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## **ARTICLE 1 GENERAL**

### **SECTION 1.1 MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATION**

The Board of Trustees may approve and accept all prospective members upon payment of the league's annual dues and completion of the appropriate membership application form(s), subject to the requirements of Section 4.9D. All prospective members, shall upon request, furnish proof of age to the officers of the league. All members shall reside within a 300-mile radius of Houston, with the exception to the "A" division agreement between Houston and Dallas. Those who do not may petition the Manager's Council in writing. The Manager's Council will vote on each applicant with no team allowed more than two (2) players from outside the 300-mile radius. All prospective members who may have been suspended or expelled by the Montrose Softball League or another NAGAAA Member Association, or sanctioned by NAGAAA itself (for Gay Softball World Series participation) shall be reviewed by the Board of Trustees to determine acceptance into the league.

### **SECTION 1.2 VOTING**

A. Each member, upon acceptance as a member of the league, shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to the league membership. A Manager shall have one vote as outlined in Article 6.

B. Abstentions shall not be counted toward the necessary votes to pass any measure. The remaining members at any meeting, present and voting, must be properly counted to pass any measure.

C. Proxy votes are not allowed in the MSL.

D. The word "majority, present and voting" in regards to voting outcomes means, simply, more than half of the votes of the membership present and voting at said meeting. References to a "two-thirds (2/3), present and voting" requirement in regards to voting outcome means at least two-thirds (2/3) votes of the membership present at said meeting.

### **SECTION 1.3 HONORARY MEMBERS**

The league may have honorary members. The number of honorary members shall be fixed from time to time by the Board of Trustees. Recommendations for recognition as an honorary member may be made by a current member. The Board of Trustees shall then vote on admission of such person. Honorary members shall have the same voting rights and privileges as non-playing members of the league. Any individual that has been designated as a "Jerry Award" winner will be an honorary member for life.

### **SECTION 1.4 MEMBERSHIP RECORDS**

The name and address of each member and the date of membership shall be entered on the records of the league.

### **SECTION 1.5 TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in this league is not transferable or assignable. Should a membership be terminated, the annual dues shall not be refundable unless approved by a majority of the board.

**SECTION 1.6 TERM OF MEMBERSHIP**

Applications for membership in the Montrose Softball League will be accepted from the registration date of the new season until the final roster deadline for that year. Final Roster Deadline is determined by the Board of Trustees. Memberships will be valid until the Initial Roster Deadline for the following year's season, unless sooner terminated. (See Section 1.7)

**SECTION 1.7 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

Membership may be canceled at any time for conduct in violation of the Bylaws or the League rules, or for conduct improper or prejudicial to the best interests of the League. (Refer to Section 4.8.D)

**SECTION 1.8 GAY / NON-GAY PARTICIPATION**

A team participating in League play may not have more than two (2) non-gay players on their roster at any time during the season. Eligibility under this rule is to be established to the satisfaction of the Manager's Council.

**ARTICLE 2 MEETING OF MEMBERS****SECTION 2.1 ANNUAL MEETING**

An annual meeting of the members of the league shall be held on the last Sunday in September of each year for the purpose of electing Trustees and for the transaction of other business as may come before the membership at the meeting. Proper advance notice of the Annual Meeting is provided herewith.

**SECTION 2.2 SPECIAL MEETINGS**

Special meetings of the members may be called by the Commissioner, a majority of the Board of Trustees, or two-thirds (2/3) of the Managers' Council, with voting privileges per Section 10.1A, or not less than one tenth (1/10) of the total league membership by petition to the League Commissioner or Secretary. The Order of Business for a Special Meeting shall only be the purpose for which the meeting is called.

**SECTION 2.3 PLACE OF MEETING**

The Board of Trustees may designate any place of meeting for any Annual Meeting or for any special meeting so long as it shall be held within the boundaries of the Greater Houston Metropolitan area.

**SECTION 2.4 NOTICE OF MEETINGS**

With the exception of the Annual Meeting (whose notice is considered satisfied by Section 2.1), notice stating the place, day, and hour of any meeting of members shall be delivered either personally, by telephone, by e-mail or by mail, to each member at their last known address, not less than ten (10) or more than thirty (30) days prior to the date of such meeting. In the case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be stated in the notice.

**SECTION 2.5 QUORUM**

The members in good standing present at any meeting of the members that is duly called shall constitute a quorum at such meeting.

**SECTION 2.6 MANNER OF ACTING**

At any duly called and assembled meeting of the membership, any vote of the membership will become effective immediately unless otherwise designated in the motion that passes. All other requirements of a proper meeting must be in place for a meeting to proceed.

Unless otherwise designated in a different section of the instrument of governance requiring an alternative vote to pass, any motion will be deemed passed by a majority of those members in good standing, present and casting votes. Abstentions will not count. The chair of the meeting shall not vote except in the event of a tie vote. The chair of the meeting shall not discuss any proposal as an advocate on any side of the issue unless he/she passes the chair, however the chair may add comments for informational purposes or to make clarifications as needed.

At Special Meetings of the Membership, only those matters for which the meeting was called may be addressed.

For any meeting, including Special Meetings of the Membership, derivative motions of any original motion may be entertained and voted on subject to acceptance by the chair that the derivative motion is reasonably related and on point.

Subject to standing league rules or designated agendas for any given meeting, the chair of the meeting, at their discretion, will utilize the general principles of Roberts Rules of Order to conduct any meeting. At no time will Roberts Rules of Order be deemed an authoritative or binding rule(s); the Instruments of Governance and the decisions by the Chair shall prevail. The Board of Trustees shall have the power to override decisions by the Chair upon a favorable vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the remaining (non-Chair) members of the Board of Trustees (less any vacancies). The Instruments of Governance shall be applied as the authoritative applicablerules in the following order – The Constitution, The By-Laws, and then The Rules of Play.

**SECTION 2.7 ORDER OF BUSINESS**

At the annual meeting of the members, unless otherwise directed by a vote of the majority of members present and voting, the order of business shall be as follows:

- A. Proposed amendments to the Constitution or Bylaws
- B. The presentation of the minutes of the last annual meeting of the members and every special meeting of the members held subsequent thereto
- C. Report of the Treasury
- D. Report of the Board of Trustees
- E. Report of Committees
- F. Old Business
- G. Election of Trustees (Refer to Section 3.6)
- H. New Business

**ARTICLE 3 BOARD OF TRUSTEES****SECTION 3.1 GENERAL POWERS**

The affairs and funds of the league shall be managed by the Board of Trustees.

