## City of Key West Application for Non-Profit Funding Fiscal Year 2020 October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020

Agency Name	Key West Girls Softball Recreational League (KWGSRL)
Physical Address	3112 Northside Drive, Key West, FI 33040
Mailing Address	3112 Northside Drive
City, State, Zip	Key West, Fl
Phone	(786) 877-4398
Fax	N/A
Email	KWGSRL@gmail.com
Who should we contact with questions about this application?	Sherman Hamlin

Amount received for prior fiscal year ending 09/30/18	\$ 10,780
Amount received for current fiscal year ending 09/30/19	Pending receipt
Amount requested for upcoming fiscal year ending 09/30/20	\$ 11,000

For Fiscal Year 2019 how will	
the amount requested be	
utilized?	

Funding will be used for umpires and equipment.

#### CERTIFICATION

To the best of our knowledge and belief, the information contained in this application and attachments is true and correct. The City of Key West is hereby authorized to verify all information contained herein, and we understand that any inaccuracies, omissions, or any other information found to be false may result in rejection of this application. This certifies that this request for funding is consistent with our organization's Articles of incorporation and Bylaws and has been approved by a majority of the Board of Directors.

We affirm that the Agency will use City funds for the purposes as submitted in this Application for Funding. Any change will require written approval from the Key West City Commission.

We understand that the agency must substantially meet the eligibility criteria to be considered for City funding and that any application.

We understand that all funding received through this opportunity must be spent for the benefit of Key West.

We for ther understand that meeting the Eligibility Criteria in no way ensures that the agency will receive funding.

Typed Name of Executive Director: Sherman Hamilin

Signature

Title: President

Date: <u>5/11/2019</u>

Witness:

Witness:

Typed Name of Board President/Chairman: Shorman Hamlin

litle: <u>President</u>

Date: 5/11/2019

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#### Application (Please type responses. You may complete on your own form).

- 1. List the services your agency provides. KWGSRL promotes a love of the game of softball, good sportsmanship, and the athletic and emotional development of the young ladies of our community.
- 2. How will funding be used? What specific services will be funded by this request? What needs or problems in Key West does your agency address? Please explain in detail.
- 3. Will City funds be used as match for a grant? Please circle yes or no: Yes No If you answered "no", please see Question #7.
- 4. If you answered "yes" to Question #3, please specify the following for each grant:
  - a. grant award title, granting agency, and purpose:
  - b. grant amount:
  - c. match percentage requirement and amount:
  - d. expected award date:
- 5. Has your agency applied for or received funding for the same purpose from another entity? If yes, please explain.
- 6. Is your agency monitored by an outside entity? If so, by whom and how often? No (If applying for \$5,000 or less, a response is not required.)
- 7. What measurable outcomes do you plan to accomplish in the next funding year? As a 501(c)(3) Amateur Athletic Organization, we operate "...primarily to conduct national or international competition in sports or to support and develop amateur athletes for that competition..." per the requirements outlined in IRS Publication 557: Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization. In our case, we are preparing our athletes for national competition sanctioned by the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA). As such, it is imperative that our young athletes become familiar with competing under USSSA rules at the local level. We accomplish that by using city funds to provide USSSA-knowledgeable umpires and scorekeepers for the games that the League sponsors in Key West.
- 8. How will you measure these outcomes? (If applying for \$5,000 or less, a response is not required.) While the outcome is arguably more qualitative than quantitative, success can be measured in the number of games that our Key West teams successfully compete in at the USSSA level after taking part in the locally sponsored recreational league.
- 9. In 300 words or less, address any topics not covered above (optional). It is notable that not only are these funds spent in pursuit of a worthwhile cause, the education and maturation of our young athletes, but the funds are spent locally which is an added benefit back to the City of Key West.

