REGULATIONS

& BYLAWS



Updated: September 2026

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Revised July 2026

1.0 Registration

1. LJGSA recognizes two primary seasons: Spring (February 1–July 31) and Fall (August 1–January 31). Post-Season play is part of the Spring season and is designated as such for all Recreational leagues.
   A. Spring season dates will be set by the Board during late Fall, and registration will open as soon as those dates are finalized.
   B. Fall season planning will be completed by the Board of Directors in June, with league play beginning in September.
2. The Recreational League includes all divisions from Tee-Ball through 18U. The Division I League includes age groups 8U through 18U.
3. After registration closes, additional players may *ONLY* be added if the Registrar and Age Division Coordinator determine that a team or age group requires players to meet minimum roster needs.
4. For Division I Teams ONLY:
   A. Registration fees are set annually by the Board at the November Board Meeting.
   B. Each team must provide proof of valid player insurance or purchase USA Softball insurance through LJGSA.
   C. Fees are due each season with the year being divided into 2 seasons; Spring and Summer.

2.0 Parent and Player Responsibilities

1. Parents will be informed of their rights and obligations at registration. Obligations may include volunteer duties such as concession support, field maintenance, tournament assistance, fundraising participation, or other league-assigned activities. Parents must sign the Parent Code of Conduct approved by the Board of Directors
2. Each player's parent/guardian is responsible for completing at least one concession shift per registered player during the active season, unless covered by another approved volunteer. The required number of shifts may vary by season based on game schedules and total registered teams. A head coach and up to two assistant coaches are exempt from concession duty.
3. If a parent/guardian does not complete their assigned concession shift or arrange a replacement, a non-completion fee (set by Board vote each season) will be added to the player's account. This fee must be paid before the player is eligible to register for the next season.
4. Each player and parent must support LJGSA through assigned league activities, which may include concession duty, field maintenance, tournament assistance, fundraising, or other projects designated by the Board.
5. The fundraiser buyout amount must be set when the fundraiser is established. The buyout may not exceed the league's net profit for the required items. Example: If each family must sell 10 dozen tamales at $13 each and the league earns $7.50 per dozen, the buyout must be $75.
6. Families with multiple players may receive a sibling adjustment for fundraiser requirements. The first child must complete the full requirement; reduced amounts for additional children must be approved by the Board when the fundraiser is established.
7. Each player and parent is responsible for cleaning the dugout and surrounding park area after each game.

3.0 Field Usage and Scheduling

1. Recreational (league) teams are guaranteed two protected practice days per week during pre-season. Once Spring games begin, Recreational teams transition to one protected practice day per week to accommodate weekday game schedules.
   A. Protected practice days must fall on either Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday, based on availability set by the League Scheduler.
2. During all seasons, Recreational teams have first priority for field usage, including practices, games, and batting cage access.
   A. Division I teams may only schedule field or cage time after Recreational scheduling is complete, and all Division I practice times must be coordinated through the League Scheduler to prevent conflicts.

4.0 Recreational Team Draft

4.1 Seasons and Options

1. Recreational ball teams shall have three playing seasons.
   A. The Spring Season runs from January 1 through the final scheduled league game.
   B. The Summer Season runs from the end of Spring League play through the conclusion of the USA Softball National Tournament for that age group.
   C. The Fall Season runs from the first scheduled fall practice through the final scheduled fall game.
2. Types of “options”
   A. Sister Option - applies to all age divisions.
      1) Sisters may elect to play on the same team.
      2) Proof of sibling status must be provided through a birth certificate, legal guardianship documentation, or a parent marriage certificate for step-siblings.
   B. Player’s pick - applies to all age divisions.
      1) When forming a new team—defined as a team that has never existed in that age division and has no returning players—the manager may select up to five (5) Player’s Picks, including the children of assistant coaches, prior to the start of the draft or blind-draw process.
         a) Player’s Picks are assigned to specific option rounds, not drafted live. These selections will fall into the 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 9th rounds. When an option round is reached, the designated Player’s Pick is automatically placed on the roster instead of a draft selection.
         b) A coach can choose to only pick up one coach/daughter in the first year and pick up the second coach/daughter in the next year.

2) Returning teams may only add new Player's Picks if they have lost option players from the previous season.
   - If one option player is lost, one new Player's Pick may be added
   - If two are lost, two may be added
   - If none are lost, no new Player's Picks may be added

   a) Lost options include:
      - A Coach's daughter aging out or leaving
      - Assistant coach changes
      - Player's Pick not returning

3) When a team advances together to the next age division, the head coach may retain the roster without redrafting. Parents may opt out at registration without filing a complaint. This only applies when the team moves to the next age group.

4.2 Tee Ball League

1. Spring
   A. Players who are 4 years old by September 1 of the current year may register for Tee Ball.
   B. Players will be assigned randomly to maintain balanced roster sizes. Coach or teammate requests may be submitted but are not guaranteed.
   C. Tee Ball is instructional only: no scores, standings, or umpires.
   D. Teams receive one practice day per week. Specific day/time requests may be submitted but are not guaranteed.
2. Fall
   A. Tee Ball is generally not offered in Fall. If sufficient interest exists, the Board may approve a Fall Tee Ball season by majority vote.
   B. Players who are 3 years old by January 1 of the current year may register.
   C. Team assignment follows the same rules as Spring: random assignment, balanced rosters, and non-guaranteed requests.
   D. Tee Ball is instructional only: no scores, standings, or umpires.
   E. Teams receive one practice day per week. Specific day/time requests may be submitted but are not guaranteed.

4.3 Pixie I (6U) Only

1. This age division is recreational.
2. Spring
   A. Teams are formed by random draw, grouped by age (4-, 5-, and 6-year-olds). Coaches may choose which age group to draw from each round.
   B. New teams will draw players from the hat—reversing the draw order after each round—until their roster reaches the same number of players as the established team in that league with the fewest returning players (minimum of 4 returning players).
   C. Returning teams join the draw once their returning player count is reached.
   D. Sister options goes to the next available position.
   E. If a parent wants to put a refusal in to play with a coach, the refusal must be in writing, not via email and be approved with a majority Executive board vote of validity.
   F. Once assigned to a team, a player must remain on that team for the season. A player who declines her assigned team may not be reassigned during that season and forfeits her right to participate in league games or tournaments for that season with any LJGSA team.

3. Fall
   A. The Registrar will balance rosters as evenly as possible.
   B. Returning players will be assigned to their previous team unless a parent requests otherwise. New players will be assigned to a team at random.
   C. Player and coach requests may be submitted but are not guaranteed.
   D. If multiple coaches request the same player, the parents will choose the team. If a coach requests a player whose parents requested a different team, the parents will choose the team.
   E. Coaches may not host tryouts for Fall Pixie I teams.

4.4 All Age Divisions EXCEPT Pixie I (6U) and Tee-Ball

1. Spring
   A. Player Evaluations (Try-outs)
      1) Players will be notified of tryout dates. Attendance is optional. Players who do not attend will be placed in the blind-draw pool and assigned after the draft.
         a) See Draft Process for more information.
      2) 8U and older: Players selected by blind draw will return to the draft the following year unless they attend tryouts.
      3) Each approved coach may evaluate players personally or send up to two representatives.
   B. Pitchers Draft (10U) and up only
      1) To ensure competitive balance, LJGSA will attempt to place at least one pitcher on each team. A “pitchers” draft will be held prior to the normal draft and any girl who tried out as a pitcher will be eligible for this draft. If a team already has a pitcher on their roster they will pass on this draft.
         a) Once each team has had the opportunity to draft a pitcher, the teams will start over with the normal draft process. Only girls who tried out as a pitcher during tryouts will be eligible for this draft. Teams shall draw from a hat for their draft order and the draft choice will then be placed in the last available draft position.
      2) If a team loses its drafted pitcher before the season, it may participate in a supplemental Pitchers Draft. Returning teams will draft last. If multiple teams qualify, draft order will be determined by random draw.
   C. Draft Process - The regular season draft will be run by the respective age division coordinator (or designee) and will be attended by one neutral (no daughters involved in that age division) LJGSA board member.
      1) Round 1: new teams draft first, and established teams (being those in the same league with at least four (4) returning players) with less than eight (8) players returning, will draft in order of the smallest roster size. New teams and all ties by established teams will determine draft order by a “draw/coin flip”.
      2) After Round 1, teams with four or more returning players will skip rounds until their roster size matches the smallest established team.
      3) Round 2: The manager’s daughter is automatically placed in this round. Draft order reverses from Round 1.
      4) Round 3: Assistant coach option players are placed here. Draft order reverses from Round 2.
      5) Round 4: Draft order reverses from Round 3.

