

**CARROLLTON-FARMERS BRANCH
GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE
BYLAWS**

ARTICLE I: NAME

This organization shall be known as the Carrollton-Farmers Branch Girls Softball League (C-FBGSL).

ARTICLE II: OBJECT

- Section 1.** The C-FBGSL shall exist for the purpose of organizing and promoting softball activities for girls nineteen years old and under in accordance with the current American Softball Association (ASA) code.
- Section 2.** The C-FBGSL shall be a non-profit organization.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERS AND DUES

- Section 1.** Membership in the League shall be by invitation or application and open to anyone with an interest in girl's softball. Application for team managers and coaches will be conditionally approved by the respective Division Vice-Presidents. All other applications will be conditionally approved by the League Secretary.
- Section 2.** Applicants become members upon payment of the established annual dues, issuance of a membership card, and final approval of the Board of Directors if needed. Any applicant denied membership has the right to petition the Board of Directors for a final ruling.
- Section 3.** Membership shall be valid from the time of payment of membership dues, between August 1 thru April 30 of the league year, until the Annual Meeting (as described in Article IV: Section 1B of these by-laws) on or about August 15 of the next league year is called to order. August 1 to July 31 shall be considered a league year.
- Section 4.** The Board of Directors shall set the amount of annual dues for the following year and memberships shall be sold from August 1 to April 30 of each year. Memberships may be sold after April 30 upon recommendation of Division Vice-Presidents and approval of the League Secretary.
- Section 5.** Each individual accepted for membership in the League agrees to abide by the Bylaws governing the League. All members have a responsibility to work for the betterment of the League and to conduct themselves in a manner, which brings credit to the League.
- Section 6.** A League member in good standing has the privilege of voting on matters, which come before the membership, participating in discussions at all league meetings, proposing changes to playing rules or bylaws, as well as serving as a team manager or coach and being elected to the League Board of Directors. A member in good standing is defined as one who has paid the annual dues and is not under suspension for violation of League rules or bylaws.
- Section 7.** Failure of a member to abide by the league rules or Bylaws could ultimately result in forfeiture of membership upon proper investigation and ruling from the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

- Section 1.** Membership Meetings
- A. The C-FBGSL shall hold two membership meetings each year for Spring and Fall.
- B. The Fall meeting shall be considered the Annual Meeting. Annual reports of officers will be received and elections conducted at this meeting.

- C. Additional meetings of the membership may be called by the League President, or any other five members in good standing.
- D. The League Secretary shall mail a meeting announcement to each League member at least one week prior to a meeting date.
- E. The presence of at least ten percent of the members in good standing at a meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A vote by two-thirds of said quorum shall be binding on all League business.

Section 2. Board of Directors Meetings

- A. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held whenever called by the League President or by any other two directors.
- B. All directors shall be notified of meetings one week prior to that meeting whenever possible.
- C. The presence of at least one-half of the Directors at a meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A vote of two-thirds of those present shall be required for Board action.

Section 3. Executive Committee Meetings

- A. The Executive Committee, consisting of the President, Executive Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the seven Division Vice-Presidents, shall function primarily during the playing season and shall be used only when a meeting of the Board of Directors is not feasible.
- B. The League President shall contact all Executive Committee members by telephone or in person to determine their vote on the issue under discussion.
- C. A majority vote of the Committee members shall decide the issue.
- D. The Executive Committee shall keep a record of its proceedings to be read at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Division Meetings

- A. Each Division Vice-President shall hold at least one division meeting with the managers or their representatives in that division prior to the beginning of each playing season.
- B. The purpose of division meetings is the clarification and enforcement of League rules - not the changing, addition or deletion of rules.
- C. The Division Vice-President shall notify each manager in that division of meetings at least one week prior to the meeting when possible.
- D. The League President and Executive Vice-President shall be given advance notice of each division meeting.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION

Section 1. The governing body of the C-FBGSL is the Board of Directors, which consists of all elected officers.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall consist of a president, an executive vice-president, secretary, treasurer, seven division vice-presidents, seven division player agents, ways and means coordinator, scheduling coordinator, tournament director, equipment manager, two sports council representatives, publicity/score keeping director and past president.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall be elected from the members in good standing of the organization.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the general administration of league affairs and shall perform the duties prescribed in the bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the C-FBGSL.

Section 5. Nominating Committee

- A. A nominating committee of three members in good standing shall be elected at the April Membership meeting. At least two members of the nominating committee shall come from the current Board of Directors.

- B. No member shall automatically serve on this committee because of their position in the League. The President does not serve as a member of this committee nor does the President appoint any member to this committee.
- C. The nominating committee shall select its own chairman.
- D. The nominating committee shall nominate a person for each office to be filled and report its nominees at the annual membership meeting in August, at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor.
- E. Only those persons who have signified their consent to serve if elected shall be nominated for or be elected to such office.
- F. A member of the nominating committee may become a candidate for office without resigning from that committee.

