

Dyer Girls Softball League, Incorporated
Rules and Regulations
Revision 20200718.001

The following special rules and regulations shall apply to all in-town league and division play within the DYER GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE, INC (DGSLI). All other rules and regulations shall be in accordance with the current official N.S.A. Rules Book.

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Article I. Definitions

Section I.01 Terminology

1. Executive Board - The Dyer Girls Softball League, Incorporated Executive Board.
2. Continuous Batting Order - All players get a turn at bat regardless of whether they are playing on the field.
3. Home Team Side - The third base side of the field.
4. Program - Dyer Girls Softball League Incorporated (DGSLI or DGSL).
5. Protest Committee - This committee consists of the Division Commissioner, the Umpire-In-Chief, and the President of the Executive Board or his/her designee(s), or as appointed.
6. A Travel player shall be defined as any player who:
 - a. Is currently on the roster of any travel team, "A" team, "B" team, AND/OR, has played in any sanctioned or tournament game (not a practice game) for that travel team during the current calendar year.
7. A pitcher shall be defined as any player that has appeared the previous season for at a minimum of eight innings and or 24 outs.
8. Age/Grade Cutoff - The date that determines the division in which a player participates

Section I.02 Document Hierarchy

1. DGSLI follows the National Softball Association (NSA) rules. The DGSLI Rules and Regulations are in addition to the NSA rules. In case of conflicts between the DGSLI Rules and Regulations, and the current official NSA Rule Book, the DGSLI Rules and Regulations take precedence unless participating in any other league or tournament.
2. Interpretation of the DGSLI Rules and Regulations shall lie with the President of the Executive Board, the Division Commissioner, and or the Umpire in Charge.
3. Any changes to the DGSLI Rules and Regulations must be approved by the Executive Board before the new season begins.
4. At a minimum the DGSLI Rules and Regulations must be reviewed at least every three years.
5. The Executive Board reserves the right to modify the rules and regulations during the season.

Section I.03 Applicability

1. The DGSLI Rules and Regulations shall apply to the 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 18U, and 26U Adult Divisions.
2. The DGSLI Rules and Regulations shall apply to intra league teams and all intra league tournaments games.
3. The DGSLI Rules and Regulations do not apply to ASA, NSA or United Girls Softball Association, Inc. (UGSI) tournaments.
4. In addition to its General Rules and NSA Rules, if DGSLI Girls Softball shall have a Fall League, DGSLI Rules and Regulations will apply solely to the Fall League.

Article II. Eligibility

Section II.01 Registration and Eligibility

1. All Players must be properly registered in accordance with the DGSLI rules and regulations in order to be eligible to participate in any DGSLI sponsored League or tournament game play.
 - a. An automatic game forfeit will be imposed upon the team that plays an ineligible player for all games that the player in question plays.
 - b. Managers and coaches are subject to discipline by vote of the executive board.
2. Players are required to register on an annual basis at the DGSLI pre-season registration events or DGSLI website.
3. Except for the adult travel team, Managers and coaches are not permitted to register players.

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4. Late registrations will be accepted in accordance to DGSLI Rules and Regulations.
5. In the event of late registration (post draft), the player is placed on the next team identified in the draft order or placed upon decision of the Executive Board.
6. There will be a late registration fee (\$25.00) assessed for any player after open registration ends.
7. Any other registration exceptions must be approved by the DGSLI Executive Board.
8. Players participating in high school softball are not eligible to participate in practice or game play until the conclusion of the high school season.
9. All Managers, Coaches, Participants who fail to turn in uniforms, money, goods, or other DGSLI property as required by the prescribed date will be subject to suspensions and/or fines as determined by the Executive Board.

Section II.02 Playing Up and Down

1. In certain circumstances players may play down with board approval.
2. Players may play up with the approval of the executive board.
 - a. The player must have participated in the eligible division's All-Star team the prior year, or be in the final year of the eligible division to be considered for playing up
 - b. . Players must register for their current age division and seek approval to be moved into the desired division.

Section II.03 Travel Ball Players

1. Any player that is defined as a travel ball player as specified in the Definitions of this document, shall be eligible to register and play on any DGSLI team within any division with the exception of any DGSLI All-Star team. Division rules will apply as to any restrictions imposed upon participants identified as being a "Travel Ball" player.
 - a. Failure to identify, and/or not follow divisional rules, will result in disciplinary actions to the player, the manager, and coaches.

Section II.04 Player Ages

1. All Ages are as of December 31 or the prior calendar year.

06U Division	At least 5 up to age 6
08U Division	7 and 8 years of age
10U Division	9 and 10 years of age
12U Division	11 and 12 years of age
14U Division	13 and 14 years of age
18U Division	15 through 18 years of age
26U Division	19 and up

Section II.05 Code of Conduct

1. All Players and parents, guardians, managers, coaches, and executive board members shall be required to acknowledge the DGSLI "Code of Conduct" prior to being permitting to participate in any regular season, post season, or all-star game play. The signed code of conduct must be turned in to the team manager, who will in turn, deliver to the DGSLI Secretary. An electronic version of the "Code of Conduct" delivered during registration will serve as acknowledgement of receipt for all parents and guardians of the participant.