**SECTION 3.2 NUMBER, TENURE, AND QUALIFICATIONS**

The Board of Trustees shall consist of seven (7) members who shall be elected by and from the membership of the League, as hereinafter provided. Each Trustee shall hold office for two (2) consecutive years and until the next annual meeting of the members and until a successor shall have been qualified and elected, unless such Trustee shall sooner resign or be removed.

**SECTION 3.3 TRUSTEES**

The Trustees of the League shall be a Commissioner, an Assistant Commissioner, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Public Relations/Sponsorship Coordinator, a Competition Coordinator, and a Fundraising Coordinator.

**SECTION 3.4 QUALIFICATION OF NOMINEES**

Each nominee shall be selected from the final league membership roster for that current calendar year.

**SECTION 3.5 NOMINATIONS BY MEMBERS**

Any member of the League present at the annual meeting may nominate any member of the League for any position on the Board to be filled at the meeting. Such nomination shall require a seconding nomination for the person to be entered as candidate for the office.

**SECTION 3.6 ELECTION OF TRUSTEES**

The election of Trustees shall be conducted at the annual meeting. The nominee who receives a majority of the votes cast for the office shall be declared to have been elected to the office. Should no candidate obtain the majority of the votes cast, a runoff vote will be taken between the two candidates who obtain the largest number of votes.

**SECTION 3.7 SCHEDULE OF ELECTING BOARD OF TRUSTEE OFFICERS**

The Board of Trustees will be elected at the annual membership meeting according to the following schedule:

The Commissioner, Secretary, Fundraising Coordinator and the Public Relations/Sponsorship Coordinator shall be elected on even numbered years. The Assistant Commissioner, Treasurer and Competition Coordinator shall be elected on odd numbered years.

**SECTION 3.8 VACANCY**

Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Trustees may be filled by the Board of Trustees and the appointee shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the Trustee who is succeeded.

**SECTION 3.9 REGULAR MEETINGS**

Regular meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held every month of the year at a time and place to be determined by the Board. All meetings of the Board of Trustees are open to all members of the League.

**SECTION 3.10 SPECIAL MEETINGS**

Special meetings may be called by the Commissioner on five (3) days notice to each Trustee either personally, by telephone, by e-mail, or by standard mail. Special meetings shall be called by the Commissioner or the Secretary on the request of any three (3) Trustees serving like notice.

**SECTION 3.11 QUORUM**

A majority of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board; but if less than a majority of the Trustees is present at said meeting, a majority of the Trustees present and voting may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice.

Members of the Board of Trustees may teleconference into any Board meeting provided a majority of the Trustees are present at the designated meeting location. The teleconference member(s) shall have the same voting privileges as if they were present and voting at the designated meeting location. The Chair of the meeting may be a Board Member that is teleconferencing into the meeting.

**SECTION 3.12 MANNER OF ACTING**

At any duly called and assembled meeting of the Board of Trustees, any vote of the Board will become effective immediately unless otherwise designated in the motion that passes. All other requirements of a proper meeting must be in place for a meeting to proceed.

Unless otherwise designated in a different section of the instrument of governance requiring an alternative vote to pass, any motion will be deemed passed by a majority of Trustees, present and casting votes. Abstentions will not count. The chair of the meeting shall not vote except in the event of a tie vote.

The chair of the meeting shall not discuss any proposal as an advocate on any side of the issue unless he/she passes the chair, however the chair may add comments for informational purposes or to make clarifications as needed.

**SECTION 3.13 INVOLUNTARY RESIGNATION**

Any member of the Board of Trustees who has unexcused absences from two (2) consecutive regular meetings of the Board of Trustees may be deemed to have resigned as a member of the Board and may be replaced in accordance with the provisions stated in these Bylaws. Absences may be deemed "excused" upon a majority vote of the remainder of the Board.

**SECTION 3.14 REMOVAL**

The Board of Trustees shall have the power to remove any Trustee of the League by an affirmative vote of four (4) members of the Board for reason of conduct not in the best interest of the League, or for failure, refusals, or inability to perform the official duties of the office.

**SECTION 3.15 COMPENSATION**

The Board of Trustees shall serve without compensation. However, the League's annual dues shall be waived for all members of the Board.

## **ARTICLE 4 DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **SECTION 4.1 COMMISSIONER**

The duties of the Commissioner shall include but are not limited to:

- A. Presiding at all formal meetings of members and of the Board.
- B. Appointing members of any duly authorized committee of the League.
- C. Serving as the official voting representative of the League on the Council of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA). Travel, hotel expenses and a per diem for NAGAAA meetings will be covered by the league with a limit set forth by the Board.
- D. Ruling on the interpretation and intent of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules of the League.
- E. Serving as an authorized signatory on the League banking account(s) and on any funds managed by the League.
- F. Overseeing all day-to-day functions of the League.
- G. Providing all required league information to NAGAAA by the specified NAGAAA deadlines.

### **SECTION 4.2 ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER**

The duties of the Assistant Commissioner shall include but are not limited to:

- A. Performing all duties and exercising all powers of the Commissioner during the Commissioner's absence or disability.
- B. Becoming the acting Commissioner should the Commissioner resign or be removed from office.
- C. Ruling on Parliamentary procedures at all formal meetings of the members or the Board.
- D. Maintaining order at all meetings.
- E. Coordinating and overseeing field maintenance.
- F. Serving as liaison between the League and any entities providing playing fields.
- G. Serving as an authorized signatory on the League banking account(s).
- H. Presiding at all Managers Council Meetings.
- I. Disseminate information, which is pursuant to activities of the Manager's Council, to the Managers Council.

### **SECTION 4.3 SECRETARY**

The duties of the Secretary shall include but are not limited to:

- A. Keeping the minutes of the meetings of the Board, the membership, and of the Manager's Council. Minutes of meetings of the Board of Trustees must be distributed to each and every Trustee within ten (10) days of said meeting. Minutes of meetings of the Manager's Council must be distributed to each and every Trustee as well as each and every member of the Manager's Council within ten (10) days of said meeting. Minutes of meetings of the membership must be distributed to each and every Trustee within thirty (30) days of said meeting, and must be available for distribution upon request to any League member; also, minutes of meetings of the membership must be available for distribution at the next meeting of the membership.
- B. Maintaining an official record of the Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules of Play.
- C. Maintaining a record of all members of the League and their respective contact information.
- D. Providing sign-in sheets at applicable League functions.
- E. Disseminating all general notices to the membership.
- F. Having custody of the checkbook of the League and the checkbook(s) of any funds managed by the League in absence of the Treasurer.

