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## League Mission Statement:

## Section 1: General Overview \& League Procedures

Established in 1975, The Penns Grove-Carneys Point Mens Softball League plays the modified fast-pitch 10 man softball game. Bunting and stealing are allowed. All games are scheduled for 7 innings. The games are held primarily during the week, Monday-Friday, at 6:30PM with occasional Saturday games scheduled (i.e. Opening Day). The fields are located at the Salem County Recreation Site on the corner of Route 130 and Perkintown Rd, in Pedricktown NJ. Opening Day is traditionally the last Sat of April and the season runs until the end of June, followed with a post-season playoff that is played in July. Pitching distance from the mound is 46 feet. Base distances are 65 feet. The outfield fence distance for a HR is 275 feet for both Field 1 and Field 2.

## League Structure

During the first official meeting after the previous season, nominations of League Board for the upcoming year will be taken. The next official meeting, the election for Board Members will be held. The Official League Board is a five member body, made up of the elected League Officers. The positions are League President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Director of Fundraising. All league officers are non-compensated volunteers.

## President

Preside over all meetings

Make sure league is in compliance with Salem County Recreation Center and any county requirements (i.e. proof of insurance, field approval).

Register teams and league with Amateur Softball Association of NJ
Perform other such duties as are normally associated with title of League President
Vice President
Assist President in any duties needed
Preside over meetings in the absence of the President

Manage league waiver and free agent policies. Assign players to team if necessary.

Monitor games during the season

Liaison to managers on field conditions
Treasurer
Receive and disburse all funds with the approval of the Board

Keep an accurate account of all funds received and disbursed for the league

Submit a financial report at all regular meetings and at such other times as may be requested by The President.
Compile an annual report of League finances.

## Secretary

Have custody of the Bylaws, League forms, meeting minutes, and all other records of the League (except financial records).

Keep an accurate record of the meetings and other league activities
Create and oversee league schedule
Be responsible for all correspondence to team reps
Transmit all records, files and correspondence to any person elected to succeed him in that office.

## Fund Raiser Guy

Organize and direct fundraising operations for the benefit of the league

## Disputes/Arbitration

The League Board's shall interpret all policy, set budgets, and implement the on-going business of the league consistent with the bylaws. The Board shall maintain the integrity and competitive balance that is in the best interest of the league. The Board shall purchase or otherwise acquire for the league any property, right or privilege which the league is authorized to acquire, by the price of consideration and upon such terms as the Board may deem appropriate. Out of pocket expenses incurred by league reps and/or board members for general league expenses are reimbursable with a receipt.

In circumstances when these Bylaws fail to clearly resolve an unforeseen issue, the Board shall arbitrate these unique situations. Furthermore, the Board may convene in executive session to discuss or resolve such matters, which the Board, in its discretion, believes, should be handled confidentially. For the best interest of the league, the officers may decide on issues that cannot wait for the league meeting. A special meeting will be called at the earliest time. To change a rule in the bylaws, there must be a majority vote of the league representatives (1 rep per team). If the vote is a tie, the bylaw stands. (2013).

## The Game

All games are scheduled for seven (7) innings. Five (5) innings are necessary for a game to be considered official, four and one-half ( $4-1 / 2$ ) innings if the home team is winning. Should a game not be considered official per this by-law, the game will pick back up from where it was previously left off at $6: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ the next time the two teams meet. If the teams do not meet again, a new day will be picked to continue the game, per the league rescheduling policy. Post Season games will continue from where the game was stopped on the next available make up day.

## Games Starting Times

Week day games will start promptly at $6: 30 \mathrm{pm}$. There will be a 10 -minute delay or grace period in the event of not enough active players. After the 10 minutes has expired, the umpire will declare forfeiture (SEE FORFEITURE). Teams must have at least 9 players to start.

