

TWINSBURG YOUTH SOFTBALL LEAGUE, Inc. BY-LAWS

Established 2003 (Revised 12/2007, 11/2010, 2/2016)

Article I. Registration

Section 1.01 Division Eligibility

- (a) Participants residing within the Twinsburg City School District (which includes the City of Twinsburg, Twinsburg Township and Reminderville) shall be allowed to play in the Twinsburg Youth Softball League (herein referred to as "TYSL Inc.").
- (b) Participants in Kindergarten and 1st Grade at the time of registration will be eligible to play in the Recreational Instructional Division Program
- (c) Participants in 2nd and 3rd Grades at the time of registration will be eligible to play in the Recreational Division 1 Program.
- (d) Participants in 4th and 5th Grades at the time of registration will be eligible to play in Recreational Division 2 Program.
- (e) Participants in 6th, 7th and 8th grades at the time of registration will be eligible to play in Recreational Division 3 (aka AA) program.
- (f) Participants 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) Participants age 10 and under as of January 1st will be eligible to play in the 10U Competitive Fast-Pitch Division.
- (h) Participants age 12 and under as of January 1st will be eligible to play in the 12U Competitive Fast-Pitch Division.
- (i) Participants age 14 and under as of January 1st will be eligible to play in the 14U Competitive Fast-Pitch Division.
- (j) Participants 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, fields and 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.
- (m) TYSL Inc. may also alter, by a majority vote of the Board, the age groups (by grade for Recreational Divisions or age for Competitive Fast Pitch Divisions) as needed to maximize the opportunity of play for eligible registrants.
- (n) TYSL Inc. may allow participants outside the Twinsburg School District in TYSL based on extraordinary circumstances, as defined by the Board, and approved by a majority vote of the Board.

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Section 1.02

- (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

- (a) Registration Forms or Registration Form reminders may be mailed or emailed to all eligible children that played the prior year.
- (b) Additional registration notifications may consist of:
 - (i) Making Registration forms available at the Twinsburg Fitness Center and/or Community Center;
 - (ii) Advertising in the Twinsburg Bulletin Newspaper and/or local cable communication channel;
 - (iii) Distribution of Registration Form(s) or registration reminders to the middle, elementary and primary schools;
 - (iv) Having registration form and information available on the TYSL website: www.twinsburgsoftball.com;
 - (v) Posting on social media sites approved by the Board;
 - (vi) Other media not listed above with Board approval.
- (c) Registration Forms will be available on or about January 1st and must be submitted with registration fee by February 1st.

Article II. Team Selection

Section 2.01 Recreational Team Procedure

- (a) A coach meeting will be held on or about the last Thursday of February.
- (b) Instructional Division:
 - (i) A commissioner may be appointed to inform managers of all activities within the league;
 - (ii) Player teammate and coach preferences will attempt to be honored;

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- (iii) The Board will determine the number of teams and will select the teams. Rosters will be distributed at the coach meeting.
- (c) Division 1:
 - (i) A commissioner may be appointed to inform managers of all activities within the league;
 - (ii) Player teammate and coach 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) The Board will determine the number of teams and will select the teams. Player ratings will be used during the team selection to create teams with balanced skills.
- (d) Division 2:
 - (i) A commissioner may be appointed to help coordinate a team selection process. Layer teammate and coach preferences may not be honored;
 - (ii) The Head Coach and one (1) assistant coach will be allowed to have their child/children on their team;
 - (iii) Prior to a 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) Player ratings will be used during the team selection to create teams with balanced skills.
- (e) Division 2 (aka AA Slow Pitch):
 - (i) A commissioner may be appointed to help coordinate the team selection;
 - (ii) The Board and/or Coach Committee will select coach(es);
 - (iii) Coach(es) will select respective teams at their discretion with Board approval.
- (f) High School Recreational (aka AAA Slow Pitch):
 - (i) A commissioner may be appointed to help coordinate the team selection;
 - (ii) The Board and/or Coach Committee will select coach(es);
 - (iii) Coach(es) will select respective teams at their discretion with Board approval.

Section 2.02 Fast-Pitch Team Selection Procedure

- (a) Competitive Fast-Pitch Teams

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- (i) The TYSL Board shall maintain a Try-out Committee, comprised of at least three (3) current Board members, selected annually, who shall from time to time, renew and, if necessary, recommend changes to the "Try-out Procedures and Rules".
- (ii) Try-outs will be held on a date approved by the Board for the purpose of establishing competitive fast-pitch teams for players age 14 and under.
- (iii) The 15U and/or older competitive team(s) will be selected based solely on coach(es) discretion, with final Board approval.

Article III. Managers

Section 3.01 Selection of Managers/Coaches

- (a) The Executive Board may 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) Pervious 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 the applicant feels they can bring to the children.
- (b) The Executive Board reserves the right of final approval for all managers/coaches.
- (c) A declared assistant manager/coach taking over as a manager/coach 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 participants 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 concessions stand both during and after the regular season play.

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Article IV. Assistant Manager/Coach

Section 4.01 Selection of an Assistant Manager/Coach

- (a) Recreational – A manager/coach may select an assistant manager/coach prior to or after team selections.
- (b) Competitive – A manager/coach 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, excluding resignation or termination.

Article V. Team Sponsors

Section 5.01 Sponsor Solicitation

- (a) A committee may 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.
- (b) Sponsor Benefits may include:
 - (i) Having their name or logo on the team jersey;
 - (ii) A plaque depicting appreciation;
 - (iii) Having their company name and logo posted on the designated page or the TYSL website.

Article VI. Protests

Section 6.01 Protests

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

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Article VII. Umpires

Section 7.01 Umpires

- (a) Instructional & Division 1: Coaches will umpire the Instructional Division and Division 1 games.
- (b) Division 2: Student umpires who are at least 14 years old and have attended a League approved umpire training clinic would be eligible to umpire Division 2 games. Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) of the student umpire must sign and returned to the Board the Waiver Form prior to officiating any TYSL game.
- (c) Competitive Fast-Pitch Programs: The umpire will be one that has been sanctioned. The umpire's jurisdiction begins when he/she enters the field of play and ends whenever the winner has been declared.

Article VIII. Playing Rules

Section 8.01 League Playing Rules

- (a) All TYSL Recreational Division teams will adhere to rules applicable to their respective league/divisions. Any and 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. The Board reserves the right to extend the suspension as necessary.
- (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 may offer three (3) scholastic awards annually for any graduating high school seniors who have played at least three (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 Scholastic Award Committee shall be comprised of three (3) independent evaluators approved by the Executive Board. This Committee will review all applicants and score the applications based on the following criteria:
 - (i) Being a member of TYSL of at least three (3) years;

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- (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.

Article X. Tournament Reimbursement

Section 10.01 Tournament Reimbursement

- (a) TYSL will reimburse a coach for tournament fees paid not to exceed \$400 with proof of payment for one (1) tournament during the regular season (April through July).