**SECTION 4.4 TREASURER**

The duties of the Treasurer shall include but are not limited to:

- A. Accounting monthly for all dues and monies collected by the League.
- B. Accounting monthly for disbursements made by the League.
- C. Having custody of the checkbook(s) of the League and the checkbook(s) of any funds managed by the League.
- D. Depositing of all monies of the League in such banks as shall be specified by resolution of the Board.
- E. Making disbursements and having charge of the financial affairs of the League and of any funds managed by the League under authorization of the Board.
- F. Collecting of all dues and monies owed to the League.
- G. Accounting for all expenses and income from concession sales and depositing all profits into the League banking account(s), if the League is responsible for concessions.
- H. Providing a copy of the monthly bank statements and a monthly check register for Board approval.
- I. Insuring the best practices and safeguards are utilized in all financial matters of the League.

**SECTION 4.5 PUBLIC RELATIONS/SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR**

The duties of the Public Relations/Sponsorship Coordinator shall include but are not limited to:

- A. Collecting information and overseeing the publication of the League newsletter.
- B. Serving as spokesperson for the League with the news media.
- C. Approving all advertising/marketing materials that are published in any medium on behalf of the league and/or league-related events.
- D. Coordinating and approving all league communications (by anyone other than fellow Board of Trustee members) to outside parties.
- E. Serving as an authorized signatory on the league banking account(s).
- F. Serving as the primary Trustee for recruiting new members into the League, both playing and nonplaying.
- G. Serving as the primary Trustee for the League website.
- H. Serving as the liaison between the League sponsors and the Board.

**SECTION 4.6 COMPETITION COORDINATOR**

The duties of the Competition Coordinator shall include but are not limited to:

- A. Providing a League playing schedule at least fourteen (14) days prior to the start of league play to the Board for approval, then disseminating the approved playing schedule to the Managers Council.
- B. Coordinating the scheduling of umpires for League play with the Umpire in Chief. Will nominate a person for UIC, who must be approved by a vote of the Board of Trustees. If the UIC selected is a member of the league, they will have their dues waived.
- C. Serving as a liaison between the league and any entities providing umpires.
- D. Coordinating the scheduling of scorekeepers for League play.
- E. Serving as the official alternate representative of the League to the meetings of NAGAAA. (Note: Current NAGAAA rules require written approval from the League Commissioner if anyone other than the League Commissioner will serve as the voting representative to NAGAAA)

- F. Planning competition with teams that are not members of the League, upon approval of the Board.
- G. Overseeing all tournament committees that are authorized by the Board.
- H. Serving as an authorized signatory on the League banking account(s).
- I. Providing player ratings from the previous year to every team Manager/Coach as well as to the Player Ratings Committee prior to the start of league play. (see Section 14.1.A)
- J. Distributing all player ratings from the Player Ratings Committee to every team Manager/Coach no later than fourteen (14) days after the final roster deadline. (see Section 14.2.D)

#### **SECTION 4.7 FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR**

The duties of the Fundraising Coordinator shall include but are not limited to:

- A. Coordinating all League fundraising activities with the teams and members of the League.
- B. Serving as the liaison between the League sponsors and the Board.
- C. Serving as an authorized signatory on the League banking account(s).
- D. Pursuing corporate sponsorship.

#### **SECTION 4.8 EXCLUSIVE POWERS**

The Board of Trustees shall have the following exclusive powers / responsibilities:

- A. Enforcing the penalties for violation of the League rules.
- B. Prescribing additional duties for any of the Trustees in addition to those set forth in these Bylaws.
- C. Setting fees for membership at its discretion.
- D. Upon a vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of all seven (7) members of the Board less any vacancies, suspending or expelling a member for conduct in violation of these Bylaws or rules, or for conduct improper or prejudicial to the best interests of the League, or denying membership of any person into the League.
- E. Electing an Umpire in Chief to serve the Board.
- F. Preparing annual IRS reports, including the hiring of a CPA, if necessary.
- G. Settling disputes regarding final player ratings (see Section 14.3)
- H. In addition to the foregoing specific powers, managing all the affairs of the League and acting on any and all questions relating in any manner whatsoever thereto, and making all contracts necessary for the proper transaction of all business of the League.
- I. Ensuring a current registered agent is appointed and on file with the Office of Secretary of the State of Texas. The registered agent must be a member in good standing.

### **ARTICLE 5 COMMITTEES**

#### **SECTION 5.1 CREATION OF COMMITTEES**

Committees may be created by resolution of the Board adopted by a majority vote of the Board. Except as otherwise provided in such resolution, members of each committee created shall be members of the League and shall be appointed by the Commissioner as provided for in Article Four, Section 4.1.B

**SECTION 5.2 REMOVAL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Any member of a committee may be removed by the Commissioner or by any four (4) Trustees, whenever in their judgment the best interest of the League shall be served by such removal.

**SECTION 5.3 TERM OF OFFICE**

Each member of each committee shall serve until the next annual meeting of members and until their successor is appointed, unless such committee shall sooner be terminated or unless such member shall resign or be removed from the committee.

**SECTION 5.4 VACANCY**

Any vacancy in the membership of any committee may be filled by appointment as provided in Section 5.1.

**SECTION 5.5 BOARD LIAISON**

For each committee created, the Commissioner shall appoint one member of the Board of Trustees to serve as Board Liaison for such committee; the purpose of the Board Liaison shall be to help facilitate communication between the Board and the committee, as well as insure proper operation of the committee.

**SECTION 5.6 CHAIRMAN**

The Commissioner shall appoint one member of each committee created to serve as the chairman of such committee. Members of the Board of Trustees shall be prohibited from serving as a Committee Chairman.

**SECTION 5.7 BUDGETS**

Each committee may develop a budget for its own committee use not inconsistent with the budget assigned the committee by the Board of Trustees. All committee expenditures should be approved by the Committee Chairman, and are subject to ultimate approval/rejection by the Board of Trustees.

**SECTION 5.8 MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

Minutes shall be taken of all committee meetings. Such minutes shall be distributed to the appropriate Board Liaison within ten (10) days of such meeting.

**SECTION 5.9 RULES**

Each committee may adopt rules for its own government not inconsistent with these Bylaws or the rules adopted by the Board of Trustees.

**SECTION 5.10 CREATION OF PERMANENT COMMITTEES**

There will be created six (6) permanent committees of the league: Lone Star Classic Committee, Jerry Award Committee, Spirit Award Committee, Manager/Coach of the Year Committee, Player Ratings Committee, and Recruitment Committee.