6) Round 5: Second assistant coach option players are placed here. If unused, the manager may draft a player in reverse order of the fourth round.
7) Round 6: Will proceed with the established teams joining the draft in order of smallest roster to teams with largest roster. Established teams will join the draft at their first open draft position and remain in this order for the remainder of the draft. Draft order reverses from Round 4.
8) Round 7 and all remaining rounds follow the same pattern, reversing order each round until all players are drafted.
9) Players from the pool will be added to rosters in draft order via a "Blind Draw" until rosters are full.

D. If a team must be dropped, the team with the smallest roster is dropped. Ties are resolved by manager seniority.
E. Additional daughters of a coach are placed in the last available draft position.
F. Sister option players are placed in the next available position.
G. Leagues with too few players for two teams will redraft all players annually.
H. No coach's gentlemen's agreements or parent/player requests will be proposed or honored during any draft.
I. Pitchers drafted in the supplemental Pitchers Draft are placed in the last available draft position.
J. Players who attend tryouts may not be placed in the blind draw.
K. If a parent wants to put a refusal in to play with a coach, the refusal must be in writing, not via email and be approved with a majority Executive board vote of validity, and the player must enter the blind draw.
L. Once assigned to a team, a player must remain on that team for the season. A player who declines her assigned team may not be reassigned during that season and forfeits her right to participate in league games or tournaments for that season with any LJGSA team.

2. Fall
A. The Registrar will balance rosters as evenly as possible.
B. Returning players will be assigned to their previous team unless a parent requests otherwise. New players will be assigned to a team at random.
C. Player and coach requests may be submitted but are not guaranteed.
D. If multiple coaches request the same player, the parents will choose the team.
E. If a coach requests a player whose parents requested a different team, the parents will choose the team.

5.0 Division I Rules

1. Division I exists to advance the skills of competitive players within LJGSA and prepare them for success at the high school and collegiate levels. Participation requires a significant commitment from managers, players, and families, and all parties must understand these expectations before joining a Division I team.
2. The number of Division 1 teams in an age group will be determined according to the following guidelines:
A. Each team will have a minimum of 10 players.
B. Teams with 10 or more roster signatures of players registered to play the specific League Division 1 and with an LJGSA board approved manager will be approved automatically.
C. Division I teams must hold tryouts or form rosters as needed and submit their completed roster to the Registrar no later than seven (7) days before the Recreational League Draft.

1) If a player signs more than one Division I roster, she becomes ineligible for Division I and will be asked whether she wishes to enter the Recreational League instead.

D. All Division I players must carry valid softball insurance (USA Softball, USSSA, USFA, or equivalent). Managers must be able to produce proof of insurance upon request by an LJGSA Executive Board member.

3. All Division I players and parents must comply with the requirements outlined in Section 2 — Parent and Player Responsibilities.
4. Division I managers are responsible for maintaining their assigned field. Required maintenance includes:
   - emptying out dug out trash
   - watering fields with sprinkler system
   - dragging assigned field once a week
   - repairing batters' boxes
   - repairing pitcher's mound.
5. Managers must maintain a current USA Softball background check card and have it in their possession during all LJGSA activities.
6. Managers who fail to comply with items 2, 4, or 5 will be barred from LJGSA fields until required documentation is provided and verified. After verification, the Executive Board will vote on whether the team remains eligible to participate under LJGSA.
7. Division I managers are responsible for their team's schedule, quality of instruction, and development of team concepts with the goal of competing at the state or national level. All practice times must be coordinated with the League Scheduler to ensure they do not conflict with Recreational League usage.
8. Division I teams are allowed to raise funds to defray travel and associated expenses. Fundraising at tournaments held at the Lake Jackson Youth Sports Complex will be allowed if they are not competing with the normal, regular concession stand items.
9. Division I teams are responsible for their own finances. Teams must provide LJGSA with a detailed financial statement upon request at the Annual Meeting to support IRS audit requirements and account for contributions and expenses.
10. Division I teams registered under LJGSA must host their tournaments in Lake Jackson. Hosting elsewhere forfeits their LJGSA tournament spot unless the league is unable to accommodate the requested dates.
11. Division I managers wishing to recruit Recreational League players (defined as players already assigned to a Recreational roster for the upcoming season) must follow proper procedures before contacting any player.
    A. This would include notifying
    B. the Age Division Coordinator
    C. the League President.

    The League President and the Age Division Coordinator will then notify the player of the request. Failure to follow this procedure could disqualify a manager from participating in the LJGSA for the following season.
12. Pixie II Division I (8U) teams may form but may not participate in Recreational League games or tournaments unless approved by USA Softball.
13. All 8U Division I teams must submit their roster seven (7) days prior to the Recreational Draft.

6.0 Post Season Teams (All Stars)

6.1 Post Season Team Selection Process

1. If no new projects have been approved by the final Board meeting before All-Stars, and sufficient funds are available, the league will recognize and fund secondary Pixie post-season teams. For age groups 10U, 12U, and 14U, the league will recognize one post-season team for every five (5) Recreational teams. Additional teams may form but will not receive scheduled practice times until all recognized post-season and Division I teams have been scheduled.
2. Managers are responsible for evaluating players throughout the season and assisting in the selection of post-season teams. Managers are encouraged to take notes and communicate with other managers before and after games.
3. The Age Division Coordinator will schedule the post-season selection meeting as soon as possible after the final Spring regular-season game.
   A. The meeting will include:
      1) The Age Division Coordinator
      2) One manager (or designee) from each team
      3) One neutral LJGSA Board member

      No other individuals may attend.
4. The Age Division Coordinator will allow discussion until all managers have had adequate opportunity to evaluate and comment on players. Consideration of additional teams should be discussed but must not influence voting for the first team. The most qualified players should be nominated for each team. Any manager or designee may nominate a player.
   A. If a player/parent had an approved refusal to play for a specific coach during the regular season, that refusal does not prevent the player from being selected for All-Stars. This will allow the player to participate in the post-season without compromise and provide the best outcome for the player.
5. After discussion ends, the All-Star head coach will conduct the draft using the nomination list. Selections must be based on:
   A. Hitting
   B. Fielding
   C. Base running
   D. Softball IQ / game awareness
   E. Ability to commit to the full post-season schedule
6. No side agreements or informal deals may be made to exclude qualified players from the first post-season team for any reason.
7. The League Vice President and the neutral LJGSA board member will tally final votes. A list of the top eight (8) players will be created. If multiple players are tied for the final spot(s), a run-off vote will be conducted. The vote count shall be kept confidential between the Age Division Coordinator, neutral LJGSA Board Member, and the Post-Season Manager or their designee.
8. First Team Roster Formation
   A. After nominations, the ACE Certified coach selected to manage the first post season team will take the top eight (8) players with the most votes.
   B. The coach may then select additional players from the remaining nominees to complete a roster of up to fourteen (14) players.
   C. After the first team is finalized, all remaining players return to the nomination pool for consideration for additional teams. Each player starts with zero votes

D. Player availability must be confirmed within 24 hours so that additional teams may begin contacting players.
   1) If a (1st team) selected player cannot commit, the coach may select from the second-team pool (if formed).
   2) Any player that has turned down the first team cannot play on any other team.