#### **Please See List of Required Attachments**

### ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST

LABEL AND ATTACH THE FOLLOWING IN THE ORDER SHOWN, AFTER			
THIS PAGE		CHED?	COMMENTS
IF NOT APPLICABLE, PLEASE SO INDICATE AND EXPLAIN	YES	NO	You must explain any "NO" answers
Application	X		
Current Board Information Form			https://www.kwfastpitch.com/board
Evidence of Annual Election of Officers	Х		
Board Resolution Approving Application for Funding		Х	Recurring request, resolution not required.
City Funded Program Budget		Х	Does not apply.
Agency Expenses	Х		
Agency Revenue	Х		
Agency Fee Schedule		Х	Does not apply
Upon approval of funding, do you agree to provide a copy of an Audited Financial Statement, a review of financial statements, or other financial report as appropriate (to be determined based on amount of funding and agency budget) from most recent fiscal year (2018)?	Х		
Copy of filed IRS Form 990 from most recent fiscal year		Х	2017 and 2018 pending filing.
Copy of IRS Letter of Determination indicating 501 C 3 status & Copy of GUIDESTAR printout		Х	Have requested copy from IRS.
Copy of Current Monroe County and City Occupational Licenses		Х	Does not apply
Copy of Florida Dept. of Children And Families License or Certification		Х	Does not apply
Copy of any other Federal or State Licenses		Х	Does not apply
Copy of Florida Dept. of Health Licenses/Permits		Х	Does not apply
Copy of Organization's Corporate Bylaws.	Х		https://www.kwfastpitch.com/page/ show/3760221-kwgsrl-bylaws-and- usssa-rules
Copy of front page of Agency's EEO Policy/Plan		Х	Does not apply
Annual performance report describing services rendered during the most recently completed grant period		Х	Does not apply
Copy of Summary Report of most current Evaluation/Monitoring		Х	Does not apply

<sup>\*</sup> must include summary of deficiencies and suggested corrective action; may include your responses and actions taken.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

KWGSRL holds an annual election to elect a new Board of Directors before the start of the new season. This usually occurs in October. A formal announcement will be sent to all. All League members (Board members and Head Coaches) in good standing are eligible to attend and vote per specific guidance in the League <a href="Bylaws">Bylaws</a>. This year's Board members are listed below. A description of each members' duties can be found on the document attached to this page. If you are interested in running for a position on the Board, please become familiar with the position description and the bylaws and supplements, then contact a member to seek a nomination per the bylaws.

### **Position Descriptions**

### SHAWN Smith

Vice President

Phone: (305) 923-4500

### MISSY Bracher

**Equipment Manager** 

Phone: (305) 394-0207

### SHERMAN Hamlin

President

Phone: (786) 877-4398

## **ERICABrown**

Treasurer

Phone: (305) 942-4793

### **VACANT POSITION**

Concession Manager

### DEE DEE Harnish

Secretary

Phone: (305) 923-4455

### TODD Means

Player Liaison

Phone: (305) 900-7625

## **Equipment Guides**

# EQUIPMENT THE LEAGUE SUPPLIES

Bats, balls, batting helmets and catcher's equipment, but ultimately most players end up purchasing their own bat and helmet.

### YOUR CHILD WILL NEED HER OWN:

Metal Cage or Poly-carbonate Full-Face Shields: The League has made the Face Shield MANDATORY for all B and C Division girls and for A Division pitchers. Shields are optional but highly recommended for A Division.

Face Shields, otherwise known as fielding masks, cover the face from the top of the forehead to below the chin, providing protection for the eyes, nose, teeth and facial bones, as well as helping to mitigate the risk of concussion. They are readily available from online shopping websites at a price range from \$10-\$35.

<u>Softball Glove/Mitt:</u> Softball gloves are often larger than those used in baseball because the ball is bigger. Most players choose to wear gloves, which differ from mitts, in that they have individual fingers and less padding. First basemen and catchers usually wear mitts with extra padding to catch balls thrown at higher speeds.

<u>Softball Cleats:</u> Softball cleats provide ankle support and traction on dirt and

grass. There are strict guidelines on softball cleats in order to reduce the risk of injury. First, the studs themselves cannot be made out of metal or even some types of hard plastic. Second, the studs cannot extend more than 3/4 of an inch from the shoe. Removable spikes are also not allowed. As with other shoes, comfort and fit are crucial for performance. Most softball cleats can be purchased using street shoe sizing as a reference.

Pants/Socks: The League will supply each player a uniform to be worn during games, however it is strongly recommended that you buy extra softball pants and socks to fully protect the player's legs while sliding or otherwise coming into contact with the ground during practice.

### **OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT**

**Sliding Shorts:** Sliding shorts are padded upper thigh synthetic compression leggings that protect the athlete when sliding into a base.

**Batting Gloves:** Batting gloves not only improve grip on the bat but reduce the risk of blisters.

January 2019: These Bylaws incorporate the Amendments of 2018 and supersede all previous Bylaws.

#### **ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of this League Association shall be the Key West Girls Softball Recreational League (KWGSRL).

#### ARTICLE II: OBJECT

The object of this League Association shall be to promote the maturation of female youth of our community between the ages four (4) and fifteen (15) through good sportsmanship, enhancing their self-esteem, leadership abilities, developing their proficiency for softball, friendship and healthy combination of fun and competition.

#### **ARTICLE III: POWERS**

The League shall have the following powers, in addition to the powers expressly or implicitly conferred on it by law:

Section 1. To make and enforce rules and regulations to govern itself.

Section 2. To solicit contributions and raise funds.

Section 3. To establish and collect fees, charges and fines,

Section 4. To enter into contracts.