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Article III. Managers and Coaches, Teams, Practices and Draft

Section III.01 Managers and Coaches

1. Qualifications for Managers and Coaches

- a. Managers and Coaches should possess leadership skills, the know-how to deal with children; training them in team work, good sportsmanship, and discipline.
- b. Must be a resident of Dyer, IN or have an immediate family member (defined as a child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent, spouse, sibling, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law, including adoptive relationships, of a natural person referred to herein) in the DGSLI program, requests by other adults will be reviewed and approved by executive board.
- c. Must be at least 18 years of age
- d. Must be of sound character as determined by the executive board.
- e. The board may use any means necessary to ascertain a manager or coach's character.
- f. Must submit a criminal background check prior to the start of the season.
- g. Must adhere to the DGSLI Social Media Policy
- h. If made available, must participate in all mandatory training provided by DGSLI.

2. Selection of Managers

- a. All managers will be reviewed and voted on by the Executive Board.
- b. The executive board shall select managers by vote, qualifications and previous league feedback.
- c. Any returning managers within the same division will be given seniority to manage a team.

3. Coaches

- a. A Manager may have up to (3) coaches for the team
- b. A Coach must be a resident of Dyer or have an immediate family member in the DGSLI program, requests by other adults will be reviewed and approved by the executive board.
- c. A Manager may include up to (2) official scorekeepers for the team
- d. Selection and approval of coaches is subject to review by the executive board.

4. Conduct by Managers and Coaches

- a. No Manger or Coach shall engage in any argument or act in any manner detrimental to the league either on the field, or any of the leagues premises.
- b. No one, including but not limited to Managers, Coaches, Umpires, Spectators, and/or anyone associated with DGSLI shall subject ANYONE associated with DGSLI or any other associated league, to physical, emotional, verbal, or mental strain.
- c. Profane or obscene language is not permitted within the presence of any participant, at any time
- d. Verbal interference, including harmful, abusive, or derogatory remarks; gestures (as interpreted by the umpire or executive board members) to umpires, opposing team players, managers, or coaches is prohibited by all participants of DGSLI.

5. Gameplay

- a. Only Managers, Coaches, and scorekeepers are allowed in the dugouts during a game.
- b. If a team is short on help, the manager may seek a parent to assist during that game. This temporary coach becomes the responsibility of the manager and is subject to all rules regarding coaches

6. Ejection/Suspension/Dismissal

- a. If in the judgment of the umpire or executive board member a manager or coach displays conduct that is considered detrimental to the game, the individual may be ejected from the game. An umpire or executive board member must submit in writing to the UIC and President, a completed incident report on forms supplied by DGSLI for each occurrence of an ejection.
- b. Ejection is subject to additional disciplinary action, which may include, but is not limited to:
 - i. Removal from the premises and a subsequent (1) game suspension
 - ii. Suspension for the remainder of the season
- c. Ejection from a game shall serve as notice of suspension.
- d. Suspensions may be appealed by notifying the President of DGSLI before the next scheduled game, or within 48 hours of the ejection occurring. Any person sanctioned under these rules shall be entitled to present protest of suspension. A hearing of the suspension protest will be held within 48 hours of the time the protest is filed. The decision of the President, and/or protest

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- committee shall require a simple majority vote. This decision is considered final.
- e. Managers, coaches, temporary assistants found in violation of any rules in this document shall be subject to immediate dismissal from the league by vote of the executive board.
 - f. At the discretion of the executive board, managers or coaches may be permanently banned from further participation in any league activities based on:
 - i. Repeatedly found in violation of rules
 - ii. Take any action that puts any player safety into jeopardy
 - iii. Take any action that puts the league at risk of liability

7. Responsibilities

- a. Setup of the field for play (bases, pitcher's mound, foul lines, when necessary)
 - i. May designate parents to assist in preparing and cleaning up the fields
- b. Proper care and maintenance of all equipment
- c. Ensure the equipment boxes are closed, and locked
- d. Managers and coaches must return all equipment within 30 days of the last game of the season.
- e. Managers and coaches are responsible for ensuring dugouts and bleachers are kept clean before and after games.
- f. Provide additional assistance to the league to conduct on-going maintenance, tournaments, and fundraisers
- g. All home team managers are required to post scores on the DGSLI website or provide to the Division Commissioner within 24 hours of the game.
- h. Ensure all players have removed all jewelry prior to starting a game or practice. Stud earrings are acceptable
- i. Attending evaluations prior to the season, but not submitting evaluations for their own divisions.
- j. Managers failing to comply will be given a disciplinary warning, and subsequent failures will be reviewed by the executive board for further discipline.

