

BY-LAWS
Established 2003(revised 12/2007, 11/2010)

Article I: Registration

Section 1.01 - Registration Division Eligibility

- a) Girls residing in the Twinsburg City School District (which includes Twinsburg, Twinsburg Township and Reminderville) shall be allowed to play in the Twinsburg Youth Softball League (herein referred to as "TYSL Inc."). In addition, TYSL Inc. may allow girls outside the Twinsburg School District in TYSL; however, the league rules for which TYSL Inc. enters may limit number of girls outside the school district on each team.
- b) Girls in Kindergarten and 1st Grades at the time of registration will be eligible to play in the Recreational Instructional Division Program
- c) Girls in 2nd and 3rd Grades at the time of registration will be eligible to play in the Recreational Division 1 Program.
- d) Girls in 4th and 5th Grades at the time of registration will be eligible to play in Recreational Division 2 Program.
- e) Girls in 6th, 7th and 8th grades at the time of registration will be eligible to play in Recreational Division 3 (aka AA) program.
- f) Girls in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades at the time of registration will be eligible to play in High School Recreational Division (aka AAA) program.
- g) Girls age 10 and under as of January 1st will be eligible to play in the 10U Competitive Fast-Pitch Division.
- h) Girls age 12 and under as of January 1st will be eligible to play in the 12U Competitive Fast-Pitch Division.
- i) Girls age 14 and under as of January 1st will be eligible to play in the 14U Competitive Fast-Pitch Division.
- j) Girls age 18 and under as of January 1st will be eligible to play in the 18U Competitive Fast-Pitch Division.
- k) All Competitive Fast-Pitch Programs are currently local travel programs where TYSL Inc. Teams join a local travel program (s) and will abide by the rules and regulations of those respective programs. TYSL Inc. will supply the uniforms, equipment, injury insurance, fields & umpires for home games.

- l) Divisions are based on age or grades. However players may be placed on higher or lower divisions based on exceptional circumstances and/or parental request. Said exceptions must have written acknowledgement and documents kept with registration forms.

Section 1.02 – Registration Fees

- (a) Registration Fees shall be established annually by the board prior to registration.
- (b) An additional non-refundable late fee, established annually, will be charged for late registration as defined on the registration form.
- (c) No registration fee refunds will be provided after team uniform orders are placed.

Section 1.03 - Registration Process

- (a) Registration Forms or Registration Form reminders will be mailed to all eligible children that played the prior year.
- (b) Additional Registration Notification will consist of:
 - (i) Making registration forms available at the Twinsburg Fitness Center and Community Center
 - (ii) Advertising in the Twinsburg Bulletin Newspaper and Cable communication channel
 - (iii) Distribution of Registration Form(s) or Registration reminders to the Elementary and Primary Schools.
 - (iv) Having registration form and information available on the website: www.twinsburgsoftball.com
- (c) Open Registration Forms will be available on or about January 1st and must be completed and returned with registration fee by February 1st.

Article II: Team Selection / Draft Procedure.

Section 2.01 - Recreational Team Procedure.

- (a) A draft will be held on or about the last Thursday of February.
- (b) Instructional Division:
 - (i) A commissioner will be appointed to inform managers of all activities within the league.
 - (ii) Player teammate and coaches preferences will attempt to be honored.
 - (iii) Each coach at the draft will have access to all registration forms and will be able to request players. The Board will determine the number of teams and will select the teams.
- (c) Division 1:
 - (i) A commissioner will be appointed to inform managers of all activities within the league.
 - (ii) Player teammate and coaches preferences will attempt to be honored.
 - (iii) Players will be assigned a rating of 1 - 5 or unknown. Higher performing players will have a higher number rating. Prior coaches will provide ratings.
 - (iv) These ratings will be used during the draft to create teams with balanced skills. The Board will determine the number of teams and will select the teams.
- (d) Division 2:
 - (i) A commissioner will be appointed to help coordinate the draft. Player teammate and coaches preferences may not be honored.
 - (ii) The Head Coach and one assistant coach will be allowed to have their child/children on their team.
 - (iii) Prior to the draft players will be assigned a rating of 1 - 5 or unknown. Higher performing players will have a higher number rating. Prior coaches will provide ratings.
 - (iv) These ratings will be used during the draft to create teams with balanced skills.

e) Division 3 (aka AA Slow-Pitch):

- (i) A commissioner will be appointed to help coordinate the draft.
- (ii) The Board and/or Coach Committee will select Coach(es).
- (iii) Coaches will select respective teams at their discretion.

f) High School Recreational (aka AAA Slow-Pitch):

- (i) A commissioner (if necessary) will be appointed to help coordinate the draft.
- (ii) The Board and/or Coach Committee will select Coach(es).
- (iii) Coach(es) will select respective teams at their discretion.