Section 5. To hold and own property.

Section 6. To affiliate with organizations whose purpose and objectives are consistent with those of the League.

Section 7. To enter into agreements and/or affiliate with organizations to fulfill the objectives of the League.

#### **ARTICLE IV: MEMBERS**

Section 1. The members of the League Association shall consist of the Officers of the League Association and the Head Coach of each team. In the event that an Officer is also the Head Coach of a team, the Assistant Coach will represent the team. In the event that a Head Coach cannot attend a League Association function, he/she can designate one of their coaches.

Section 2. Any adult resident of Monroe County shall be eligible for membership as an Officer or Head Coach provided that such residents shall be proposed by one member, seconded by another member of the League Association, and approved by 3-majority vote of the League Association members in attendance. For purposes of membership in the League Association, an adult is anyone who is twenty-one (21) years of age or older. All members will be subject to a background investigation.

Section 3. If any member questions the fitness of a proposed member, that proposed member may be subject to a Florida Department of Law Enforcement background check and /or a Federal Bureau of Investigation or any agency that is comparable to do such an inquiry as to whether a said proposed member has a criminal history adversely reflecting upon his/her capacity to promote the object of the League Association. The Board will make the determination to proceed with a background check.

#### **ARTICLE V: OFFICERS**

Section 1. The Officers of the League Association shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, Equipment Manager, Concession Manager and Player Liaison. The officer's duties will be described in a separate document and may vary from year to year.

Section 2. At the last meeting of the season, which shall be known as the "Annual Meeting",

nominations for new officers will be taken. Nomination may come from any member in good standing.

Section 3. The Officers shall be elected by written ballot of the members present. Each member shall be entitled to one vote per office. Officers shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected. Their term of office shall begin at the close of the Annual meeting at which they are elected, Officers will be the sole representatives of the League Association.

Section 4. No member shall hold more than one office at a time. A member shall be able to serve as many terms as elected.

Section 5. Officers may vote as a Team Representative or as an Officer, but not as both. No team may have more than one vote; Officers may vote on any issue involved in any Division.

Section 6. Special meetings of the Officers may be called by the President or upon written request of two Officers.

Section 7. The Officers shall have general supervision of the affairs of the League Association between its business meetings, fix the hour and place of meeting, make recommendation to the League Association, and shall perform such duties as are specified in these Bylaws. The Officers shall be subject to the orders of the League Association, and none of their acts shall conflict with action taken by the League Association.

Section 8. All Officers must meet the requirements of Article IV, Section 2.

Section 9. Roberts Rules of Order will govern any situation not covered by these Bylaws.

#### **ARTICLE VI: LEAGUE ASSOCIATION MEETINGS**

Section 1. The last regular meeting of the playing season shall be for the purpose of receiving reports of officers and Committees, and other business that may arise.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the president or upon written request of any two officers of the League Association or shall be called upon the written request of five members of the League of the League Association. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call. Except in case of emergency, at least three (3) days' notice shall be given.

Section 3. Fifty percent (50%) of the League Association members in attendance shall constitute a quorum.

#### ARTICLE VII: HEAD COACHES, ASSISTANT COACHES AND TEAM MOM

Section 1. Each team shall have one (1) Head Coach and one (1) Assistant Coach and one (1) Team Mom but not more than three (3) Assistant Coaches Total. The Head Coach and Assistant Coaches must be twenty-one (21) years of age or older, In the event that the Head Coach or the Assistant Coach is not in attendance for a practice or game than the Head Coach must designate a responsible person (21years or older) to be present during the game or practice. You must notify the League President and/or League Officers.

Section 2. To be a Head Coach a person must be a part of the League Association for at least one year and meet all the requirements of Article IV, Section 2. The League Association must approve all exceptions.

Section 3. The Head Coach may not be the Head Coach of more than one team in the "A" Division League during the regular season of the League.

Section 4. Head Coaches are responsible for representing their team at all League Association meeting or making sure there is a representative from their team present. After a team is not present for the third (3rd) time at a meeting, the Head Coach will be replaced.

Section 5. Head Coaches are required to participate with all fundraisers of the League or to make sure there is a representative from their team to take their place.

Section 6. Head Coaches may serve as many seasons as they choose as long as they are not removed by the League Association for disciplinary actions.

Section 7. Board members have final decision for all Head Coach positions.

Section 8. Head and Assistant Coaches are subject to all rules and procedures as any member of the League Association.

Section 9. All Head Coaches will input all fund raising monies through the League's Treasurer for accountability and to ensure the tax benefits are relayed back to the sponsor via League letterhead. Coaches are not allowed to raise monies on their own outside of the League for any reason. If this is done, the Coach will be responsible to report to the Board and the Board will determine the fitness of the Coach to remain in the League.