Section 6. The Board of Directors shall be elected by a ballot vote at the annual membership meeting in the Fall.

Section 7. The Board of Directors shall assume their official duties immediately upon election and serve a term of one year or until their successors are elected.

Section 8. A Director who misses two consecutive board meetings or four board meetings during the league year without good and sufficient reason, as determined by the League President, may be automatically removed and the office declared vacant.

Section 9. A vacancy in any office may be filled for the unexpired term by a member in good standing elected by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, notice of such election having been given. In case of a vacancy occurring in the office of President, the Executive Vice-President shall serve notice of the election.

Section 10. It is the responsibility of each member of the Board of Directors to perform his or her duties with integrity. Members finding themselves in conflicts of interest or perceived conflicts of interest, should exclude themselves from the decision making process. If members in such a position should choose not to exclude themselves, then it is the responsibility of the Board of Directors to decide the correct action.

ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall assume overall responsibility for the direction of the League.

- A. Shall preside at all membership, board of directors and executive committee meetings.
- B. Shall insure the impartial administration and enforcement of the Bylaws of the League.
- C. Shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.
- D. Shall be a member in good standing for no less than twenty-three consecutive months immediately preceding taking office.
- E. Shall be authorized to sign on all league checks.
- F. Shall secure competitive bids for awards required by the League and, upon approval of the Board of Directors, make said purchases.

Section 2. The Executive Vice-President shall act as an aide to the President and performs the duties of the President in the absence or inability of that officer to act.

- A. Shall assume the responsibility of the ordinary game related operations during the playing season.
- B. Shall assist and advise the Division Vice Presidents and Player Agents in their duties.

Section 3. The Secretary shall record the minutes of the membership, board of directors, and executive committee meetings and maintain same in a permanent minute book.

- A. Shall handle all league correspondence.
- B. Shall issue notice of league meetings as set forth in the bylaws.
- C. Shall be responsible for the league bylaws and inform the membership of changes.

- D. Shall record and issue league membership cards and assist the Treasurer in collection of the annual dues.
 - E. Shall solicit and record letters of intent for the next season from team managers.
 - F. Shall process all accident claim forms.
 - G. Shall be authorized to sign league checks.
- Section 4.** The Treasurer shall be responsible for all banking and disbursing of funds, as approved by the Board of Directors.
- A. Shall prepare an annual financial report immediately after the completion of the league year July 31. The annual financial report should be presented at the annual membership meeting in August.
 - B. Shall maintain accurate books and provide books for inspection by an auditing committee prior to the Annual Meeting and as requested by the Directors.
 - C. Shall provide a financial statement at each meeting of the Board of Directors or membership.
 - D. Shall serve as chairman of the Budget Committee.
 - E. Shall be authorized to sign checks for the League.
- Section 5.** The Division Vice-Presidents shall manage the activities of their respective divisions.
- A. Shall coordinate activities with the respective Division Player Agent.
 - B. Shall appoint Assistant Vice-Presidents to assist in the management of the division as required.
 - C. Shall approve managers and coach's memberships and contracts for their respective divisions.
 - D. Shall assist teams in securing the services of managers and coaches for their divisions.
 - E. Shall assist with registration day activities.
 - F. Shall prepare and distribute team manager information packets prior to the beginning of the season and provide information concerning post season, local, regional, state and national tournaments.
 - G. Shall assist the Equipment Manager with the issuance and collection of league equipment within their own division.
 - H. Shall assist the Tournament Director with the coordination of any invitational tournament conducted by C-FBGSL for their respective divisions.
- Section 6.** The Division Player Agents shall be responsible for team assignments and transfer of all player personnel within their respective divisions.
- A. Shall collect, screen and approve all player contracts and team roster from team managers within their respective divisions and shall forward all player fees to the League Treasurer immediately upon receipt.
 - B. Shall maintain an accurate player personnel file on each team within their respective divisions, which shall include, player contracts, birth certificates, final team roster, team manager and coach contracts, as well as total fees collected.
 - C. Shall be responsible for the player team assignment procedure or free agency program, depending on the division.
 - D. Shall assist in the registration day activities with the help of the Division Vice-Presidents.
 - E. Shall screen and approve all tournament rosters for teams in their respective divisions.
 - F. Shall collect ASA-VIP or any other official documentation required of managers and coaches or their respective divisions.
- Section 7.** The Ways and Means Coordinator shall present for approval to the Board of Directors an annual plan for fundraising and shall be responsible for any fundraising activities of the League.
- Section 8.** The Scheduling Coordinator shall be responsible for scheduling all regular and make-up league games.