Article IV. Evaluations and Draft

Section IV.01 Exceptions, Special Requests, Manager's Daughter, Family

- 1. Exceptions and Special Requests
 - a. Any girl can list only one manager that she does not want to play for in the new season. Only requests where the girl or member of the girls immediate family have played for that manager will be considered. if the girl or a member of the girls immediate family have never played on that managers team the request will be denied.
 - b. There will be no special requests for a player to be placed on a specific team, or with a specific player, for any reason
- 2. Manager's Immediate Family
 - a. See Draft Process regarding Manager's Immediate Family
- 3. Sisters and Family
 - a. Sisters/family members that do not wish to play on the same team will be treated individually in the drafts as any other players.
 - b. This section does not apply to Manager's daughters

Section IV.02 Player Evaluations

Evaluations - Dyer Girls Softball evaluations consist of Pre-Season evaluations.

- 1. Pre-Season Evaluations
 - a. Dyer Girls Softball will conduct a Pre-Season evaluation session (Player and Pitcher).
 - b. All player evaluations will be conducted by (2) members of the DGSLI Executive Board along with the Division Commissioner.
 - i. These two evaluators will be appointed based on joint decision of the DGSLI President and respective Division Commissioner. To the extent possible, evaluators should not participate in evaluations for Divisions in which they have a vested interest (i.e.

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- immediate family member playing in that division). Should any board member not meet the criteria; the respective Division Commissioner, UIC (If available), and President shall meet to confirm a new outside appointee.
- c. The designated evaluators, with exception to the Division Commissioner, will be selected based on:
 - i. Availability
 - ii. Seniority
 - iii. Softball Knowledge
 - iv. Must not have a participant in the division they are evaluating
 - d. Team Managers are required to attend the evaluations and are encouraged to collect their own personal notes. Managers will be seated separately from the evaluators to facilitate a distraction free environment.
 - e. The following areas will be evaluated on a scale of 1(lowest) through 10(highest) with sub-categories specific to the skill:
 - i. Base Running / Speed & Agility'
 - ii. Infield / Outfield'
 - iii. Throwing / Batting
 - iv. Catching
 - v. Pitching / Catching (Held Separately)
 - f. Evaluation score sheets will be returned to the designated evaluation coordinator at the conclusion of the evaluation session. Scores will be entered by the IT Manager into the DGSLI Evaluation tool.
 - g. **Player Evaluation:** All players (including those identified as "Pitchers") registering to play in DGSLI divisions (10U or 12U) are required to attend. Protected Players (including Manager's immediate family) are not excluded from rankings and evaluations.
 - h. **Pitcher Evaluation:** All Pitchers registering to play in DGSLI divisions (10U, 12U) must have an evaluation on record prior to the draft.
 - i. Any participant in DGSLI may opt to evaluate as a Pitcher. Any player who participates in the Pitcher's evaluation will be automatically designated and ranked as a pitcher for the draft.
 - j. Protected Players (including Manager's immediate family) are not excluded from rankings and pitcher evaluations.

Section IV.03 Draft

The Dyer Girls Softball draft will be conducted as defined in this section. The draft will be held at least two weeks prior to the start of the pre-season.

The number of registrants will decide the number of teams in each division. These are subject to change. Ideally, the number of players on each team is:

- 06U (8), 08U (11), 10U (11), 12U (11), 14U (14), 18U (14)

1. Draft Preparation

Any player not identified as being "protected" will be returned to the draft pool.

Draft rankings will be determined by using the Pre-Season evaluation score averages. Pitchers will be ranked as A or B as determined by the results from the scoring tool.

The IT Manager will provide each Team Manager, Division Commissioner, and Executive Board with the pool of players, their evaluation score, and the overall draft ranking. The executive board will review draft rankings for all players designated as a pitcher one week prior to the draft. The Executive Board and team managers will have until midnight of the day prior to this meeting to submit any additional names or changes to the division commissioners for review. After this deadline, the list will be considered final.

Any modifications to the rankings of pitchers will be agreed upon during this session by majority consensus

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of the executive board with the exception of the respective division commissioner who will have no vote. Each named player will be discussed for a period not to exceed five minutes. After which, a simple vote will be taken to determine a change in ranking or to leave as is. Should a majority not exist, the Division Commissioner will immediately provide a final determination of the player's ranking.

A Team Manager's immediate family is considered a "Protected" player. Only one "Protected" player is allowed per team, except if a manager has more than one immediate family member in the same division. In that case, all would be considered as "protected". In the instance of more than one immediate family member, the highest ranked of the two players will be the primary protected player. In addition, if one were a pitcher, that player would then be the primary protected player. If both are pitchers, the draft score rankings will determine who the primary protected player is. The other immediate family member(s) will remain protected but will be set aside from the draft and considered the final draft selection(s) for the manager.

If a manager's immediate family member(s) plays on a different team, that manager will not have a protected player assigned.

A Protected Player's draft ranking will be used to determine if the team may already have a designated pitcher on the roster.

2. Draft Day

- a. Draft will be followed by a review of players. The Draft day will be determined by the board.
- b. Draft Cards or Sheets will be used to track the draft
- c. Only the Team Manager may participate in the draft.
- d. If a Team Manager is not available, a board member will be appointed by the President of DGSLI to facilitate that team's draft.
- e. No Players are allowed to be present at the draft
- f. Division Commissioner will oversee respective divisional draft proceedings. If the division commissioner is also a manager within same division or manager in another division drafting at the same time then a DGSL board member must oversee draft proceedings.
- g. Draft selection order will be determined by random draw prior to the start of the draft. Each round will proceed in the "snake" style draft.