Section 10. The goal and intent of the League is to be uniform and fair across all Divisions and the entire League. In keeping with this desire, the Board will make all determinations of how the teams will be represented (uniforms), games scheduled (tournaments) and any other matters that apply to the League and how it conducts affairs. Any Coach who cannot follow the Boards direction and/or goes off on their own and forms their own team will not be allowed back into the League.

#### ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES/DIVISION LIAISONS

Section 1. The League Association shall elect any committee, standing or special, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League Association. Each committee shall consist of at least one Officer and are as follows, but not limited to Protest Committee, Recruiting Committee, Sponsorship Support Committee, and Rules Committee.

Section 2. Should the League Association decide to do so, the Head Coach from each Division shall elect a Division Liaison to act as the spokesperson for that Division and to represent that Division at Executive Meetings of the League Association. It will be the responsibility of the Division Liaison to poll the other Head Coaches within their Division for their opinions and votes on issues on the agenda for discussion at the Executive Meetings of the League Association and to act as that Divisions sole representative and spokesperson at these Executive meetings.

#### **ARTICLE IX: FINANCES**

Section 1. The League shall maintain an account at an accredited financial institution for the purpose of making deposits of League receipts and making disbursements for League expenses.

Section 2. Checks disbursed require the signature of two officers.

Section 3. President has authorizations for expenditures up to \$250, for any amount above that must have approval of the board.

#### **ARTICLE X: FEES**

Section 1. Registration fees will be \$120.00 for the first child registers. The second child in the same immediate family will be \$80.00; each additional child in same family will be \$80.00 each. The fees for the league are subject to change due to inflation or any actions by the board.

Exception: A child will still be permitted to play if sufficient proof of hardship is represented to the League Association.

Section 2. Sponsorship Fee is set at \$500.00 per team for the season.

Section 3. Wall Advertisement Fee is \$350.00 per ad for first year and \$250.00 each following year, with no changes, to maintain said sign. If a new banner is required, the full price will be charged to the sponsor.

Section 4. No child shall be allowed to play until their registration form is signed and their fee has been paid or waived.

Section 5. Registration fees are non-refundable as stated on the registration form.

#### ARTICLE XI: AGE OF PLAYERS/BAT GIRLS

DIVISION C: Division C players must be four (4) by January 1st and not older than eight (8) on August 31st of the current year for which they are registering.

DIVISION B: Division B players must be eight (8) and not older than eleven (11) on August 31st of the current year for which they are registering.

DIVISION A: Division A players must be eleven (11) and not older than fourteen (14) on August 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year for which they are registering. There will be an exception made if the child is attending school, is in the 9th grade, will be no older that fifth teen (15) on August 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year which they are registering and is approved by the League Association, proof of age will be required before a registration is official.

Exception: A child will be permitted to play up a division with Board approval.

BATGIRLS: Each team may have one batgirl. It is the Head Coaches' responsibility to choose a girl who is mature enough to carry out her duties without being a danger to her or to others. If the batgirl becomes a danger to anyone, she will not be allowed on the field or in the dugout during games. Batgirls must wear batting helmets when on the playing field.

#### **ARTICLE XII: TEAM ROSTERS**

Section 1. Rosters are limited to the following: twelve (12) players, one (1) Head Coach, and three (3) Assistant Coaches. The League shall be responsible for providing four (4) Coaches Shirts. (One female (Team Mom) in the Dugout)

Section 2. Only persons on an official team roster will be permitted in the dugout or on the field during an official League game. Failure to observe this rule could result in the forfeiture of the offending team's game. Should any parent, member or other adult not authorized to be in the dugout or on the field during an official League game violates this restriction, he/she shall be given a warning from the League with a possible expulsion and cannot be present at any future League activities. This shall include, but not be limited to, ineligibility to hold any League office, ineligibility to accompany his/her children to League games or functions and a written trespass warning shall be issued to the offending adult forbidding his/her presence at League games.

Exception: An adult substitution will be permitted in the event that two of the coaches are not available. However, the number of adults in any dugout may not exceed four (4). In the case of injury to any player, said player's parent or parents, if present, may come onto the field to attend to his/her child's injury.

Section 3. How to handle Late Sign-ups/additions & fill vacancies from girls leaving the league. Start with order from the draft to determine who gets next girl. Keep girls on a list, as spots open they are randomly selected to teams.

Section 4. Picking up players from one league below (B to A, C to B) to substitute and fill out the team numbers for that game. This is allowed to occur without Board approval to prevent forfeit

#### ARTICLE XIII: CONDUCT

For the purposes of these Bylaws a Head Coach, or Assistant Coach, and any team Mom/Dad or guardian is considered a roster member.