**SECTION 5.10.A LONE STAR CLASSIC COMMITTEE**

The Lone Star Classic Committee shall consist of the following members and their duties and functions:

**SECTION 5.10.A.1 TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR**

The Commissioner of the Montrose Softball League, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, will select the Tournament director. The Director must also be a member of the League per Section 5.1. Functions of the Director:

- A. Coordinating and overseeing each Committee Chair and insuring that all deadlines established by the Board of Trustees are met.
- B. Recruiting teams for the Tournament from both NAGAAA and non-NAGAAA Softball Leagues throughout North America.
- C. Gathering all information from the committee chairs that will be put into the individual player and umpire welcome packets.
- D. Serving as Chairman of the whole for the Banquet / Awards / Entertainment Committee.
- E. Voting only in case of a tie.
- F. Submitting the proposed budget from the Tournament Committee to the board for final approval.

**SECTION 5.10.A.2 COMPETITION COORDINATOR**

The Competition Coordinator will be appointed by the Director. Functions of the Coordinator:

- A. Securing the playing fields for the Lone Star Classic Tournament.
- B. Establishing a committee for field maintenance, preparation, and clean up (to include bleacher and spectator's area(s)).
- C. Selecting the Umpire in Chief, with the approval of the Committee, and securing qualified umpires. The UIC can be a non-member of the League.
- D. Serving as the primary Committee member to answer all questions about game play once the playing of games starts.
- E. Assuming the duties of the Director if he/she is unable to perform.
- F. Serving as a voting member of the Committee.

**SECTION 5.10.A.3 TREASURER**

The Treasurer will be appointed by the Director. Functions of the Treasurer:

- A. Organizing the concessionaire and seeing that sufficient personnel and site are provided.
- B. Preparing and submitting a budget to the committee of all anticipated income and expenses for approval.
- C. Serving as a voting member of the Committee.

**SECTION 5.10.A.4 NOVELTY CHAIRMAN**

The Novelty Chairman will be appointed by the Director. Functions of the Novelty Chairman:

- A. Seeing that novelties are designed, purchased and available to sell at all Tournament functions. The Chair will get three (3) bids on all items and submit them to the entire committee for final selection on items to be sold and at what cost, with the exception of item(s) being a product/service of an official sponsor of the MSL or NAGAAA.
- B. Submitting a schedule of workers and times they will work, to the Director, fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the Tournament.
- C. Serving as a voting member of the Committee.

**SECTION 5.10.A.5 HOSPITALITY CHAIRMAN**

The Hospitality Chairman will be appointed by the Director. Functions of the Hospitality Chairman:

- A. Overseeing housing/accommodations. The Chair will select three (3) hotels/motels and secure bids, which will be presented to the committee for final selection of the official hotel/motel for the Tournament.
- B. Overseeing transportation. If deemed necessary by the Committee, the Chair will prepare a transportation plan that will include the pick-up and drop-off of out-of-town players and umpires. The Chair will obtain three (3) bids from transportation firms and present them to the committee for final approval.
- C. Submitting a schedule of workers and times they will work to the Director, fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the Tournament.
- D. Serving as a voting member of the committee.

**SECTION 5.10.A.6 PUBLICATION CHAIRMAN**

The Publication Chairman will be appointed by the Director. Functions of the Publication Chairman:

- A. Assisting the Director in publicizing the Tournament both locally and nationally.
- B. Selling advertising in the Tournament Official Program and having the program formatted and published. The program will be approved by the Committee before publication.
- C. Serving as a voting member of the Committee.

**SECTION 5.10.A.7 SECRETARY**

The Secretary will be appointed by the Director. Functions of the Secretary:

- A. Keeping the minutes of all Tournament meetings. Those minutes will be distributed to the League Secretary within ten (10) days of said meeting.
- B. Assisting the Director in mailing information to all teams requesting such information.
- C. Serving as a voting member of the Committee

**SECTION 5.10.A.8 BANQUET / AWARDS / ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE**

This committee will be a committee of the whole Tournament Committee and be chaired by the Director. Each committee member will have input and suggestions on the type of ceremony to be held and where. The Director will consolidate these ideas and present a report to the Committee before taking action. The Committee of the whole will vote on what type of activities the Tournament will have and give specific direction to the Director to implement.

**SECTION 5.10.B THE JERRY AWARD COMMITTEE****SECTION 5.10.B.1 MEMBERSHIP**

The Jerry Award Committee will consist of those individuals awarded the Jerry Award and living in the Houston vicinity.

**SECTION 5.10.B.2 MEETINGS**

Meetings of the Jerry Award Committee shall be held from time to time, with notice given to the committee members at least five (5) days prior to the meeting.

**SECTION 5.10.B.3 AWARD GUIDELINES**

- A. The guidelines for winning the Jerry Award will be based on the individual's length of membership in the league and service to the league in areas including (but not limited to): committee, coach/manager, umpire, board member and league sponsorship.
- B. Winners must have shown the ability and willingness to place the league's best interest above their personal or team's best interest.
- C. Winners must have served the league at a level above and beyond reasonable expectations.
- D. Winners must have represented the league well in the community and been respected in the league and the community.
- E. There may not be more than three (3) awards given in any one year and if the committee agrees, no award(s) can be given.

**SECTION 1.1.A.1 Other Duties**

The Jerry Award past winners will serve as the steering committee for the league and present new ideas to the current board for league improvement.

**SECTION 5.10.C SPIRIT AWARD COMMITTEE**

The Commissioner along with the remaining Board of Trustees will comprise the Spirit Award Committee. This committee will select a team that displays true spirit during the softball season. The Spirit Award will be presented at the Annual Awards ceremony. The qualifications for this award will be:

- A. Support of League activities.
- B. Sportsmanship during League softball play.
- C. Establishing and maintaining comradeship among team players and other teams in the League.
- D. Other guidelines that the committee may establish.

**SECTION 5.10.D MANAGER / COACH OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE**

The Managers Council will comprise the Manager / Coach of the Year Committee. This committee will select a manager/coach who displays true managerial/coaching ability both on and off the playing field.

Nominations for this award will be made by all the League managers/coaches. The qualifications for this award will be:

- A. Support of League activities.
- B. Sportsmanship during League softball play.
- C. Adherence to the duties of the Manager/Coach (see Section 10.1)
- D. Other guidelines that the committee may establish.

**SECTION 5.10.E PLAYER RATINGS COMMITTEE**

Prior to the start of League play, the commissioner will appoint a Player Ratings Committee consisting of at least 2 members from each division, and a committee member designated as chairman. This committee will be familiar with the NAGAAA Player Ratings Guidelines and will assist in the process of determining player ratings primarily through watching team practices and League play. (See Article 14)

The Ratings Committee Chair shall appoint a Secretary for the purposes of keeping Minutes of all Ratings Committee meetings. Those minutes will be distributed to the League Secretary within ten (10) days of said meeting.