For opening day, the starting times will be determined by league representatives

## Tie Breaker

Regular season games that are tied after 7 innings will begin the eighth (8) innings with a runner on second base and one (1) out. If the game cannot continue, the teams will finish the game with an early 6:00PM start time, prior to the game when the two teams next face each other on the schedule. If the two teams do not play again per the schedule, the game will remain a tie in the standings. For Post Season playoff games, no tie breaker rule will be in place and games will play until completed.

## Playoffs

Playoffs will start the Monday following the July 4" weekend, unless July 4" falls on a weekend (Fri, Sat, Sun), which then the playoffs will start the second Monday following July 4".

Play-off games must consist of 7 full innings. If play is called before 7 full innings, the game will continue at the point stopped.

Tie breaker for playoffs seeding:
The tie breaker for playoff position is determined by the season series between the teams
If teams split the regular season series, the differential of the number of runs between the teams will be the tie breaker.

2017 Seeding PENDING THE NUMBER OF TEAMS (subject to change)
First Round (Best of Three)
\#1 seeded team will have a bye
\#2 seeded team will have a bye
\#3 seeded team will play the \#6 seeded team
\#4 seeded team
will play the \#5 seeded team
The \#1 and \#2 seeds gets to choose day (Mon or Tues) and field (F1 or F2) they will play their first game.
\#2 seed chooses what field they will play, however they will start their series on the opposite day (Mon or Tues) that the \#1 seed chooses. (\#1 \& \#2 seeds cannot start series on the same day).
\# 3 seed will play on the same day as the \#1 seed but on the opposite field.
\#4 Seed will play on the same day as the \#2 seed but on the opposite field.
NOTE: In a 10 Team Season, the post season will begin with a play-in tournament between the \#7, \#8, \#9 \&\#10 seeds. \#9 vs \#10 will play in a single elimination game. \#7vs \#8 will play with the winner moving on to play the \#2 seed in the First Round. The loser of \#7 vs \#8 will play the winner of the \#9 vs \#10 game, and the winner will play the \#1 seed in the First Round.

## Semi Finals - (Best of Five)

The highest seeded team will play the lowest seeded team. The other two remaining winners of the first round series will play.

## Championship - (Best of Five)

The winners of the semifinals play. The home team for game one is determined by the higher seed and the home team will choose what field to play on ( $2,2,1$ Format). The winning team will receive the Vince Gioia Championship Trophy. MVP of the series receives The Lew Ayars MVP Award.

## League Fees

League entrance fee for the 2017 season will be $\$ 500$ per team. The entrance fee is due April 1, 2017. NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN ONCE LEAGUE SCHEDULE IS MADE. An $\$ 80.00$ membership fee must be paid by April 20,2017 by each player and a tentative roster must be submitted by that date also. NO player is permitted to play in the league unless payment is made in full to the League Treasurer, prior to the player's first game. Make checks payable to: PG-CP-Mens Softball League.

Teams for 2021 Season

| P-City Tropics | Sparks Electric |
| :---: | :---: |
| TBC - CML | Servicemens Club |
| C. Ransome Asphalt \& Trucking | Giovanni's |

## Team Responsibilities

Home team shall pay umpires promptly following the ending of the game. Home team shall prepare the field for play. Home team locks shed prior to leaving. All teams must keep a copy of Bylaws and the ASA banned bat list. All teams must clean up the bench area and throw all trash away after the game is completed. Leaving a clean area is a requirement of the county. Warnings, fines, or losing field availability could all be levied from the county officials.

## Rosters

A final roster is due by May, 31. 2017. No new players may be added after this date. Each team may carry a maximum of 25 active players on their roster not including non-players such as coaches, bat boys, ect., who are not players.

Each league team will provide the League Officials with a team roster before the start of the season. Changes may be made on these rosters but the League Officials must be notified; deadline date will be May 31 at midnight.

Each team must make copies of their roster to give to the other teams after May 31, 2017.
On May 31, the final roster must be submitted to the League Officials after which there will be no changes.
Between the start of the season and May 31, all changes must be reported to one of the League Officials at least 4 hours prior to start of league play.