Ex.

Round 1 – Pick 1, Pick 2, Pick 3

Round 2 – Pick 3, Pick 2, Pick 1

Round 3 – Pick 1, Pick 2, Pick 3

3. Draft Process

- a. Draft Steps
 - i. **Step 1:** Determine Draft Order
 - ii. **Step 2:** Commissioner determines if Pitcher Equalization round is necessary
 - iii. **Step 3:** Commissioner determines if Player Equalization round is necessary
 - iv. **Step 4:** Draft commences. All players regardless of age are eligible to be selected
 1. Teams will draft in sequence according to the random draw selection and snake.
 2. Team Managers may draft any player in the pool regardless of age or ranking.
 3. Pitcher Equalization Rounds occur in the event any team does not have the same amount of protected "A" pitchers on the roster as other teams in the division. The intent of the Pitcher Equalization round is to

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ensure each team has the opportunity to draft one “A” ranked pitcher before opening the entire draft pool. Pitchers are not continually drafted separately until the pool is depleted, rather the number of “A” pitchers is expected to be equal to one per team before continuing.

4. Should all teams begin without any “A” pitchers on the roster, there will be no pitcher equalization round.
5. In the event there are not enough “A” pitchers in the draft pool to properly equalize, the manager will be given the opportunity to equalize by selecting any player from the draft pool so as not to be penalized.
6. Once each team has equalized to the same number “A” pitchers, begin equalizing the teams by number of players.
7. Any remaining pitchers or players may be selected at this time.

4. Sample Draft Rounds

Example 1 – Equalization

Team	T1	T2	T3
Protected “A” Pitchers	1	0	0
Other Protected Player	0	1	1
Total	1	1	1

The draft order is T1, T3, T2

A Pitcher Equalization (**PE**) round is initiated:

Draft ROUND 1 (PE) – T1 (Skip), T3, T2

All teams now have one Pitcher on the roster; T2 and T3 both have two total players. Proceed to the draft and equalize the number of players.

(SNAKE THE ROUND)

Draft ROUND 2 – T2 (skip), T3 (skip), T1

Draft ROUND 3 – T1, T3, T2

Draft ROUND 4 – T2, T3, T1

Example 2 – No Equalization

Team	T1	T2	T3
Protected “A” Pitchers	0	0	0
Other Protected Player	1	1	1
Total	1	1	1

The draft order is T1, T3, T2

Draft ROUND 1 – T1, T3, T2

Draft ROUND 2 – T2, T3, T1

Draft ROUND 3 – T1, T3, and T2

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Section IV.04 Practice Dates and Times

Teams will choose practice dates and times according to random draw selection and snake.

Section IV.05 Team Uniform Colors

Uniform Colors will be selected by each team in reverse order of the practice date and time selection.

Section IV.06 Post Draft

1. Late Registrations will be assigned to the next team in the draft order.
2. The Division Commissioner must approve any trades before they are considered final.

Article V. Practicing, Scheduling, Gameplay, Fields

Section V.01 Practice Schedules

1. Practices

- a. The "Official Practice period" begins April 1 of the season year. The DGSLI Executive Board may alter the practice period at its discretion.
- b. Practices are limited to (6) hours per week during the time period of "official practice period" until the opening day of the season.
- c. Practices are limited to (3) hours per week during the season, from opening day until the last game.
- d. No practices are to be held on fields that have been lined for play
- e. DGSLI sanctioned practices are to be held only at Northgate Park. Any team practices or activities held outside of Northgate Park are not sanctioned by DGSL; therefore liability will be at the responsibility of the parents.
- f. Sunday practices are allowed if inclement weather has prevented a team from conducting a regular practice. Managers cannot declare Sunday practices as mandatory, regardless of circumstance.
- g. Sunday practices are allowed after 12:00PM and may only last up to 90 minutes.
- h. Practice requests should be sent to the Scheduling Coordinator for approval. The Scheduling coordinator will approve or deny the request on a first come, first serve basis.

Section V.02 Scheduling & Rescheduling

1. Scheduling

- a. The starting times, dates, and field locations will be as listed on the official league schedule.
- b. Makeup game dates, locations, and times will be determined by the UIC and/or Scheduling coordinator.

2. Rescheduling

- a. All games must be played. Games that are not regulation or regulation "tie" games shall be rescheduled and resumed at the exact point in which the game ceased play. To reschedule a game, all managers must agree on (3) acceptable dates to play within (3) days of the original game scheduled date. Notify the UIC or Scheduling coordinator who will assign the first available date. Should none of the requested dates be available, the Scheduling Coordinator, UIC or Division Commissioner will determine the date of the rescheduled game.