- A. Shall make arrangements for umpires for all regular and make-up games.
 - B. Shall assist the Tournament Director in coordinating tournament activities.
- Section 9.** The Tournament Director is an appointed position and shall coordinate tournament activities and requirements related to entrants, fields, umpires, schedules equipment, etc.
- A. Shall be assisted by the Scheduling Coordinator, Division Vice-Presidents and Player Agents.
 - B. Shall approve all entrants to tournaments.
 - C. Shall attend regional tournament meetings.
 - D. Shall assist the Scheduling Coordinator with league scheduling activities.
- Section 10.** The Equipment Manager shall secure competitive bids on equipment required by the League and, upon approval by the Board of Directors, make said purchases.
- A. Shall maintain records of league equipment in the possession of each team. If the team manager quits, the equipment must be collected and an accounting made against the records.
 - B. Shall disburse equipment to each team as required and oversee the collection of all equipment from team managers not returning the next season after July 1 each year with the assistance of the Division Vice-Presidents.
- Section 11.** The Director of Electronic Communications shall coordinate with the Information Director, President and Division Vice Presidents to maintain the website and other electronic communications.
- Section 12.** The Publicity Director shall plan, implement and coordinate league publicity, especially relating to the solicitation of new players.
- A. Shall submit to the local media articles and photographs of league activities for publication.
 - B. Shall solicit local businesses to become partners and sponsors with the league
 - C. Shall maintain contact with the governing councils of the city and schools to promote the league within the cities.
 - D. Shall organize and coordinate registration day activities.
- Section 13.** The Information Director is an appointed position and shall maintain league documentation, shall receive and post the official scores in each division.
- A. Shall submit the weekly standings of the teams in each division to the local media during the season.
 - B. Shall publish periodic newsletters to all managers giving general information, i.e. tournament information, rule changes, fund raising, etc
 - C. Shall collect and maintain standings within each division.
 - D. Shall track and determine the placement of each team for appropriate recognition within each division. Such placements to be reported to the division Vice-Presidents in a timely manner.
 - E. Shall maintain a database of all league participants, including players, managers and coaches
 - F. Shall maintain the league website and update as necessary.
 - G. Shall monitor the league e-mail address and respond and/or forward messages as required.
- Section 14.** The Inter-League Coordinator shall be the interface between the League and other leagues and other youth organizations in the area.
- A. Shall co-ordinate and facilitate the flow of information between leagues regarding game schedules, rules, and other information needed to improve league co-operation and function.
- Section 15.** The Past-President shall serve in an advisory capacity to the President of the League and shall assist the President as required. If the immediate Past President is unavailable to serve, the position will remain vacant for that term of office.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

- Section 1.** The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint all special committees and committee chairperson with the exception of the Nominating Committee.
- Section 2.** The President shall appoint such committees as deemed necessary to conduct studies and make recommendations to the Board of Directors. Special committee assignments should be clearly defined, as to time and results, and the committee, should be discharged by the President when its work has been completed
- Section 3.** An Auditing Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors to audit the Treasurers account.
- A. This committee shall be composed of at least three members, no more than two of which may come from the Board of Directors.
 - B. The Treasurer will not be a member of the auditing committee.
 - C. The auditing committee shall review the Treasurer's records and annual report and, if satisfied this report is correct, shall sign a statement of that fact at the end of the report.
 - D. The report of the auditing committee shall be presented at the annual meeting in August.
 - E. In lieu of an auditing committee, the Board of Directors may select an outside auditor to perform the functions of an audit committee.
- Section 4.** A Budget Committee composed of the Treasurer, President, and Ways and Means Coordinator shall submit a budget proposal for approval at the first Board of Directors meeting after December 31.

ARTICLE VIII: LEAGUE OPERATIONS

- Section 1.** Age divisions and games. The C-FBGSL shall be divided into seven divisions based on age. The ages included, and the games played in each division are as follows.
- A. The 6 & Under Division shall include girls five through seven years of age. Their seventh birthday must be after December 31, and their fifth birthday must be before January 1. The teams in this division will play a modified fast pitch game with adults pitching.
 - B. The 8 & Under Division shall include girls seven through nine years of age. Their ninth birthday must be after December 31, and their seventh birthday must be before January 1. The teams in this division may be divided into competitive and developmental sub-divisions based on comparable skill levels. Team movement between these sub-divisions will be determined by the Division Vice-President and Player Agent based on tournament seeding criteria including standing in league play the prior season, age and ability of returning players and pitching capabilities.
 - C. The 10 & Under Division shall include girls nine through eleven years of age. Their eleventh birthday must be after December 31, and their ninth birthday must be before January 1. The teams in this division will play fast pitch and may be divided into competitive and developmental subdivisions based on comparable skill levels. Team movement between these sub-divisions will be determined by the Division Vice-President and Player Agent, based on tournament seeding criteria including, standing in league play the prior season, age and ability of returning players, and pitching capabilities.
 - D. The 12 & Under Division shall include girls eleven through thirteen years of age. Their thirteenth birthday must be after December 31, and their eleventh birthday must be before January 1. Teams in this division will play fast pitch and may be divided into competitive and developmental sub-divisions based on comparable skill levels. Team movement between competitive and developmental sub-divisions will be determined by the Division Vice-President and Player Agent