#### **SECTION 5.10.F RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE**

Prior to the start of League play, the commissioner will appoint a Recruitment Committee consisting of at least 2 members for each division, and a committee member designated as chairman. This committee will actively recruit members for the League to the best of its ability. This committee does not bear the sole responsibility for recruiting members for teams. Each team is encouraged to recruit members to the League. The Recruitment Committee will host a Recruitment Day event prior to the March Board meeting.

### **ARTICLE 6 MANAGER'S COUNCIL**

#### **SECTION 6.1 MANAGER'S COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The Manager's Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council, shall consist of the manager or his appointed representative from each team that is a member of the League.

#### **SECTION 6.2 MEETINGS**

A. Regular Meetings - Meetings of the Council shall be held from time to time. The Board or Assistant Commissioner will notify each member of the Board and Council at least five (5) days prior to the meeting.

B. Special Meetings - Special meetings of the Council may be called by any three (3) members on five (5) days notice to each member of the Board and the Council. Special meetings of the Council may be held with or without the Board present.

C. Hearing Meetings – Grievances, misconduct, and the like pertaining to members of the League must be addressed to the Board of Trustees within three (3) days after completion of the event leading to the request for a hearing, unless such event occurs at the Gay Softball World Series (if the event occurs at the GSWS, reporting to the Board must occur within seven (7) days after completion of the event leading to the request for a hearing). The Assistant Commissioner will notify each member of the Board and Council at least three (3) days prior to the set hearing, unless the hearing involves an incident(s) occurring at the GSWS, in which case at least five (5) days notice is required. The Manager/Coach of the member(s) to which the hearing pertains shall give notice of the hearing to said member(s). A quorum of the Board and Council must be present at all hearings.

#### **SECTION 6.3 QUORUM**

A majority of the Council members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any Council meeting; but if less than a majority of the members is present at said meeting, a majority of the members present and voting may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice.

#### **SECTION 6.4 MANNER OF ACTING**

At any duly called and assembled meeting of the Manager's Council, any vote of the Council will become effective immediately unless otherwise designated in the motion that passes. All other requirements of a proper meeting must be in place for a meeting to proceed.

Unless otherwise designated in a different section of the instrument of governance requiring an alternative vote to pass, any motion will be deemed passed by a majority of the Council in good standing, present and casting votes. Abstentions will not count. The chair of the meeting shall not vote except in the event of a tie vote. The chair of the meeting shall not discuss any proposal as an advocate on any side of the issue unless he/she passes the chair, however the chair may add comments for informational purposes or to make clarifications as needed.

#### **SECTION 6.5 COMPENSATION**

The Council members shall serve without compensation.

#### **SECTION 6.6 DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL**

The duties of the Council shall be:

- A. Reviewing the Rules of Play and making recommendations for changes or revisions. Those managers present will vote on any changes or revisions for their respective division. In the case where interdivision play will occur, managers present from those teams involved in inter-division play will vote on any changes or revisions effecting the playing of their games, including inter-division games. Changes or revisions that are not division specific shall be voted on by the Council as a whole. Any changes or revisions will be in effect immediately, unless otherwise provided for in the revision.
- B. Approving the method of determining the league/division championship teams(s) for the regular season. The league/division championship team(s) shall be the regular season champions(s) unless an alternate method is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of council.
- C. Approving the method of determining the league/division championship team(s) hierarchy for GSWS berth determination purposes,
- D. Serving as the body to receive grievances from members about players or teams in possible violation of rules and, after hearing the grievance, bringing such grievance to the Board with a recommendation for any penalties which may be assessed. (This function is not a protest committee for protests involving actual play of game)

### **ARTICLE 7 RULES OF BANKING**

#### **SECTION 7.1 CHECKS AND DRAFTS**

All checks and drafts or orders for payment of money issued in the name of the League or in the name of any fund managed by the League, shall require two authorized signatures as set forth under the duties of the Trustees. In the event that the League manages a fund for a specific committee, then the Chairperson of that committee may serve as an authorized signatory on such fund if provided for in the resolution creating the committee. Check request for payments must be submitted to the Treasurer on the MSL check request form.

#### **SECTION 7.2 DEPOSITS**

All funds of the League or any fund managed by the League shall be deposited to the appropriate account in such bank(s) as the Board shall select. Deposits will be made within seven (7) days of receipt.

**SECTION 7.3 GIFTS**

The Board of Trustees may accept on behalf of the League any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for general purposes or for any specific purpose of the League.

**SECTION 7.4 PURCHASES**

No member of the League is authorized to purchase items for the League without consent. Any member who purchases items for League events, tournaments, or the like without permission to purchase will not be reimbursed. The Board of Trustees is the acting body authorized to make purchase agreements on behalf of the League, unless otherwise authorized for a committee chairman in the fulfillment of the duties appointed.

**ARTICLE 8 AMENDMENTS****SECTION 8.1 AMENDMENTS**

The Bylaws or any part hereof, may be amended, modified, or repealed at the annual meeting of the members, or at a special meeting of the membership, in accordance with Article Two. Proposed bylaw changes must be submitted to the Board no less than fourteen (14) days before the Annual Meeting or at the time of the request for a Special Meeting. If bylaw changes have been proposed, a notification of such will be disseminated to the membership in advance of the Annual Meeting; said notification will include a copy of such proposed bylaw changes or identify an online source from which said proposals may be retrieved. When any amendment, change or modification of the Bylaws is to be proposed at such a meeting of the membership, a recitation of the article(s) or section(s) to be amended, including that proposed amendment, shall be disseminated to each member at least seven (7) days in advance of such meeting. Acceptance of amendment(s) to the Bylaws shall require an affirmative vote of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members present and voting (abstentions shall not be counted).

**ARTICLE 9 PUBLICATION****SECTION 9.1 PUBLICATION OF CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS AND RULES**

A copy of the Constitution and By-Laws shall be published annually no later than the January Board Meeting. A copy of the Rules of Play shall be published annually fourteen (14) days prior to the start of Spring Season. A copy of each document shall be provided to each sponsor and Managers Council member. Additional copies shall be made available to any League member upon request.

**ARTICLE 10 DUTIES OF THE MANAGER/COACH****SECTION 10.1 TEAM MANAGER/COACH**

Each team will have an individual or individuals that will serve as a manager, coach, or a manager/coach. The duties of this individual(s) will be to:

A. Attend all Managers' Council meetings in accordance with Article 6. If the Manager is unable to attend Council meetings, he must send a representative in his place. A Manager or representative of the same team missing two (2) consecutive Council meetings will result in that

Manager/Team losing voting privileges at Manager Council meetings for the remainder of that season.

B. Inform the Board of Trustees of any new individuals in the community that have expressed interest in becoming a playing or non-playing member of the League.

C. Disseminate League information to team members, both playing and non-playing.

D. Provide team members to assist in field maintenance, as may be prescribed by both the Assistant Commissioner and/or the Competition Coordinator.

