

# ***JACKSON GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE***

## ***BYLAWS***

1. The Jackson Girls Softball League was formed in Jackson, Missouri.
2. The league is open to any girl at least 5 (five) years old before January 1<sup>st</sup>, (as per ASA regulations and Insurance Company), regardless of race, creed or color, as long as she abides by the rules and regulations and meets the registration requirements set by the league. Girls in the Jackson school district will be given priority for registration.
3. The league is divided into 6 different age divisions, 18 & under, 14 & under, 12 & under, 10 & under, Coaches Pitch and T-Ball Divisions. The 18 & under, 14 & under and 12 & under are considered the Upper League Division. The 10 & under, Coaches Pitch and T-Ball are considered the Lower League Division. Coaches Pitch will consist of players no older than 8 yrs. old.
4. The league will have an annual election of officers to be held at a regularly scheduled meeting. This meeting will be held at the end of the season. Officers to be elected are President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, two Presiding Commissioners and two Board Members at Large. The Treasurer and the Umpire in Chief will be appointed by the board and are not elected positions. These officers shall comprise the Executive Board. The votes are to be cast by ballot when more than one person is running for any one office. The ballots shall be counted privately by at least two people who are not being elected and overseen by the incumbent secretary. The election of the President, Second Vice President, Secretary, First Presiding Commissioner and Second Board Member at Large shall be elected in years ending in an odd number and shall remain in office for two years. The remaining officers shall be elected in even-numbered years for a term of two years each. A Quorum of at least five Executive Board members is required before making any official decisions. Terms for new Board Members will run from September 1<sup>st</sup> until August 31<sup>st</sup>. Prior to Voting, all nominated candidates will be allowed 2 minutes to speak on their behalf. Voting for new Board Members will take place at the coaches meeting; which will take place before the end of the season tournament. Each team is allowed 1 vote for each open position. Active Board Members are not allowed to vote as a Board Member but are allowed to vote as the coach of their own team. In the event of a tie, there will be a revote.
5. The League will maintain an Executive Board consisting of the President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, two Presiding Commissioners and two Board Members at Large and the Umpire in Chief. The League Secretary is responsible for assisting the President and recording any changes to the League By-Laws. If a vacancy exists in any elected office, it shall be filled at the next Executive Board meeting. The League President will schedule the meeting as soon as possible. If the vacancy is the President's Office, the League Secretary will schedule the meeting. If any Board Member resigns or is voted out of their position before their term has ended, they cannot be re-elected to any Board position for the remainder of their original term or the following term.

6. The President shall preside over all League meetings and oversees all divisions. The President shall also be responsible for securing insurance for the league. The President shall also be responsible for all communication between the Park Board and the City of Jackson. In the absence of the President, the First Vice President, shall execute the President's duties. In the event that neither the President nor the First Vice President can fulfill those duties, the Second Vice President shall be in charge.
7. The First Vice President shall be responsible for overseeing the Upper Division. The First Vice President is also the liaison for the concession stand. They are also responsible for the rating sheets of the players as well as the appropriate system associated with these ratings.
8. The Second Vice President shall be responsible for overseeing the Lower Division, procuring uniforms (shirts), scheduling photography sessions for all teams and responsible for ordering the trophies and medals for the league.
9. The League Secretary will take minutes of all league meetings, be responsible for finding meeting places, notifying Executive Board Members of scheduled meetings and responsible for handling all of the necessary paperwork required by the league. The Secretary will also be responsible for getting announcements into the newspapers.
10. The League Treasurer is an appointed position by the Executive Board. Their responsibilities are as follows; to account for all income and disbursements, be in charge of collecting all money from shirt orders, player registrations, sponsor fees and any other income. The Treasurer is also responsible for paying approved bills and other expenses for the league and providing a financial report at all league meetings and to the President upon request. The Treasurer can be dismissed at any time by the Executive Board if reason is found for any kind of misconduct that is inappropriate with the League or is detrimental to the reputation of the League.
11. The Presiding Commissioners are responsible for resolving minor conflicts within their division. All other complaints and concerns that arise are to go through the proper chain of command (from parent and player to Coach, to Presiding Commissioner, to Division Vice President and finally to League President). If such a problem goes to the President, the President is to take that concern to the Executive Board for review. The Presiding Commissioners are to notify the coaches within their divisions of meetings or any kind of information that the Executive Board needs them to know. They are also to see that the team equipment is disbursed and returned in a timely manner. The Presiding Commissioners are the communicators for the parents, coaches and players to the Executive Board.
12. There shall be two Board Members at Large. They are to serve as ambassadors of the Executive Board to the coaches, parents and players. Board Members at Large are to bring concerns or complaints to the Executive Board for further discussion and action, if any is required. First Board Member at Large is responsible for scheduling games, rainouts, practices, tournaments and to keep record of wins and losses for each team throughout the season. Second Board Member at Large is to oversee the equipment throughout the entire season.