based on tournament seeding criteria including standing in league play the prior season, age and ability of returning players, and pitching capabilities.

- E. The 14 & Under Division shall include girls thirteen through fifteen years of age. Their fifteenth birthday must be after December 31, and their thirteenth birthday must be before January 1. The teams in this division will play fast pitch and may be divided into competitive and developmental sub-division based on comparable skill levels. Team movement between competitive and developmental sub-divisions will be determined by the Division Vice-President and Player Agent based on tournament seeding criteria including standing in league play the prior season, age and ability of returning players, and pitching capabilities.
- F. The 16 & Under Division shall include girls fifteen through seventeen years of age. Their seventeenth birthday must be after December 31, and their fifteenth birthday must be before January 1. The teams in this division will play fast pitch and may be divided into competitive and developmental sub-division based on comparable skill levels. Team movement between competitive and developmental sub-divisions will be determined by the Division Vice-President and Player Agent based on tournament seeding criteria including standing in league play the prior season, age and ability of returning players, and pitching capabilities.
- G. The 18 & Under Division shall include girls seventeen through nineteen years of age. Their nineteenth birthday must be after December 31, and their seventeenth birthday must be before January 1. The teams in this division will play fast pitch and may be divided into competitive and developmental sub-division based on comparable skill levels. Team movement between competitive and developmental sub-divisions will be determined by the Division Vice-President and Player Agent based on tournament seeding criteria including standing in league play the prior season, age and ability of returning players, and pitching capabilities.

Section 2. Team Organization and Formation

- A. A team shall consist of a manager, a coach, any number of assistant coaches and a minimum of nine playing members, with the exception of the 14 & Under, 16 & Under and 18 & Under Division teams who may have a minimum of twelve playing members. There is no limit on the maximum number of players.
- B. To be eligible to play, a girl and her parent or guardian must sign a player contract with a league team. A player contract must be signed each playing season, and a girl may only play on one CFBGSL team per season. New players must provide a copy of their birth certificate and, if at all possible, the player fee should be paid when signing the player contract.
- C. Managers and coaches must be over eighteen years of age, must be League Members in good standing, have contracts that are accepted, and be certified to meet city requirements.

Section 3. New Player Registration

- A. Registration will be open to all qualified girls interested in playing softball
- B. Open registration for new girls who have never played softball locally or have not been on an active team for one season will be held each year with the dates to be determined by the Board of Directors. The new girls will be placed on a team within their age group using the procedure as set forth in Section 1 above.

Section 4. Player Team Assignment Procedures

- A. All players must be assigned to available teams within their correct age divisions by April 1 each year unless all teams are full.
- B. If all teams are full, a new team will be formed or player fees will be refunded to the unassigned players who will be dropped from league records.

- C. The 6 & Under and 8 and Under Division Player Agents will first assign players to returning teams to fill, any vacancies with a minimum of thirteen players per team. Players will be assigned based on school, neighborhood, age and skill. Girls who are friends will be placed on teams formed by the same criteria.
- D. 10 & Under, 12 & Under, 14 & Under, 16 & Under and 18 & Under Division players automatically become free agents and can ask to join or be recruited by any new or existing team in that age division.
 - 1. If a team manager resigns, the team will be declared abandoned and all players automatically become free agents.
 - 2. The Division Player Agents will conduct the free agency process in accordance with the following guidelines.
 - a. By October 1 of each year, an official list of free agents will be published for each division. Each player listed will receive a standardized letter from the Division Player Agent explaining the free agency process. This letter will include a list of all returning or new managers and their telephone numbers.
 - b. From August 1 to December 31 all managers who have filed a Letter of Intent to manage with the League Secretary, may contact any free agent from their division.
 - c. Likewise, any player can contact the team of her choice.
 - d. No free agent contracts can actually be signed until January 1.
 - e. All free agent contracts must be signed and delivered to respective Division Player Agents prior to February 1.
 - f. A girl is not officially on a team until she and a parent or guardian has signed a player contract for that team and the player fee has been paid.
 - g. Players who have not signed a player contract with a team by February 1 will be placed in the player pool for pool draw to fill vacancies on existing and new teams. New applicants will be included in this pool.
 - h. If a team is abandoned after January 31, all players will be placed in the player pool for pool draw.
 - i. Procedures for player pool draw are as follows:
 - (1). The Division Vice-Presidents and Player Agents will compile a list of all unassigned players from their division as of February 1.
 - (2). A managers meeting will be held in February for the purpose of drawing pool players to fill team vacancies.
 - (3). Names of the unassigned players will be sorted by school, written on slips of paper and placed in separate containers by school or C-FB ISD school boundaries if they attend a school other than a C-FB ISD school.
 - (4). Managers will draw lots to determine the order of draw for new players. Only one player will be drawn per turn. Players will be drawn until each manager has filled his vacancies. If a player drawn has decided not to play, the manager can request a replacement.
 - (5). Vice-Presidents and Player Agents will attempt to form new teams for the remaining players. The new managers will draw names of existing unassigned players before attempting to recruit new players.