All players must sign a waiver to release league for all personal injuries incurred or any lawsuits that may arise. Any player that plays without signing a wavier will cause his team to forfeit any games he has played in the waiver or release clause goes into effect at the start of the season.

After the 19th player from a team pays their membership fee, (Not including the team manager, so it is really the 20th member on the team roster) there is no more cost for additional players added. The roster limit for each team is 25 players. *NOTE* (the league insurance application only allows up to 20 players to be listed for insured purposes). This rule is to help teams avoid forfeiting and help promote the league to new players. (2017)

## League Meetings

Official league meetings will be held the first Monday of each month at site to be determined the league board members. Meetings will start at 7:00PM during off season and 8:00PM during the season. Each team must have at least one representative present at meetings. For each regularly scheduled monthly meeting missed, a $\$ 20$ fine must be paid, if three consecutive meetings are missed, expulsion from the league will result. After the second missed meeting, a letter will be sent to the sponsor, notifying them of the situation. The League may call a special meeting to handle league business. The time, place and how such meetings shall be conducted will be determined by the League President and shall be made known to all team representatives upon at least a one (1) day's notices via, oral, telephone, written, or internet. Any league member may attend a meeting; however, membership participation shall be at one rep per team. Any special meeting called by the league will result in a $\$ 20.00$ fine if missed

## Sponsorship

Sponsor must contribute at least the $\$ 500$ entrance fee for a team. League will contact sponsor if team does not finish season.

## Holidays

No game shall be scheduled on the following days:

- Memorial Day Weekend
- Mother's Day
- Father's Day
- July 4 ${ }^{\text {n }}$ Weekend


## Section 2: League Rules (house rules)/Playing the Game

## Extra Batter (EB)

To be able to use the extra batter, the man must be present at the start of the game. The EB can only be replaced by a player who has not been in the game and must bat in the same position. The EB can play on the field. Once a game is started with the EB, it must finish with it or any vacancy in line up is an automatic out. The EB can bat anywhere in the lineup.

Regular Season - A manager can use up to 15 batters in their lineup. Extra Batter rules listed above still apply. Playoffs A manager can use 12 batters in their lineup. Extra Batter rules listed above still apply.

## Designated Hitter (DH)

The Designated Hitter rule can be used if a team is using the Extra Batter (EB). The DH can only bat and can't enter the game in a defensive position. The DH can only be replaced by someone who has not been in the game. The player the DH batted for cannot bat during the game. Once the game has started with the DH, it must end with the DH. Any vacancy in the line-up is an automatic out.

## Courtesy Runner

A courtesy runner shall be allowed three times per game for any reason. The courtesy runner must be someone on the team roster, who has not been in the game. Each time the courtesy runner is used, the courtesy runner must be a different person. It does not count as an official appearance in a game. The courtesy runner must be in uniform as outlined in the Equipment Section of the league bylaws. When a person is used as a courtesy runner, he is still eligible to enter the game for any player. A courtesy runner must enter the game before the 1 st pitch is thrown to the current batter.

## Mercy Rule

A 15 run rule comes in effect from the $5^{\text {th }}$ inning on. The manager of the team behind has the option of conceding the game when down by 20 runs or more prior to the $5^{\text {th }}$ inning. All players present will be credited for the game if their names are listed in the book and it is signed off by the umpire. The 15 run rule does not apply in the playoffs.