9. Second Team Roster Formation
   A. If a second team is warranted, managers will nominate up to twelve (12) players from the remaining pool.
   B. The ACE-certified coach selected for the second team will take the top eight (8) vote-getting players and may select additional players to complete a roster of up to fourteen (14).
   C. The second team cannot notify any players until the first team has notified their players.
      1) If a player cannot play on the second team for any reason, then the coach can select a player from the third team. If a third team does not make, then the coach can select from any of the remaining league players.
      2) Any player that has turned down the first team cannot play on any other team.
10. Third Team Roster Formation
   A. If league size supports a third team, managers may nominate players from the remaining pool.
      1) The ACE Certified coach will then pick his players from that list.
   B. The third team cannot notify any players until the first and second teams have notified their players to complete their rosters.
      1) Any player that has turned down the first or second team is not eligible for the third team.
11. The post-season selection process is complete once all recognized teams have finalized their rosters.

6.2 Post Season Manager Selection Process

1. The first-place manager of his/her respective age division shall be given the first opportunity to manage the First Post Season Team. Should that person decline, the order will continue successively down through the standings.
2. In case there is a tie for standings, the tie breaker will be:
   A. Head-to-head record
   B. Record versus the highest-ranking opponent
   C. Record of runs scored vs runs allowed.
3. All additional post-season teams (recognized or not recognized) will follow the same process as above.

7.0 Player Clothing, Equipment, and Safety

1. No short-shorts or tight knit shirts may be worn in practice, league play or tournaments.
2. All players must wear shoes and socks. No steel cleats or screw-in cleats will be allowed in any age division under 14 & under.
3. Catchers must wear all regulation A.S.A. equipment. Catchers shall wear a minimum of mask and helmet when receiving a pitched ball anytime during games and practice sessions.
4. League players must wear head protectors while batting, running bases, and in the "on deck" circle. This also includes practice sessions.
5. All equipment shall meet USA Softball requirements.
6. No bat person or mascot will be allowed onto the playing field at any time during game play.
7. Players from each team will be responsible for retrieving bats and headgear on the field. Managers are requested to remind girls to be careful when taking practice swings in the "on deck" circle and to remind all team players to approach this area with caution.
8. The following minimum equipment will be furnished to each team:
    - Helmet with face mask
    - Chest protector
    - Leg guards
    - Throat guard
    - Half dozen balls
9. All pitchers are encouraged to wear a face mask. The league does not provide a face mask for pitchers.
10. All league-provided equipment will be turned in immediately after the close of the season at a date and time determined by the Equipment Manager. A $300 check, post-dated for the end of the season, shall be given to the Equipment Manager and returned to the coach upon return of the equipment.
11. League sponsored jerseys, purchased by the league for each registered player, must be worn by players during league game.

8.0 GAMES

8.1 All Leagues

1. Team managers must submit lineups before game time to the official scorekeeper, the home plate umpire, and the opposing manager. Lineups must include each player's first and last name and jersey number.
2. During Fall and Spring league games, all rostered players must remain in the batting lineup for the entire game.
    A. No substitutions or DP/Flex are permitted.
    B. The only exception is when a player becomes injured or is absent.
3. The home team will provide the official scorekeeper.
4. A team with only eight players available at game time may elect to play and use an eight-player batting rotation with no penalty.
    A. If the team loses an additional player, it may continue playing with seven players, but must take an automatic out each time the missing player's spot comes up in the batting order.

5. Pick-up players are allowed for league and tournament play.
   A. A team may pick up to three players to bring its roster to:
      1) Ten (10) players for 10U and older, or
      2) Eleven (11) players for 8U and younger.
      3) IF a team have 10 or more regular team members (for 10U and up) or 11 or more regular team members (for 6U and 8U) for their league or tournament games, THEN pickup player(s) are not allowed.
   B. Pickup players may be from a lower age division for league play or same age division if a tournament's rule allows it. 6U may pick up players from the same age division for league play.
   C. For 10U and up, pickup players from the same age division may not play as pitcher or catcher.
   D. For 6U and 8U, no pickup player can play pitcher or 1st base.
   E. Pick up players cannot start the game unless there are not enough players to complete the field and must bat at the bottom of the lineup.
   F. All pickup players must be registered with LJGSA.
   G. For League Placement playoff games, pick-up players are not allowed.
   H. Managers must get mutual consent from the pickup player's parents and age Division Coordinator before picking up the girl.
   I. Pickup player(s) may not miss her regular team's game(s) to play in a tournament.
   J. If an individual or team represents LJGSA in any tournament within a season or not, you must abide by LJGSA rules. Unless the hosting tournament specifies a rule that intersects one of LJGSA, then the tournament rule shall supersede.
   K. All pick-up players (league or tournament) must wear their current team uniform to easily identify them as such.
6. Every girl must play defense at least 2 innings in every game. If the game is cut short (less than 4 innings) before the player can play her required two innings, then she must start the next game. This rule does not apply to pickups or in the Division I Leagues.
7. During play, the fitness of the fields for a game shall be decided solely by the plate umpire. Prior to the start of a game, the fitness of the fields may be decided by either the plate umpire, head umpire, or Board Member. This decision shall consider input from the association President, field manager, and league scheduler.
8. Teams are expected to appear for their games, unless otherwise notified. Any team showing up more than ten minutes late shall forfeit.
   A. Coaches' teams that miss league game(s) intentionally (as decided so by the executive board) will be responsible for paying any associated umpire fees with the missed game(s).
9. The league scheduler and the Age Division Coordinators of each age division will meet to discuss the league schedule before the season begins.
10. The league scheduler will reschedule makeup games as soon as practical.
    A. The manager or assistant manager will be notified at least 48 hours in advance of a rescheduled game. A game may be rescheduled with less notice if both managers consent.
    B. Upon rescheduling a game, the league scheduler notifies:
       1) Age Division Coordinator who then notifies the teams involved.
       2) Head umpire who notifies the umpires.

11. Written notification of a protested game must be submitted within 48 hours to the Association President, League Vice President, or Secretary of the association.
    A. A protest committee consisting of a majority of association officers, as appointed by the President, shall meet within a reasonable time (normally less than four days) to review the protest.
    B. If the protest is upheld, the game will be rescheduled and completed within two weeks.

8.2 Pixie Divisions Only (6U and 8U)

1. Texas USA Softball Pixie rules will govern play in the Pixie 1 and Pixie 2 leagues. Complete USA Softball Pixie rules can be found at the following web site location:
    A. Link Updated July 2026: CLICK HERE
2. For any conflicts existing between LJGSA Rules and Regulations and the Texas USA Softball Pixie Rules, the LJGSA Rules and Regulations will apply.

8.3 T-Ball Division Only

1. This league is instructional. No scores or records will be kept, and no umpires will be used.
2. This division will play by the same rules as Pixie I with the following exceptions:
    A. After 3 pitches the player will be allowed to hit off the tee.
    B. When a ball is thrown to a base in an attempt to record an out, and the ball gets past the defensive player attempting the catch, the runner may advance only one additional base beyond the base they were originally running toward.