E. Provide team members to assist the Concessionaire when scheduled by the Board.

F. Inform team members of all League activities to include distribution and accountability of League raffle tickets and admission tickets to League activities.

G. Insure all League forms are fully completed and presented to the League Secretary by the due date as established by the Board. Also insure that all team member's dues, both playing and non-playing, are paid and attached to the membership applications.

H. Insure that a current playing roster is turned in to the League Secretary whenever there is a change in that roster.

I. Insure there are sufficient playing members for all games.

J. Insure that all team members, both playing and non-playing, adhere to the League's Rules of Play.

K. Handle Manager's duties related to Player Ratings, including:

1. Provide an initial player rating for any team member who does not have a player rating established from the previous year. (see Section 14.1.C)
2. Provide a listing of player rating questions for review for any team member who would like to have a previous year's player rating reviewed by the Player Rating Committee. (see Section 14.2.A)
3. Disseminate Player Rating information to team members. (see Sections 14.1.A and 14.2.D)
4. Provide a listing of player rating questions for review for any team member who would like to appeal a player rating to the Board of Trustees. (see Section 14.3.A)

L. Comply with any additional guidelines as directed by the Board of Trustees.

M. Insure dues/fee deadlines are met. All sponsor fees, along with a team roster and a minimum of ten (10) player signed waiver forms and dues must be received by a Trustee at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the start of the season. Failure to perform this duty will result in that team not being included in that season's playing schedule.

## **ARTICLE 11 GAY SOFTBALL WORLD SERIES (GSWS)**

### **SECTION 11.1 PARTICIPATION**

As an alliance member of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA) the Montrose Softball League, Inc. is committed to active participation in the GSWS.

### **SECTION 11.2 MSL TEAM DESIGNATION CORRESPONDING TO GSWS DIVISIONS**

Montrose Softball League teams participating in the GSWS will be designated as "A", "B", "C", or "D" by NAGAAA, based on player ratings of the GSWS roster. A team may play in a higher GSWS division than that of their rating designation in accordance with NAGAAA rules. (see Section 11.3.L)

**SECTION 11.3 REPRESENTATIVE DETERMINATION**

- A. To be eligible for GSWS determination procedures, a team must be qualified under Section 11.3.G, Section 11.3.H, and all other relevant Articles/Sections of the MSL Constitution, Bylaws and Rules of Play, as well as all relevant NAGAAA rules.
- B. For any and all divisions granted unlimited GSWS berths per Member Association by NAGAAA, berths will be filled by any and all eligible teams for those divisions (i.e., no Playoffs will be played for such divisions).
- C. If NAGAAA grants the MSL 2 Berths per division to the GSWS (excluding any and all divisions granted unlimited GSWS berths per Member Association), berths for those divisions with two (2) GSWS berths allowed will be filled as follows:
1. The first berth goes to the highest eligible team from the league/division championship team hierarchy for GSWS berth determination purposes (see Section 6.6.C) for that division; and
  2. the second berth goes to the highest eligible team from the Playoffs for that division (or the remaining eligible team for that division should only one team remain, in which case no Playoff will take place for that division).
  3. The highest eligible team from the league/division championship team hierarchy for GSWS berth determination purposes (see Section 6.6.C) for a division, having been given the first berth for that division, cannot play in the Playoffs.
- D. With the exception of any and all divisions whose GSWS berths are addressed by Section 11.3.B, Playoffs will be held for each division within the league where two or more eligible teams for that division desire to represent the League in the GSWS. An exception to this requirement will be applicable when only two (2) eligible teams exist for a division addressed by Section 11.3.C (see Section 11.3.C.2 and Section 11.3.C.3)
- E. The format for Playoffs for each division shall be a double elimination tournament.
- F. Only teams who desire and are eligible to represent the League in the GSWS are allowed to participate in the Playoffs.
- G. Teams desiring to represent the League in the GSWS must have paid to the league any fees and/or deposits required by league Bylaws or Rules of Play at least ten (10) days prior to the originally scheduled start of the initial division's Playoffs to be eligible to qualify for GSWS participation. (NOTE: This deadline applies to GSWS-interested teams for divisions addressed by Section 11.3.B as well.)
- H. During the Player Ratings Appeal Procedure (see Section 14.3), it may be determined that a team played in a division with an ineligible team or individual player rating for that division during the Regular Season. In order to qualify for participation in GSWS Representative Determination, that team must,
1. utilizing their final Regular Season roster and final player ratings, qualify for the GSWS using the procedures of, and in competition with teams rated in, the division for which their final Regular Season rating designates that team, or
  2. after altering their final regular season roster by dropping players to create a GSWS Representative Determination Roster that qualifies them for participation in the GSWS Representative Determination procedures for the division in which that team participated in the Regular Season, then must participate in that division's Playoffs as the lowest seed after all other seeding has been completed per Section 11.3I (in order of finish in their Regular Season division's hierarchy for GSWS berth determination purposes (see Section 6.6C) should there be more than one (1) team from that division participating in the Playoff).

I. If seeding of teams is used in determining the Playoff bracket, a team(s) who participated in a higher division during the regular season shall receive top seeding (in order of finish in their regular season division's hierarchy for GSWS berth determination purposes [see Section 6.6.C] should there be more than one team from that division participating in the Playoff); a team(s) who participated in a lower division during the regular season shall receive bottom seeding (in order of finish in their regular season division's hierarchy for GSWS berth determination purposes [see Section 6.6.C] should there be more than one team from that division participating in the Playoff).

J. In the Playoffs for each division, the highest finishing team shall be given the league's first berth for that division to the GSWS (or the second berth if Section 11.3.C is in effect). Should that team subsequently relinquish their right to attend the GSWS, the order of secession for that berth is determined by the league/division championship team hierarchy for GSWS berth determination purposes (see Section 6.6.C) among eligible teams for that division.

K. If Section 11.3.C is not in effect, and more than one (1) berth to the GSWS is available to a particular division, the order of secession for the additional berth for that division is determined by the league/division championship team hierarchy for GSWS berth determination purposes (see Section 6.6.C) among eligible teams for that division. (NOTE: The initial berth is determined by Playoffs.)

L. Once a representative MSL team(s) for a division has been determined, the team(s) must play in the GSWS division of their MSL determination (i.e., the team cannot utilize its GSWS roster rating in order to play in a different GSWS division than that for which they qualified per the MSL). Exceptions to this may only be granted upon a 2/3 favorable vote of the combined Manager's Council (from all divisions) and Board of Trustees, and only if an available berth is unfilled in the requested division.