3. Starting and finishing a game

- a. In the event a team cannot field the needed number of players within 15 minutes after the scheduled start time, a forfeit may be declared by the umpire or by the ready team, should no umpire be provided.
- b. There is a minimum of 7 players to start a game.
- c. No inning shall start after 90 minutes have elapsed from the start of the game.
- d. If the game has not yet been completed at the end of 90 minutes, and it is not yet a regulation game, and if there is no game scheduled after the current game, play may

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- continue until a regulation game is concluded.
- e. All home team managers are required to post scores on the DGSLI website or provide to the Division Commissioner within 24 hours of the game.

Section V.03 Field Logistics

1. Field Setup

- a. The home team is responsible for installing and removing bases.
- b. Home teams will occupy the third base dugouts, Visitor teams will occupy the first base dugouts.
- c. It is prohibited for any team to use the infields for practice or warm-ups prior to the start of any game. This does not apply to the 6U Division.
- d. Home teams are responsible for ensuring the lock boxes are secured after each game.
- e. If electronic scoreboards are available, the visiting team shall be responsible for updating the board. The visiting team is responsible for securing the digital scoreboard after each game.

2. Game Balls

- a. A new game ball shall be provided by the home team and used at all times. If the game ball becomes unplayable, a backup ball will be provided by the home team.

3. Umpires

- a. DGSLI provided umpires shall be used throughout scheduled play. In the event umpires are not available, the game shall be played with volunteers if approved by both managers. If either manager does not approve, the game will be rescheduled.
- b. If volunteer umpires are used, the home team shall supply a plate umpire while the visiting team will supply a base umpire; unless otherwise agreed upon.

4. Rainouts

- a. Rainouts may only be called by the umpire, President of DGSLI, or the UIC.
- b. The home plate umpire may call a game at any time because of darkness, rain, panic, temperature, or any other peril.
- c. In the event an umpire is not available, and the President, Division Commissioner or UIC cannot be contacted, the Managers of both teams may agree to reschedule the game.

5. Postponements

- a. A game may be postponed by either an executive board member or manager within the first two weeks of the season. The request must be made to the Division Commissioner at least (7) days prior to the scheduled game. Managers will be notified at least 48 hours prior to the original start date of the decision to reschedule.

6. Weather and Field Conditions

- a. Only the President, or UIC may determine if a field is not playable prior to game time.
- b. During game time, the umpire may determine if a field is safe or playable at any point during the game.
- c. If a game is called because of weather, darkness, or other condition, it will be considered complete if:
 - i. A minimum of (5) innings were played (4 ½ if the home team is winning)
- d. It is the responsibility of the home team manager to notify the division commissioner of an incomplete game, the umpires present, and any other information.
- e. If a game is suspended by the umpire due to weather, there is a 30 minute waiting period before gameplay may resume, be called complete, suspended, or rescheduled, after the weather condition has passed.
- f. In the event the lightning detector alerts, all play will be discontinued immediately, and all teams and fans will vacate the area.
- g. There will be a mandatory "all-clear" at the shortest distance on the detector for 15 minutes until play may resume. If 30 minutes has lapsed, without an "all-clear" event, play will be suspended and/or rescheduled.

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Article VI. Player Conduct, Alcohol and Tobacco, League Gameplay

Section VI.01 Player Game Conduct

1. No player shall enter into an argument or act in any manner detrimental to the league either on the field, on any league premise. This also applies to all associated leagues and their premise.
2. No player, spectator, and/or anyone associated with DGSLI shall subject anyone within DGSLI or associated leagues, to physical, emotional, verbal, or mental strain.
3. Profane or obscene language may not be used by any player, spectator, or anyone associated with DGSLI.
4. If in an umpire's judgment or the judgment of an executive board member, a player's conduct is deemed detrimental to the game, the individual may be ejected from the game. An umpire or executive board member must submit in writing to the UIC and President, a completed incident report on forms supplied by DGSLI for each occurrence of an ejection.
5. Ejection is subject to additional disciplinary action, which may include, but is not limited to:
 - a. Removal from the premises and a subsequent (1) game suspension
 - b. Suspension for the remainder of the season
6. Ejection from a game shall serve as notice of suspension.
7. Suspensions may be appealed by notifying the President of DGSLI before the next scheduled game, or within 48 hours of the ejection occurring. Any person sanctioned under these rules shall be entitled to present protest of suspension. A hearing of the suspension protest will be held within 48 hours of the time the protest is filed. The decision of the President, and/or protest committee shall require a simple majority vote. This decision is considered final.
8. Players may be permanently barred from participation in DGSLI based on one or more of the following:
 - a. Are repeatedly found in violation of the rules
 - b. Take any action that puts player safety in jeopardy.
 - c. Take any action that puts the league at risk of liability.
 - d. No Player shall participate in any unsportsmanlike conduct (in the opinion of the DGSLI executive board, umpire, manager, or coach)
 - e. No Player shall be insubordinate to a manager or coach (in the opinion of the DGSLI executive board, umpire, manager, or coach)

Section VI.02 Umpire Calls

1. Judgment calls made by the umpire cannot be argued or protested.
2. In the event of a question, the manager should request "time-out" and discuss the situation in a rational manner.
3. Only one team representative (manager or coach), from each team, may approach and discuss a dispute with the umpire.
 - a. Umpires may issue a team warning. Subsequent violations may result in ejection from the game.