3. Any girl who has never played softball locally or has not been on an active C-FBGSL team for one season can be directly recruited by a team and signed to a contract after December 31.

Section 5. Player Transfers and Special Requests

- A. Team transfers can only occur between seasons and no player can request a team transfer after a contract has been signed for the next season.
- B. If the team manager moves to the next higher division, the team members within one ASA year of minimum age limit can accept an invitation from that manager to move to the next higher division with written permission of their parent or guardian. The letter of permission to move to the next higher division must accompany the player contract filed with the Division Player Agent.
- C. Special requests by any 6 & Under, 8 & Under player to leave her present team will be handled as follows:
 1. The parent or guardian of the player must notify the Division Player Agent and the present team manager in writing, stating the reasons for the request, by April 1.
 2. Upon receipt of the letter, the Division Player Agent will first verify that the team manager has received a copy and then bring the request before the Board of Directors.
 3. The Board of Directors will conduct an impartial evaluation and rule on the request.
 4. If the request is granted, the player will be placed in the pool and reassigned in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 4 above.
 5. A player whose team is not from their own school or neighborhood may request placement in the pool for reassignment to a more convenient team in accordance with Section 4 above.
- D. Special requests by any player within one ASA year of minimum age to be moved to the next higher division will be handled as follows:
 1. The parent or guardian must notify the Division Player Agent and present team manager in writing, stating their reasons, by April 1.
 2. Upon receipt of the letter, the Division Player Agent will first verify that the team manager has received a copy and then bring the request before the Board of Directors.
 3. The Board of Directors will conduct an impartial evaluation considering the player's proven skills and maturity and rule on the request.
 4. If questions exist concerning skill level, a skills test shall be conducted by an impartial panel of no less than two board members that will advise the Board of Directors of their findings.
 5. If the request is granted, a 6 & Under and 8 & Under Division player will be placed in the pool of the next higher division and reassigned in accordance with Section 4 above. A 10 & Under, 12 & Under, 14 & Under, or 16 & Under Division player will be granted free agency in the next higher division.
- E. Daughters of a team manager not within one ASA year may apply to the Board of Directors for special permission to join the team. The Board of Directors will conduct an impartial evaluation and rule on the request.

Section 6. Manager Guidelines and Information

- A. It is the responsibility of every team manager and coach to read and thoroughly understand current ASA rules and the League Bylaws. Ignorance of the rules is not an acceptable excuse for violation. Team managers will be held accountable for the commitments made in their league contracts.
- B. A team cannot participate in league play until all player contracts, birth certificates, and participation fees have been received and approved by the

- Division Player Agent. Final team rosters with any outstanding paperwork and fees must be to the Player Agent by April 15. If a player decides not to participate in softball prior to April 1, the player fee will be refunded.
- C. The team manager is responsible for the timely collection and transmittal of all monies related to league fund-raising and activities with merchandise supplied by the League, to the League Treasurer. A team cannot participate in league play until all monies have been paid.
 - D. No person will be allowed to manage two teams in the same division in any one year.
 - E. Team managers refusing to accept players over the minimum number when asked cannot add players later unless their roster drops below the minimum and then only enough to re-achieve the minimum.
 - F. Team managers can add players anytime their roster drops below the number of players on their original roster with approval of the Division Player Agent. All paperwork and fees must be turned at least 24 hours before the new player may participate in their first game.
 - G. Uniforms conforming to league standards will be procured at the expense of each team.
 - H. If managers wish to resign their position, they must notify their Division Vice-President in writing and return all league equipment to the Equipment Manager.
 - I. If a manager resigns or abandons a team, he cannot form a new team in the same division for one year.
 - J. Team managers should advise the Division Vice-Presidents 48 hours in advance if they foresee the forfeit of a scheduled game.
 - K. League games will not be rescheduled because a team does not have enough players due to an event, which could have been foreseen in advance of the final scheduling.
 - L. Any solicitation of a player on a league team for any tournament play must be discussed with the players manager before consulting the player and then approved by the Division Vice-President, or Division Player Agent, if the Vice-President is involved.
 - M. Players cannot play under assumed name in either league or tournament play. Any manager who asks a player to play under an assumed name will be suspended indefinitely.
 - N. Any team caught with an illegal player not approved by the Board of Directors will forfeit all games in which the illegal player participated.
 - O. Team managers, or anyone associated with their team, cannot contact or recruit players under contract to another team.
 - P. Team managers can take disciplinary action against any player who flagrantly violates league or team rules (See Section 7 below).
 - Q. Team managers must send a letter of intent to the League Secretary by July 1 of each year declaring which division they intend to manage the next season. Failure to comply will terminate their manager status and render their team abandoned.

