



CONSTITUTION OF THE RENAISSANCE CITY SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Updated MAY 2, 2016

We, the members of the Renaissance City Softball League, in order to provide a normal structure for the continuation of a softball league in the Greater Providence area, free from discrimination on the basis of race, religion, creed, sex, national origin or sexual preference, with special emphasis on the participation of members of the gay community, hereby adopt this Constitution in order to formalize our objectives of fellowship and friendly competition.

ARTICLE ONE

Membership

Section I

- A.** Membership in the league will be open to any person, who in good faith, wishes to participate on an established team, as defined by this Constitution and has their annual dues to be frozen. People who choose not to become a member may become a League membership dues prior to the first scheduled game and before the date upon which team rosters member with the approval of the Executive Board :
- B. Officers shall be entitled to the following:**
 - 1. One (1) vote at all general membership meetings.
 - 2. All benefits, rights and privileges as defined by this Constitution.
 - 3. Be listed as a member of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA) and be afforded all the privileges of NAGAAA membership.

Section II

A. A League Team:

- 1. Consist of not more than twenty (20) playing members and an unlimited number of non-playing members.
- 2. May be sponsored by a person, business association or other organization without limitation.
- 3. Shall pay a non-refundable team fee prior to each new season.

4. Shall submit their team roster containing the names of both playing and non-playing members to the Commissioner or Secretary no later than one (1) week prior to the date set for submission of the league roster to NAGAAA.
5. May for good cause shown, apply to the Executive Board for authorization to make roster changes.
6. Shall participate in league fundraising as determined by the Executive Board.
7. Shall be represented by one (1) officially team-sanctioned representative.
8. May conduct its internal affairs as deemed reasonable and consistent with this Constitution.

ARTICLE TWO

Officers

The League Officers shall consist of the Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, Treasurer, Secretary and Player Liaison.

Section I

The Commissioner Shall:

1. Preside over all General Membership meetings and all Executive Board meetings.
2. Be chief administrator, representative and spokesperson for the League, and as such, is reasonable for the efficient conduct of all League business.
3. Settle disputes pursuant to the Constitution and the rules made here under to the review of the Executive Board.
4. Be Chairperson of the Rules Committee.
5. Co-sign all League checks and withdrawal orders on League accounts.
6. Appoint an acting Secretary for any meeting at which the Secretary is absent. The acting Secretary shall not vote unless otherwise authorized to do so.
7. In conjunction with the Assistant Commissioner, determine field playing conditions.

Section II

The Assistant Commissioner Shall:

1. Assume the duties of the Commissioner in the event of the Commissioner's impeachment or other absence or disability.
2. Be a voting member of the Executive Board.
3. Be Chairperson of the Special Events Board.
4. Call games in the event of rain or inclement weather.
5. Set up season schedule.

Section III

The Treasurer Shall:

1. Keep accurate records of all league Income, Expenditures and collecting of funds; and shall make the same available for inspection by any league member upon reasonable request.
2. Have custody of all League funds which shall be maintained in the name of the league.
3. Co-sign all League checks and withdrawal orders drawn upon League.
4. Disburse League funds only in accordance with Article IV of this Constitution.
5. Be a voting member of the Executive Board.
6. Submit a financial report at the annual Awards Banquet/General Membership meeting.

Section IV

The Secretary Shall:

1. Keep accurate records of all League meetings, both General Membership and Executive.
2. Maintain all League Documents, including but not limited to minutes, by-laws, rules, rosters and correspondence; and shall make the same available for inspection by any league member upon reasonable request.
3. Be a voting member of the Executive Board.

Section V

The Player Liaison Shall:

1. Be responsible for communicating player's concerns, complaints, and comments to the Executive Board and respond to those players as appropriate.
2. Recruit League members to attend League benefits when benefits are scheduled.
3. Notify League members of benefits, upcoming events and meetings.

Section VI

- A. Any elected officer may be impeached and removed from office only at a Board meeting called for this specific purpose.
- B. In case of vacancy of a League official other than the Commissioner, the Executive Board will elect another RCSL member to complete the term by at least two-thirds (2/3) majority of those present at a meeting of the executive Board.