## Hit Batsmen

First base will be awarded as long as the batter, in the opinion of the umpire, has made an attempt to get out of the way of the pitch. If a batter leans into a pitch in the opinion of the umpire, the pitch will be called a ball or strike and first base will not be awarded. Any pitcher that throws at any players deliberately will be ejected from the game.
(2017)

## Sliding

Players must slide or veer if a defensive player has the ball. The roll block or take out slide is illegal. All base runners must slide directly to the base and /or attempt to avoid all contact with the defensive player. This type of play can be very dangerous and will not be tolerated. The penalty is ejection with the strong possibility of additional penalties after the incident has been reviewed. Head First Sliding is permitted. (2017)

## Misc Rules

Each team will be given the availability and access the, "2017 Softball Playing rules" as adopted by USA Softball (formerly known as ASA) to go along with our local Bylaws. The USA softball rulebook can be purchased as an app for phones/tablets for $\$ 15$. Our Bylaws supersede the USA Softball rulebook however ASA rules will be observed beyond local rules. The league also observes the USA Softball (ASA) banned bat list.

At no time will any players, coaches or managers be allowed behind the backstop.
Players are allowed to re-enter the game after coming out. Substitute player must be in line up for 6 outs.
Bases will be 65 feet long. Players will be allowed to leave bases on point of release.
For the first inning of play, pitchers are allowed seven practice pitches before the first batter. For innings 2 thru 7, pitchers are allowed five practice pitches.

Once the game starts, no kids are (<16 yrs) allowed on the bench or in the bench area.
The team that wins the championship each year has the option when to play the following year's opening day. They will play the team they defeated in the Championship.

During the pitcher's delivery, a batter cannot "show a bunt" then pullback and take a full swing. If this happens, the batter is out. This rule is to protect the infielders. (2015)

The pitcher shall not wear any item (including jersey's not team colors) on the pitching hand, wrist, forearm, elbow or thighs, which may, in the umpire's judgment, be distracting to the batter. Florescent yellow shirts with a yellow ball and White shirts with a white ball are prohibited and must be removed or pitcher is ejected from the game.

When the pitcher is in possession of the ball in the circle, all runners off their bases must immediately attempt to advance or retreat. If the runner does not retreat to the bag, he can no longer return to it safely and must advance. If the pitcher drops the ball at any time before delivery of the pitch, the ball is alive and all runners may advance at their own risk, without penalty. (2017) **in line with ASA look back rule

## Pitching

10 Man Modified Softball Pitching Rules. (Rule Appended 3/2/2015)
The runner may leave the base and/or advance at the point the pitchers release.
Two feet are needed on the pitching mound to start.
In the act of delivering the ball, the pitcher shall not take more than one step, which must be forward, toward the batter and simultaneous with the delivery of the ball to the batter. No stepping backward or rocking back before going toward.

A legal pitch shall be a ball that is delivered to the batter with an underhand motion BELOW THE HIP. (Bowling Style)
No windmill or sidearm or slingshot type of delivery.
The pitcher must release the ball on the first forward swing of pitching arm past the hip. The release must have a complete, smooth follow-through with no abrupt stop of the arm near the hip. There will be no hitting of the hip.

The ball must not be outside the pitcher's wrist at the top of the backswing, and during the complete forward delivery.
On the forward swing of the pitching arm, the elbow must be locked at the point of release.
Pitcher must start square \& make the delivery square.

On the back swing, the ball cannot be above a right angle ( 90 degrees). This is determined by the angle created by the hip, shoulder and the ball. The pitcher is allowed bend at the waist and bring his arm back to be perpendicular to the ground (high noon), as long as he maintains a right able ( 90 degrees) between the hip, shoulder and the ball.


For further clarification of the pitching rules, reference www.10manmodified.com (2017)

## Penalty for an illegal pitch

$1^{\text {st }}$ The batter is awarded 1st Base and any base runners advance to the next base
$2^{\text {nd }}$ The batter is awarded 1st Base and any base runners advance to the next base.
If a pitcher throws two illegal pitches in a game, the pitcher can no longer pitch in that game. If a pitcher is removed from 3 games due to illegal pitching, that pitcher can no longer pitch that season (regular and playoffs).

If a batter puts an illegal pitch into play, nothing negative can happen to the offensive team. The result of the play cannot be less than the penalties listed above. The offense has the choice of accepting the result of the play or taking the penalty.