Section 7. Disciplinary Action

- A. If a manager, coach, or player violates the League Bylaws, the Board of Directors will investigate and assess a penalty benefiting the infraction as set forth below:
 1. An official warning in writing from the Division Vice-President will be issued.
 2. Indefinite suspension may be imposed. Reinstatement shall require approval of the Board of Directors.

- B. If a manager wishes to dismiss a player from the team, the Division Vice-President must be notified in writing stating the reasons. The Board Of Directors will then rule on the request and advise the manager. A player who misses two consecutive practices or one league game without notifying her manager beforehand is subject to dismissal.

Section 8. Protests

- A. The Division Vice-President and League Executive Vice-President will handle game related protests within each division. If either of the fore mentioned are involved in the protest, the Division Player Agent will substitute. Protests must be submitted in writing, with a check for \$20.00 payable to the C-FBGSL, to the Division Vice-President within 48 hours of the alleged infraction. The check will be returned if the ruling is in favor of the petitioner.

Section 9. Rescheduled Games

- A. Notification of rescheduling of league games will be handled by the Division Vice-President as required. The managers of teams affected will be given at least a 48-hour notice as to the date. The notice can be waived if both managers agree. **MANAGERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO CALL THE SCHEDULER.**

Section 10. Uniforms

- A. Each team manager must clear the primary colors of the team uniform with the Division Vice-President. Secondary colors can be worn only when they do not conflict with the opposing team's primary colors.
- B. Each team's uniform will be alike and shall consist of shirt, shorts or pants, and socks, except in the 6 & Under Division where only shirts (furnished by the League) must be alike. Hats are optional, but if worn, must all match.
 - 1. Shirt. A number in contrasting color, at least 6" high, must be on the back of all uniform shirts (except in the 6 & Under Division where numbers may be smaller). The team sponsors name, if requested, may be on the back above the number or on the front along with team name.
 - 2. Shorts and/or pants. A team may mix shorts and pants during league games but they must be of a matching color.
 - 3. Socks - Socks will match the uniform and each player will have the same style socks.

Section 11. Equipment

- A. The League will supply each team the essential equipment required to participate in league games. This shall include bats, game balls, five running helmets, catcher's equipment and an equipment bag of a type suited to the division.
- B. Each manager is financially responsible for the equipment issued to his team and shall maintain said equipment in good condition. If managers resign, they must return all league equipment to the Equipment Manager.

Section 12. Tournaments

- A. There must be at least one female adult (21 years or older) chaperon on all out of town tournaments requiring overnight lodging.
- B. Any tournament sponsored by C-FBGSL shall be ASA, excluding any Recreation Tournament the League might sponsor.

Section 13. Insurance and Bonds

- A. The League will provide a comprehensive secondary accident insurance covering all players in the League. Insurance coverage is based on renewal dates. Teams should check with the league for coverage dates.
- B. A fidelity bond, in the amount determined by the Board, shall be furnished by the League for the President, Treasurer and Ways and Means Coordinator. Persons not bondable shall not hold office.

Section 14. Awards

If funds are available, team trophies, and/or individual awards will be presented to the teams finishing in first and second place in each division with third place receiving a team trophy. If the division has been subdivided, each subdivision will receive awards. Participation awards will be distributed in the 6 & Under and 8 & Under divisions.