9.0 <u>Tournaments and Trophies</u>

1. Every player on a Recreational League team must be offered the opportunity to participate if the team chooses to enter a tournament.
2. All invitational games and tournaments must be sanctioned by the Board of Directors. League officers must verify the rosters of any LJGSA teams entering outside tournaments.
3. Any tournament hosted by LJGSA must include a completed tournament checklist at the time of the Board vote.
    A. The checklist must include:
        1) list of volunteers
        2) volunteer assigned duties
        3) schedule for coverage of assigned duties
        4) budget for tournament
        5) required actions necessary to run the event.
4. Tournaments hosted by LJGSA do not require Board Members to volunteer. All volunteers must be fully signed up before the tournament is voted upon.
5. Tournament trophies for Senior (16U & 18U), Junior (14U), Sophomore (12U), Freshman (10U), Pixie I (8U), and Pixie II (6U) divisions will be awarded as determined by the Tournament Director and the Board of Directors.
6. Qualified teams (meeting items 1 and 2 in Section 4) may schedule the LJGSA fields for fundraising tournaments at their own financial risk with approval from the Board of Directors provided no other Division tournament or LJGSA-hosted tournament is already scheduled.
    A. Tournament dates will be scheduled in the order of being requested.
    B. The Tournament Director for the hosting team will pay LJGSA $25.00 per team per age group registered in the tournament.

1) If less than 10 teams are in an age group, the fee will be $10 per team.

C. A $500 post clean-up deposit will be collected by a LJGSA Executive board member prior to the tournament.
   1) The deposit will be returned after LJGSA Field Operations (including the Field Coordinator) inspect the fields the following weekday for damage or trash.
      a) The inspection includes batter boxes and pitching mounds.

D. Field drying agents and/or field conditioners are not included, and if used, shall be replaced (not reimbursed) by the host team.

E. Field maintenance equipment can be used but must be checked out with Field Coordinator and cleaned before returned; any damages noted shall be repaired (not reimbursed) by host team.

10.0 Managers and Assistant Managers

1. All managers and assistant managers must submit a completed Manager Application. Each individual must submit their own application, which may be provided to any LJGSA Board Member. Information on these forms will be used during the manager screening process.
2. All coaches and dugout parents must have a USA Softball background-check badge on their person and readily available for verification at any time.
3. All individuals on the field must have a valid SafeSport certification for any tournament, whether hosted by LJGSA or another organization.
4. Candidates for manager will be screened individually, and openings will be filled by the Board of Directors prior to Spring and Fall registration and tryouts, using the following requirements and guidelines:
   A. Requirements for approval:
      1) The candidate must pass the USA Softball background check before being approved as a manager or Assistant Manager.
   B. Attributes that strengthen, but do not guarantee, approval:
      1) Previous experience as a manager;
      2) Previous experience as an assistant manager;
      3) Other relevant softball or coaching experience;
      4) Active membership or involvement in the Association.
5. An Executive Advisory Committee—consisting of the President, Vice President, League VP, Administrative VP, and Operational VP—may also include the Lake Jackson Parks and Recreation Director or a city-appointed representative when needed. If any member of the committee wants to be excused from the committee or is directly involved in the situation under review, the President or Executive VP will name a replacement committee member.
   A. The purpose of this Committee will be to review appeals or disputes as defined below:
      1) Appeal related to an expulsion or suspension of Manager, Assistant Manager, Coach, or Team Mom.
      2) Appeal related to an approved Manager.
      3) Complaints involving any Association member or matters considered private in nature
      4) Situations deemed sensitive or private by an Age Division Coordinator
      5) Members requesting to appear before the Committee must contact the Executive VP.

a) A meeting will be scheduled, allowing the member to present information.
b) The Committee will deliberate privately and notify the member of its decision within 24 hours.
c) A Committee decision must be unanimous.
d) If the member is not approved, they may appeal to the full Board for a vote.

6. All managers and assistant managers must follow the rules and regulations set up by the association. They shall ensure team members obey the official softball rules and shall always teach good sportsmanship. They shall be required to attend orientation/training at the direction of their Age Division Coordinator.
7. The purpose of the Pixie I and Pixie II leagues is to introduce fundamental softball skills and basic team participation to girls ages 4–8. Managers, assistant managers, and coaches are expected to teach softball fundamentals, sportsmanship, and fair play. Equal playing time is strongly encouraged, regardless of ability, and each player should be given opportunities to play multiple positions.
8. All managers and team assistants are required to wear shoes and shirts while working with the players or when representing the league in any capacity.
9. No tobacco or profanity will be allowed on the field or benches during an official game or tournament - this includes players, managers, and umpires.
10. Players, managers, and assistant managers may be suspended by the Board of Directors for not complying with the rules and regulations of the association, or for disorderly conduct during association activities or when representing the LJGSA. If a manager or assistant manager is ejected or behaves disorderly, the Board will review the incident within three (3) days. Reasons for suspension must be in written form to be presented to the Board of Directors. Suspended individuals may not manage, assist, or occupy the field or dugout during league or tournament games.
11. No manager can suspend a girl without the approval of the vice president of his league. Reasons must be submitted in writing. Managers must notify the League Vice President immediately when a player is removed from the roster.
12. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at all Association activities.
13. All managers are encouraged to attend a softball coaching clinic. All Managers must designate, to the Registrar and appropriate Age Division Coordinator, who the Manager, Asst. Manager, and Asst. Coach(es) are for their team and verify with the Registrar that all appropriate paperwork, including registration application and proof of background check, is turned in.
14. After the draft is complete each team manager must submit to the Registrar, the names of the additional coaches/helpers that are to be covered by USA Softball insurance. All coaches/helpers that will be on the field or in the dugout during game time or practice must be covered by USA Softball insurance and complete an USA Softball background check. LJGSA will pay for insurance for:
    A. Up to 6 coaches/helpers in T-ball, Pixie I, and Pixie II
    B. Up to 4 coaches/helpers in 10U and older divisions.

    Additional coaches/helpers must purchase their own USA Softball insurance through the league. Each coach/helper is required to submit the proper application. NO ONE without USA Softball insurance and background check will be allowed on the field or in the dugout during practices or games.
    All coaches/helpers' applications are subject to approval by the Board.

11.0 Post Season Activities (All Stars)

1. All league-recognized post-season teams will use the following names: Elite, Extreme, and Express.
   A. The first post-season team will be named Elite.
   B. The second post-season team will be named Extreme.
   C. The third post-season team will be named Express.
   D. The above applies to all age groups Pixie I - 14u.
2. Championship teams and all other post-season teams are responsible for managing their own funds.
3. If the Treasurer confirms that funds are available and the Board approves by vote, the league may provide financial assistance up to the following amounts:
   A. Pixie I – Entry fees for two USA Softball tournaments (district and state).
   B. Pixie II – Entry fees for two USA Softball tournaments (district and state).
   C. Freshman – Entry fees for two USA Softball tournaments (district and state).
   D. Sophomore – Entry fees for two USA Softball tournaments (district and state).
4. Each post-season team must provide LJGSA with a detailed financial statement upon request at the Annual Meeting to support IRS audit requirements and account for contributions and expenses.
5. Fundraising money or sponsor contributions may be used for equipment, uniforms, or team expenses as needed.
6. Any team recognized for placing at a USA Softball State, Regional, or National Tournament may, at its own expense, hang a banner at the complex.
7. The banner must be placed in a designated area selected by the Facilities Manager.
8. Banners may remain for five (5) years, after which they may be removed if space is needed.

12.0 Team Sponsored Uniforms

1. All Recreational League players will receive league-issued shirts provided by LJGSA. Teams must supply shorts that are uniform in color and style and compliant with USA Softball rules.
2. Division I teams are responsible for securing sponsors to cover the cost of their uniforms.

13.0 League Trophies

1. No trophies, plaques, or other awards purchased by the association will be awarded to any officer or manager for outstanding work or performance.
2. The Board of Directors will approve trophy and award pricing each season, as well as determine how many teams and players in each age group will receive trophies and/or awards.