It is the responsibility of every Board Member to bring any concerns or issues to the Board.

Section 1. Any League activities or functions must have a League member (in good standing) or parent more than twenty-one (21) present at all times.

Section 2. Field Conduct. Profanity is prohibited by any roster member. Any use of profanity will result in a one (1) game suspension. If a second (2) offense occurs by the same party, it will result in expulsion from the League. Head Coach, members, players, or coaches expelled for any reason will be subject to disciplinary action detailed in Section 5. Smoking is prohibited in the concession stand, bathrooms, score box, dugouts and within Rosa Hernandez field is not permitted. Smoking is only permitted in the parking lot. Courtesy to all game participants (i.e., Players, Batgirls, Coaches, Umpires, etc.) is mandatory. No abuse, verbal or physical, will be tolerated. Any roster member thrown out of a game by an umpire for any reason other than a carelessly thrown bat will be suspended for the remainder of that game and for the next regularly scheduled game. If a coach is ejected from a game they are also ejected from the field for the entire day plus their next game in that division in which they were ejected. An umpire can restrict a coach to the dugout before ejection if he/she chooses to. If a coach is ejected from a game that coach and only that coach will be suspended a game and will have to umpire a game before returning to coaching.

Section 3. Field Conduct also applies to the dugout, no glass bottles are permitted in the dugout. Players are to remain in the dugout unless at bat, on deck, or on the field. No one is to hang, pull, or climb on any fence orgate.

#### Section 4. Field Conduct (continued)

- A. When parents, fans, etc., begin to exhibit poor sportsmanship the umpire is to give a warning to the coach of the offending team and (parents if he choose). The Head Coach is then also to advise the parents if they are violating League Rules and to notify the League Officer present during the incident. If the offending behavior continues, then the League Official is to warn the offending person. If the behavior still continues the League Officer is to contact law enforcement and the offending person(s) will be issued a written no trespass warning barring the offending person(s) at all future games or League Association activities.
- B. Any adult, whether a member of the League Association or not, who engages in a physical confrontation with another adult at an official League game shall be permanently expelled from the League. Any adult nonmember of the League Association who engages in a physical confrontation with any member of the League Association, other adult nonmembers of the League Association or any child present at a League Association activity, shall be issued a written no trespassing warning barring the offending adult's presence at all future League Association activities. Failure to abide by this restriction may result in criminal prosecution. As the object of the League is to promote the maturation of children, any adult, whether a member or non-member of the League, who commits any violation of criminal laws of the state in the presence of a minor child, shall be subject to disciplinary action. Any disposition of the Criminal Courts or Juvenile Dependency Courts resulting in an adjudication or withhold of adjudication shall be deemed sufficient to proceed with disciplinary action against the offending adult.

Section 5. Disciplinary Action. Should any parent, member or adult nonmember of the League be permanently expelled from the League, he/she cannot be present at any future League activities.

This shall include, but not be limited to, ineligibility to hold any League Office, ineligibility to accompany his/her children to League games or functions, and a written trespass warning shall be issued to the offending adult forbidding his/her presence at League games. Disciplinary actions will be taken for any violation of League rules and any unsportsmanlike conduct witnessed by two League Association members. Disciplinary action will be taken for violations of criminal laws, which adversely reflect upon the offending party's ability to promote the object of the League Association.

- A. Players: Disciplinary actions will be taken for any violation of the League rules and any unsportsmanlike conduct witnessed by two (2) League Association members.

  1st Infraction- The player shall be warned and the infraction will be recorded in the Official Scorebook and signed by the player, player's Coach, and League Association witnesses.

  2nd Infraction- The player shall be expelled from the remainder of that game or sit out the next game if the infraction occurs before or after the game.

  3rd Infraction- The player shall be expelled from the League for the remainder of the season.

  Any player's subsequent season-long expulsion shall result in permanent expulsion from the League. A player may reapply under the provision set out in Section 6.
- B. Adults: Disciplinary actions will be taken for any violation of the League rules and any unsportsmanlike conduct witnessed by two (2) League Association members.

  1st Infraction- The adult shall be warned and the infraction recorded in the Official Scorebook and by the adult and League Association witnesses.

2nd Infraction- The adult shall be expelled from the remainder of that game and the next two (2) games.

3rd Infraction- The adult shall be expelled from the League Association.

Section 6. Reapplications to League Association. Upon good cause shown in writing to the President of the League and notice to the League Association members, anyone permanently expelled may reapply after one (1) year from the date of the original expulsion. The proposal must be approved by a majority of League Association members present at the association's annual meeting.

Section 7. A person or member charged with any infraction can file a formal complaint in writing to the board for any situation dealing with the League at any time.