Section VI.03 Alcohol, Smoking and Tobacco Products

1. Use of tobacco products, e-cigarettes, vapor inhalers, or other devices that present the appearance of smoking as well as any type of chewing tobacco are not permitted in the playing area, dugouts, or areas surrounding the playing area by any player, manager, coach, or umpire.
2. No alcoholic beverages are allowed at any time during practice, regular season games, scrimmage games, or tournament play.

Section VI.04 League Gameplay

1. **Gameplay Logistics**
 - a. Time limit of 90 minutes for all divisions
 - b. Game start times:
 - i. Start times Monday through Friday are 6:00PM
 - ii. All late games shall stop no later than 10:30PM. Games that are not

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- considered regulation will be rescheduled
- iii. During late games, if a game is tied after the regulation number of innings has been completed, and there is still time on the game clock, only extra inning shall be played.
- iv. Weekend games are as the schedule dictates.
- c. The umpire shall keep official game time
- d. The next inning officially starts after the third out is made in the previous inning
- e. Teams have (3) minutes to take the field and be prepared to play. Teams that are not prepared to play may face the following penalties:
 - i. Offense: (1) strike called on the batter
 - ii. Defense: (1) ball called on the batter
- f. A team has the option of replacing a pitcher or catcher at any time with a replacement runner, the replacement runner being the last recorded out.
- g. The umpire may suspend the clock when “time” is called by the leading team or if stalling tactics are used by a team that is leading during the last 10 minutes of the game.
- h. Stalling is determined by the judgment of the umpire.
- i. The umpire may suspend time in the event of an injury or medical situation.

2. Lineups

- a. All lineups, including player names and numbers, must be ready and presented to the plate umpire, opposing team, and official scorer, 5 minutes prior to the scheduled start time.
- b. All injured, sick, but present players must be reported to the plate umpire and opposing team manager before the start of the game.
- c. If a player is not present at the time the lineups are turned in, that player must be placed at the bottom of the lineup. If that player’s turn at bat arrives before the player is present, that player shall be passed over without penalty.
- d. If a player arrives after the start of the game, it shall be the decision of the player’s manager whether or not the player may participate. For the player to be allowed to play, the player must be able to fulfil the **Player Participation** obligations.
 - i. Any player arriving after the start of the fourth inning shall not be permitted to play.
 - 1. This does not apply to the 06U and 08U divisions.
- e. Any player that is known to be leaving a game early must:
 - i. Bat last in the batting order
 - ii. Notify the opposing manager prior to the start of the game
 - 1. Failure to notify the opposing manager will result in an “out” each time that player is to appear after departing.
 - 2. When there are (2) outs:
 - a. It is not permitted for the defense to intentionally walk to batter previous to the vacated position in order to gain the automatic out.
 - b. If the previous batter faces an illegal pitch, obstruction, is hit, or granted a base on balls, the vacant spot is skipped.
- f. In the event of injury or illness to a player the same procedure will be followed. If a batter or base runner must leave the game due to injury, the last batter to have made an out will be inserted to complete the at bat or base running. The next time the injured player is due to bat her spot will be eliminated without penalty if she cannot reenter.

3. Player Participation

- a. Each Player participating in the game must play a minimum of three full innings on defense.
 - i. Exception 8U and 10U Divisions.

4. Substitutions

- a. All substitutions must be given to the opposing manager and plate umpire during the half inning in which the player enters the game.

5. Bat throwing

- a. Bat throwing is not permitted. Bat throwing is a judgment call by the umpire(s).
 - i. The batter will be declared “out”, the ball is dead, and all runners must return to

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the previous base occupied at the time of the pitch.

6. Uniforms and Equipment

- a. All team players shall wear the DGSLI approved uniform. Uniform violations may result in a player being declared ineligible for play by the plate umpire.
- b. 8U and 10U uniforms consist of team shirt, socks, and black shorts supplied by the league. Black softball pants are permitted but not supplied by DGSLI.
- c. 12U, 14U and 18U uniforms consist of team shirt and socks supplied by the league. Black softball pants are permitted but not supplied by DGSLI.
- d. All players will wear necessary safety equipment, i.e. sliding pants, sliding pads, facemask, and batting helmets.
- e. Only lettering, patches, and numbering authorized by DGSLI are permitted on the uniform.
- f. Uniforms modifications must be done by the league's approved vendor.
- g. Distressed shirts, shorts, or pants must be repaired prior to game time.
- h. Sleeves may not be removed.
- i. Headwear is to be worn in accordance with current N.S.A. rules governing safety equipment and headwear.
- j. Steel spikes are not permitted.
- k. In addition to N.S.A requirements, catchers must wear shin guards, chest protector, face mask (with throat guard), and helmet that covers the ears during a game and while warming up a pitcher.
- l. Only official fast-pitch softball bats may be used during all games. Bats must comply with current N.S.A. requirements and standards and be listed on the N.S.A. approved bat list. This does not apply to the 6U division.
- m. Batting helmets with faceguard must be worn by all players during any games hosted, sanctioned or supported by DGSLI. Players are responsible for providing their own batting helmet.
 - i. Batting helmets will be supplied for the 6U and 8U division.
 - ii. Supplied helmets will meet all current N.S.A guidelines.
- n. Batting helmets must be worn in the batter's box, on the bases, in the "on-deck" circle, and in the coach's box.
- o. Sliding shorts and at least (1) sliding pad must be worn by all batters in divisions where sliding is permitted.