Section 15. Scholarship Program

- A. A Scholarship Committee will be formed in the spring of each year as a special committee under Article VII, Section 2 of the bylaws. The committee membership shall consist of the League President, three members, from the Board of Directors and one unrelated representative from the education field. Anyone having a daughter or close relative under possible consideration cannot serve on the committee.
- B. Annually, if funds are available up to 5 scholarships per year will be awarded. The scholarships will be given only to qualified applicants and the recipient of a scholarship must show evidence of college attendance to receive the money.
- C. The requirements for application include:
 - 1. Must be a resident of Carrollton or Farmers Branch.
 - 2. Must have played five years in the League, three of which must have been in the 14 & Under, 16 & Under, and 18 & Under Divisions.
 - 3. Must have a grade point average of 3.0 or better.
 - 4. Must have applied to a junior college or a four-year college or university.

Section 16. Team Participation Fee

Each team is responsible for a per girl participation fee. The fee will be set by the Board of Directors each year and may vary by division. The participation fee is the responsibility of the team members and can be raised by any of several means, such as garage sales, sale of items, each player paying their pro rata share, obtaining commercial sponsor, etc.

Section 17. All Star Games

If All Star Games are held, the format of the game for each division will be decided at one of the divisional meetings held prior to the beginning of league play.

ARTICLE IX: GAME RULES

Section 1. General Rules

- A. All league games shall be played in accordance with the current ASA softball code unless specifically noted otherwise.
- B. Each team must be at the field ready to play 15 minutes prior to official game time. Bad weather is no exception, unless the field condition report indicates the field is not playable.
- C. An official team lineup sheet must be given to the scorekeeper by each team 15 minutes prior to game time. The home team shall occupy the third base dugout.
- D. The manager of the home team for the last game is responsible for returning the bases to their designated storage area. If the bases are stolen as a result of negligence, the manager responsible shall reimburse the League for replacement bases.
- E. Players on offense must wear NOCSAE approved helmets following current guidelines.
- F. The home team is responsible for keeping score, and the manager of the winning team is responsible for reporting the win to the League Scorekeeper within twenty-four hours.
- G. Except for the 6 & Under Division, if a team cannot field eight players by official game time, the game is a forfeit. A team member who arrives after Official

- game time can be added to the bottom of the lineup and the umpire and opposing manager must be notified of the addition.
- H. Except in the 6 & Under Division, all players in attendance on each team must be in the batting order the entire game. Each team must play all of their players at least one inning defensively in each game.
 - I. If a player is injured and cannot continue, her name shall be stricken from the lineup with no automatic penalty for what would have been future turns at bat. If an offensive player (base runner) is removed from the game, the substitute runner will be recorded as an automatic out if her turn at bat occurs while she is still a base runner. If a batter becomes injured, or is otherwise unable to complete a turn at bat the next batter in the lineup shall take the injured batters turn at bat, assuming the existing ball and strike count. The replacement batter does not bat twice in a row.
 - J. A player without a complete team uniform cannot play except in emergencies and only when both managers agree prior to game time.
 - K. No jewelry will be allowed while participating in league games.
 - L. Only managers, coaches, assistant coaches and players are allowed in the dugout and playing area. No smoking, alcoholic beverages, or inappropriate language is allowed in these areas.
 - M. If a game is called for any reason, three full innings (2 1/2, if home team is ahead) will be considered a complete game. If a complete game is not played the game will be rescheduled and replayed as a new game in it's entirety.
 - N. Games, which are tied after seven innings of play, or if time has expired, will be recorded as a half win and half loss for each team.
 - O. Game time limit will be set by the Board of Directors and an inning cannot start after that time limit has expired.
 - P. A protest must be made prior to the next pitch, except for player eligibility. A protest cannot be made over events which are solely umpire judgment. (Consult ASA Rule 14).
 - Q. An appeal of a play must be made prior to the next pitch or before the defensive team leaves the field
 - R. If a game time has expired and the home team cannot win or tie the home plate umpire may end the game at any time.
 - S. After league play is completed, ties in team standings for trophy positions (1st, 2nd, or 3rd place) will be resolved by win-loss record between the two teams in head to head competition during league play. Any remaining ties will result in a playoff game. The playoff game will be scheduled during the last week of the league play if possible, the week following the end of league play if not. The division VP, scheduler and manager of the teams involved should be in communication of the potential for a tie exists. The 48-hour notification rule does not apply to playoff games. If a team cannot field 8 players to compete in a playoff game, it will be considered a forfeit and the other team declared the winner.

Section 2. 6 & Under Division Rules

- A. Pitching distance will be 20 feet. Base path distance will be 40 feet.
- B. Ball shall be an 11-inch safety ball.
- C. An adult shall pitch to his own team. Each batter will receive a maximum of six pitches. If the batter has not hit the ball after six pitches she will advance to first base.
- D. A team's turn at bat ends after the sixth batter becomes a batter runner and advances from home to first and around the bases for a home run.
- E. All players take the field on defense and all players bat on offense.