## Forfeiture

In the event of team forfeiture for any reason or cause, the said team will pay a penalty of the league in the amount of the sum paid to the umpires, to be paid before their next scheduled game. If the penalty is not paid on time (before next scheduled game) that to will be considered a forfeit and an additional penalty will be assessed in the amount of the cost of the umpires.

Three forfeits in any one season will be cause to suspend any team from the league.
Illegal player(s) will be a cause for forfeiture.
Not having enough players to start a game will be a cause for forfeiture. (You must start with nine (9) players but may finish with less than nine (9) players. When finishing with less than 9 players, any vacancy in line-up will be an automatic out.)

Any and all rules in the official softball rule book with regard to forfeitures will also apply.
The score of a forfeit game will be 7-0. Everyone present for the team not forfeiting will be credited a game.
In the event that both league teams cannot field enough present active players, each team will be penalized and there will be no winner.

## Scorekeeping

The home team will keep the official score and will see to it that the league officials receive the official score sheet and statistics for league use. Game results shall be reported by winning team to league official within 48 hours so results are posted on league website. Failure to comply will result in in no one receiving game credit for winning team.

All press releases and scores will be given out the winning team (Salem Sunbeam - 686-3633 - Sports Deck, league website, PG-CP Mens softball official Facebook page, and statistics will be given out by a league official. .

## Section 3: Code of Conduct/League Policies/Umpires

## Umpires

Umpires will be assigned by the "assigner" and will complete control of the game in accordance with all ASA rules of softball including all Local League rules. Two (2) umpires will be assigned for each game.

The umpires will be in control of all games and will be responsible for the good order of every game. They will report to the League Officials all infractions levied by the umpires and Officials will (by local league rules) levy any and all fines necessary to insure the good order of the League. Any discussions are limited only between the umpires and team managers.

The umpires must supply the name of the team and the name of ejected player from the game and the reason for the ejection. This must be in writing.

The umpires will be responsible to know our local league rules as well as ASA rules. All rules will be strictly carried out by the umpires and the league officials. The umpires will hold a home plate meeting with team managers covering the ground rules prior to the game. They will give a general announcement stating the start of the game. The umpires have the judgement to call a game due to day light or other weather related issues (rain/lightening etc.,) In the event of lightning the umpire must suspend the game for 20 minutes from the last strike, if additional strikes occurs then an additional 20 minutes must be started for each strike.

All fees paid to umpires will be in compliance with the regulations set forth by the umpire's association.
All fees will be paid promptly at the end of the game. Umpires must sign the score book at the end of the game.
Single fee for one umpire will be $\$ 70$.
Fee for home umpire is $\$ 50$ and fee for field umpire is $\$ 45$

Umpires will be paid at least a $\$ 20$ show-up fee each if the first pitch of the game is thrown.
In the event that the game is called early and not official, The Umpires will be paid a prorated fee (per inning i.e. $\$ 7 /$ inning for home ump and $\$ 6 /$ inning for field ump).

Umpires \& opposing manager, coach or team captain must check bats of their opponent's bats prior to start of the game. (2010)

## Conduct for Team/Players

The umpire will have the power to eject a player or spectator and forfeit a game without warning for any conduct deemed unsportsmanlike or detrimental to the game. Any foul language will not be tolerated. FIGHTING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Any violation on this will be brought before the league representatives. Any participant assaulting an official or participant will automatically be suspended for the current season and the incident may result in legal action. Any defensive (INCLUDING your PITCHER) player who, in the opinion of the umpire, deliberately throws the ball at a base runner will be ejected, with the strong possibility of further penalties after the incident is reviewed. When players are listed on a team's roster it is understood that team manager will notify them of all rules and regulations the leagues Code of Conduct. Teams are responsible for the conduct of their fans.

## Ejected Active Players

If a player or a coach is ejected from a game by the umpire for any reasonable cause, he is fined $\$ 30.00$ - one game suspension. Fine must be paid before next scheduled game.