14.0 BY-LAW

14.1 Article I – Name and Organization

1. The name of this association shall be the “Lake Jackson Girls Softball Association”. Throughout these By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and Tournament Rules, the terms “Association” or “LJGSA” refer to the Lake Jackson Girls Softball Association.
2. Participation in this Association shall be for all girls registering with LJGSA.

14.2 Article II – Purpose

1. The purpose of this organization is to provide both Recreational League and Division I programs that support the moral, emotional, social, spiritual, mental, and physical development of girls.

14.3 Article III - Membership

1. Control of the Association rests with its membership. Members include:
   A. Any parent or guardian of a girl playing on an Association team.
   B. Managers of an Association softball team.
2. Each member who is not delinquent in dues or fees is entitled to one vote at all membership meetings.

14.4 Article IV – Registration Fees

1. The Board will determine the registration fee per player or per family before each Spring and Fall season.
2. For individuals who have a daughter playing softball for an Association team during the current season, the registration fee that they pay for their daughter includes their membership dues.
3. Parents may request a refund from the Board of Directors should their daughter become injured and deemed unable to compete before the start of game play.
4. Registration fees are due on or before the first game of the season.
   A. A delayed payment option, waiver, or exemption may be approved by the Board for good cause.
      1) A parent or guardian may be asked to appear before the Board to demonstrate hardship.
      2) The waiver shall only be for the registration fees for the current season.
   B. All uncollected fees due to the association must be collected before a player can register (or sign a roster) for the next season of play, including Post Season.

14.5 Article V - Meetings

1. The Association will hold two regular membership meetings each year, in September and November, at a time and place determined by the Board. The September meeting is the Annual Meeting.
   A. Meeting agendas include, but are not limited to:
      1) September (Annual meeting) – the election of new officers and selection of a Bylaws committee
      2) November – voting on Bylaws changes, finalize spring registration
2. Notice of regular and annual meetings shall be posted on the LJGSA website and at the Youth Sports Complex at least ten days prior. Failure to post notice does not invalidate the meeting.
3. Special membership meetings may be called by the Board. Notice must be posted on the LJGSA website and at the Youth Sports Complex at least three days prior.
4. A general membership quorum shall consist of twenty voting members present.

5. All Association and Board meetings will follow the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Revised.
6. All attendees must conduct themselves respectfully. Personal attacks, name-calling, or disruptive behavior will result in removal by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

14.6 Article VI – Board of Directors

1. The Board of Directors of the Lake Jackson Girls Softball Association shall consist of the following officers:
   A. President
   B. Executive Vice President
   C. Administrative Vice President
   D. Operational Vice President
   E. League Vice President
   F. Division 1 Coordinator
   G. Freshman/Sophomore/Junior Division Coordinator
   H. Pixie II Division Coordinator
   I. Pixie I/T-ball Division Coordinator
   J. Secretary
   K. Treasurer
   L. Equipment Manager
   M. Field Manager
   N. Facilities Manager
   O. League Scheduler
   P. Tournament Director
   Q. Concession Stand Manager
   R. Procurer/Purchasing Agent
   S. Publicity Chairperson/Fund-raising Chairperson
   T. Registrar
   U. Webmaster.
2. Officers are elected annually by the voting membership at the Annual Meeting.
   A. Candidates must be Association members or have had a player in the previous Spring season.
   B. Terms of office are two years from the date of their election.
3. A Search Committee of at least five members (no more than two current Board members) will be appointed by February 1. The committee will post board positions, contact information, and duties for at least one week prior to closing ceremonies.
4. The search committee shall submit a list of candidates to the board at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting. The list of candidates will be posted at the Youth Sport Complex and on the LJGSA website. Each board member will have copies of the list to be handed out upon request.
5. Nominations close 48 hours before voting unless a position has no candidates or becomes vacant during voting.
6. The search committee shall provide the candidates with a printed description of the positions.
7. Each board position is voted on individually.
8. Board positions are two-year terms, staggered so that half are elected each year.
9. All ballots must be secret.

10. Any board position with only one candidate shall be voted as either yes or no, as to whether that person may hold that position.
11. During voting, candidates must step out of the room and close the door.
12. All elections are to be done anonymously with a yes or no drop down for uncontested positions.
13. Any officer may be removed from office with cause. Officers missing three consecutive board meetings will be subject to cause review.
14. VP's must first delegate, if reasonable, OR perform the duties of the positions they oversee if there is a vacancy.
15. A vacancy on the Board of Directors after the annual November meeting shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board. That person can fill the position until its election year. They can then be elected to that position again if they choose to.
16. The outgoing President, if not re-elected, will serve as an ex officio Board member for one year.
17. Presidential candidates must have been Association members for the previous two years, have at least one year of Board experience, and must not have resigned from a prior Board position.
18. No Board business may be conducted without a quorum (simple majority), unless seven days' notice was given. With notice, decisions may be made by majority of those present.
19. Board decisions require a simple majority except the following, which require a two-thirds majority:
    A. Exceptions to the By-Laws or Rules and Regulations
    B. Exceptions to eligibility requirements
    C. Approval of managers
    D. Expulsion or suspension of managers, assistant managers, coaches or team mothers
    E. Removal of a member of the Board of Directors.
20. The Board will hold regular meetings as needed. The President may call special meetings with notice by phone, email, or other means.
21. Each officer must submit proposed spending to the Treasurer by October. The Treasurer will present a final budget for approval at the November meeting.
22. All officers are required to read the By-Laws.
23. Any expenditure over $250, not previously budgeted, must be approved by the Board. Obtaining estimates beforehand is encouraged.
24. The Association will hire an independent accounting or bookkeeping firm to maintain financial records. The bookkeeper reports to the Treasurer and Administrative VP. This is to keep all parties accountable on finances, taxes and the league's 501c for years to come.
25. Email voting requires a simple majority of all Board members.
26. Decisions of the Board of Directors involving exceptions to the Bylaws or Rules and Regulations WILL NOT be conducted via e-mail.
27. Any disagreement regarding interpretation of a By-Law may be submitted in writing to the Executive Board. The Executive Board will provide clarification within three business days by majority vote.
28. Clerical edits to the By-Laws may be made immediately with majority approval of the Executive Board, provided the meaning of the By-Law does not change, but only worded better for clarity.

14.7 Article VII – Duties of Officers

NOTE

Each Executive Board member to ensure all new bylaw language is properly implemented and a full evaluation of any additional impact to the language within the bylaws is reviewed and corrected to meet the intent of the change.

1. The President shall:
   - A. Be present at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board of Directors
   - B. Appoint all committees, except the search committee
   - C. Exercise supervision of the Association in general
   - D. Issue/carry out all final decisions of the Executive Board of Directors
   - E. Sign all official league documents
   - F. Be an ex officio member of all committees except the search committee as needed.
   - G. Assume the duties of other Executive Board Members in their absence or pass-down responsibility to the Executive Vice President to do so as needed
   - H. Assist other Executive Board Members as required.
   - I. Read the bylaws.
2. The Executive Vice President shall:
   - A. Be present at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board of Directors
   - B. Be present at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors
   - C. Exercise supervision of the Association in general
   - D. Assume the duties of the President in their absent as needed.
   - E. Assume the duties of other Executive Board Members in their absence or appoint other Executive Board Members to do so as needed if the President is unable or request it.
   - F. Participate as a member of the concession committee.
   - G. Assist other Executive Board Members as required.
   - H. Read the bylaws.
3. Administrative Vice President shall:
   - A. Be present at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board of Directors
   - B. Be present at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors
   - C. Exercise supervision of the Association in general
   - D. Work closely with Treasurer and Secretary to maintain administrative balance.
   - E. Help resolve any issues that may arise that pertain to the administrative health of the league. If directly involved or the Administrative Vice President feels the matter warrants extra care, he/she may refer the issue to the Executive Vice President or the entire Executive Board to be handled.
   - F. Assist other Executive Board Members as required.
   - G. Read the bylaws
4. Operational Vice President shall:
   - A. Be present at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board of Directors
   - B. Be present at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors
   - C. Exercise supervision of the Association in general

D. Work closely with the Publicity Director, Procurement, Facilities Manager, and Field Coordinator to maintain proper operational standards are upheld.
E. Help resolve any issues that may arise that pertain to the operational health of the league. If directly involved or the Operational Vice President feels the matter warrants extra care, he/she may refer the issue to the Executive Vice President or the entire Executive Board to be handled.
F. Assist other Executive Board Members as required.
G. Read the bylaws.