#### **ARTICLE XIV: UNIFORMS**

Shirts, pants, and socks are provided by the League and may be kept at the end of the season. All other uniforms items or equipment assigned to any roster member must be maintained and turned into the League in good condition at the end of the last regular game of the season. All roster members must wear their official uniform during the entire game. Official uniform consists of team shirt, team pants, team hat (optional), and tennis shoes or cleats which fasten properly for safety.

B and C Divisions: All defensive players shall wear a facemask at all times when they are on the field.

A Division: All pitchers shall wear a facemask at all times when they are on the field. It is the League's intent to transition to mandatory facemasks for all Divisions. Coaches and parents should strongly encourage all defensive players to wear a facemask at all times when they are on the field.

#### ARTICLE XV: PLAYER CLASSIFICATIONS

Section 1. Returning Player (RP): Any player who has participated in the KWGSRL previously.

Section 2. Advancing Player (AP): Any player who has participated in the KWGSRL previously is eligible to move up one division.

Section 3. New Player (NP): Any player entering the KWGSRL for the first time.

#### ARTICLE XVI: PLAYER EVALUATION

Section 1. All players shall be given an evaluation number and shall be evaluated and rated in the following manner every year: Coaches from each division will evaluate each player on fielding, throwing, and batting on a scale of 1-3 (3 being Highest) an evaluation will also be made on pitchers and catchers. Once evaluated using the 1-3 scale, each coach will arrive at a total score by adding the scores together. This total rating score will be averaged with the other coaches total rating scores to arrive at the player's draft number. All evaluation sheets shall be turning into the Officer in charge for checking and final score averaging. The final results will be returned to the coaches in time for the drafting procedure.

Section 2. There shall be no comments made as to a child's ability or rating from any coach or League Officer about these evaluations on or off the field. Evaluation information shall be kept confidential.

#### ARTICLE XVII: PLAYERS DRAFT PROCEDURES

Section 1. The player draft for each division (A, B & C) shall not be held simultaneously, however, they shall be conducted using the same guidelines. Only Officers and Head Coaches may be present at the draft proceedings.

Section 2. The order of teams drafting shall be determined by a pick of randomly sorted numbers. An up and down order or "snake system" will be utilized to ensure or more even distribution of picks for each team. For example, picks will begin with number 1 down to number 6 with number 6 picking again going in order backwards to number 1 and reversing again. This is done until all players have been drafted.

Section 3. All players available to be drafted will have an evaluation in which all team coaches should be present to evaluate future players.

Section 4. Returning Players have the option to not play for a previous coach by submitting their request in writing to the board.

Section 5. The draft shall take place by turns with each Head Coach selecting one player during each round. Team placement of New Players, Advancing Players will be determined by this draft every year.

Section 6. Head Coaches' daughters will be automatic picks and placed in the draft rounds according to agreed upon (by all coaches) skill level. Sisters will be drafted together (unless an in writing request by parents to be on different teams is made) and the second sister is three picks later.

Section 7. Team sponsors will be assigned after the draft and are in no way to influence the draft. In addition, no team can change sponsors without showing due cause and the approval of the League Association.

Section 8. Any player registering after the last official registration date and after the draft has taken place will be placed only with the approval of the Board. If the player has played previously on a team in the same division, they will be treated as a NP.

Section 9. No team shall be allowed to pick up a NP after they have played half of their games for the season unless they have less than eleven players and the approval of the board.

Section 10. There shall be no discussion of drafting or placement of children outside of the draft meeting. All discussions held during these proceeding are confidential.

#### **ARTICLE XVIII: OFFICIAL RULES**

The League has adopted the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) 2018 Rules with the following exceptions:

- 1. Coaches for both teams must furnish the official scorekeeper, umpire, and the opposition coach with a lineup including the player's name, number, position, and batting order. Any changes must be reported to the scorekeeper and the opposition coach prior to the player's first at bat. The original list should be furnished as stated above at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the game. If this is not done, the umpire may decide if the game is being unduly delayed and has the authority to cause the delaying team to forfeit the game.
- 2. A Division Games will be seven (7) complete innings or one (1) hour and thirty (30) minutes in length, whichever limit is reached first. No innings shall begin after the 1hr. and 30 min. (except for Rule 3 following). The inning underway at the 1hr. and 30 min. mark shall be finished. If the visiting team is ahead, the entire inning shall be finished. If the home team is ahead, the inning shall end when the visiting team had completed batting unless the visiting team ties or exceeds the score of the home team. The home team would then bat to complete the inning. If the home team is at bat when the 1hr. and 30 min. time limit is reached and the home team is ahead at that time, the games ends immediately. If the home team is not ahead at the beginning of the last inning (due to time limit or because it is the seventh (7) inning, but obtains the lead at any point prior to making three (3) outs, the game shall end.