M. Playoffs will not be scheduled to coincide with the July 4th holiday weekend. Since July 4th may be during the week, the specific dates deemed unavailable for playoffs under this Bylaw shall be identified and communicated to the Manager's Council with the approved playing schedule before the start of league play.

N. Should the MSL be granted GSWS berths beyond one per division but less than two per division (with the exception of any and all divisions whose GSWS berths are addressed by Section 11.3.B), which MSL division(s) receives those additional berths will be determined by weighted lottery according to the number of desiring and eligible teams remaining after completion of the Playoffs (the weighted lottery must be held after completion of the Playoffs). (e.g., If there were 2 additional berths being granted, with no more than 2 teams allowed in any GSWS division, and the interested and eligible teams remaining after the Playoffs consisted of 2 "B", 3 "C" and 5 "D", the weighted lottery would consist of 10 slots – 2 "B", 3 "C" and 5 "D" slots; once the initial division slot has been drawn, the remaining slot will go to whichever remaining division is drawn next)

O. In the case where all eligible teams for a division relinquish their rights to attend the GSWS, any resulting available berth(s) will be filled by remaining teams eligible under MSL and NAGAAA rules. In the case where eligible teams (under both MSL and NAGAAA rules) remain from more divisions than there are available berths, which division(s) gets the additional berth(s) will be determined by weighted lottery according to the number of remaining desiring and eligible teams. Available berths for a division will be filled with the order of secession for that berth determined by the league/division championship team hierarchy for GSWS berth

determination purposes (see Section 6.6.C) among those teams for that division eligible under MSL and NAGAAA rules.

P. If the original dates to the GSWS Playoffs are canceled due to weather, the make-up date will be the following weekend, except per Section 11.3.K and will continue to fall on the next available weekend as weather delays persist, until ten (10) days before roster/room assignments must be delivered to NAGAAA.

1. If the Playoffs do not happen in the time-frame, when NAGAAA grants the League two (2) berths per division to the GSWS (with the exception of any and all divisions whose GSWS berths are addressed by Section 11.3.B), the two berths per division will go to the top two (2) eligible teams for that division as determined by the league/division championship team hierarchy for GSWS berth determination purposes (see Section 6.6.C).
2. If the Playoffs do not happen in the time-frame, when NAGAAA grants the League less than two (2) berths per division to the GSWS (with the exception of any and all divisions whose GSWS berths are addressed by Section 11.3.B), the berths will be filled by the lottery format as described in Section 11.3.N (as if the Playoffs had been completed but all eligible teams remain for lottery consideration).

Q. Any team who forfeits a game (or games) on more than one (1) day of play is ineligible for GSWS participation. Exceptions to this rule may be granted upon a vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of all seven (7) members of the Board of Trustees (less any vacancies).

#### **SECTION 11.4 ADDITIONAL ("PICK UP") PLAYERS**

Additional players for the GSWS representative teams are subject to eligibility requirements and NAGAAA stipulations.

#### **SECTION 11.5 SUPPORT OF THE WORLD SERIES TEAMS**

The Montrose Softball League will pay for the entry fee as set forth by NAGAAA for each team representing the league in the GSWS.

#### **SECTION 11.6 DEPOSIT FOR TEAMS ATTENDING THE WORLD SERIES**

A. Prior to the date of GSWS team determination (see Section 11.3.G for details), each team(s) with the intent of attending the GSWS must deposit a cashier's check or money order to cover the cost of the Montrose Softball League for teams participating that year (each team's deposit must equal the cost of one GSWS team fee). Such deposit must be turned in to a member of the Board of Trustees not on the depositing team. If a team forgoes the right to attend the GSWS at any time after paying their deposit, that team will forfeit the entire deposit to the league. Exceptions to the deposit forfeiture requirement are:

1. Once all available GSWS berths have been initially filled, deposits will be refunded to those teams not identified as earning berths to the GSWS.
2. Should a berth subsequently become available, the next team in line for said berth will have seventy-two (72) hours after being notified of such availability to turn in a GSWS deposit (equal to the cost of one GSWS team fee). If said team declines to turn in a GSWS deposit, that team becomes ineligible for GSWS consideration and the available berth will be offered to the next team in line and the seventy-two (72) hour deposit requirement begins for that team; this process continues until the berth is filled or no eligible teams remain for consideration. As with initial GSWS deposits, if any team turning in a deposit under the requirements of Section 11.6.B subsequently relinquishes their right to attend the GSWS, that

team will forfeit the entire deposit to the league. (NOTE: Only those teams submitting initial GSWS deposits are eligible for this subsequent consideration.)

3. Should the initially scheduled date for completing GSWS berth determination (Playoffs and any lotteries) be altered subsequent to deposits being paid, any team may request a refund of their deposit, making the team ineligible for GSWS berth determination procedures. The Board must be made aware of such a request as soon as possible, but no later than eight (8) hours before the start of any rescheduled GSWS berth determination procedures. Also, such requests must be made by a team before said team has completed Playoff participation. If all requirements are met regarding this request for refund, the deposit will be refunded to the team.

B. All teams earning a GSWS berth are responsible for an amount equal to the per team hotel deposit required by NAGAAA.

C. Once a GSWS team has participated in (not including forfeiting) a GSWS game, that team is entitled to a return of their GSWS deposit, less the amount of the per team hotel deposit required by NAGAAA.

B. Once a GSWS team has furnished the MSL Board with documentation equal to that required by NAGAAA for return of that team's hotel deposit, that team is entitled to a return of an amount equal to the per team hotel deposit required by NAGAAA. A GSWS team has until December 31 of the year of the GSWS participated in to furnish such hotel documentation to the MSL Board of Trustees; after that time, no deposit funds will be returned by the MSL.

#### **SECTION 11.7 NAGAAA FINES**

A. Teams earning GSWS berths must be provided a copy of NAGAAA-required roster information at least one (1) week prior to the NAGAAA deadline required for submission of such information to NAGAAA (for both Regular Season and GSWS Rosters, respectively).

B. Teams earning GSWS berths must notify the MSL Commissioner of any changes to the information required in Section 11.7.A above at least 3 days prior to the NAGAAA deadline required for submission of such information to NAGAAA (for both Regular Season and GSWS Rosters, respectively).

C. Any fines by NAGAAA to the MSL relating to information required in Section 11.7.A above that is incorrect is the responsibility of the team involved in providing such incorrect information. Exceptions to this rule may be granted upon a vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of all seven (7) members of the Board of Trustees (less any vacancies). If an exception is not granted by the Board, the matter may be appealed to the MSL membership at a membership meeting (Annual or Special).