5. League Vice President shall:
   A. Be present at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board of Directors
   B. Be present at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors
   C. Exercise supervision of the Association in general
   D. Work closely with all Age Division Coordinators to ensure cohesive environment within the league and league play.
   E. Help resolve any issues that may arise amongst coaches, Age Division coordinators, or parents/players. If directly involved or the League Vice President feels the matter warrants extra care, he/she may refer the issue to the Executive Vice President or the entire Executive Board to be handled.
   F. Assist other Executive Board Members as required.
   G. Work with the Secretary, Registrar, and Age Division Coordinators to prepare for the Spring Draft and Post Season (All Star) Draft.
   H. Read the bylaws.
6. The Secretary shall:
   A. Report to the Administrative Vice President
   B. Be present at all meetings of the Association
   C. Keep the minutes of all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board of Directors
   D. Keep and maintain all records, documents, complaints, etc. for the league. The method of how these are kept is up to the Secretary, but should be fully accessible to all Board Members, with the exception of complaints or other items the Executive Board Members deem confidential. Confidential items will only be directly available to the Executive Board Members but can be requested for viewing by other Board Members. Request must be sent to the Executive Board for approval.
   E. Contact all members of the Executive Board of Directors for special meetings.
   F. Contact all Board Members for regular and special meetings as needed.
   G. Carry on the correspondence of the Association.
   H. Supply a list of names, addresses, and phone numbers of all officers, managers, and assistant managers to all team managers and officers on draft night or when requested to do so (within a reasonable timely manner) by any member of the association.
   I. Maintain a current list of all coaches picks and keep record of previous coach’s picks.
   J. Keep record of previous seasons rosters.
   K. Work with the Registrar, League Vice President, and Age Division Coordinators to prepare for the Spring Draft and Post Season (All Star) Draft.
   L. Contribute meeting minutes and other content as needed to the Webmaster for the LJGSA website.
   M. Read the bylaws.

7. The Treasurer shall:
   A. Report to the Administrative Vice President
   B. Be present at all meetings of the Association
   C. Have custody of all Association money
   D. Sign all checks
   E. Keep regulation books of all financial records of the Association
   F. Issue regular reports and bank statements to the Board of Directors and the membership including actual spending versus budget, at least monthly
   G. Be responsible for submitting a budget to the membership during the November meeting
   H. Present a final accounting of all monies at the annual meeting.
   I. File and pay sales tax quarterly with the State of Texas.
   J. On October 1, print reports from Microsoft Money and send to LJGSA's accountant so a 990 Form can be filed with the IRS in February of the following year.
   K. Read the bylaws.
8. The Official Registrar shall:
   A. Report to the Administrative Vice President
   B. Be present at all meetings of the Association
   C. Conduct registration of players and collection of membership dues at the time period designated by the Board
   D. Furnish, prior to draft night, a list of officially registered players and their team status
   E. Maintain a current team status list.
   F. Send the secretary copies of all team rosters after teams have officially formed each season for purpose of record keeping.
   G. Work with the Secretary, League Vice President, and Age Division Coordinators to prepare for the Spring Draft and Post Season (All Star) Draft.
   H. Send a file (excel, word, etc.) to the Executive Board and the District Commissioner with information on all registered players after the close of registration. The document will include at minimum the first and last name of players, their date of birth, and their address. For Tee Ball players their gender must be included, since either a boy or girl may play Tee Ball. The document must also include the total number of players registered in each age division.
   I. Collect proof of background checks and any other USA required documents from all volunteers. If unable to acquire documents from volunteers, the applicable Age Division Coordinator will help the Registrar acquire documents. If still unable, the matter will escalate to the Executive Board.
   J. Work with coaches directly to form teams for the Fall Season.
   K. Read the bylaws.
9. The Publicity Director shall:
   A. Report to the Administrative Vice President
   B. Be present at all meetings of the Association
   C. Coordinate all Association publicity
   D. Notify the public of all monthly meetings including discussion meetings for proposed by-laws changes as needed.
   E. Oversee the process of sales and construction of field signs for sponsors.
   F. Coordinate all fund-raising activities of the Association, except for post season (All Stars) travel expenses.

G. Work directly with sponsors who wish to donate to our league.
H. Maintain and actively update the Leagues social media accounts.
I. Report all financial information pertaining to fund-raising, signage, or sponsors to the Treasurer and Administrative Vice President.
J. Read the bylaws.

10. Each age Division Coordinator shall:
    A. Report to the League Vice President
    B. Be present at all meeting of the Association
    C. Have the responsibility of his/her age division
    D. Recommend all managers in the age division to be approved by the Board of Directors
    E. See that all Rules and Regulations set up by the Association are carried out
    F. Keep his/her age divisions won and lost records, the number of tournament entered by each team, and where tournaments were played. These records are to be turned in at the end of the season to the President for the next year's officers.
    G. Notify all managers of monthly meetings and information from meetings that pertain to their age division
    H. Settle disputes within his/her age division. In the event the Age Division Coordinator cannot resolve a problem in his/her division, between two managers, or himself/herself and a manager, the problem will be submitted in writing, by manager(s) involved to the Executive Board of Directors.
    I. Help prepare for their specific age division Spring and Post Season (All Stars) draft.
    J. Read the bylaws.
11. The Division I (Select) Coordinator shall:
    A. Report to the League Vice President
    B. Be present at all meetings of the Association
    C. Have the responsibility of all Division I (Select) teams.
    D. Notify all managers of monthly meetings and information from meetings that pertain to their division
    E. See that all Rules and Regulations set up by the Association are carried out
    F. Confirm Division I (Select) Teams maintain proper insurance and collect payment for fees.
    G. Help settle disputes pertaining to Division I (Select) teams as needed. In the event the Division I (Select) Coordinator cannot resolve a problem between two managers, or himself/herself and a manager, the problem will be submitted in writing, by the manager(s) involved to the Executive Board of Directors.
    H. Read the bylaws.
12. The Equipment Manager shall:
    A. Report to the Operational Vice President
    B. Be present at all meetings of the Association.
    C. See that each team is properly equipped at the beginning of the season
    D. Collect and maintain control of coaches postdated checks that are held until the coach has returned all distributed gear.
    E. Work with the Procurement Director to purchase team equipment
    F. Furnish any special equipment requested by a manager only with the approval of the Executive Board of Directors
    G. Issue equipment during the playing season

H. Keep a record of equipment issued to each team during the season
I. Request the help of the Operational Vice President if any issues arise that pertain to equipment
J. Read the bylaws.