13. The Umpire in Chief is an appointed position by the Executive Board. The responsibilities are as follows; running an umpires clinic, obtaining and hiring umpires for the league (with approval of the President), scheduling all umpires for games and for any tournaments, and making sure that all Board Members and league are up to date with any ASA rule changes. They are also responsible for appointing a crew chief for each evening.
14. The Executive Board shall hear and decide any and all protests. The Executive Board shall also establish the basic and intra-league tournament player rules for each age group, i.e. pitching distance, distance between bases, etc. (otherwise the league follows ASA rules).
15. The league will obtain insurance for all players, coaches, umpires and officers.
16. Purchasing power will remain with the President and league Secretary in cooperation with the Treasurer. The Executive Board must approve any purchase in excess of \$1000. **NO COACH HAS THE RIGHT TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT FOR THEIR TEAM AT THE LEAGUE'S EXPENSE.** Payment for expenses incurred by a coach shall be that coach's responsibility.
17. Each team shall be allowed one coach, one assistant coach and a sponsor. The coach can name only one assistant coach before the time of team drawing. Coaches may obtain any other assistant from within their teams' parents or guardians as long as they have filled out a coach's registration form and have turned it into the Board. The league will provide up to 3 coaches shirts for all age divisions.
18. A head coach shall be at least 21 years of age as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. The age of the assistant coaches will be left up to the head coach. However, if at any time complaints come in to the Executive Board on young coaches, the Executive Board shall have the right to call a meeting to decide whether or not the individual shall remain in the coaching position. The Executive Board on the recommendation of the Division Vice President shall approve all coaches, including returning coaches and assistant coaches. The right to appeal any decision to the Executive Board shall exist.
19. The Coaches and assistant coaches shall be volunteers from the community, who are willing to instruct players in the skills of softball. They are to abide by the rules and conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner toward all people connected with the league. Coaches and assistant coaches will be responsible for representing teams, attending meetings and supervising practice sessions and league games. All members of the league must show respect for their associates.
20. Coaches **MUST** comply with ground rules as set by the umpires of that game.
21. There will be **NO SMOKING** or **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** allowed within the area of play. Smoking by coaches and assistant coaches are restricted to outside the team bench area.
22. No abusive or profane language shall be permitted from players, coaches, umpires and/or spectators.

23. No league Officer has the right to dismiss any person. If a complaint of misconduct is made against any coach or Board Member, an Executive Board hearing shall be held to consider dismissal. If dismissal is of a Board Member, then a vote of the Board Members not involved in the complaint will determine removal of said Board Member. (Has to be a unanimous vote).
24. Umpires will be hired by the league and paid for their services. It is mandatory that all paid umpires attend the annually scheduled umpire's clinic to keep up with rule changes. (Some base umpires may be volunteers.) An umpire's decision will be respected at all games. A coach has the right to question calls made by the umpires, but only the umpires and the head coach from each team are allowed on the field for discussion of the play. The Umpire in Chief will appoint a crew chief for each evening.

Paying of the umpires is as follows: Umpire in chief will be paid \$25 per game, umpires for 18U will be paid \$20 per game, 14U will be paid \$18 per game, 12U & 10U will be paid \$15 per game, Coach Pitch and T-ball will be paid \$12 per game.

25. Complaints about an umpire's ability should be brought to the attention of the Umpire in Chief and/or the Vice President of that age division. The President or Umpire in Chief may dismiss any umpire if, in their opinion, the umpire is not fulfilling his or her duties correctly. An Executive Board meeting will then be held to discuss permanent dismissal.
26. The appointed crew chief has the authority to call a game in case of rain, lightning or darkness. If any game, except in T-Ball and Coach Pitch Divisions, is called BEFORE the end of the fifth inning or one hour into the game, it will be rescheduled and completed from that point unless both coaches choose to allow the game to stand as played without rescheduling. If a game in the T-Ball or Coach Pitch Division is called before forty-five minutes into the game, it will be rescheduled and completed from that point unless both coaches choose to allow the game to stand as played without rescheduling. If a game has reached regulated time when called, then the score will revert back to the last completed inning.
27. Depending on the Division involved; starting times for weeknight games will be 6:15pm for early games and 8:00pm for late games. T-Ball (some Coach Pitch) games will start at 5:30pm and 6:45pm (and 8:00 pm for Coach Pitch). If at 6:15pm the field is deemed unplayable, the umpire will call the early games at that time. If at 8:00pm, the field is still deemed unplayable, the umpire will call that game at that time.
28. An inning of any game shall not begin after ninety (90) minutes from the beginning of playing time. In the T-Ball Division, no inning shall begin after (60) minutes from the beginning of game or (75) minutes in the Coach Pitch Division. A game shall be called complete if either team is ahead by eight (8) runs after five (5) innings or fifteen (15) runs after three (3) innings in all divisions except T-Ball or Coach Pitch.