7. Sliding

- a. Sliding will be governed by the N.S.A. Non-Contact rule. When a defensive player has the ball and is waiting for the runner; the runner remains on their feet and deliberately, or with great force impacts the defensive player, the runner shall be called "out". The ball is declared dead, and all other runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the collision.
 - i. If the contact is deemed to be purposeful with the intention to injure, the offending player will be ejected from the game.

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8. Call-Ups / Short Team

- a. When a team cannot field (8) players for a game they are considered a “short” team. The Division Commissioner will compile a list of eligible players who have signed consent allowing the player to play in the division above on a limited basis. Players may be added and/or removed from the list at any time during the season. A team using substitute players may not exceed 10 total players, including subs.
- b. If a player does not have a signed consent form on file prior to appearing in the game, the team will be subject to forfeit and the manager will be subject to discipline by the DGSLI executive board.
 - i. Players must not miss their own scheduled game(s).
 - ii. Players must wear their own team’s uniform

Division	Eligibility
8U Division	7 year old players from the 6U division
10U Division	8 year old players from the 8U division
12U Division	Any 10U Division Players
14U Division	Any 12U Division Players
Cross Town	Any 14U or 16U Division Players
* 8U and 6U Divisions may field a team minimum of 6 players and may also use lateral (players from the same division) as fill in players.	

Section VI.05 League Standings

1. Standings

- a. All Games must be played.
- b. In the event of a two-way tie for first place in any division, there will be a one-game playoff to determine the clear winner. This game will be scheduled by the President of DGSLI. For this game only, both teams will be allowed to pitch any player for any amount of innings.
- c. In the event of a three-way tie, there will be a three team round robin with each team playing each other, the clear winner determined as the team who collects two victories.

2. Trophies

- a. Recognition to the first and second place teams in each division. (08U, 10U, 12U)
- b. Recognition of all participants in each division.
- c. A Sportsmanship Award will be given to the player on each team who displays the values of DGSLI and maintains the values of good sportsmanship consistently. This award is determined by the manager and coaches for each team.

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Article VII. Divisional Rules
Section VII.01 06U Division

Note: 06U Rules are intended to encourage instruction and increase speed of play.

Innings per game	3	
Maximum number of players in the field	All players play the field	
Player positions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regular field positions 2. The player at pitcher's mound will stand off to the side of the coach who is pitching. 3. Outfield is staggered behind the baseline to accommodate players 	
Batting order	Everyone bats per inning	
Number of Outs	Outs are not recorded	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If ball reaches first base before the runner, the player is out and returns to the bench. 2. Any batter declared out must return to the bench
Coach's Pitch	4 pitches from the coach, then the tee is used	
Advancing Bases	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Runners advance one base at a time 2. Base runner may only proceed after a batter hits the ball 3. Runner may leave the baseline 3ft in either direction to avoid collision. 4. Last batter runs and clears all bases 	
Scoring	Score is not kept	
Field Distances	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bases (55 feet) apart 2. Mandatory safety base used at 1st base 	
Stealing	N/A	
Overthrows	N/A	
Infield Fly	N/A	
Dropped 3 rd Strike	N/A	
Continuous Walk (No Hesitation)	N/A	
Hits batsmen permitted	N/A	
Outfielder rules	N/A	
Ball Type	11" softie junior Olympic optic yellow	

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Section VII.02 08U Division

1. N.S.A Fastpitch rules for 8 and under apply except as noted in Cross Town Rules.
 - a. See Tournament Rules for additional information regarding tournament play.

Section VII.03 10U Division

1. N.S.A Fastpitch rules apply except as noted in Cross Town Rules.
 - a. See Tournament Rules for additional information regarding tournament play.

Section VII.04 12U Division

1. N.S.A Fastpitch rules apply except as noted in Quad Town Rules.
 - a. See Tournament Rules for additional information regarding tournament play.

Section VII.05 14U Division

1. N.S.A Fastpitch rules apply except as noted in Quad Town Rules.
 - a. See Tournament Rules for additional information regarding tournament play.