Section 2.02 - Fast-Pitch Team Selection Procedure.

(a) Competitive Fast-Pitch Teams

- (i) One of the 10U, 12U and 14U Teams will be placed in a competitive league. Tryouts will be held in the fall for the 10U, 12U and 14U teams. During the tryouts, the 8 highest evaluations are automatically on the team. The coach can select the remaining players at their discretion and with final approval of the TYSL Board.
- (ii) The 18U competitive team(s) will be selected based solely on coach(es) discretion.

Article III: Managers

Section 3.01 - Selection of Managers/Coaches

- (a) The executive board will appoint a coach selection committee to recommend coaches for the upcoming season. The committee will use the following criteria when there are more applicants than positions available.
 - (i) Previous youth coaching experience
 - (ii) Feedback from previous coaching positions
 - (iii) Whether or not they have a child playing on the team
 - (iv) Coaching certifications, education and first-aid training.
 - (v) The value that the applicant feels they can bring to the children.
- (b) The executive board reserves the right of final approval for all Managers.
- (c) A declared assistant manager taking over as a manager cannot declare an assistant if the son/daughter of the previous manager is still on the team.

Section 3.02 - Managers/Coaches Responsibilities

- (a) To be informed of all league rules and functions
- (b) To devote that time which is required to manage a softball team
- (c) To instruct and direct girls in the basic fundamentals of playing softball
- (d) To promote good sportsmanship
- (e) To attend general league business meetings
- (f) To keep parents informed of league rules, functions and activities.
- (g) To provide help from their team parents to work in the concession stand both during and after the regular season play.

Article IV: Assistant Manager/Coach

Section 4.01 - Selection of the Assistant Manager

- a) Recreational – A manager/coach may select an assistant manager/coach prior to or after the draft.
- b) Competitive - A manager may select an assistant manager after final team selection has been submitted and approved by the Board.

Section 4.02 – Assistant Manager/Coach Responsibilities

- a) To actively assist the manager/coach with his/her responsibilities.
- b) To assume the role of manager/coach when he/she is not present.

Article V: Team Sponsors

Section 5.01 - Sponsor solicitation

- a) A committee will be formed to solicit sponsors for the upcoming season. The sponsors will pay a flat fee determined annually by the board that will be used to defray the cost of team uniforms and equipment. Exceptions can be made by a majority vote of the executive board. Sponsor benefits include:
 - i. Having their name or logo on the team jersey.
 - ii. A plaque depicting appreciation.

Article VI: Protests

Section 6.01 - Protests

- (a) No game may be protested. All umpire decisions will be final.

Article VII: Umpires

Section 7.01 - Umpires

- (a) Instructional & Division 1: Coaches will umpire the Instruction Division games.
- (b) Division 2: Student umpires who are at least 14 years old and have attended a league provided umpire training clinic would be eligible to umpire Division 2 games. Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) of the student umpire must sign and return to the board the Waiver Form prior to officiating any TYSL Inc. game.
- (c) 10U, 12U, 14U and 18U Competitive Fast-Pitch Programs: The umpire will be one that has been sanctioned by the A.S.A. or U.S.S.S.A. The umpire's jurisdiction begins when he/she enters the field of play and ends whenever the winner has been decided.

Article VIII: Playing rules.

Section 8.01 - League Playing Rules

- (a) Official A.S.A. or U.S.S.S.A. rules will be adhered to unless specifically designated by the league.

Section 8.02 - League Playing Rules.

- (a) Each Recreational Division will adopt any playing rule changes for their division only. All rule changes are to be submitted in writing to the executive board for approval.
- (b) Any manager or player that is removed from a game by an umpire will automatically be suspended for the next game. The manager or player will have the right to a hearing before the board.
- (c) The League in which the team is participating will establish the Competitive Fast-Pitch Rules.

Article IX: Scholastic Awards.

Section 9.01 - Scholastic Awards

- (a) TYSL Inc may offer three (3) scholastic awards annually for any graduating high school seniors who have played at least 3 years of softball in the TYSL. The awards are one (1) for \$200; one (1) for \$300; and one (1) for \$500. With respect to these awards, TYSL will not discriminate based on race, origin or employment.
- (b) A board of three independent evaluators is selected by the executive board to be the Scholastic Award Committee. This committee will review all applicants and score the applications based on the following criteria:
 - (i) Being a member of TYSL for at least 3 years.
 - (ii) Being an outstanding member of the community.
 - (iii) Active participation in extra-curricular activities.
 - (iv) Displaying good athletic sportsmanship during membership in the league.
 - (v) A well written, quality short essay on what athletics has meant to them and their future plans.