13. The Field Coordinator shall:
    A. Report to the Operational Vice President
    B. Be present at all meetings of the Association
    C. Be responsible for ensuring the conditions of the fields and field maintenance equipment
    D. See that assigned fields for regular scheduled league games and tournaments are in appropriate playable condition, but not responsible for preparing or maintaining fields for tournaments without tournament checklist approved with named volunteers.
    E. Be responsible for establishing a schedule each year for the teams to participate in field maintenance
    F. Be responsible for providing a list of field duties to be distributed with the schedule, including picking up trash around the bleachers
    G. Coordinate field crew including training on equipment and assignment of field activities
    H. Coordinate manager and coaches field preparation training
    I. Read the bylaws.
14. The League Scheduler shall:
    A. Report to the League Vice President
    B. Be present at all meetings of the Association
    C. Schedule all regular season and make-up games
    D. Assign times for practice fields for League teams prior to the start of league play
    E. Assign times for practice fields for Division I (Select) Teams
    F. Be responsible for scheduling practices, games, and other use of the field for persons or teams outside of the Association
    G. Read the bylaws
15. The Tournament Director shall:
    A. Report to the Administrative Vice President
    B. Be present at all meetings of the Association
    C. Coordinate all LJGSA tournaments
    D. Gather the information about LJGSA tournaments, send out the invitations, set up the brackets, and collect the money, confirm insurance information for all teams
    E. Turn all information for the tournament over to the Administrative Vice President.
    F. Turn all money for the tournament over to the League Treasurer
    G. Help prepare a list of all volunteers prior to the tournament
    H. Turn in a list of all teams playing in tournament to the Secretary for record keeping purposes.
    I. Read the bylaws.
16. The Concession Manager shall:
    A. Report to the Operational Vice President
    B. Be present at all meetings of the Association
    C. Form a committee to assist with duties

D. Purchase supplies
E. Assign teams to work the concession stand
F. Oversee the operation of the concession stand
G. Read the bylaws

17. The Procurement Director shall:
    A. Report to the Administrative Vice President
    B. Be present at all meetings of the Association
    C. Be responsible for collect all teams' players' shirt sizes for uniforms, place orders for uniforms, pick up uniforms, and distribute uniforms. If the Procurement Director would like to enlist the help of Age Division Coordinators for the task of collecting sizes and compiling the orders, he/she may do so.
    D. Be responsible for purchasing all equipment, scorekeeping, large field items (bases, chalkers, mowers, etc.), association T-shirts, trophies for league and tournaments
    E. Request bids and actively seek the best price for quality products. The procurement director shall strive to do business locally unless the price difference is significant enough to warrant purchase outside of the Brazosport area.
    F. Read the bylaws.
18. The Facilities Manager shall:
    A. Report to the Operational Vice President
    B. Be present at all meetings of the Association
    C. Backup for concession Manager
    D. Coordinate the cleaning crews for the Youth Sports Complex
    E. Arrange for general complex maintenance and aesthetics.
    F. Head up the facility enhancement projects.
    G. Read the bylaws.
19. The Webmaster shall:
    A. Report to the Administrative Vice President
    B. Be present at all meetings of the Association
    C. Maintain and update LJGSA website
    D. Read the bylaws.
20. The Field Crew shall:
    A. Report to the Field Coordinator
    B. Assist with maintenance and upkeep of the fields
    C. Non-voting board positions
    D. Number of positions determined by Field Coordinator
    E. Trained on field equipment operations and usage

14.8 Article VIII - Amendments

1. These By-Laws Rules and Regulations and Tournament Rules may be amended, repealed, or altered by two-thirds vote of the total Association membership present at the November General meeting. All changes to the By-Laws, the Rules and Regulations and Tournament Rules will be made according to the following procedure:
   A. A By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and Tournament Rules Committee—consisting of three Board members and three at-large members—will be appointed at the Annual Meeting. The committee will accept proposals immediately after the Annual Meeting. All proposals must be submitted in writing, with the originator's name and phone number, by September 30. The Bylaws committee shall be a standing committee and the members shall hold their position until the next Annual meeting.
   B. The By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and Tournament Rules Committee will meet the first week of October to compile proposals and draft wording necessary to implement the proposals. The draft shall be shown to the originator to ensure that it meets the original intent.
   C. A copy of the proposed changes will be posted at the Youth Sports Complex and on the league website and will be available from any ByLaws, Rules and Regulations, and Tournament Rules Committee member or board member by October 20.
   D. Proposed changes will be presented at the November Association Meeting for voting. For controversial issues, one person for and one against will each have two minutes to speak. Additional time may be granted equally to both sides by majority vote, not to exceed ten minutes total.
2. Changes become effective immediately upon passage.
3. From passage until the start of regular season play, the Board may propose changes necessary to comply with Texas or USA Softball requirements.
4. The Board may remove or revise ill-advised, hasty, or erroneous proposals that hinder the Association's ability to operate. A two-thirds majority is required.

Addendum 1 **Table of Key Rules**

NOTE: USA Softball rules are in effect unless specifically noted otherwise in these rules and regulations.

League/ Division	Age (1)	Game Time	Ball Size	Half Inning	Pitching Distance	Infield Fly Rule	Dropped 3rd Strike Rule	Base Stealing	Tie Breaker	Standings Kept
Tee-Ball	4	2 innings	11-inch Safety	Bat the Lineup	35’	No	No	No	No	No
Pixie I (6U)	6	55 min. (2)	11-inch Safety	Safety 3 Outs or 6 Runs	35’	No	No	No	No	Yes
Pixie II (8U)	8	55 min. (3)	11-inch	Safety 3 Outs or 6 Runs	35’	No	No	No	ITB (5)	Yes
Freshman (10U)	10	70 min. (3)	11-inch	3 Outs or 4 Runs	35’	Yes	Yes	Yes	ITB (5)	Yes
Sophomore (12U)	12	70 min. (3)	12-inch	Safety 3 Outs or 6 Runs	40’	Yes	Yes	Yes	ITB (5)	Yes
Lower Junior (14U)	14	70 min. (3)	12-inch	Safety 3 Outs or 6 Runs	43’	Yes	Yes	Yes	ITB (5)	Yes
Upper Junior (16U)	16	70 min. (3)	12-inch	Safety 3 Outs or 6 Runs	43’	Yes	Yes	Yes	ITB (5)	Yes
Senior (18U)	18	70 min. (3)	12-inch	Safety 3 Outs or 6 Runs	43’	Yes	Yes	Yes	ITB (5)	Yes

The USA Softball season, or “Softball Year”, runs from September 1 to August 31.

(1) Maximum age of player.
- a. The USA Softball 2024 season starts on September 1, 2023 and ends August 31, 2024. The age an individual player is on December 31, 2021 defines their age group for the 2022 season.
  - i. Example: The players date of birth is 12/30/2012. The player must play in10U or up for the “Fall 2021” season and play in 10U or up for the “Spring 2022” season.
- b. The USA Softball 2023 season starts on September 1, 2022 and ends August 31, 2023. The age an individual player is on December 31, 2022 defines their age group for the 2023 season.
- c. Pixie I (6U) or Tee Ball players may not be less than 4 years old as of January 1st of current year, due to insurance purposes.

(2) Start no new inning after 55 minutes, however, may complete an inning started.

(3) Innings started before time expires will be completed unless a team is behind by more runs than they can score in a half inning.

(4) ITB – International Tie Breaker in effect.

** Note: All Co-op games will be played for 1 hour 20 minutes. **

Addendum 2 **Most Recent By-Laws Vote**

2025 LJGSA By-Law Proposals
(✓ *Pass* / ✗ *Not Pass)*

Registration

- ✓ Revise the Rules and Regulations under Registration to align the seasons for Recreational Teams and Division 1 Teams. Generally accepted season designations are Spring and Fall, which typically run from February 1 through July 31 and August 1 through January 31, respectively. The Post-Season will be included within the Spring Season and designated as such for Recreational Leagues. (Ref. 1.1)
- × Players may only play in the Recreational league or Division 1 (Select) during the Spring Season.
- × Head Coaches receive free registration.
- × Board members who are parents or legal guardians of players in the recreational league shall have their player registration fees waved each season, provided they meet the following criteria:
    - × Active participation: Must be consistently present at board meetings. Any board member who accumulates three (3) consecutive absences during a single season shall forfeit their eligibility for the registration waiver in the following season. All Board Members must physically volunteer during league activities and events.