Section VII.06 18U and 26U Division

1. Follow N.S.A Fastpitch Softball rules.

Section VII.07 Travel and All-Star teams rules

1. The rules of the respective tournament or league apply.

Article VIII. All Star Team

Section VIII.01 All-Star team selection process

1. Tryouts
 - a. Tryouts are scheduled by the Division Commissioner and All-Star Coordinator and are held for players that express interest in playing on the All-Star teams.
 - b. Attendance by a player at tryouts is mandatory unless the Division Commissioner or All-Star Coordinator has granted an excused absence.
 - c. If there are not enough players to field a team, the All-Star team manager, with Commissioner approval, may approach players from within the division to participate.
 - d. Tryout evaluations will be conducted by 3 independent evaluators. These evaluators will be selected by the All-Star Coordinator and will not have a vested interest (immediate family member trying out for the team) in the team.
 - e. The designated evaluators (need not be affiliated with DGSL) will be selected based on:
 - i. Availability
 - ii. Softball Knowledge
 - iii. Must not have a participant in the division they are evaluating
 - f. After evaluations are submitted, averages will be generated. The DGSL All-Star Coordinator or a DGSL Board Member will ensure that the top two pitchers and catchers (catchers excluded for 8U) are in the top player list. Once pitchers and catchers are added, the top 10 players (including said pitchers and catchers) are selected for the team.
 - g. The manager, along with the All-Star Coordinator and President will select the remaining 2 players for the team from the pool of players that attended tryouts.
 - h. Teams will be selected during the regular season
 - i. During the regular season, All-Star practice is limited to 6 hours per week. After the regular season, this restriction is removed.
 - j. All Players selected for the All-Star team must attend all games and at least 90% of practices.
 - k. New players added to the team must first be an alternate player. If after that, there are still open positions, the All-Star manager, with Commissioner approval, may approach other players within

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- the division.
- I. DGSLI shall provide the applicable fees to participate in the All-Star games and tournaments, up to (2). Any additional tournaments will be at the cost of the All-Star team participants.
 2. **Managers and Coaches**
 - a. The Commissioner of each division has first choice in managing their respective All-Star team. If the Commissioner declines, managers in the division will be offered the opportunity based on seniority.
 - b. Managers will have discretion to select up to (3) coaches to assist with the team.
 - c. All-Star coach selection will be approved by the board.
 - d. All-Star coaches are subject to all rules regarding criminal background checks.
 3. **All-Star Play**
 - a. All-Star managers are encouraged to give each player reasonable and fair opportunity to play in each game. This does not entitle "equal" participation, rather a reasonable attempt at such.
 - b. No All-Star player shall sit for more than one game without playing.

Article IX. Protests

Section IX.01 Notification, Process, Results

1. **Protest Fee and Notification period.**
 - a. The Division Commissioner shall be notified within 24 hours in writing, along with a \$50.00 cash protest deposit, by the protesting manager of the N.S.A rule(s) and/or DGSLI rule(s) that were allegedly violated and the circumstances involved.
2. **Process**
 - a. The protest committee will be determined by the President of DGSLI unless there is direct involvement, then the Vice President will determine the protest committee, followed by either the UIC, or Division Commissioner.
 - b. No committee member will be seated who has direct involvement with the protest.
 - c. A meeting will be scheduled with the protest committee and all involved parties. Each side will be given the opportunity to present their case in separate interviews. A written statement may be accepted for those unable to attend.
3. **Results**
 - a. The decision will be made the protest committee within (72) hours, if possible, after receipt of the formal protest to the Division Commissioner.
 - b. Should the protest be deemed valid, the committee will apply the appropriate remedy according to N.S.A. or DGSLI rules.
 - c. The decision will be relayed to all parties immediately.
 - d. If the protest is successful, the \$50.00 protest fee will be returned to the payee.

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Article X. Amendments

Who/What	Version	Date
Shane Swacus / Update Rules	20141210.001	2014DEC10
Shane Swacus / Accept Changes / Update Pitcher Draft Rules	20150115.001	2015JAN15
Shane Swacus / Updated wording "Passed Balls" to "Base on Balls" for rules in 08U,10U,12U,14U	20150115.002	2015APR06
Shane Swacus / Corrected "Scoring" Run limit per inning allowed in 12U,14U	20150115.003	2015APR07
Shane Swacus / Updated Dropped 3 rd Strike in 10U	20150115.004	2015APR15
Shane Swacus / Updated Player Evaluations voted @ Board Meeting 05/11/2015	20150115.005	2015MAY31
Shane Swacus / Updated Draft Rules voted @ Board Meeting 10/7/2015	20150115.006	2015OCT21
Shane Swacus / Updated 8U Ball type, 10U Dropped 3 rd strike, Uniform policy update (as voted on 1/18/2016)	20150115.007	2016JAN25
Shane Swacus / Updated for Quad Town rules as voted 2/3/2016	20150115.010	2016FEB10
Shane Swacus / Red lined redundant or items that are no longer valid	20150115.011	2016MAR27
Removed red lined sections, made updates from Nov. 2016 board meeting	20161113.001	2016NOV13
Updates per Board Meeting March 1 2017	20170301.001	2017MAR01
Dennis Ley / Updates per Board Meeting November 13, 2017	20171113.001	2017NOV13
Jackie Rivera / Updates per Board Meeting July 18, 2020	20200718.001	2020JUL18

Article XI. Items to be considered for review

1. Define Seniority as "Years of Service to include Managing, Coaching, or Serving on the Executive Board
2. Sister Rule – When a pair of sisters are drafted, one sister will be the draft selection and the other will become protected and placed at the end of the manager's draft list. Similar to manager's daughters being two or more.
3. Manager Exception Policy