

COLBY VILLAGE GENTLEMEN'S SLO-PITCH LEAGUE

CONSTITUTION

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PART ONE

ARTICLE 1: NAME

1. The name of this organization will be known as;
 - a. Colby Village Gentlemen's Slo-pitch League; and
 - b. hereafter referred to as "CVGSL."

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

1. The purpose of CVGSL shall be to:
 - a. to provide an outlet for those with an interest in participating in recreational softball; and
 - b. to promote good sportsmanship and community spirit.
2. Because recreation is the underlying purpose it is the intent of the League that each player, irrespective of playing ability, be given an equal amount of

playing time. A team therefore shall play all players who turn out for a game.

ARTICLE III: EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

1. The Executive Members shall be composed of:
 - a. President;
 - b. Vice- Presidents (two); and
 - c. Secretary Treasurer.

2. Terms of office:
 - a. the Presidents and Vice-Presidents shall be elected for a period of two (2) years in alternate years at a General Meeting;
 - b. the Secretary Treasurer is a volunteer position.

3. If an Executive Member is unable to fulfill his term of duty the remaining Executive Members may;
 - a. appoint an individual to fulfill this vacant position until the next General Meeting; or
 - b. assume the duties of the position until the next General Meeting.

ARTICLE IV: LEAGUE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. The League Committee Members shall be composed of:
 - a. Sponsor, Uniform & Grievance Committee (three or more);
 - b. Roster Committee (three or more);
 - c. Tournament Coordinator;
 - d. Equipment Manager;
 - e. Field Scheduler; and
 - f. Statistician / Webmaster.

2. The term of office for League Committee Members shall be for an open period as this is a volunteer position.

3. If a League Committee Members is unable to fulfill his term of duty the Executive Members may:
 - a. appoint an individual to fulfill this vacant position until the next General Meeting; or
 - b. assume the duties of the position until the next General Meeting.

ARTICLE V: DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN ELECTED MEMBER

- a. **President** - The "President" shall be the Chief Executive Member of the CVGSL and shall enforce all rules and regulations in accordance with the Constitution and the policies established by the League Meetings. The President, at his discretion, or in his absence, may designate an Executive Member to assume and perform the President's duties with respect to the enforcement of all the League's rules and regulations. Chair all League meetings
- b. **Vice – President(s)** – Assist the President as directed and be available to assist all League Executive Members.
- c. **Secretary / Treasurer** -
 - i. the "Secretary," shall assist the President and Vice President(s) with correspondence for CVGSL and shall maintain a file of all minutes and correspondence, and shall make arrangements for meeting facilities. The Secretary shall record and distribute minutes of meetings to Executive and League Members (Reps);
 - ii. the "Treasurer," will be required to keep all books and accounts covering financial records of the CVGSL. The Treasurer will prepare and submit a financial statement of the year's activities at the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall receive and take charge of all monies of the Club and pay all expenses as approved by the Executive Members; and
 - iii. advise all team representatives at the Annual Meeting and followed-up with an e-mail, of the date that the team dues are required to be paid.
- d. **Sponsor, Uniform & Grievance Committee** – The Sponsor, Uniform & Grievance Committee shall:
 - i. assist teams with securing sponsors;
 - ii. advise teams regarding the purchase of uniforms; and
 - iii. accept, review and administer a decision on grievances.
- e. **Roster Committee** – The "Roster Committee" shall:
 - i. collect all names of new players;
 - ii. organize and advise new players of a grading date;
 - iii. manage in season roster issues; and
 - iv. distribute players equally and on a skill basis to teams requiring players.

- f. **Tournament Coordinator** – the “Tournament Coordinator” shall over see all tournaments, such as Special events, Spring Tournament and Playoffs. Responsibilities also include securing registered umpires as directed by the President.
- g. **Equipment Manager** – the “Equipment Manager” shall at the first League Meeting of the current season:
 - i. contact team representatives to determine their equipment needs, (first aid kits, bases and/or home plate);
 - ii. upon approval of Executive Members purchase and distribute required equipment; and
 - iii. purchase and distribute softballs in accordance with the President’s directive to team representatives.
- h. **Field Scheduler** – the “Field Scheduler” is to:
 - i. liaise with Halifax Regional Municipality to secure ball diamonds for pending ball season; and
 - ii. provide information regarding, ball fields and game schedule to Webmaster for publication on CVGSL web site.
- i. **Statistician / Webmaster:**
 - i. the “Statistician” shall accept games scores and maintain League Standings for presentation to Webmaster; and
 - ii. the “Webmaster” shall supervise and maintain the security of CVGSL web site. Update League Standings upon receipt of statistics, monitor the message board for infractions and revise League information as directed by the President.