Sight and sound rules goes into effect for the ejected player.
Second offenders of this rule will be suspended for (3) regularly scheduled games and a fine of $\$ 50.00$ must be paid to the League Officials before the individual is accepted back into the league.

Third offenders will be banned from the league for the season. To be able to be reinstates, they must go before Board of League Representatives and pay $\$ 75.00$ fine and suspension as determined by league. Suspension will be no less than 5 games.

Touching of umpires by players, coaches or managers in any manner, before, during or after games will consist in automatic expulsion or any other action decided by league.

For an ejection due to a rules violation, there will be no fine or suspension.
All league players are subject to any of the above rules including games where they are spectators.
Any ejection is subject to league review and further disciplinary action if deemed so by league representatives.
If suspended, the player, coach or manager cannot sit on the bench during the suspension.

## Profanity

Profanity will not be tolerated by this league and will be grounds for suspension according to rules provided.
If the umpire is uncertain about profanity coming from a team's bench area, a team warning will be issued. If it happens again, the team manager will be ejected if the umpire doesn't know who used the profanity.

## Alcohol/Illegal Drug Policy

There will be no consumption of alcoholic beverages during league play by any of the team members in uniform. Under NO circumstances will the illegal use of any and all narcotic substances (except under advisement of a doctor) be tolerated. ALL STATE AND LOCAL LAWS WILL BE OBSERVED.

First team offense: player ejection
Second team offense: forfeit
No continuous trips back and forth to vehicles.

## Eligibility for Post Season

An active player must appear in a minimum of $1 / 3$ of the games and at least 1 inning (full) per game to be eligible to play in any play-off, championship and all-star game. Pitchers shall receive game credit when they record 3 outs in an inning, unless pitcher faces every batter in the lineup in the inning at least once. In that case, the pitcher will receive game credit as well. There will be a designated meeting prior to the playoffs where team managers may verify player eligibility by viewing the books. A team can challenge a player's eligibility after this meeting but it must be done as a protest in order to do so. All starting players MUST be protested, by the end of game. All substitutes can be protested after $1^{* *}$ pitch upon entering the filed or after first pitch upon stepping into the batter's box. If a protest is made and the player is found to have been ineligible the team forfeits the game regardless of the outcome.
(VOTED 2015) Exemption of seven games minimum rule IF a player was either away on military assignment or if a player returns from injury during the season with a certified doctor's note. A prorated amount of $1 / 3$ rd of the games remaining (rounded to the nearest) must be played, starting from the players return from tour or injury. (Example: 10 games remaining, $10 / 3=3.3$. Player must appear in 3 games to eligible). ALL exemptions are subject to review and approval by majority of the League Board.

## Free Agent/Waiver Policy.

Players are free to join any team prior to the start of the season. Once the season begins, active players wishing a release from any team must apply to their manager for a written release. Once this release is given, the League Officials $m u s t$ be notified of this release. The active player who has this release will then be offered to the team with the poorest win-loss record, and if that team claims the active player, he must report to that team. If that team does not claim him, he will be offered to the next highest team in regards to worst record in the current standings, etc. If the
active player is claimed and does not report to the claiming team, he will not be eligible to play for any team until a written and signed release has been given by the claiming team, and if given, will then be offered to the next highest team with regards to poorest win-loss record, etc. until claimed. Once claimed, each team manager will be asked by the league officials for their approval. If approval is given, then the active player may join that team. If approval is not given, the active player cannot play for any team until approval is given and will be considered only eligible to play with the active player's original team. If the active player is claimed and does not wish to play for the claiming team or the original team, he may sit out the balance of the season as a free agent and the following season may be join any team. If multiple players are on waivers at the same time, a revolving waiver order is maintained. Once a team claims a player, the next team in regards to the worst record can claim a player of the remaining players available on waivers.

## Age Limit

No team may have an active player under the age of 16 . Active players must be 16 years of age or older as of May 1. Under age 18, a parent/guardian must sign the waiver.

