

TRI-WEST YOUTH SOFTBALL LEAGUE PRINCIPLES AND BY-LAWS

- I. **NAME: TRI-WEST YOUTH SOFTBALL LEAGUE (TWYSL)**
- II. **MISSION STATEMENT:**
 - A. To promote fair play and sportsmanship among teams representing local communities through the adoption of uniform rules governing the operation of the league and playing of games for all age groups.
 - B. To plan and implement the long term future goal of building a centralized sports playing facility within the Northwest Hendricks community.
 - C. To provide a unified league to sustain maximum competitive edge as a feeder system to Tri-West High School Softball Program.
- III. **DEFINITION OF FISCAL YEAR:** The league fiscal year shall be SEPT. 1 TO AUG. 30
- IV. **PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES:**
 - A. The charter participating communities shall be the towns of Pittsboro, North Salem and Lizton, the Townships of Middle, Eel River and Union.
 - B. Additional participating communities may be nominated for membership to the league and will be approved by this league's Board of Directors.
 - C. In the event that this league should become nonfunctioning then the accumulated funds of this league will be given to Tri-West High School Softball Program. Any buildings or any permanent structure will stay on applicable community grounds.
- V. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**
 - A. The Board of Directors shall consist of a maximum of three members from each participating community (sect.IV. A) for a total of 9 members. The members, including officers, should be elected to the board at large by a nomination and then majority vote by community populations. Each existing member/officer will be up for automatic nomination unless position is willfully surrendered or member is removed by the existing board vote for improper conduct. If it is only possible to get 1 member from a certain community then that member will be given 2 votes to sustain a balance of power. Every attempt must be made to get representatives from each community involved.
- VI. **DUTIES OF THE BOARD:**
 - A. The Board of Directors shall formulate the general policy of the league and be responsible for obtaining the necessary resources with which to carry out the purpose of this league. A 6/9 majority (ie. President and at least 6 of the 9 board members) is required to be present to conduct business. A simple majority is required to implement any policy. In the case of a tie, the president will have 10th and deciding vote.
- VII. **DUTIES OF OFFICERS:**
 - A. **President:** Shall supervise over the affairs of the league, preside at all meetings of the Board and appoint all sub-committees.
 - B. **Vice-President:** Shall assume the responsibilities of the President in the President's absence but is qualified and will serve in other capacities as may be assigned by the President.
 - C. **Secretary:** Shall keep and record minutes of the board, take charge of the books, keep records of the league, conduct all correspondence for the board and other duties that may be assigned by the President.
 - D. **Treasurer:** Shall be responsible for handling all monetary transactions, maintaining a ledger, writing checks, depositing funds and any other duties as assigned by the President. The Treasurer should be bondable. The League's bank accounts will be with the State Bank of Lizton. Purchases requiring payment of over \$150.00 need to be approved by the Board of Directors prior to the purchase.
 - E. **Westside ASA Representative:** Shall coordinate with Westside League regarding policies, rules, scheduling umpires and scheduling games (see sect.X A.,B.).

- F. Equipment Manager:** Shall be responsible for assigning and collecting equipment with proper inventories from all coaches. Shall also maintain/inventory equipment and purchase equipment as needed.
- G. Uniform Manger:** Shall be responsible for assigning and collecting uniforms with proper inventories from all coaches. Shall also maintain/inventory and purchase uniforms as needed. Must ensure that assigned uniform numbers are not duplicated within each age division.
- H. Marketing/Fundraising Coordinator:** Shall be responsible for fundraising and sponsorship opportunities and coordinate with President and Treasurer to ensure proper accounting is maintained. Shall coordinate with President to ensure all advertisement opportunities are utilized for league registration public announcements and any other desired events.
- I. Grounds Manager:** Shall ensure all applicable fields are properly maintained in playable condition. Ensure all equipment (ie. Chalk, drags, bases, rakes, etc.) is available to each field.

VIII. MEETINGS:

- A.** Meetings will be called by the President of the League at least monthly or as deemed necessary. The annual turnover meeting of the board shall be held by the third Wednesday of September and shall be attended by both the newly elected and the outgoing board members.
- B.** The meetings will be conducted in an organized format with the President as the residing head. Any motion made to the board must be 2nd by any member and then voted on with majority rules.
- C.** Each board member must attend at least 1/2 of called meetings in order to retain their position. If a member does not attend enough meetings, they will be removed from their position.

IX. REGISTRATION:

- A.** Registration will be held in early February of each year. The board will determine dates, times and places of registration. Public notice should be given at least two weeks in advance. Notices should be placed in local papers, sent home via distribution in schools and through posting in public places. Final registration shall be held prior to team selection. The player registration fee for participation will be determined by the board each year.

X. SCHEDULING:

- A.** The Westside Rep/President will be responsible for scheduling all games within each age bracket and securing licensed plate umpires. Eight and under age bracket does not need to have a licensed umpire.
- B.** Westside Rep/President will be responsible for determining all aspects related to tourney play including but not limited to, scheduling, officiating, tourney drawing, dates, times and locations.