ARTICLE VI: MEMBERSHIP

1. Individual membership in CVGSL is open to gentlemen who:
 - a. reached the minimum aged limit of 25 years old by 31 December in the current softball season;
 - b. reside within the League’s boundaries, (Colby Village, Colby South, Morris lake, Willowdale and Inishowen), or from outside these boundaries at the discretion of Executive Members; and
 - c. have paid their individual annual registration dues by announced deadlines, as determined by the Treasurer, (see Article V).
2. A player is expected to participate in at least one-half of his team’s regular season games. A player who fails to play the minimum number of games in a season will be dropped from the roster of that team prior the start of the next season. Team representative must advise the League executive of the names of

such players. Extenuating circumstances will be taken into consideration.

3. Team membership in CVGSL is open to registered teams who:
 - a. have achieved all criteria from Article VI, 1; and
 - b. have fully paid their team's annual registration dues by announced deadlines, as determined by the Treasurer, (see Article V).
4. If individual or team dues are not fully paid by announced deadlines, that member or team will become inactive until requirements of membership have been met.

NOTE: In special circumstances, the payment of the annual registration dues in whole or in part or the date of payment may be waived or altered respectively by consensus of Executive Members.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

1. The initial meeting of the current ball season shall be called by the President no later than **February 2nd**. All league members are to be invited and shall have the right to vote. Notice of this and subsequent meetings are to be posted on the CVGSL web site and electronically distributed to Executive/League members and Team Representatives at least four weeks prior.
2. Special Meetings may be called at the discretion of the President.
3. Order of business at the meetings shall be as follows:
 - a. approval of the Minutes from previous meeting;
 - b. the President's report
 - c. the Treasurer's report;
 - d. reports from League Committees;
 - e. amendments to the Constitution, if any;
 - f. motions;
 - g. elections of Executive/League appointments; and
 - h. new business.

ARTICLE VIII: ELECTIONS

1. Elections will take place at the first meeting of the year. Or when directed by the President.

2. If need be, a person may hold more than one title other than the President.

ARTICLE IX: RULES

1. The official playing rules of Softball Canada and enhanced by this Constitution shall apply.
2. The Executive Members may change rules as circumstances require. Any such changes will be
 - a. brought to the attention of all concerned by electronic means; and
 - b. discussed at the next League Meeting for approval.
3. Players may participate in regular season games when all requirements from ARTICLE V are achieved.
4. Players may participate in Playoff games when all requirements from ARTICLE V are achieved and have actively participated in a minimum of 8 regular season games.

Note: Due to extenuating circumstances, the participated percentage maybe waived with prior approval of the President.
5. Players are committed to play for the team they are assigned to at the start of each season. Players, who wish to change teams after having played for a tem for the complete season, should make their wishes known to the League through their tem representative. Such players will have their name placed on the League's waiting list and given a higher priority over new players.
6. Any player who has played in the League for five years or more will be allowed a one year of absence to rejoin the League regardless of where he resides.
7. Each team will have at least one sponsor. Sponsorship fees, for a three year term are set by the League Executive at the beginning of each year.
8. Ball jerseys promoting our sponsor(s) shall be worn during regular season and fall tournament: this is a prerequisite to play. All team uniforms are the property of the League. Players, on leaving a team, shall return their uniforms to their team representative who has the responsibility to ensures this happens.

9. The President, in consultation with Executive Members and Roster Committee has the final decision regarding the eligibility of a team or player as per this Constitution

10. Halifax Region Municipality is the govern body as to the open or closed status of any ball filed due to weather or other circumstance. Using any HRM when fields are closed will result in fines and/or loss of future scheduling privileges.

11. All CVGSL members shall conduct themselves on and off the field in a manner considered in the best interests of the game.

ARTICLE X: DISPUTES, PROTESTS, DISCIPLINE AND APPEALS

1. The President shall appoint a "Committee" to act as a forum to hear disputes, protests and appeals.

2. The Committee shall be selected from any or all Articles III and IV members.

3. The Committee will submit a decision in a timely manner to the President for final approval. The President will advise all parties concerned of the decision rendered.

4. Any violation of the Constitution or failure to accept the decision of the President may lead to a team's or member's temporary or full suspension.

