejection from the night of play.
4. Any ejection will result the offender leaving complex may not play any games that night.
5. Umpires conduct will be under scrutiny of only UIC and league board members.
6. Over excessive harassment of either umpires or league officials may result in suspension.

ARTICLE XII – EQUIPMENT

1. All equipment must be USA softball or league approved.
2. No steel spikes or steel tipped spikes allowed.
3. Recommended that teams have their own first aid kit.
4. Blood rule in effect.
5. All bats must bear the correct USA or ASA certification
 - a. The league may offer to sticker the bats at beginning of year for check in.
 - b. The bats should be checked on the official USA website for the non approved bats that have been approved in the past.
6. The official ball for play is the Dudley .52 core 300 pound compression , optical yellow. No substitutes.
 - a. Each team will be provided 12 balls at the beginning of season. Each team will play with their own ball.
7. Approved equipment list <https://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/certified-equipment>

ARTICLE XIII – RULES OF ORDER

1. The rules contained in Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the Board of Directors in all meetings in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws.

ARTICLE XIV – AMENDMENTS

- 1) The By-Laws of LCSSA may be amended or revised by the voting body at any time by an affirmative vote of at least 3/5th of the complete voting body, at any regular or special meeting provided that the notice of such meeting contains a summary of the proposed amendment or amendments.