ARTICLE THREE

Executive Board

- A. The Executive Board shall consist of a Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, Secretary, Treasurer and Player Liaison.
- B. Each member of the Executive Board shall have one (1) vote, except the Commissioner, who shall vote only in the event of a tie.
- C. In addition to the powers and duties delegated to the Executive Board by or under this Constitution, the Executive Board shall have those powers necessary and proper for the efficient conduct of League business.
- D. The Executive Board shall hear all appeals made from rulings of the Commissioner and may uphold or reverse him/her pursuant to this Constitution and the rules made hereunder.
- E. The Executive Board shall approve all expenditures of League funds only in accordance to ARTICLE VI of this Constitution.
- F. The Executive Board shall establish new Committees.
- G. The Executive Board shall establish rules or order of conduct of its meetings and for all General membership meetings.
- H. The Executive Board shall adopt by-laws which are consistent with the provisions of this Constitution as necessary for the smooth and efficient administration of the League.

ARTICLE FOUR

Meetings

- A. A meeting of the Executive Board may be called by the Commissioner or a majority of the Executive Board.
- B. A general membership meeting may be called by a three-fourths (3/4) majority of the Executive Board or by an absolute majority of the General membership.
- C. An annual meeting of the General Membership shall be held at the Annual Banquet. The inauguration of newly elected officers shall be held at this meeting. The outgoing Treasurer shall submit a financial report at this meeting. Other business may be conducted at this meeting as deemed appropriate.
- D. Quorum requirements shall be as follows:
 - 1. Executive Board Meetings:**
 - a) A two-thirds (2/3) quorum shall be required to vote on major expenditures of league funds, to rule on appeals of Commissioner's rulings, to call for General Membership meetings or to purpose Constitutional amendments.
 - b) A majority of those voting shall rule in any case.
 - 2. General Membership Meetings:**
 - a) Proper notice, containing the date, time, place and proposed agenda shall be given to all League members.
 - b) There shall be NO quorum requirement.
- E. Appeals from rulings of the Executive Board, impeachment proceedings, amendments to the Constitution and special financial levies shall be voted on by the General Membership.

- F. A general Membership meeting for the purpose of impeachment of an officer must be called by a three-fourths (3/4) majority of the General Membership. Any officer so impeached shall be removed from office only upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote in favor of such removal by those present at such a meeting.
- G. Except for impeachment proceedings, any matter may be acted upon by the General Membership or may be the subject of a referendum. Any referendum shall become binding upon affirmative vote of an absolute majority of the General Membership.

ARTICLE FIVE

Elections

- A. League offices shall be elected by the General Membership of the League. There shall be no quorum requirement for the election of officers.
- B. The election of League officers shall be held at the year-end banquet. If there is no year-end banquet, the election must be held by the last scheduled day of game play. The term of the new League officers shall commence at the end of the year-end banquet. The Executive Committee will establish a date for a General Membership meeting prior to the election with this meeting serving as the League "Candidate Night".
- C. Any member of the League may run for any office upon nomination by four (4) members. No member may nominate more than one (1) person for the same office each year.
- D. Elections shall be held by secret ballot.
- E. If no candidate receives a majority, there shall be a run-off election of so many candidates receiving the most votes as will constitute a majority.
- F. The Executive Board may establish procedures for the conduct of elections which are consistent with this Constitution.

ARTICLE SIX

Finances

- A. All league finances must be approved by the Executive Board.
- B. Expenditures for Umpires, balls, and field permit fees, if any, shall have priority over the expenditures.
- C. A majority vote of the Executive Board is required to authorize the expenditures of League funds.
- D. The Executive Board may authorize the expenditure of League funds by approving a budget for a particular committee or purpose.

ARTICLE SEVEN

Amendments and Adoption

- A. The Constitution may be amended by referendum by League Officers at Executive Board meetings. Proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be ratified upon the affirmative vote in favor of ratification by an absolute majority of the League.