29. If any show of poor sportsmanship is displayed or if either team disobeys any league rules, the game may be put under protest. Plaintiff team must inform the home plate umpire of the protest and the grounds for such protest during the game, at the point of the interruption. (Cannot protest judgement calls) The protesting head coach and umpire must notify the Presiding Commissioner and the Umpire in Chief within 24 hours following the game. If unable to contact the Presiding Commissioner and/or Umpire in Chief they must contact the Division Vice President. The outcome of the protest shall be decided at the next regularly scheduled Executive Board meeting which will be called as soon as a quorum is put together. (See by-law #4 for definition of quorum)
30. If during a game a player walks off the field in anger and does not finish the game, she may be suspended for up to one (1) year. Her parents may request a meeting with the Executive Board within 24 hours to state her case; they must notify the Presiding Commissioner of that division within 24-48 hours from the game. All protests are to go through the chain of command as outlined above (by-law #11). If the suspension is upheld, her reinstatement for the following year depends upon a review by the Executive Board and her coach.
31. If any spectator interferes at a game, either team's coach may ask the umpire to warn the spectator. If this approach fails, the spectator will be asked to leave the park by the designated crew chief or a Board Member. Continued disruption may cause forfeiture of the ballgame.
32. Registration for players will be held no later than the last Saturday of February (providing no bad weather) of each year, if agreeable to the league. Teams will be picked no later than the last weekend in March. Before the first game of the season, registration forms and fees and a list of all team members, including coaches' names must be turned in to the President. Team Rosters will consist of no more than 14 girl's maximum.
33. If a team loses a player due to injury or extenuating circumstances, the coach must contact the Presiding Commissioner for that division for the name of another registered player. The Presiding Commissioner of their division will assign a player who had signed up too late to be placed on a team at the beginning of the season. The late players will be distributed on a first in/first out basis with approval of the Presiding Commissioner of that division, providing the player being assigned to a team has paid all fees before stepping onto the ball field. If no players are in the pool, the Executive Board needs to be notified and the coach has one week from that point to find a new player.
- 33A. If a team at game time does not have enough players to start the game, they may bring up players from a lower division to play in the outfield ONL. **Players that are brought up to play, must be last in the batting order.** The player can only play up 2 divisions. At least Five (5) players off of the original roster must be ready to play and up to four (4) players may be pulled up to begin the game with eight (8) players to avoid a forfeit. Players must be on the roster of the JGSL.
34. No player may sit out more than one inning in a row with a maximum of three (3) innings. Every coach will be required to have on hand a line up showing where a player played every inning. These must be kept on file for the whole season. Every girl will bat in every game. If

you have 13 girls present for a game your batting order will be one (1) through 13, therefore a girl arriving late will go to the end of the order.

35. There is to be a minimum number of eight (8) players per team for each game to play without being considered a forfeit. There shall be ten (10) minutes allowed after scheduled game time for teams to field the minimum number players before a forfeit is declared.
36. The Executive Board is to secure the awards for the divisions. No special award will be presented to any girl for achievement in the league. Any other award or trophy to be given must be voted on and passed by the Executive Board before it is purchased.
37. Any new sponsor will be reviewed by the Executive Board before approval. Sponsorship fee shall be \$175.00 per year.
38. These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Board provided that there is a quorum present.
39. The Executive Board of the Jackson Girls Softball League has final word, change or approval on any of the aforementioned Bylaw items.
40. The Board has implemented a \$10 fee for any non-league team that wishes to use the bases and or equipment that is owned by the Jackson Girls Softball League for any practice.

Adopted February 3, 2003

Amended January 14, 2014

Amended November 11, 2015

Amended February, 2016

Amended June 24, 2016

Amended January 29, 2017