General Rules and Regulations / By-Law Amendments

- ✓ Add language to Article VII - Duties of Officers, specifically regarding the Executive Board Members, that requires each member to ensure all new bylaw language is properly implemented and a full evaluation of any additional impact to the language within the bylaws is reviewed and corrected to meet the intent of the change. (Ref. 14.7)
- × Under Rules and Regulations, Section 6, Player Clothing, Equipment, and Safety, it should state that all girls who are playing infield positions are required to wear a protective faceguard during all LJGSA sanctioned events.
- ✓ Add language to Article VIII -Amendments section or Article VI - Board of Directors of the bylaws concerning removal or revision of ill-advised, hasty, or erroneously ratified proposals and additions to the bylaws that impact the Board's ability to properly serve the Association. A two-thirds majority decision must be garnered to remove or revise any rule or bylaw. (Ref. 14.8.4)
- ✓ Revise Section 7, Sub-Section 1, to read, "Pickup players shall be from the same or lower age division for tournament and league play. For 10U and up, pickup players from the same age division may not play Pitcher or Catcher. For 6U and 8U, pickup players may not play Pitcher or 1st base." (Ref. 8.1.5.L)
- × All board members shall be required to be present at any tournament hosted by LJGSA. This attendance is necessary to ensure smooth operations, assist as needed, and uphold the standards and integrity of the league.
- × LJGSA teams are strictly prohibited from recruiting, rostering, or utilizing Division 1 (Select) players – defined as players who are not registered with the LJGSA Recreational Program and who participate in competitive or select-level softball programs exclusively – for any games or tournaments whether sanctioned by LJGSA or otherwise.
    - × Any violation of this ByLaw may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to:
        - × Forfeiture of games
        - × Suspension or removal of coaches
        - × Disqualification from LJGSA participation or postseason eligibility
        - × Additional sanctions as determined by the LJGSA Board of Directors

Concessions Duty

Addendum 2 **Most Recent By-Laws Vote**

- × Eliminate the requirement for Recreation Parents/Guardians to cover a shift in the concessions within the active season or pay the buyout requirement. Require that all Division 1 (Select) teams fulfill the duties of the concession stand as a fixture of their seasonal contract. Prime day practice Division 1 (Select) teams would be primary and Non-Prime day Division 1 (Select) teams would fill in as supplements.

Field Usage and Scheduling (Ref. 3.0)

- ✓ (Submitted 3 Times) Add guidance to the Rules and Regulations that protects 2 Practice days each week for each season for recreational (league) players which may transition to 1 practice day per week once Spring season begins to facilitate weekday games. These practice days should be Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday. (Ref. 3.1)
- ✓ During each season, Recreational teams shall take precedence over Division I (Select) teams in all matters related to field usage, including practices, games and batting cage access. (Ref. 3.2)

Board of Directors Composition

- × The Board of Directors shall be comprised of a majority of parents or legal guardians of players currently participating in the League's Recreational Program. If the composition of the Board falls out of compliance with this standard, the Board must take corrective action at the next scheduled meeting. Corrective action may include, but is not limited to, adjusting committee assignments, appointing additional qualified members, or amending open seats to restore compliance with these additional requirements.
- × The League President must be the parent or legal guardian of a player currently participating in the league's recreational program. Individuals whose children participate exclusively in Division 1 (Select) programs are not eligible to serve as League President.
- × An individual serving as a Coordinator (defined as Pixie 1, Pixie 2, 1 OU, 12U, 14U, or Division 1) may not simultaneously:
  - × Serve as a coach or manager of any team within their assigned age group, OR
  - × Be the Parent or Guardian of a child participating in their assigned age group.
- × The League may appoint a Non-Voting Advisor to the Board of Directors.
  The Non-Voting Advisor:
  - × Role and Responsibilities: Provides guidance, advice, and support to the Board of Directors as needed. They assist in understanding board procedures and help facilitate effective operations of the league.
  - × Attendance: Is not required to attend all board meetings but may participate at their discretion or when requested by the Board.
  - × Qualifications: Should be an experienced former board member with knowledge of multiple board positions and league operations.
  - × Limitations: The Non-Voting Advisor does not have voting rights and may not serve as a substitute for a Board member. This role is intended to provide continuity, mentorship, and institutional knowledge to support the effective governance of the league.
- × No more than one individual from the same team may serve on the Executive Board at any given time. Additionally, spouses, domestic partners, or immediate family members may not serve concurrently on the Executive Board. Furthermore, no more than one (1) Division 1 (Select) Program parent or guardian may serve on the Executive Board at any given time. The remaining Executive Board members must be parents or guardians of players currently enrolled in the League's Recreational Program.

Addendum 2 **Most Recent By-Laws Vote**

- × If the composition of the Executive Board falls out of compliance with this section due to resignation or removal the Board of Directors shall take corrective action at the next scheduled meeting to restore compliance. Corrective action may include, but is not limited to, appointing interim officers, reassigning duties, or calling a special election. No Executive Board decision requiring a vote may proceed until the Executive Board is brought back into compliance with this section, except actions necessary to restore compliance.
- ✓ Revise bylaw #14 under Article VI - Board of Directors, which prohibits VP's from holding/filling board positions they are over to REQUIRING that they delegate or perform the duties of the positions they oversee if there is a vacancy. (Ref. 14.6.14)

Post Season Teams (All Stars)

- ✓ If no new projects have been quoted/approved by the final meeting before all-stars and there are sufficient funds, the league shall recognize and fund any secondary Pixie post season teams. The league will recognize only one post season team for every five teams in age groups 10u, 12u, 14u. (Ref. 6.1.1)
- ✓ Remove the verbiage within Section 5, Post Season Teams, Sub-section 1 – Post Season Team Selection Process, that requires each manager to nominate 12 girls for consideration. (Ref. 6.1.4)
- ✓ Add additional language that ensures that if a player/parent was approved for a refusal to play for a specific coach prior to the season that it will not impact their ability to play on All Stars due to that coach selecting them for their team and that player declining due to personal reasons. This will allow the player to participate in the post-season without compromise and provide the best outcome for the player. (Ref. 6.1.4.A)

Division 1 (Select) Program Rules and Regulations

- × All Division 1 (Select) teams should be voted on each year or if changes are made to that team within the year (name change, age group change).
- × Remove the requirement to have a minimum of 10 players on a Division 1 (Select) roster under Section 4 - Division 1 Rules.
- × Only one (1) Division 1 (Select) team per age division shall be permitted to be officially sponsored or supported by the Lake Jackson Girls Softball Association ("UGSA"). No additional Division 1 (Select) teams in the same age division may claim affiliation, sponsorship, or official support from LJGSA. This policy shall not affect any Division 1 (Select) teams that were previously approved by LJGSA as permanent teams. These teams are grandfathered in and will retain their official sponsorship status as they age up into the next division. Division 1 {Select) teams that were admitted under a probationary or trial period shall remain subject to annual review and board approval until such time that they are voted in as permanent teams.

Rejected Proposals (did not get voted on)

- × If a player's parent chooses to play in an age division up, they should not be allowed to drop back down to their age division of eligibility. Example: a 6U player plays up to 8U one season but decides to drop back down to 6U for Spring.
    - × Insight: Ed Guillen, USA Softball District 27 Commissioner, confirmed that it is a violation of USA softball rules to prohibit any child from playing in an age division in which they qualify for. The sole exception is Championship Rosters, defined as State Championship (All-Star) rosters, may not have the same player on them twice. For instance, if a player is selected and is on the championship roster for the league's 1 10U team, but is still eligible for 8U, she may not play in both divisions. She may only be rostered on one team.