## Rainout Games Criteria

The HOME TEAM will be responsible for determining if the field is playable. A game cannot be called before 4:00 pm or later than 5:30 pm. Post season games are decided by the majority of The League Board.

10 Team League: If games are rained out on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of a week, the makeup game(s) will be played on immediate Sunday if fields and umpires are available. Voted into bylaws on 2/21/12.

8 Team League: Tuesday and Wednesday games will be made up immediately on the following Monday. Thursday and Friday game(s) will be made-up on the $2^{\text {nd }}$ following Sunday.

All games must be made up by second available date or ASAP by league scheduler. If dates are not available on the second date following the postponement, the game(s) will be moved to the third date and scheduled accordingly.

League make-up games have priority over any tournaments. The failure to make-up a rescheduled game will result in forfeiture and fines deemed by the league.

## Postponements/Rescheduling

No postponements will be given except in a case of extreme emergency only. League Officials will make the determination of emergency. The game cannot be postponed unless it is of an emergency nature and must have the approval of the League Officials and the majority of the League Board.

League Scheduler should use the following procedure if a change of schedule is actually needed. The league scheduler will:

1. Get approval from the other 4 board members.
2. Confirm umpire availability for the new dates. (*only league scheduler communicates with umpires regarding schedule to avoid confusion).
3. Notify coaches involved with game(s) being changed.

After these steps are followed, the scheduler will publically announce the schedule change.

## Protest Board

The Protest Board is to consist of one representative from each team, headed by the League Officials, to meet and listen to any and all protest proceedings and to act on said protest by giving a fair, honest and unbiased decision accordingly to all rules and regulations set forth.

All representatives must be present and a $\$ 10$ fine will be levied for missing any protest meeting or any special meeting. There will be a minimum of two days' notice for any special meetings. There will be secret ballot; there will be no abstention.

Team representatives who are directly involved in the protest will not have any voice in the decision rendered by the Protest Board.

## Protest Games and Appeals

All protests or appeals will be in conformance will all rules and regulations, both international and local.
When a game is played under protest, the TEAM CAPTAIN or MANAGER (only) must notify the HEAD UMPIRE who will notify the OPPOSING TEAM CAPTAIN or MANAGER and will mark the official score book, date and time and will sign the official score book at that point in time.

The TEAM CAPTAIN or MANAGER must notify the LEAGUE OFFICIALS within 24 hours from the time of protest in writing and a protest fee of $\$ 10$ must accompany the written protest. A hearing will be scheduled by the LEAGUE OFFICIALS at the earliest possible date.

In the event the protesting team loses the protest, the $\$ 10$ protest fee will be forfeited to the league treasury.
In the event the protesting team wins the protest, the $\$ 10$ protest fee will be returned.
A judgment call by the umpire cannot be appealed by protest. If a manager insists on protesting judgment calls, the $\$ 10$ protest fee will be automatically forfeited.

## Section 4: Equipment/Uniforms/Ground Rules

## Equipment

The league will provide two new DeBeer Clincher F12 Gold softballs for each game. There will be no waiting for foul balls to be returned to the field. Both balls can be used and either ball is live, in play starting from the first pitch of the game. (2016).

Individual teams will provide their own practice bats, balls, gloves, shoes (nonmetal spikes), catcher's equipment (mask must be worn) and uniforms, etc.

All equipment must be kept out of the playing area (bats, balls, gloves, etc.)
Warm up bats, bat doughnuts, metal bars may be used while warming up on deck.