### **ARTICLE 12 FISCAL YEAR**

#### **SECTION 12.1 GENERAL**

The fiscal year for the Montrose Softball League, Inc. shall be from 1 January until 31 December of the following calendar year. For purposes of the annual report, fiscal activities shall be reported for the entire previous year as well as from 1 January to 31 August of the current year.

## **ARTICLE 13 SPONSORSHIP**

### **SECTION 13.1 LEAGUE SPONSORSHIP OF A TEAM**

The Montrose Softball League will provide sponsorship of a team if the Board of Trustees or its appointed committee cannot find a community sponsor. The team or teams must meet the following criteria:

- A. The team must have a designated coach
- B. The team must have at least ten (10) persons that have not been a member of the Montrose Softball League within the past three (3) years
- C. A request for sponsorship must be submitted in writing to any board member along with at least ten (10) league application and injury waiver forms of the new players, their dues and the name and phone number of the designated coach.

The sponsorship will be limited to two (2) teams per year. Determination of the sponsorship will be based solely on the earliest request received by the board of trustees. In the event an application is received and the board of trustees does not approve the sponsorship, all dues will be refunded to the applicants by the start of the season.

### **SECTION 13.2 TITLE SPONSORSHIP**

Each team is limited to one title sponsor. The title sponsor must be designated at the time sponsor fees are submitted. (see Section 10.1.M)

## **ARTICLE 14 PLAYER RATINGS**

### **SECTION 14.1 INITIAL PLAYER RATINGS**

Initial player ratings will be determined in the following manner:

- A. At the January Board Meeting, the Competition Coordinator is responsible for disseminating the NAGAAA player ratings from the previous year to the Board, Council, and Player Ratings Committee. The Team Manager/Coach will disseminate these NAGAAA player ratings information sheets to the team members. Each member will verify the rating and indicate by signing the MSL Ratings form to be provided to the Competition Coordinator by the March Board Meeting.
- B. For a playing member who has previously played in a NAGAAA league, the initial player rating will be the most recent NAGAAA rating for that player.
- C. For a new playing member of NAGAAA and MSL, the team Manager/Coach is responsible for notifying the Player Ratings Committee of the new playing members initial rating 30 days prior to the start of league play, or within seven (7) days of adding the playing member to an existing roster. The manager will notify the Competition Coordinator of 3 scheduled practice times before the start of the season. The Player Rating Committee will attend 1 practice and will review the initial player ratings with the manager to ensure accuracy for the initial players.

### **SECTION 14.2 PLAYER RATINGS AS DETERMINED BY THE PLAYER RATINGS COMMITTEE**

The Player Ratings Committee may revise initial player ratings and communicate such revisions in the following manner:

- A. If a member would like to review a rating of any member of the League, the member or team

Manager/Coach is responsible for the request. The members and Team Managers/Coaches are responsible for submitting review questions to the Player Ratings Committee prior to the start of league play or within seven (7) days of adding the playing member to an existing roster.

B. Through watching league play, team practices, games, or tournament play, the Player Ratings Committee will review initial player ratings for new playing members, as well as player ratings for requested review by a member. In addition, the Player Ratings Committee may review other initial player ratings.

C. The Player Ratings Committee will have all player ratings (including any revisions by the committee) completed no later than seven (7) days after the final roster change deadline

D. The Competition Coordinator is responsible for distributing to the Board, Council and Player Ratings Committee all player ratings no later than fourteen (14) days after the final roster change deadline. Upon receipt of these player ratings, the team Manager/coach will disseminate without delay the player ratings information to team members and have each player verify their rating by signing on the MSL ratings form. The Team Manager/Coach will return the signed MSL ratings form within seven (7) days to the Competition Coordinator with any appeals.

### **SECTION 14.3 PLAYER RATINGS APPEAL PROCEDURE**

Prior to finalization of player ratings, player ratings may be appealed for revision in the following manner:

A. If a member would like to appeal a player rating (their own or that of another playing member) provided by the Player Ratings Committee, said member must notify the Coach or Manager. The notification of the intent to appeal must be received by the Board no later than seven (7) days after distribution of the Player Ratings Committee player ratings, and must identify specific player rating questions for review by the Board.

B. The Board of Trustees, in conjunction with the Player Ratings Committee and the Manager's Council, will hold a Player Ratings Appeal Meeting. There will be 2 separate meetings: 1 for A and B Divisions, 1 for C and D Divisions. This meeting must take place prior to GSWS representative determination and prior to the NAGAAA deadline for submitting league final player ratings.

C. The Board of Trustees will provide at least ten (10) days advance notice of a Player Ratings Appeal Meeting, specifying the date, time and place of said meeting.

D. During the Player Ratings Appeal Meeting, appealing parties may be present and state their case for revision, and any and all interested parties may provide input. Once all pertinent information has been provided, the Board of Trustees will decide on the final player rating and provide that information prior to the conclusion of the Player Ratings Appeal Meeting. The ruling of the Board on all appeals will be final, unless a further appeal is requested and addressed during the Player Ratings Final Appeal Meeting (see Section 14.3.E)

E. Player Ratings Final Appeal Meeting:

1. A Player Ratings Final Appeal Meeting can be scheduled to address player ratings.
2. A member requesting a player rating final appeal must notify the Board of Trustees either personally, in writing, by telephone or by e-mail of the intent to appeal. The notification of intent to appeal must be received by the Board no later than five (5) days following the Player Ratings Appeal Meeting, and must identify specific player rating questions for review by the Board.
3. The Board will provide at least five (5) days advance notice of a Player Ratings Final

- Appeal Meeting, specifying the date, and time place of said meeting
- 4. During the Player Rating Final Appeal Meeting, appealing parties must be present and state their case for revision, and any and all interested parties may provide input. Once all pertinent information has been provided, the Board of Trustees will decide on the final player rating and provide that information prior to the conclusion of the Player Rating Final Appeal Meeting. The ruling of the Board on all appeals will be final.
- 5. This Player Ratings Final Appeal Meeting must occur prior to the GSWS divisional playoffs.

**SECTION 14.4 FINAL PLAYER RATINGS**

After the Player Ratings Appeal Meeting (or Player Ratings Final Appeal Meeting, if one is held), all player ratings will be final and will be submitted to NAGAAA as such.

**ARTICLE 15**

**SECTION 15.1 SIGNATURE OF ADOPTED BYLAWS**

Adopted this 25th day of September, 2011

**Commissioner** Bill Sansom \_\_\_\_\_

**Assistant Commissioner** David Wong \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary** Alice Melendez \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer** Ryan Abarca \_\_\_\_\_

**Publication Relations/Sponsorship** David Metz \_\_\_\_\_

**Competition Coordinator** Thieu Brown \_\_\_\_\_

**Fundraising** Ricky Gonzalez \_\_\_\_\_