- F. No forfeits, all games are played regardless of the number of players per team.
- G. There will be no running on dropped third strike, no infield fly rule and no base stealing.
- H. No official score is kept.
- I. Two coaches can take the field with the team on defense. One coach can assist the batter on offense.
- J. First base will not be awarded a batter when hit by a pitched ball. If a girl is unable to continue playing, another batter will take her place and she will bat in normal order in the following innings.
- K. When a defensive player returns the ball to the pitcher in the imaginary 8-foot circle, all offensive and defensive activity shall stop. If a base runner has not passed the halfway mark to the next base, she will return to the preceding base.

Section 3. 8 & Under Division Rules

- A. Pitching distance will be 25 feet and base path distance will be 55 feet.
- B. An 11-inch ball will be used.
- C. Within the first four innings, no pitcher may have pitched in more than two innings. One pitch constitutes an inning.
- D. No infield fly rule. No running on dropped third strike.
- E. There will be no base stealing. A runner may lead off after the pitcher release the ball but must return if the ball is not hit.
- F. There will be a five run per inning limit.
- G. One or two umpires will be employed.
- H. Teams may freely substitute and may field ten players on defense.
- I. If a team is ahead by fifteen runs after three innings the game is over.

Section 4. 10 & Under Division Rules

- A. Pitching distance will be 35 feet and base path distance will be 60 feet.
- B. An 11 inch ball will be used
- C. Within the first four innings, no pitcher may have pitched in more than two innings. One pitch constitutes an inning.
- D. No infield fly rule. No stealing home on passed balls and throwbacks to the pitcher.
- E. Dropped third strike rule does not apply. The batter is out and runners may advance at their own risk, see 'F' below.
- F. Stealing is allowed in accordance with ASA rules. Players may steal all bases, but only one base per pitch.
- G. There will be a five run per inning limit.
- H. One or two umpires will be employed.
- I. Teams may freely substitute and may field ten players on defense.
- J. If a team is ahead by fifteen runs after three innings the game is over.

Section 5. 12 & Under Division Rules

- A. Pitching distance will be 40 feet and base path distance will be 60 feet.
- B. A 12-inch ball will be used.
- C. There will be a five run per inning limit.
- D. Two umpires will be employed.
- E. Teams may freely substitute and may field ten players on defense.
- F. If a team is ahead by fifteen runs after three innings the game is over.

Section 6. 14 & Under Division Rules

- A. Pitching distance will be 40 feet and base path distance will be 60 feet.
- B. A 12-inch ball will be used.
- C. There will be a five run per inning limit.
- D. Two umpires will be employed.
- E. Teams may freely substitute. Developmental sub-division may field 10 players on defense.

- Section 7.** 16 & Under Division Rules
- F. If a team is ahead by fifteen runs after three innings the game is over.
 - A. Pitching distance will be 40 feet and base path distance will be 60 feet.
 - B. A 12-inch ball will be used.
 - C. There will be a five run per inning limit.
 - D. Two umpires will be employed.
 - E. Teams may freely substitute. Developmental sub-division may field 10 players on defense.
- Section 8.** 18 & Under Division Rules
- F. If a team is ahead by fifteen runs after three innings the game is over.
 - A. Pitching distance will be 40 feet and base path distance will be 60 feet.
 - B. A 12-inch ball will be used.
 - C. There will be five run per inning limit.
 - D. Two umpires will be employed.
 - E. Teams may freely substitute.
 - F. If a team is ahead by fifteen runs after three innings the game is over.

ARTICLE X: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules @ Order Newly Revised shall govern the League in all cases in which they are applicable and are not in conflict with these bylaws and any special rules of order the League may adopt.

ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

- Section 1.** These Bylaws may be amended at any membership meeting of the C-FBGSL, provided a quorum is present, by a two-thirds vote. Notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at the previous meeting or written notice mailed with the meeting announcement required by the Bylaws.
- Section 2.** Proposed amendments to the Bylaws must be submitted in writing to the League President prior to the membership meeting to allow for notice to membership.
- Section 3.** A committee may be appointed to submit a revised set of Bylaws as a substitute for the existing Bylaws only by a majority vote at a membership meeting or by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. The requirements for adoption of a revised set of Bylaws shall be the same as in the case of an amendment.
- Section 4.** Emergency amendments to the Bylaws can be proposed and adopted at the same membership meeting under the following conditions:
- A. The majority of the Board of Directors agrees that the proposal is actually an emergency.
 - B. Approval requires a three-fourths vote of the members in good standing present with a quorum in attendance.

ARTICLE XII: DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of the C-FBGSL, all physical assets will be liquidated and any funds remaining shall be distributed to one or more non-profit, tax-exempt organizations dedicated to serving youth of the communities. The Board of Directors shall determine to whom the funds are granted.

Revised September 1, 2010