XI. COACHES:

- A.** Head Coaches: Shall have basic knowledge of the game, time available, display initiative and a desire to work with youth. He/she will be responsible for properly teaching, training and disciplining players on their team. Also coordinating with equipment manager in assignment of uniforms and playing equipment. The head coach may choose their assistant coaches with board approval, team parents and scorekeeper. Head coach needs to attend meetings try-outs and team drafts. Head coaches need to coordinate with Grounds Manager to ensure that the maintenance and cleaning of fields is well taken care of before and after each game. Unsportsmanlike conduct of any kind, physical or verbal abuse shall be cause for suspension and or removal of that coach as the board sees necessary.
- B.** Assistant Coaches: shall have similar qualifications as head coaches and are subject to the same responsibilities and code of conduct. May be selected by head coach, with the approval of the board.
- C.** The board will be responsible for selection of head coaches for all teams.

XII. PLAYERS:

- A.** Participating players must reside in the Northwest Hendricks Community, which includes the towns of North Salem, Pittsboro and Lizton unless otherwise approved by the League's Board of Directors.
- B.** Participating players must be registered prior to the draft unless approved by this board and shall have paid the appropriate registration fee unless waived by the board.
- C.** Ages of players shall be in compliance with ASA rules.

- D. All players are expected to exhibit sportsmanlike conduct at all times. If a player does not meet conduct code the Board may remove the player from the league. Players are also expected to be at practices and games if at all possible.
- E. Players may participate on both instructional and travel teams but must participate in any instructional league game or practice if a conflict in scheduling occurs.

XIII. TEAM CONSTRUCTION:

- A. Age groups will consist of: 16-U, 14-U, 12-U and 10-U participating in Westside Fastpitch League. Pony League of 8-U will be governed by internal TWYSL only. 8-U teams must be sanctioned as an ASA All-star team(s).
- B. League teams will be determined by player draft attended by head coaches with representation from the Board of Directors.
- C. Every attempt must be made to ensure equality among teams.
- D. All teams can practice no more than three times per week prior to league play and no more than two times per week during league play. If a team should have a bye during a week, then a practice may be substituted for the game (based on a two game per week schedule). Team practices can begin on April 1st of the current season. Practices will be no more than 2hrs in length for each of the following age groups: 16-U, 14-U, 12-U and 10-U. 8-U teams will practice no longer than 1 ½ hrs. No practices will take place prior to a scheduled game.
- E. Teams shall be sanctioned with and play by the rules of the American Softball Association unless exceptions are made and adopted by this board and hereto attached.
- F. A maximum of fifteen players per team are allowed unless approved by this league's Board of Directors.
- G. Travel/all-star team selection for tourney play is conducted by all head coaches and must be approved by the board. There is to be a target of 15 players with up to 5 alternates in case of injury or absence.
- H. TWYSL will submit a roster for each team to Westside Fast pitch League coordinator. Each roster shall contain the following: team name, age division, players' names and birthdates. Rosters shall be turned in to the Westside Representative/President no later than one week prior to league play. League play will begin on or about May 1st of each year.

XIV. TRAVEL/ALL-STAR TEAMS

- A. This league will be responsible for the selection of coaches and players for league all-stars in each age group division.
- B. This league will be responsible for distributing equipment and uniforms for all-star teams obtaining the funding for such.
- C. This league will be responsible for entering the all-star teams into competitive tournaments and paying any associated fees.
- D. Any and all funds raised by travel/all-star teams using the Tri-West Youth Softball uniforms, equipment, insurance and name are to be deposited into the Tri-West account by the treasurer. Tri-West will then write checks for the tournaments that they enter. Any money not used by September of that year, will become the Tri-West Youth Softball Leagues money and will be used at the board members discretion.
- E. Travel teams are allowed maximum of 2 practices per week not to interfere with league events or 4 practices per week after conclusion of league play.
- F. Travel team games/tournaments will generally be played on weekends.
- G. Players must have been on an ASA sanctioned league team and must have played in a minimum of 3/4 of the scheduled number of games to be eligible for travel/all-stars unless otherwise approved by this league's Board of Directors. Each player must have also participated in and fulfilled the requirements for the season fundraiser or elected the 'opt-out' option.
- H. Travel/all-star players are to be selected from Tri-West Youth Softball first. If unable to get a full roster, players may be selected from within the Westside Fast pitch League with the Tri-West Youth Softball Board approval.

XV. AMENDMENTS:

These by-laws may be amended from time to time as decided by this leagues Board of Directors and must be listed in this section with a Revision Number and Date.

APPROVAL/WITNESS SIGNATURES:

PRESIDENT: _____ **DATE:** _____

VICE-PRESIDENT: _____ **DATE:** _____

SECRETARY: _____ **DATE:** _____

TREASURER: _____ **DATE:** _____

WESTSIDE REP: _____ **DATE:** _____

PITTSBORO MEMBER: _____
DATE: _____

PITTSBORO MEMBER: _____
DATE: _____

PITTSBORO MEMBER: _____ **DATE:** _____

LIZTON MEMBER: _____
DATE: _____

LIZTON MEMBER: _____
DATE: _____

LIZTON MEMBER: _____ **DATE:** _____

N. SALEM MEMBER: _____
DATE: _____

N. SALEM MEMBER: _____
DATE: _____

N. SALEM MEMBER: _____ **DATE:** _____