B Division games will be played to completion of 5 innings or 1 hour 15 minutes regardless of the score. Once the time limit is reached, the inning underway will only be completed if the lower scoring team has the numeric ability to at least tie the game without exceeding the 5 run per inning limit. The League promotes play opportunity over final score concerns.

C Division games will be one (1) hour in length. C Division games will end at the one-hour time limit without completing the inning currently underway.

- 3. A & B DIVISIONS: If a game is tied at the end of regulation play per the guidelines in rule 2 above, a tiebreaker or Kansas City Rules will begin. The offensive team begins the extra inning with their last batter on second base and one out. The defensive team will have the same start to their half of the inning. One extra inning shall be played to attempt to break the tie; if the tie is not broken, the game will be rescheduled and will start at 0-0.
- 4. C DIVISION ONLY: No team shall send a batter to the plate more than one time in any given inning. If every player has batted and less than three (3) outs have occurred, the batting team shall then become a fielding team the fielding team shall become the batting team. No automatic out shall be assessed for any vacant spot in the lineup.
- B DIVISION ONLY: No team shall score more than five (5) runs in one inning. If five (5) runs have scored and less than three (3) outs have occurred, the batting team shall then become the fielding team and the fielding team shall become the batting team.

A DIVISION ONLY: There are no limitations to the number of runs scored or batters to the plate in any one inning, assuming the local run rule limits (Rule 5 below) have not been reached.

- A & B DIVISIONS: The Head Coach can choose to have either 10 or 11 batters on their official batting line up but will not be charged an automatic out if the number of players present and in the lineup drops to 9. If only 8 eligible players are present, all 8 shall be on the starting lineup and an automatic out shall be assessed every time the vacant "Ghost Batter" position is reached in the lineup. A team shall have 10 defensive players on the field however, to avoid a forfeit they can play with as few as 8 defensive players.
- 5. A DIVISION ONLY: If after three (3) complete innings, any team is ahead by fifteen (15) or more runs, the game shall end. If the visiting team is ahead by more than fifteen (15) at any time after three (3) complete innings, the home team shall have its final turn at bat. If the home team is ahead by more than fifteen (15) at any time after two and a half innings, the game shall end immediately.
- 6. The player who makes the last out may be substituted for a base runner if (a) the runner is in any way ill or injured so that running is painful or a threat to health, or (b) there are two (2) outs in the inning and the catcher is currently a base runner, the catcher is allowed a substitute runner so time will be available to put on equipment without delay of game.

- Grace period: Teams shall be given a fifteen (15) minute grace period if the team has eight (8) players or less at game time. At the conclusion of the fifteen (15) minute grace period, if the team has less than eight (8) players that team shall forfeit the game to their opponent. The score of the game shall be 7-0. If the Managers agree, a practice may be played with forfeiting team using seven (7) or fewer players. The outcome of the practice shall have no official bearing. A team shall not forfeit if they have at least eight (8) players. If the Head Coach, refuses to play a scheduled game under the above referenced circumstances, that Head Coach will be immediately expelled from the League for the remaining of the season. If the Head Coach is not present and the Assistant Coach refuses to play a scheduled game, that person will also be immediately expelled from the League for the remainder of the season. The senior League Official present will report the offending conduct to the President of the League for scheduling an emergency meeting as described in Article VI, Section 3. In the event that a League Officer is not present then the Head Coach of the non-offending team and the official umpire or scorekeeper shall report that offending conduct to the President of the League for scheduling an emergency meeting as described in Article VI, Section 3. If there are extenuating circumstances that render a team unable to play through no fault of their own, then that team must request a meeting with the Executive Board for change. It is at the sole discretion of the Executive Board to grant or deny the request for change. The Board must request documentation, from the team-making request as to why they cannot field a team for a scheduled game. Games will not be changed for birthday parties, or personal affairs. C DIVISION ONLY: Teams may play with as few as 6 players on the field or in the lineup and no automatic outs will be charged when at bat.
- 8. If a player maliciously throws a bat, that player will be called out and expelled for the rest of that game and the following game. The team may substitute for this player.
- 9. If a player carelessly throws a bat, that player and the team will receive a warning. Every thrown bat thereafter is an out for the offending team.
- 10. All players present at a game and eligible to play shall play in the field and bat at least once in the game. It is left to the team's coaching staff to manage their substitutions and time remaining to ensure this happens. Any eligible player that does not get the opportunity to bat, for whatever reason, shall start the next game for which she is present as a starter in the batting lineup and shall not be substituted out of the lineup until she completes at least one At Bat. An eligible player is a player rostered to the team who is not benched due to injury or coach-mandated disciplinary reasons, and is not subject to a current ejection or suspension as meted out by the Board or the umpire. If that player does not start that next game, the game is subject to forfeit by that team and the player must start and play the entire next game. Repeated violations of this rule will lead to suspension of the offending Head Coach as determined by the Board.