## Uniforms

All participating players must wear full uniforms, including athletic shoes, sneakers, etc. No metal spikes. Hats must be worn and they must be the same. Shorts are allowed to be individually worn by a player but they must be "baseball shorts" with a belt with high socks. There will be no option on hats, shirts, pants/shorts of asking the other manager about players not in complete uniforms. When adding a player to their roster, a team has two weeks to have a player in the team's uniform. Prior to that, they must wear similar clothing to the rest of the team. Any player that does not have a matching team jersey after the 2 week grace period will not receive game credit for the played game. The purpose of this is to have a league that looks like a league and not pick-up games. Numbers must be somewhere on the uniform. Coaches must have at least the team's shirt and hat to coach the bases

## Preparation of Playing Fields

Each HOME TEAM will be responsible for preparing the field for play before each game. Each team is responsible for cleaning up their side of field at games end.

All field equipment will be kept in a shed parked at the field.
Steps in preparing field for play:
Drag infield starting from the baselines and working in.
String from home plate corner to first base foul line and third base foul line.
Use lime for infield foul lines, first and third base foul lines. (2" lines )

Use lime for first base running line. (2" lines)
(RETURN ALL EQUIPMENT TO SHED AND LOCK IT)
Home team must be off field twenty (20) minutes prior to the start of game.
The home team must fill in the holes at home plate and pitcher's mound after the game.

## Bat Policy

All bats used must be compression tested prior to the start of the season and anytime during the season if deemed by the league. A Legal Bat is one that passes the 1450 ASA standard threshold for slow-pitch bats, when tested (all bats will be preloaded at $\mathbf{5 0 0}$ psi and must pass the $\mathbf{1 4 5 0}$ threshold). The exceptions are the non-linear bats. A non-linear bat is a bat whose structure deviates from the traditional single wall, multi wall and/or layered composite designs. It is the bat-owner's responsibility to know if the bat is on the ASA non-linear list. ALL Bats MUST have the ASA 2004 or 2011/2012/2013/2014/2015... Certified Logo stamp on it. A legal bat cannot have any dents or cracks. If it does, it cannot be used in league play. IMPORTANT - If a Bat cannot be clearly identified as a legal bat then the bat cannot be used. All bats will be compression tested prior to use in league play. Once the bat is tested a League approved sticker will be adhered to the bat. Any bat may be tested randomly if it is in question. All bats will again be tested prior to the beginning of the playoffs.

Legal bats must not be on the latest "ASA Non Approved Bat List". Managers need to down load this list which can be found at: http://usa.asasoftball.com/e/build batlist one page.asp and have it with them. Any player caught using an illegal bat will face disciplinary actions of the play being ruled an out, player is ejected from the game and will be suspended for one (1) games (not including the current game).

ANY PLAYER CAUGHT USING AN ALTERED BAT (shaved, rolled, juiced ect.) WILL BE BANNED FROM THE LEAGUE FOREVER.

Bats are not to be taped at the knob or under the knob. Any late arriving player must show the umpire his bat prior to using an uninspected bat. - Voted in bylaws - November 2010 meeting

If a team Manager protest a bat suspected of being altered, after it has been used in a game, the umpire shall take the bat and secure it from the field of play so the bat shall be sent to the bat manufacturer for inspection. If the bat is proven NOT to be altered, the protesting manager/team is responsible for paying for the replacement of the bat or providing compensation for a particular bat lost from the protest.

## Batting Helmets

It is highly encouraged that they be worn for any batter(s) \& base runner(s) for safety reasons. However this is the player's option and any player choosing not to wear a helmet is at their own risk

## Catchers

Must wear a mask with a throat protector (all other equipment is optional)

## Pitcher

All pitchers must wear a protective mask on their face while pitching. (2015)

## Double First Base

The double first base is used for safety purposes. The Orange Base only comes into play on initial throw from the infield or outfield. If there is a "play", the fielder must touch the White Base or the batter-runner will be safe and the fielder may even be called for obstruction. The batter-runner MUST touch the Orange Base. If not, he will be called out immediately. Should there be no play at first base the runner may use the White Base. On all subsequent plays, the orange base is no longer an issue; ALL subsequent touches by the fielder and runner MUST be on the WHITE bag. ${ }^{* *}$ (Note this is in line with ASA Rule 8 Sec $2 M$ )