ARTICLE XI: INSURANCE

1. The CVGSL will have liability insurance in place each year.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

1. A member and seconded by another member may propose an amendment at anytime in writing directly to the President.

2. The President will present all proposed amendments at the next General Meeting or Special Meeting. The amendment(s) will require the approval of 51% of the team representatives in attendance.

PART TWO

ARTICLE I LEAGUE FORMAT

1. The League will consist of 2 divisions of 5 teams each. Teams will be selected for each division at the start of each season in the following manner; using the previous season's final standings, teams of both divisions will be combined and ranked from 1 to 10 based on total points accumulated during that season. Teams 1-3-5-7-9 will then be placed in one division for the upcoming season and teams 2-4-6-8-10 in the other division. This process could yield entirely different combinations of teams in the divisions from one season to the next.

2. The operational format for the League is to schedule a set of regular season interdivisional games plus a minimum of 2 League tournaments. Trophies will be awarded for first place in each division, as well as for each tournament winner and runner-up. A good sportsmanship trophy, voted on by all League teams, will be awarded to the team which, over the course of the season most exhibited good sportsmanship and friendly competition.

3. All league games shall be played at the time scheduled. The only reasons a game may not be played at the time scheduled are; poor field conditions or inclement weather. Games postponed for the aforementioned reasons will be rescheduled by the team representatives in conjunction with the Field Scheduler.

4. If two teams are tied for a position after regular season play, the tie will be broken in the following manner, and in the order indicated:

- a. the winner of the games played between the tied teams will be awarded the higher position;
- b. the team with the higher number when computing runs for and against (plus/ minus) in the games between the 2 teams will be awarded the higher position;
- c. the team with the higher number when computing runs for and against (plus/ minus) in all regular season games will be awarded the higher position; then
- d. a coin toss.

5. If three or more teams are tied for a position after regular season play, rules 4c then 4b will be applied to determine the final positions.
6. A team with less than 8 players turning out for a game shall forfeit the game. A grace period of 15 minutes will be provided at the start of each game. If, after this period, a team is unable to meet the requirement of 8 players, the game will be recorded as a forfeit at a score of 9 - 0. Opposing team will provide a catcher for the shorthanded team but the pitcher will have to cover any plays at the plate.
7. The offensive team will provide a home plate and first base umpire. Team representatives have the responsibility of ensuring that players who act as umpires are familiar with softball rules. Any disputes shall be settled on the spot by the team representatives and if necessary referred to the League Executives for future occurrences.

ARTICLE II GAME REGULATIONS

1. A legal pitch shall be a ball delivered to the batter with an under-hand motion and a perceptible minimum arc of at least 6 -feet from the ground. The pitched ball shall not reach a height of more than 12 -feet at its highest point from the ground.
2. All regular season games will be 9 innings. A maximum of 2 extra innings will be break ties. Games still deadlocked recorded as a tie.
3. A maximum of 5 runs per inning will be in effect for all League games. This rule will apply for all innings except the ninth and any subsequent innings whence there will be no limit to the number for runs allowed.
4. Ground rules should be reviewed before each game.
5. Bunting and stealing are not allowed.
6. Steel spiked shoes are not allowed.
7. In order to reduce the number of collisions at home plate a mat will be placed behind home plate. The player making the play (catcher) must touch home plate only and have possession of the ball before the runner who is attempting to score crosses the mat. The runner must run behind the mat. If the

catcher touches the mat the run will score and no out will be recorded. If the runner touches the plate or mat the run will not score and an out will be recorded.

8. Injured runners may be replaced on base by the last previous out.
9. If a pitched ball satisfies the legal pitch rule and lands on the mat it is a strike. If the pitched ball is not a legal pitch or does not land on the mat it is a ball. A pitch that lands on the plate will be a ball. A batted ball that hits the plate will be a fair ball and a batted ball that hits the mat will be a foul ball.
10. A player shall remain in the batters' box when attempting to hit a pitch. He will be called "out" if:
 - a. both feet are ahead of the plate when contact is made with the ball; or
 - b. one foot step's across or on the mat or plate in the motion of making contact with the ball.
11. The winning team is responsible for reporting the game score to the League Statistician within one day of the completion of the game.
12. A commitment line shall be drawn between third base and home plate. A runner crossing that line, under any circumstances, is committed to going home and cannot return to third base.
13. Otherwise, common sense and general softball rules apply.

ENJOY THE GAMES AND COMRADESHIP THAT DEVELOPS