This League exists to provide the opportunity for all players to learn sportsmanship as well as gain skills. This can only be accomplished if all players and coaching staffs follow the rules to ensure fairness in playing time.

- 11. Teams shall take infield practice beginning no sooner and no later than twenty-five (25) minutes before game time. The visiting team shall take infield practice first for ten (10) minutes only. The home team shall take infield practice second for ten (10) minutes only. Teams failing to make proper use of the allotted time for infield practice shall forfeit their time. This will leave the field clear five (5) minutes before game time (except in double header games as follows in Rule 13) allowing for the flag ceremony and the game officials to meet with the Head Coach at home plate for the pre-game conference.
- 12. C DIVISION ONLY: Any member of a team coaching staff will pitch to their own players (from the front rubber or five steps thereof) throughout the game. The defensive pitcher must begin the play from the second rubber.
- 13. C DIVISION ONLY: All players who have attended practice shall be on each teams batting line up and will bat, in turn, throughout the entire game. This allows the Head Coaches full reign when making defensive substitutions, if a player is injured and can no longer play, an automatic out will not be called if said player is unable to bat; however, once she misses one turn at bat, she may not re-enter the game. Each player will receive a maximum of three (3) pitches. She may hit, or strike out (swinging or looking) before the third (3rd) pitch, she than will hit off the tee. A foul ball will not be considered a third strike.
- 14. B DIVISION Pitching Rule, designed to produce and encourage more pitchers within the league. Pitchers can pitch no more than two (2) innings in a row, and then another pitcher must be

brought in. The starting pitcher may return after one pitched inning by another pitcher.

- 15. A & B DIVISION: Third strike drop rule. Batter will be allowed to run to first base in the event of the third strike being dropped by the catcher when there are already two outs or only if no one is already on first base.
- 16. A & B DIVISIONS: A runner can attempt to steal a base when the pitcher releases the ball. If the runner leaves before the release, the runner is deemed out. Runners may attempt to steal home. On ball four, the batter-runner may round first base and attempt to steal second base provided she does not stop at first base. If she stops at first base, she must comply with the USSSA look back rule. C DIVISION: There is no base-stealing allowed in C Division. The runner may not leave the base until the pitched ball crosses the plate or is contacted by the bat. If the runner leaves the bag after the ball crosses the plate and no bat contact is made, the runner shall return to her bag directly. If the runner leaves early, at the umpire's discretion a warning can be issued for the first offense and an out issued for following offenses.

#### ARTICLE XIX: DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Section 1. Reference Article XIII, Section 1-7

Section 2. Members who do not follow the rules and procedures as outlined in these By-Laws; return equipment and fund raising information and/or money, shall be held responsible for reimbursement to the League and will not coach in the League the following year or thereafter.

#### **ARTICLE XX: TEAM RANKINGS**

The ranking of teams is the same for all Divisions. This ranking will be based on the League Season win/loss record. If there is a tie for first place, the two teams will have a playoff game; the home team will be determined by a flip of a coin.

#### ARTICLE XXI: GAME SCHEDULE

The game schedule will remain as published. Any team knowing in advance that they are unable to field at least eight (8) players, may attempt to arrange to have another game scheduled. However, all Head Coaches involved and League Officers must agree without undue pressure, if the team is unable to make alternate arrangements, and is unable to field eight (8) players, the game will be declared a forfeit. Any exceptions must be made by a unanimous vote of all League Officers (refer to Article XVIII, section 7).

#### **ARTICLE XXII: TRAVEL TEAM**

Section 1. The Board will determine the Head Coaches for all Travel Teams

Section 2. Try outs will occur. Every eligible player is welcome to tryout, even if they were not part of the KWGSRL. Eligibility is based on age groups, which will be determined by the tournaments each division will be participating in. If a player misses a try out for a valid reason, their eligibility to play for the travel team must be voted on by the Executive Board. Each player will be evaluated by the Coaches. Not everyone will make the team. Unlike the Regular League play, these teams will be picked based on the ability of the player. The Head Coach is not required to give equal playing time during tournament play.

#### ARTICLE XXIII: REVISION OF ADOPTED RULES AND PROCEDURES.

The League Association shall have the right to revise the adopted rules and procedures as the need arises. Any changes will be affected by a majority vote of the members present at the League Association meeting where the changes are at issue. For example: If the Board chooses to add members to its Board, they are able to as long as they have made a majority vote.